

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
FREDERICK COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Joint Meeting
BOARD OF EDUCATION OF FREDERICK COUNTY
Career & Technology Center Spires Café
7922 Opossumtown Pike, Frederick, Maryland
March 9, 2023 – 4:30 p.m.
MINUTES

In Attendance:

Frederick Community College: Trustees: Carolyn Kimberlin, Chair; Tom Lynch, Vice Chair; Gary Fearnow; Theodore Luck, Dr. John Molesworth. Also in attendance: President Dr. Annesa Payne Cheek; Avis Boyd, Chief of Staff to the President; Beth Duffy, Executive Director for Dual Enrollment; Andrew McClain, Dual Enrollment and Early College Coordinator; Dr. Nora Clark, VP for Student Affairs; Dr. Brian Stipelman, AVP/Dean of Liberal Arts; Dr. Sandy McCombe Waller, AVP/Dean of Health, Business, Technology & Science; Dr. Benita Rashaw, AVP for Student Affairs; Dr. Molly Carlson, AVP for CEWD; Nichole Pollard, Director of Financial Aid; Amy Stake, Interim VP for Finance; Adam Reno, Interim Director of Technology, Chief Information Officer; Deborah Powell, Executive Director FCC Foundation; Gerald Boyd, Special Assistant to the President for Institutional Effectiveness; Lewis Godwin; Chief of Operations; Marie Billie, Interim VP for Human Resources; Dr. Maryrose Eannace, Interim Provost/Executive Vice President for AACEWD; Fred Hockenberry, Executive Director of Auxiliaries, Procurement and Special Projects; Theresa Dorsey, Administrative Coordinator; Caroline Cole, Director of Communications to the President

Frederick County Public Schools: Sue Johnson, President, Board of Education; Dean Rose, Vice President, Board of Education; Nancy Allen, Board Member; Rae Gallagher, Board Member; Karen Yoho, Board Member; Lucas Tessarollo, Student Member of the Board; Dr. Cheryl Dyson, Superintendent; Dr. Sarah Sirgo, Chief of Staff; Dr. Paul Lebo, Chief Operating Officer; Dr. Eric Louers-Phillips, Associate Superintendent, Public Affairs; Kathleen Schlappal, Director of High Schools; Scott Murphy, Curriculum Director, Curriculum, Instruction and Innovation; Diana Sung, Coordinator, Dual Enrollment; Dr. Kristine Pearl, Supervisor, Career & Technical Education; Michael Concepcion, Principal, FCPS Career & Technology Center; Dr. David Franceschina, Principal, Frederick High School; Leslie Frei, Supervisor, Early Childhood Education & Judy Centers; Dr. Kevin Cuppett, Executive Director, Curriculum, Instruction & Innovation; Lisa Stylos, Executive Assistant to the Chief of Staff; Kathryn Rich, Executive Assistant to the Board of Education.

Office of the County Executive: Janice Spiegel, Special Projects Manager/Budget Office, Frederick County Government

Board of Education President Sue Johnson called the meeting to order at 4:34 p.m.

Board of Education President Sue Johnson and Board of Trustees Chair Carolyn Kimberlin welcomed attendees and provided opening remarks. The theme of the meeting was centered around taking the partnership between the two institutions to a higher level.

President Johnson asked the attendees to remember Marc Frankenberry, a long-time professor at FCC, who passed away last week.

Pledge of Allegiance

Board of Education President Johnson and Board of Trustees Chair Carolyn Kimberlin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Self-Introductions

All attendees made self-introductions.

Listening and Learning

Dr. Annesa Payne Cheek, President of Frederick Community College, and Dr. Cheryl Dyson, Superintendent of Frederick County Public Schools, shared remarks about building a strong foundation.

- Each institution had a new leader since July 1, 2022.
- Dr. Cheek and Dr. Dyson are committed to building on a strong foundation that places students and their needs at the center, relentlessly focuses on advancing student achievement and success, and continues to be driven with a desire for progress.
- There is a historical connection between the institutions since 1957.
- The two institutions touch 60,000+ students annually.
- Frederick County Public Schools and Frederick Community College are the public education anchors in Frederick County.

Dr. Cheek and Dr. Dyson also shared their desire to build a designed alliance that makes the implicit, explicit by:

- Optimizing the portfolio of new and existing partnership opportunities.
- Promoting best practices.
- Fostering equity by targeting sub-populations.
- Gathering data to drive good decisions.
- Focusing on where can WE go next?

Leveraging the Power of the Board of Trustees and the Board of Education was discussed with a Board focus on:

- Community stakeholder voices and perspectives.
- Prescribing to what is to be accomplished through our partnership
- The highest priority of advancing student learning and student success.
- The Future – how do we move forward?

Our Refined Focus: Joint Steering Committee Partnership

Dr. Kevin Cuppett, Executive Director, Curriculum, Instruction & Innovation for FCPS, and Dr. Maryrose Eannace, Interim Provost/Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs, Continuing Education & Workforce Development at FCC, provided updates regarding the Joint Steering Committee.

Dr. Cuppett stated that there has been a joint steering committee in place for many years between Frederick Community College and Frederick County Public Schools.

The FCC/FCPS Joint Steering Committee serves as a multi-departmental, dual institution group that provides strategic guidance for stakeholders engaged in building the designed alliance between the two institutions.

Dr. Cuppett and Dr. Eannace spoke about the four areas or bodies of work the subcommittees of the Joint Steering Committee will focus on including:

- College and Career Pathways from FCPS to FCC – With the goal of students and families visualizing multiple pathways Pre-K to college, this subcommittee will identify workforce needs, review the strength and alignment of current offerings and programs, conduct a gap analysis, and make recommendations for new or adjusted programming.
- Dual Enrollment – With the goal of optimizing a robust dual enrollment program within the context of the Blueprint for Maryland's Future, this subcommittee will review the current program, envision a strategic expansion to ensure strong pathways, and implement improvements across all facets of the partnership.
- Facilities and Space Solutions – With the goal of supporting programming within the designed alliance, this subcommittee will explore synergistic space and facilities solutions with a creative eye toward sustainability and cost effectiveness.

- Pre-Kindergarten at FCC – With the goal of expanding pre-kindergarten offerings within Frederick County, this subcommittee will explore having a state-funded pre-kindergarten program on the FCC Campus.

Setting the Stage for the Future: Our Partnership

Dr. Cheek and Dr. Dyson discussed how the stars are aligning in Maryland through:

- The Blueprint for Maryland’s Future which is transforming education throughout the State of Maryland. The Blueprint is the floor, and Dr. Cheek stated that she and Dr. Dyson feel that this partnership can go above and beyond what the Blueprint mandates.

Engaging the Boards

Ms. Avis Boyd, Chief of Staff to the President of Frederick Community College, and Dr. Sarah Sirgo, Chief of Staff for Frederick County Public Schools, provided remarks regarding Board engagement.

- The Boards took time to share some thoughts and notes with each other regarding Board Engagement and then shared their thoughts openly in the meeting. The questions the Boards were to consider were:
 - What do students need from the FCC/FCPS partnership?
 - What does the public education “ecosystem” need to look like in order to support those needs?
 - What are the challenges? Opportunities?
 - What are the priority areas/directions that will require our focus?

Board of Education members and Board of Trustees shared thoughts from their conversations regarding:

- More Dual Enrollment options for students.
- Career Coaches – Ms. Sung shared that there are 21 career coaches in middle/high schools to better inform students about dual enrollment courses.
- Impact of COVID-19.
- Advanced Placement (AP) courses versus Dual Enrollment Courses.
- Facilities - how are we going to keep up with the growth?
- Exposure – Many students don’t know the options that are available to them.
- Encouragement – encouraging all staff and students to do their best.
- How do we adjust to students differing views of education? Students are expressing that they want to learn differently.
- Pathways, opportunities and options.
- Business partnership – creative ways regarding internships and job placement.
- Outreach efforts to particular students –being intentional about reaching out to English Language (EL) Learners, Special Education students, students of color, etc.
- Families – parental engagement – how are families being made aware of services available to them?
- Focus of students has changed from earning a degree to finding gainful employment.

Attendees were asked to provide a one-word summary of the partnership. Some of these words included:

- Possibilities
- Future
- Encourage
- Overwhelmed
- Engaging
- Team Sport
- Aligned
- Engaged
- Opportunities
- Enthusiasm

- Promising
- Gravitas

Members of the Joint Steering Committee were recognized and thanked for all the hard work that they have done and will be doing.

Closing Remarks

Board of Education President Sue Johnson and Board of Trustees Chair for FCC, Carolyn Kimberlin gave closing remarks.

Ms. Kimberlin spoke about how promising the collaboration with FCC and FCPS is.

Ms. Johnson stated that FCC and FCPS serve all ages of the community.

They stated that we need to encourage and support more individuals to become teachers.

There was emphasis on the messaging needing to get out to parents and students earlier and get them interested enough to expose them to what is offered at FCC.

Adjournment

The joint meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Prepared by Kathryn Rich, Executive Assistant to the Board of Education of Frederick County.