

MINUTES
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
OF McHENRY COUNTY COLLEGE

A Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees of McHenry County College was held on Thursday, September 29, 2011, in the Board Room, Room A217, in Building A on the Campus. Vice Chair Adams called the meeting to order at 5:13 p.m. When Secretary Walters called the roll, the following were present:

Ms. Liddell
Mr. Parrish
Ms. Walters
Mr. Adams

Ms. Miller arrived at 5:13 p.m. Trustees Larson, Kisser and Morrobel were absent.

ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

The agenda was accepted as presented.

DISCUSSION WITH HIGHER LEARNING COMMISSION PEER REVIEWERS

Dinner was served at 5:16 p.m. General discussion followed with Dr. Cecelia Wittmayer and Dr. Cathy Anderson, AQIP peer reviewers. Dr. Anderson remarked that McHenry County College has come through some challenging times and stated her belief that the College is on the right track. She noted that the planning that has been put into place is essential, and stated that getting the Educational Master Plan in place first, and building from that plan makes sense. Dr. Anderson expressed her opinion that there is much potential here and asked the College to make sure resources are put in the right place.

When Dr. Anderson asked how the College would get the word out to local residents about what is available; Mr. Adams cited rebranding efforts which will be discussed on Friday, September 30. He added that McHenry County College is an organization with a lot of positive stories. Dr. Smith remarked that Trustees who have been on the Board a while support the continuous improvement process, noting that action teams report to the Board.

Dr. Anderson acknowledged that the upper level administrative team before Dr. Smith arrived kept AQIP going. She stated that when there is a change in leadership, AQIP efforts sometimes fall off, and she was

pleased to see that was not the case at McHenry County College. Mr. Adams stated that the President's goals and objectives and master plans for the College are all in synch, which is why it is successful. Ms. Walters confirmed the Board's recognition of the importance of the AQIP process. Mr. Parrish stated that after he was elected to the Board, he was pleased to learn that continuous improvement is firmly entrenched at McHenry County College.

Chair Miller spoke about former Trustee Frances Glosson, who attended the first AQIP Strategy Forum; Ms. Walters noted that Dr. Glosson was the catalyst for AQIP activity at the College.

Dr. Anderson asked what opportunities or challenges the Board sees ahead for MCC. Ms. Miller stated that for many years, the College has been the best-kept secret; she added that one of the biggest challenges is competition with online degrees offered by other entities.

Mr. Parrish spoke enthusiastically about the Shah Center noting that students from Northern Illinois University have been sent there for internships. Programs housed at the Shah Center include Traffic Safety School and the 22nd Judicial Circuit Family Violence Coordinating Council.

Dr. Anderson spoke about the tour of Woodstock North High School and the College's culinary arts partnership. Discussion followed about other College partnerships with county fire and police departments.

A brief discussion followed on a furniture donation through the Friends of McHenry County College Foundation. The item will be brought to the October Board Meeting.

Dr. Wittmayer stated she was a member of the review team for McHenry County College's appraisal document and was very impressed by the College's willingness to accept the comments in that document, use them constructively and move the College forward over the past year. Mr. Parrish commented that the guidance, suggestions and input the College received has made the College better. Dr. Smith stated that she is impressed with how the action teams have internalized AQIP as an institution, citing former Interim President Dr. Kathleen Plinske and Ms. Pat Stejskal as leaders of the process. Dr. Anderson spoke about

the level of confidence she has observed at the College. Chair Miller thanked Dr. Wittmayer and Dr. Anderson.

CLOSED SESSION

No Closed Session was held.

SUMMARY COMMENTS BY BOARD MEMBERS

The Trustees thanked Dr. Wittmayer and Dr. Anderson; Mr. Parrish stated that the AQIP process has helped McHenry County College to be better.

ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no further business, Chair Miller adjourned the meeting at 6:42 p.m.

Patricia Kriegermeier, Recording Secretary

Barbara Walters, Board Secretary