



Planning and Budget Council

Minutes – **APPROVED**

December 9, 2024

1:30 – 3:00 PM

Attending: Patty Collis, Anne Donegan, Maggie Fishman, Benjamin Goldstein, Malena Hernández, Robert Holcomb, Linda Jay, Kate Jolley, Sara Jones, Dawn Lukas, Siobhan McGregor-Gordon, Eve Miller, Shannon O'Reilly, Nick Perrone, Whitney Schultz, Molly Senecal, Sandy Sigala, Jeremy Smotherman, Anthony Spinozzi, Kim Starke, John Stover

Absent: Angélica Garcia, Ruben Garcia, Theresa Richmond

Guests: Stephanie Jarrett

1. **Agenda Review and Approval of 11.25.24 Minutes**

- Institutional Effectiveness Partnership Initiative was added to the agenda.
- Approval of the November 25th Meeting Minutes was moved to the next meeting.

2. **Member Announcements and Questions**

A request was made to send important emails, such as the one related to the Strategic Plan Survey, earlier in the week as opposed to Fridays when they can be overlooked.

3. **Institutional Effectiveness Partnership Initiative** – Jeremy Smotherman on behalf of Dr. Garcia

The Institutional Effectiveness Partnership Initiative (IEPI) run by the Chancellor's Office aims to enhance institutional effectiveness by offering resources, programs, and support to improve student success, equity, and operational efficiency. SRJC has reached out to the IEPI Initiative to obtain support for our Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) efforts related to diversity, equity, and inclusion and to support the work of the Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Antiracism, Accessibility (IDEAA) Taskforce. A [letter](#) was submitted to the IEPI, and a Partnership Resource Team (PRT) will be brought in to help identify actionable steps to address concerns and enhance institutional effectiveness. Questions about funding were clarified that while this is not a traditional grant, the initiative will provide targeted funding for these efforts.

Following the discussion, it was recommended the following topics be brought to a future meeting:

- Update on the progress of HSI Grants.
- Student preparedness, particularly among Latinx and underserved populations transitioning from K-12. Examine how these grants could address these challenges and improve readiness.
- The potential impact of federal-level changes on these grants, such as the proposed dismantling of the Department of Education.

4. **2023/24 Audit Reports (District / Bond / Prop 39)**

Kate Jolley provided an overview of [the audit reports](#), which will be presented to the Board for approval on Friday. The audits, conducted by Gilbert CPAs, covered the Foundation, District, and Bond funds. The district received clean, unmodified opinions, which reflect the auditors' findings of accuracy, solvency, and compliance with all applicable requirements. Key financial metrics were highlighted, including the implementation of Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) 94 for public-private partnerships requiring amortization of Polly O'Meara Doyle Hall, which led to a significant change to the financial statements. It was noted that key revenue sources like apportionment, property tax revenue, and the Education Protection Act are categorized as non-

operating revenue by GASB resulting in the financial statements showing a large non-operating revenue. The bond audits also received unmodified opinions, indicating compliance with voter promises regarding the use of funds.

Members are welcome to attend the public meetings of the Board Finance Committee and Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee for further insight into these audits.

5. **Student Centered Funding Formula Overview** – Jeremy Smotherman and Kate Jolley

The [base allocation and supplemental components](#) and [metrics definitions](#) of the Student-Centered Funding Formula (SCFF) was reviewed. Concerns were expressed about inequities in the formula, particularly its impact on colleges with fewer students on financial aid. While the SCFF prioritizes outcomes aligned with community college missions (e.g., transfers, degree completions, living wage attainment), the formula disadvantages certain colleges. Advocacy efforts being made to address issues with the SCFF at the state level were discussed.

The base funding component is determined by FTES served and number of sites. It was noted the college receives funding for two grandfathered sites (Public Safety Training Center and Shone Farm). SRJC has shifted from being classified as a large single-college district to a medium one which impacts future funding. For 2024/25, the total projected funding, including supplemental funding of \$13.2 million and \$13.3 million for the success component, is \$123 million which falls short of the hold-harmless funding level of \$139 million. The new hold-harmless reform ensures the college's funding floor will remain at the 2024-25 level moving forward, however, no ongoing COLA will be added, COLA will be given on a one-time basis only.

Discussion included the potential extension of hold harmless provisions and strategies to mitigate declining enrollment, challenges of balancing state-mandated metrics with local needs, concerns about changes in course requirements (e.g., common course numbering) and their impact on students' academic preparation and success, and the need for advocacy and collaboration to address challenges posed by the SCFF and other state policies.

There was concern about the SCFF incentivizing students who are receiving financial aid, as it could correlate with students going into college debt.

6. **Proposed Agenda Items for Next Meeting – January 27**

A request to explore data at a more granular level to address specific student outcomes, such as the success rates of non-native English speakers in Health Sciences. The possibility of departmental collaborations to address these gaps was suggested. Broader district-wide concerns would need to be in consultation with Academic Support.

The meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.
