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COMMUNITY COLLEGE

MINUTES

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

237 W. Kellogg Road, Bellingham

Laidlaw Room 143

Wednesday, January 14, 2026

2:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER Chair Jeff Fairchild officially called the Board of Trustees meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Present in addition to the chair were trustees Wendy Bohlke, John Pedlow, and Teresa Taylor constituting a quorum. Trustee Rebecca Johnson was absent. Others present included President Justin Guillory; Nate Langstraat, Executive Vice President for Business & College Operations, Kerri Holferty, Interim Vice President for Student Services; Steven Thomas, Vice President for Instruction, Annie Aslan, Assistant Attorney General; and Rafeeka Kloke, Executive Director for the Office of the President.

Chair Fairchild began with a land acknowledgment to recognize and pay respect to the Coast Salish Peoples as traditional stewards of this land and the enduring relationship between Indigenous Peoples and their traditional territories.

ACTION TO ACCEPT AGENDA

- Trustee Taylor moved to accept the agenda. It was seconded by Trustee Bohlke, and the motion was approved.
- Chair Fairchild announced that there is a designated time for public comment on the agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

- Consent Agenda
 - Minutes of December 10, 2025 Board of Trustees Retreat.

Chair Fairchild stated: "If there are no objections, the item in the consent agenda with the addition will be adopted." As there was no objection, this item was adopted.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- ➔ Chair Fairchild called for public comment.

There was no public comment.

- ➔ **Accreditation Year Seven – Anne Marie Karlberg, Director for Assessment and Institutional Research and Tresha Dutton, Communication Studies Faculty**

Karlberg and Dutton shared a PowerPoint presentation focused on Standard 1C Student Learning; specifically, on 1C7 Student learning outcome assessment results are used to improve learning. They shared examples of using course outcomes and program outcomes to improve learning, and core learning abilities (CLAs) that are taught and reinforced throughout a student's time at WCC

ACTION ITEMS

- ➔ **WCC and WCC Foundation Memorandum of Understanding – Deborah DeWees, Interim Executive Director for WCC Foundation**

Trustee Taylor moved to approve the WCC and WCC Foundation Memorandum of Understanding. It was seconded by Trustee Bohlke, and the motion was approved.

- ➔ **Request Allocation from ASWCC Fund Balance – Coco Lavelle, ASWCC President**

Trustee Bohlke moved to approve the request to allocate funds from ASWCC Fund Balance to cover late payments. It was seconded by Trustee Taylor and the motion was approved.

- ➔ **Request Allocation from ASWCC Fund Balance to support feasibility study for the Syre Student Center All-Gender Restrooms project – Coco Lavelle, ASWCC President**

Trustee Bohlke moved to approve the request to allocate funds from ASWCC Fund Balance to support feasibility study for the Syre Student Center All-Gender Restrooms project. It was seconded by Trustee Taylor and the motion was approved.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- ➔ President Justin has been dedicating significant time to the ISR process, with a strong emphasis on sustainability. The academic program recommendations were published on December 12, 2025. The final report for non-academic programs and services is expected by January 16, 2026. He continues to review the feedback received, ensuring due diligence while adhering to the established timeline. Any potential impact on programs, faculty, and staff will be carefully considered. The President expressed gratitude for the broad representation involved and reiterated that this is an ongoing, continuous improvement process, not a one-time event. Elements of the ISR process will be incorporated into the annual planning cycle.
- ➔ A restructuring of the Cabinet is underway, with the creation of an executive-level position to oversee

instruction and student services. This change aims to strengthen the connection between these areas and improve efficiency given current budget constraints. Campus forums will be held to provide updates and gather feedback. While this restructuring focuses on the executive level, it may lead to broader organizational changes informed by the ISR findings. President Justin has reached out to both in-system and out-of-system colleges to learn from their experiences. Major decisions regarding this are expected in January and February, with the intent of posting the EVP position by the end of February. The broader organizational restructuring is planned to be implemented by July 1, 2026, with a new hire anticipated by June 2026.

- President Justin met with Representative Alex Ramel of the 40th Legislative District to advocate for support.
- ACT Spring Conference is scheduled for May 7-8, 2026, at Semiahmoo Resort & Spa in Blaine.
- Brad Tuininga was appointed to the position of Executive Director for the WCC Foundation with an official start date of January 16, 2026.
- President Justin participated in the WACTC legislative meeting on January 9 and will continue attending weekly meetings throughout the legislative session. These meetings will focus on legislative advocacy planning.
- The Budget Review Committee will begin meetings soon to prepare for the budget development process.

REPORTS

- ASWCC President – Coco Lavelle
 - An Ad Hoc Committee was formed to discuss revisions to the ASWCC Financial Guidelines. These updates will be shared with the Executive Board for review and approval.
 - The ASWCC budget packet has been released.
 - The Bylaws Committee will meet every Friday moving forward.
 - Looking forward to the upcoming events.

DISCUSSION ITEMS OF THE BOARD

➤ **ACT Spring Conference**

Trustee Wendy shared that the ACT Board has been exploring ways to effectively orient new trustees to their responsibilities. This includes using various modalities such as in-person, hybrid, and online formats. She encouraged board members to send any ideas or suggestions to Rafeeka Kloke.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 3:05 p.m. the meeting was adjourned for a closed session of the Board for approximately 25 minutes, as provided in RCW 42.30.110 and 42.30.140 (4) (a), to discuss collective bargaining, and move into executive session to review performance of an employee, to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency matters relating to the agency enforcement action or potential litigation...

Chair Fairchild announced that action was not anticipated. Guests included President Justin Guillory, Vice President for Instruction Steven Thomas, Executive Director for Human Resources, KayCee Johnson, Executive Director for Office of the President, Rafeeka Kloke and Assistant Attorney General Annie Aslan.

The Executive Session was adjourned at 3:30 p.m. and the Board reconvened into open session at 3:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:32 p.m.



2/18/2026

Chair of the Board

Date



2/18/2026

President and Secretary of the Board

Date