

MINUTES

COTC BOARD OF TRUSTEES

August 17, 2021

8:30 a.m.

Zoom Meeting

Present from Fiduciary Board: Mr. Steven Cohen, Mr. Andy Crawford, Mr. Bruce Hawkins, Mr. Robert Montagnese, Mr. J. Park Shai, Ms. Cheryl Snyder, Ms. Marion Sutton Mr. Paul Thompson, and Mr. Gordy Yance

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Mr. Rob Montagnese called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. and informed the board that notice of this meeting has been given in conformity with Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Dr. Berry reported that the temporary authority that allowed all public bodies to meet virtually expired on June 30th, and the new authority that allows university and college boards of trustees to adopt a policy for electronic attendance doesn't go into effect until September 30th. So, during this interim two-month period, virtual trustee participants do not count toward a quorum and are not permitted to vote. Therefore, since today's meeting is virtual, we do not officially have a quorum and cannot take a vote on any actions. We will move forward with the agenda and will present all the items for information and discussion only. No action will be taken. All actions will be rolled to the September meeting which will be in person.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

OSUN BOARD REPORT – Tara Houdeshell

Current COVID-19 protocol for students:

- **Pre-arrival testing:** All students living in university-managed housing on the Columbus campus and regional campuses will need to complete an at-home COVID-19 test within seven days before they return to Ohio State.
- **Move-in testing:** All Columbus campus students who will be on campus for any reason and all residential students on the regional campuses will be required to test for COVID-19 when they arrive. Until students receive a negative test result, they should wear a mask.
- **Weekly surveillance testing:** Currently, unvaccinated students — including all students on the Columbus campus and regional campus students who live in university housing — will be required to test weekly as the academic year begins. Students who have been vaccinated against COVID-19 and reported their status to the university will not have to test.
- **Mask requirements:** As of August 2nd, students, faculty, staff and visitors to all Ohio State campuses and medical facilities are required to wear masks indoors, regardless of their vaccination status. Masks continue to be required outdoors for unvaccinated individuals when they cannot maintain physical distancing. Vaccinated people are not required to mask outdoors.
- **Quarantine and isolation housing:** Given that broad access to vaccines is available, on-campus quarantine and isolation housing will be limited this year and cannot be guaranteed at any time. All students should have individual plans for isolation and quarantine housing in the event they are exposed or have a positive COVID-19 test.

Ohio State Newark Welcome Gathering

Ohio State Newark will not hold our traditional Convocation for new students this August but will instead host a welcome gathering. New students and second-year students will be invited to a more casual event that will be held outside in the amphitheater.

Refreshed Strategic Plan

Ohio State Newark's refreshed strategic plan, is finished and was shared with all faculty and staff on July 27. The process of refreshing the plan began with a new environmental scan (an update to our 2016 scan) that assessed the relevance of the plan's previous priorities and initiatives and identified new strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats. The refreshed plan remains focused squarely on student success, but we have added a fourth strategic priority, which is to strengthen our commitment to social justice. We have also revised our student-debt metric to align with the university's goal of having all Ohio State undergraduate students be debt-free when they earn their bachelor's degrees.

NEW BUSINESS

Dr. Berry reported that OSU went to a mask mandate which forced us to decide the path we wanted to take. We received guidance from the AG's office to follow what OSU has done. We have discovered that about 80% of all two-year colleges in Ohio are mask mandate. About 90% of our staff are back on campus as of yesterday. Faculty will be back starting tomorrow. We plan to hold "campus huddles" with our staff and faculty later this week as we all reengage.

Program Inactivation – Dr. Eric Heiser, Provost

Dr. Heiser provided background information about program areas we have not been strong in delivering but where there is still a need. The Associate of Applied Science in Emergency Management Technology and the Paramedic certificate. We plan to bring this before the board in September for consideration of inactivation. These will be shifted to C-TEC and we will provide any support we can.

Two additional areas we are currently exploring partnering with a third-party provider on are EFDA training for Dental Hygienist and providing CDL drivers training.

Board Rule 3357:3-1-03 – Meetings and Committees Revision – Dr. Jackie Parrill, Vice President and Chief of Staff

Dr. Parrill reported that provisions included in the budget bill was to adopt a policy to allow boards to meet virtually with certain exceptions. This expired on June 30, 2021. Proposed changes were shared with the board that going forward effective September 30, 2021 there would be exceptions made for board attendance with at least 1/3 in attendance. We will bring this back to the board in September for consideration.

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Dr. Berry reported on the Governor's luncheon with two-year college presidents and discussions that took place. The governor strongly encouraged incentivizing students, staff and faculty to get vaccinated. Lt. Governor was very impressed by the John and Mary Alford building and appreciated being a part of the ribbon cutting ceremony.

Enrollment update provided. We are currently at a 15% reduction in enrollment but we are keeping an eye on these numbers. We anticipate an increase with our college credit plus students. We have seen improved retention numbers.

Dr. Berry provided brief updates on the Founders Hall renovation plans.

Thank you Cheryl Snyder for a connection and introduction with Ready Skills organization. We continue to explore possible partnerships with them for our student needs.

Achieving the Dream update provided. Our first orientation took place virtually with our core team from the college (12-13 members). What to expect in the first year was shared with the group. This is a three-year engagement process with ATD and lines up nicely with our completion plan.

Dr. Berry has been invited to participate in a podcast on September 13 presented by the Licking County Chamber of Commerce where he has been asked to talk about various highlights of the college.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Montagnese commended the college on the John and Mary Alford ribbon cutting ceremony for a job well done.

Kim Manno reminded everyone of the Pataskala ribbon cutting scheduled for August 27 at 9:00 am. All are invited to attend.

Mr. Montagnese encouraged everyone to continue conversations with our legislators about staffing needs within our own organizations. It is important that we convey this growing problem in our communities.

Next meeting in person September 21 at 8:30. Meeting adjourned at 9:28 a.m.

Rob Montagnese
Chairman

Steve Cohen
Vice-Chairman

MISSION STATEMENT

To meet the technical education and training needs of students and employers in the area.