

**SANTA CRUZ COUNTY
PROVISIONAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT (SCCPCCD)
GOVERNING BOARD**

**Regular Board Meeting Minutes
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2024**


2021 North Grand Avenue
Nogales, AZ 85621

1. OPENING ITEMS

A. Call to Order:

Chairperson Collier called a Public Board Meeting of the Santa Cruz County Provisional Community College District (SCCPCCD) Board to order on Wednesday October 23, 2024 at 3:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Mr. Lucero led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call / In Attendance:

Present at the meeting were Ms. Liz Collier- Chairperson, Dr. Angela Meixell- Board Member, Dr. Marcelino Varona, Jr.- Board member, Mrs. Georgina Tavera- Finance Manager, Mr. Greg Lucero, and Ms. Maricruz Ruiz. Mr. Pauole, District Attorney, joined virtually. Ms. Dina Sanchez arrived during the U of A presentation.

B. Adoption of the Agenda

Dr. Meixell motioned to approve the agenda of the Regular Board meeting of Wednesday, October 23 as presented. Dr. Varona seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously, 3-0.

	Ms. Liz Collier	Dr. Marcelino Varona	Dr. Angela Meixell	Mr. John Fanning	Dina Sanchez
AYE	X	X	X	Excused Absence	Unavailable
NAY					
ABSTAIN					

C. Public Comment – Call to Audience

There was no Call to the Public.

Chairperson Collier changed the order of actions items, moving Subject D. University of Arizona-Santa Cruz Center Report first followed by Subject G. Gust Rosenfeld Law Firm – Engagement Letter.

2. STANDING REPORTS & ACTION ITEMS

3.

D. University of Arizona – Santa Cruz Center Report (Summary of U of A Programs)

Mr. Gabriel Orozco Leal, Success Coach Specialist, introduced himself saying he had taken Alan’s position after his leave of absence. His main focus was supporting and advising the students attending the main campus. He discussed the financial situation and leadership changes at the University of Arizona. He also talked about the planning process for new programs and the support provided to students.

- Dr. Varona said he found mining interesting and hoped he would have known about it when he started on the Advisory Board;
- Dr. Meixell asked for the student population and Mr. Orozco said it was currently about 5-7 students;
- Chairperson Collier asked for the grand total student enrollment and if they were teaching any classes;

G. Gust Rosenfeld Law Firm – Engagement Letter

Mr. Angel McGuire and Mr. Jim Giel introduced themselves and provided their brief background. Mr. Lucero stated that their purpose today was to review the draft agreement that the Center was working on with South32 and give them direction on land acquisition for future training facilities.

- Chairperson Collier suggested having the three people from the Superintendent’s Office present first and go into Executive Session afterwards;

I. AdultEd Program to add one classroom, plan for FY24-25 (previously assigned as Imagination Room, Room #11)

Ms. Maya Donnelly, Chief Deputy at SCC School Superintendent’s Office, stated they were in attendance not to add a classroom, but to discuss the agreements presented on tonight’s agenda. The following was discussed:

- The Gear-Up Program is now in its seventh and final year, and they are applying for an additional grant.

Ms. Donnelly also highlighted the C-CREO Gear-Up initiative, noting that many students are enrolled at the Santa

Cruz Center in their first year of post-secondary education. She emphasized the critical need for having a tutoring program (current grant is for \$35K) to support students at the Santa Cruz Center, benefiting the entire student population. Additionally, she mentioned that they have secured funds for student supplies.

- Ms. Donnelly also discussed the Adult Ed - Santa Cruz County Continuing Education grant program. She highlighted the need for funding to cover the rent for the three classrooms currently in use. Additionally, she noted that Room 11 has become a storage area for various programs. Her team agreed that converting this room into an adult education resource center would optimize the space.

- She discussed Attachment A, the final page of the memorandum, highlighting Mrs. Ast's extensive experience as an Adult Ed Instructor. Mrs. Ast will provide tutoring in Reading, Writing, Math, Science, and Social Studies, particularly to assist adult learners preparing for the Civics exam for citizenship. In addition to personalized tutoring, she will offer college and career advising for those exploring various pathways. Ms. Donnelly elaborated on the range of services available and the significant transformation planned for Room 11 to enhance its functionality.

- Dr. Varona inquired if the IGA covered the three classrooms from August through May 2025 for approximately \$23,000. Ms. Donnelly clarified that the total amount was \$22,500, which includes the installation of a phone line in Room 11, with an ongoing cost of \$40 per month for the service. Dr. Varona then asked Mrs. Tavera about Room 11, and whether rent was being paid. Mrs. Tavera explained that no rent was being charged due to an agreement established about five years ago with Dr. Perez regarding the C-CREO payment. She noted that they were not currently paying for the C-CREO section or the Imagination Center, which included two classrooms. Dr. Varona clarified that the agreement for these two classrooms will expire at the end of June 2025, after which they could be repurposed. He expressed his belief that adult education should be integrated within the community college itself, as it would help us with financial support, and encouraged the team to keep this in mind.

- Ms. Sanchez inquired about the term ending in June 2025, asking if they would have the option to begin paying rent at that time if they wished to retain those rooms;

- Chairperson Collier asked how many students were in adult education and which courses were being taught (170 students; English and GED);

- Dr. Varona asked for clarification on the terminology of the "Santa Cruz Center" saying they could not agree to anything, as the Santa Cruz Center had no legal authority or authorized to enter into any agreement or have anything by Arizona revised statute. He said that Gila were good at promoting themselves as Gila Community College. He asked to clear this up and promote the Community College;

At this time, the Governing Board convened to Executive Session.

A. Financials – Mrs. Georgina Tavera, Finance Manager

- Mrs. Tavera provided the financial reports for September 2024. She explained the payments issued and the deposits made for Ms. Sanchez's understanding. She also attached the statements balances and added that they joined the Public Government Investment to receive more interest, with a balance of \$4.6M;

- Dr. Varona inquired whether the funds allocated by the School Superintendent were being utilized to upgrade the computer infrastructure;

- Ms. Sanchez sought clarification on the \$6,325 deposit related to Workforce Development. She also asked if services like housekeeping or cleaning were contracted through private entities or if there was a Request for Proposals (RFP) process in place;

B. Chairperson of the Governing Board

Chairperson Collier provided the following report:

- She had been collaborating with Ms. Paula Schaefer on the website and was on track with the updates. Mrs. Tavera mentioned that Dr. Phillips had arranged a visit to Pima on January 24, 2025 (Friday) and inquired about the Board's availability. They plan to discuss non-credit and FTSE calculations during this meeting;

C. Members of the Governing Board

- Dr. Varona thanked everyone for their kindness, compassion, and for accompanying his family during the passing of his young grandson; he was very grateful for everyone attending mass;;

- Ms. Sanchez said on November 6th, there was a follow up health care forum at the Rio Rico Fire District from 8:30am – 10:30am; she explained what this program was about;

- Dr. Meixell welcomed Ms. Sanchez to the Board;

E. PCC-Santa Cruz Center Reports

Mrs. Maricruz Ruiz, PCC Supervising Administrator, said it had been a busy three weeks for her.

- She engaged with community partners to plan various events, including an early childhood workshop at Nogales High School, outreach at several high schools, and upcoming career and college fairs. To celebrate Halloween, they are organizing a movie night on campus. Registration opens on November 12, prompting a blitz to distribute flyers in classrooms. They are also developing workshops titled “Becoming a Master Student” for fall and spring.

- Additionally, she met with a representative from Catholic University to schedule an information session for students on November 20 to discuss available programs and opportunities. She collaborated with Ms. Carol Williams to explore offering CNA classes on weekends and conducted a survey with Ms. Zaida Bustamante from Arizona at Work to understand why students might not want to remain in the community, identifying lack of jobs and educational opportunities as key factors. Lastly, Melinda Gomez introduced a tool called the Education Progress Meter from Educationforwardarizona.org, aimed at achieving the statewide Achieve 60AZ goal.

- She announced that they have received approval from the new Chancellor, Dr. Jeffrey Nasse, to proceed with the adjustments to next year's agreement. Dr. Phillips was scheduled to meet with the workforce team this Friday to discuss the building and construction technology certificate. Additionally, he is coordinating meetings for the ESL Spanish credit and collaborating with Mrs. Tavera to secure whiteboards for the faculty;

- Ms. Sanchez inquired about the November 12 Blitz and clarified that the focus on CNA was shifting more towards Patient Care Technician (PCT) training, emphasizing the need for Pima to offer this updated curriculum. She aims to move away from the outdated CNA model. Mr. Lucero suggested including input on the agenda regarding the importance of expanding dual credit programs for their success;

F. Strategic Initiatives Report – Mr. Greg Lucero, SCCPCCD Strategic Initiatives Director

Mr. Lucero sent a copy of his weekly activities to the Board and reviewed them all for the record:

- He aimed to avoid redundancy, as he updates the Board weekly on his activities. He expressed gratitude to Chairperson Collier for her involvement in the website development, noting they are on the verge of launching the new site. He mentioned that Dr. Phillips had strengthened relationships with Pima and NAU, suggesting a need to engage NAU further on campus and seeking Pima's assistance in initiating that dialogue. He is still pursuing an ID for Federal Grants and is collaborating with Gus Rosenfeld to prepare an agreement for presentation to South32.

H. Westwordvision Website Phase 2 Implementation

Chairperson Collier addressed this section in her updates. Dr. Meixell praised the quality of the language but said that it was overly complex for students. She emphasized that while the language was valuable for grant applications and accreditation, she suggested simplifying for students;

J. AZ County Community College Districts and Colleges of Qualifying Indian Tribes

Dr. Varona directed the Board's attention to page 4, highlighting the absence of a dual enrollment program at the community college and its negative impact on enrollment figures. Chairperson Collier expanded on this point. He added that the college should aim for a full-time student count above the current 191, ideally reaching at least 250;

4. EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS

There was no need for Executive Session at this time.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Approval of Minutes

Dr. Meixell made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of September 25, 2024, seconded by Chairperson Collier. Motion carried 2-2 due to Dr. Varona and Ms. Sanchez not being present during this meeting. A vote was taken 3-1 but for the record, Dr. Varona was not present at the September 25, 2024 meeting.

	Ms. Liz Collier	Dr. Marcelino Varona	Dr. Angela Meixell-	Mr. John Fanning	Ms. Dina Sanchez
AYE	X	X	X	Absent	
NAY					
ABSTAIN					X

B. Future Board Meeting Agenda Items

- a. South 32

C. Next Governing Board Meeting

a. Wednesday, November 20, 2024 at 3:00 p.m. due to the Thanksgiving Holiday;

6. ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Meixell motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Sanchez. Motion carried unanimously, 4-0.

	Ms. Liz Collier	Dr. Marcelino Varona	Dr. Angela Meixell	Mr. John Fanning	Dina Sanchez
AYE	X	X	X	Absent	X
NAY					
ABSTAIN					

Having no further business to discuss, Chairperson Collier adjourned the meeting.

Minutes presented respectfully by:

Ms. Liz Collier
SCCPCCD Chairperson