

**SPECIAL MEETING**  
**BOARD OF ILLINOIS COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT NO. 519**  
**Counties of Stephenson, Ogle, Jo Daviess and Carroll**

**CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

A special meeting of the Board of Illinois Community College District No. 519 was called to order by Mr. Doug Block, Chairperson, at 3:17 p.m. on October 16, 2018, in the Robert J. Rimington Board Room in the Highland Community College Student/Conference Center, 2998 West Pearl City Road, Freeport, Illinois in said district.

The following members were present: Mrs. Diane Gallagher, Mr. David Shockey, Mr. Doug Block, Mr. Jim Endress, Dr. Steve Jennings (arrived 3:22 p.m.), Mr. Blake Musser, Ms. Pennie Groezinger, and Ms. Erin Schrader

The following members were absent: None

Also present: Mr. Tim Hood, President; Ms. Chris Kuberski, Executive Vice President; Ms. Jill Janssen, Vice President, Administrative Services; Mr. Scott Anderson, Vice President, Business, Technology and Community Programs; Ms. Liz Gerber, Vice President, Student Development & Support Services; Ms. Rose Ferguson, Associate Vice President, Human Resources; Mr. Jim Phillips, Dean, Humanities, Social Sciences, & Fine Arts; Ms. Laura Early, Faculty; Dr. Joseph Rives, Senior Vice President, Strategic Planning & Initiatives, Western Illinois University; Dr. Jeffrey Hancks, Executive Director, Bachelor of Arts in General Studies Degree Program, Western Illinois University; Ms. Tammy Killian, Chair, Department of Theatre and Dance, Western Illinois University; Ms. Michele Aurand, Advisor, Bachelor of Arts in General Studies Degree Program, Western Illinois University; Ms. Leslie Schmidt, Director, Marketing & Community Relations; Ms. Jane Lethlean, Communications Specialist; Mr. Thedford Jackson, Student Advisor/Transfer Coordinator; Ms. Alyssa Stevens, Digital Media & Creative Specialist; Mr. Derrick Mason, *The Journal-Standard*; Mr. Brad Hart, Big Radio; Mrs. Mary Sue Boerner, Community Member; and, Ms. Terri Grimes, Board Secretary

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**COMMENTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES OF HIGHLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY**

Mr. Block welcomed the special guests from Western Illinois University (WIU), and thanked Highland's key staff members who brought the agreements into being, including Mr. Jim Phillips and Mr. Thedford Jackson. He noted that the agreements create pathways for our students to continue on after completing at Highland.

Mr. Hood welcomed and acknowledge WIU's special guests, including Dr. Joseph Rives, Dr. Jeffrey Hancks, Ms. Tammy Killian, and Ms. Michele Aurand, as well as Highland's representatives including Ms. Chris Kuberski, Mr. Phillips, Mr. Jackson, and Ms. Laura Early.

He noted that it is a tremendous day for both institutions, signing the largest collection yet of transfer agreements, and the winners are the students.

Mr. Phillips stated that, as an alum of both Highland and WIU, he is keenly aware of the importance of both HCC's and WIU's commitment to a seamless transition for students. He also noted the longstanding partnerships between both institutions, and shared his excitement that both of his alma maters are working together to promote the significant value of the Fine Arts. Students will now be able to complete the requirements for an Associate of Arts degree with an emphasis in art, graphic design, or theatre and transfer to WIU to earn a BA or BFA in Art – Art Studio; BA or BFA in Art – Graphic Design; or a BA in Theatre – Performance, all within four years. He thanked Ms. Tammy Killian and Ms. Kat Myers, Chair of the Art Department at WIU, and offered appreciation for their assistance in making these agreements a reality, along with the help of Ms. Laura Early and the HCC Visual Arts faculty. In addition, the Academic Partnership Agreement, also being formally signed, will provide our Associate of General Studies degree students with a seamless path to WIU's Bachelor of Arts in General Studies degree. Mr. Phillips thanked Dr. Hancks, Ms. Aurand, Ms. Sharon Thompson, and Mr. Jackson for their help.

Dr. Rives stated that it was a "great and glorious day," noting that students are fueled by academic excellence. Dr. Hancks thanked everyone for the opportunity to come to Highland for the ceremonial signing, noting the BGS program has a long tradition of providing flexible and affordable degree options. Currently there are four students enrolled in the BGS program from Highland. Ms. Killian stated that the art of theatre is about collaboration and she is excited to have Highland students collaborate. Ms. Aurand expressed her excitement to have been able to spend a lifetime working at Western Illinois University and with Highland students.

Mrs. Gallagher announced that her daughter was a former dual credit student who continued on to Highland. She has heard much about collaboration at national conferences, and these agreements are an example of what the institutions can do to keep students in Illinois.

### **CEREMONIAL SIGNING OF AGREEMENT**

Representatives of both institutions signed the articulation agreements approved at the September regular Board meeting.

Ms. Kuberski thanked WIU's representatives for partnering with Highland, noting that her son graduated with an online degree from Western this past December and had a very good experience. These agreements will provide seamless partnership pathways for students, who will also have a good experience at WIU.

Ms. Early expressed her excitement for the students, noting that this will be very meaningful for them.

Mr. Jackson stated that it is nice to be among his peers and be able to say that the College has these agreements in place. Students will be affected positively by these agreements.

Dr. Rives noted that by the Highland Board of Trustees holding a special meeting for the ceremonial signing, it demonstrates their commitment to the agreements.

Mr. Hood reported that many administrators and trustees have children who have come through Highland. Mr. Block noted that the Highland trustees come from many walks of life. The College's mission is to provide educational opportunities for the people of the district, and Highland takes great pride in that. He closed the meeting by thanking those from Western Illinois University.

### NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Musser moved and Ms. Groezinger seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. At 3:39 p.m., there being no further business, the Chairperson declared the motion carried and the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



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Terri A. Grimes, Board Secretary  
Illinois Community College District No. 519