

Blinn College District Schulenburg Campus Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday, April 18, 2024
11:30 AM – 1:00 PM
Liberal Arts Building, Room 120

The Schulenburg Campus Advisory Committee met on April 18, 2024, in Room 120 of the Liberal Arts Building at 100 Ranger Dr., Blinn-Schulenburg Campus, Schulenburg, Texas.

Committee members present were Ms. Kayla Kaspar, Mr. Jon Wunderlich, Mr. Chris Hooper, and Mr. Andy McHazlett. Absent members included Mr. Chris Sodek, Mr. Ron Langhamer, and Ms. Kimberly Newton.

Representatives from Blinn College present were Dr. Mary Hensley, Mr. Leighton Schubert, Dr. Becky Garlick, Ms. Sarah Nickel, Ms. Monica Heffley, Ms. Loraine Orellana, Ms. Susie Shank, Mr. Jay Anderson, and Mr. Marshall Rich.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Chris Hooper at 12:01 PM.

Approval of Minutes. The minutes from the September 12, 2023, meeting were approved unanimously following a motion from Mr. Jon Wunderlich and a second from Ms. Kayla Kaspar.

Dual Credit Update by Mr. Leighton Schubert, Executive Vice Chancellor. Mr. Leighton Schubert provided an update on dual-credit enrollment. Blinn currently has 56 agreements district-wide for dual-credit courses. Enrollment figures are 2,145 students for Fall 2023 and 2,198 for Spring 2024. The college is expanding its dual-credit course offerings, and students can begin dual-credit courses as early as the summer after 8th grade. Fayette and Colorado Counties currently have 299 students enrolled in these courses. Schubert also discussed the new Financial Aid for Swift (FAST) program, which will begin in Fall 2024. This state-funded program will reimburse the college for FAST-eligible students and aims to assist disadvantaged students. Dual-credit personnel are already preparing for this transition, which is expected to reduce financial barriers for students.

Applied Sciences, Workforce, and Economic Development by Mr. Jay Anderson, Vice Chancellor, Applied Sciences, Workforce and Economic Development. Mr. Jay Anderson reported on Workforce and Continuing Education course enrollment across the district. A total of 933 students are enrolled in associate in applied science (AAS),

healthcare, adult education and literacy, and Corporate College programs. The Alliance for College and Career Success (ACCSS) program has 75 students in welding, 45 in construction, and 2 in pharmacy technology. Anderson noted that the Corporate College is involved with Skills Development Fund Grants, including the active Hendrix grant with 50 employees participating. Several other grants are pending. Numerous scholarships are available to help students with class expenses. Mr. Marshall Rich, Dean, Applied Technology, Workforce, and Economic Development encouraged schools to seek assistance from Blinn College as needed.

Announcements and Upcoming Events by Dr. Becky Garlick. Dr. Becky Garlick announced upcoming events on the Schulenburg Campus, including Career Quest and the If I Had a Hammer Program for Columbus Elementary. It is anticipated that over 600 students will attend Career Quest and about 400 students will participate in the If I Had a Hammer program.

Mr. Jon Wunderlich inquired about the progress of the Waller Campus. Leighton Schubert provided an update on the development of the new campus, and Mr. Wunderlich expressed that the Waller Campus' progress is exciting. However, he emphasized the importance of ensuring that the new campus does not negatively impact the Schulenburg Campus and its surrounding communities.

Mr. Jon Wunderlich made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and Mr. Andy McHazlett seconded the motion.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 PM.