

**Los Angeles Community College District
Board Committee Minutes: Legislative & Public Affairs (L&PA)**

November 14, 2018

Committee Members: David Vela, Chair
Gabriel Buelna, Vice Chair (Absent)
Scott J. Svonkin, Member
Mike Fong, Board Alternate
Maria Luisa Veloz, Staff Liaison
Marvin Martinez, College President Liaison
Lawrence Buckley, College President Liaison Alternate

Trustee Vela called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m.

Agenda Items

Public Speakers

None

RECOMMENDATION ITEMS

LACCD Local, State and Federal 2019-20 Policy and Advocacy Proposals

- State Legislative Proposals: Esperanza Ross, Strategic Education Services
- State Budget Proposals: Patrick McCallum, McCallum Group, Inc.
- Federal Proposals: Leslie Pollner, Holland & Knight LLP

Brief Summary of the Topic(s) Discussed

Ms. Esperanza Ross, Strategic Education Services, gave an update as to the current status of elections across the state before continuing with an update on the following LACCD sponsored state initiatives introduced into legislation:

- AB19 – College Promise Program
- AB2306 – Extension of Cal Grant Program
- Best Value Procurement
- Cal Grant Deadline Extension for AB540 Students
- Course Repeatability

With respect to AB19, Ms. Ross reported on the support for the bill with the legislature being in favor of supporting tuition free education at community colleges. The State Chancellor's Office and the Student Aid Commission have proposals on expanding student financial aid for the Governor's budget. The difference is that the latter includes all higher education segments. In regards to AB2306 which proposes to increase the Cal Grant Program from four years to six years, it was consensus of the Committee to try and incorporate the intent of the bill into the State Chancellor's

Office financial aid proposal. Additionally, in terms of the Cal Grant Deadline Extension for AB540 Students, it was suggested to take a holistic approach and integrate within the other Cal grant programs noted.

On the topic of best value procurement, similar pilot programs have taken an incremental approach within the legislature. In terms of course repeatability, the item will likely veer to the local level.

Ms. Ross continued with an update on the following LACCD supported state initiatives introduced into legislation:

- Student Housing
- Food Insecurity
- Increasing Financial Aid for AB540 Students

In relation to student housing, Ms. Ross referenced an information item entitled "Background Information on 2017 Housing Legislative Package" and "California's 2017 Legislative Housing Package Major Comments" which summarizes bills signed into law for affordable housing in California. She explained that community colleges can apply to access funds for student housing through various state/local agencies.

While discussing the food insecurity initiative it was noted that the Chief Executive Officers of the California Community Colleges (CEOCCC) are researching this issue across the state. A report on the findings is anticipated to be released in February of 2019. In the interim, Trustee Svonkin suggested to communicate with Assembly member Limon or another author about doing a spot bill.

With respect to an increase in financial aid for AB540 students, a suggestion was made to explore gaining support through the Latino Legislative Caucus.

Next, Mr. Patrick McCallum, The McCallum Group, Inc. reported on the following state budget items for the LACCD:

- College Promise
- Funding for Dream Centers at all nine LACCD campuses
- Funding Formula – Promise Grant
- Growth Funding for Districts Below Their Cap
- Extension/Removal of Sunset Date on Dual Enrollment
- Noncredit Census Date
- Apportionment for Tutoring and Mentoring
- Faculty and Staff Housing
- Facilities Bond
- Additional Funding for Online Education

A question and answer session was conducted regarding the above mentioned items.

With respect to the College Promise, it was noted that the item's proposed funding is via fee revenues, independent of Prop. 98. Discussion ensued with respect to various components of the state budget items listed. Additionally, it was noted that the Trustees or President of the Board should be included in any future or scheduled meetings with legislature addressing the topics herein.

As discussion continued Trustee Svonkin requested an analysis to quantify how many students will be impacted and the amount of funds LACCD will lose due to the extension or removal of the sunset date on dual enrollment.

Because of the complexities of student housing, a suggestion was made to host a summit or think session with developers, non-profit housing agencies and local community colleges to discuss options/opinions.

Ms. Leslie Pollner, Senior Policy Advisor, Holland & Knight, discussed various components of a document entitled, ""Holland & Knight, Federal Update dated November 8, 2018"". She noted that priority areas across the federal landscape include school construction, apprenticeships and homelessness.

She provided updates on the following federal initiatives in which the LACCD position status is support:

- Funding Increase of Core Higher Education Funding Program
- Support Legislation to Make College More Accessible and Affordable to Students
- Expand Investment in Workforce and Apprenticeship Programs
- Increase STEM Opportunities
- Permanent Legal Status and Pathway to Citizenship for Undocumented Students
- Proactively identify Federal Funding Opportunities
- Reduce Barriers to Higher Education for Vulnerable Students, including Veterans and Homeless Students

A question and answer session was conducted in review of the information.

In discussion of financial aid, Trustee Vela inquired as to a way for students to access financial aid sans their parents' income and independent of emancipation. Ms. Pollner was receptive to researching this notion to explore any possibilities for incorporating into legislation.

On another note, the Committee proposed that staff revisit the aforementioned initiatives for possible progression to a position status of sponsor.

Trustee Vela tabled discussion on local initiatives due to time constraints.

State Legislative Report – Background Information on 2017 Housing Legislative package

A handout entitled “Background Information on 2017 Housing Legislative Package” was distributed for information.

FUTURE DISCUSSION/AGENDA ITEMS

None

FUTURE MEETING DATES

The next Legislative & Public Affairs Committee meeting is scheduled for December 12, 2018.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no objection, the meeting was adjourned at 12:45 p.m.