A Policy Committee meeting and an Agenda Review of the Maricopa County Community College District Governing Board were held beginning at 5:30 p.m. at the District Support Services Center, 2411 West 14th Street, Tempe, Arizona, pursuant to ARS §38-431.07, notice having been duly given.

GOVERNING BOARD
Alfredo Gutierrez, President
Johanna Haver, Secretary
Doyle Burke, Member
John Heep, Member
Jane McGrath, Member
Dana Saar, Member

ADMINISTRATION
Debra Thompson
LaCoya Shelton-Johnson
Paul Dale
Edward Kelty
Gene Giovannini
Brad Kendrex for Bill Guerriero (Interim)
Jan Gehler
Terry Leyba Ruiz for Irene Kovala
Janet Ortega for Shari Olson
Maggie McConnell (Interim)

Absent:
Tracy Livingston, Member

CALL TO ORDER
OF POLICY COMMITTEE
5:30 p.m. Board Policy Committee Chair Dana Saar called to order the April 13, 2016 meeting of the Policy Committee of the Maricopa County Community College District Governing Board. Mr. Saar commented it had been the role of the Board to look at policy issues on workforce development, and this meeting would afford the opportunity to hear from those in the community who were involved with this effort. Mr. Saar then referred introductions to Associate Vice Chancellor for Workforce Development Randy Kimmens.

INTRODUCTORY VIDEO
Mr. Kimmens prefaced his remarks by introducing a three-minute video produced by the Markle Foundation, featuring Dr. Michael Crow, President of Arizona State University. Mr. Crow stated in the video that educational attainment is the most significant contributor to social mobility and the most significant contributor to success in the United States. The video pointed out that education is being provided for a future that has already ended and that education needs to be revamped. People coming in to fill out applications just do not qualify. Skills need to be boosted to bridge the gap. Education needs to consult industry to find out what skills are needed. Industry is looking for software engineers, IT professionals, and skilled professionals to service customers and education needs to keep up with skill requirements. Companies used to have apprenticeship programs at one time, but that is no longer the case.

According to Dr. Crow, Skillful Platform is a program attempting to facilitate this learning process. This may involve academic programs and on-the-job training. Educational institutions need to be responsible to their industry partners and also students by providing the skills and knowledge to enable workers to be successful in the workforce. The Markle Foundation indicates that Americans are facing the biggest economic shift in a century, but the promise for the future is great. This is an opportunity to reward America through educational training. By 2017, 2.5 million new middle-skill jobs will be added to the workforce. Seven out of ten of the most difficult job position -- such as, technicians, sales reps, skilled trade workers and support staff -- require education beyond high school, but not a four-year degree.
Mr. Kimmens followed the video by introducing invited guest, Mr. Chris Camacho, CEO of the Greater Phoenix Economic Council (GPEC). Mr. Camacho explained that it was the mission of GPEC to help companies expand their businesses to Maricopa County by providing the market data necessary to help them during their decision-making process. GPEC is responsible for bringing together twenty-three communities in Maricopa County to discuss the skills necessary for local industries and the gaps that exist so that education can provide skilled workers. He stated that key to a community’s success is its talent base; and, therefore, it must focus on its infrastructure. The K-20 pipeline is very important. MCCCD and ASU are also key to this success. Almost 60,000 employers are looking to relocate to Arizona. They look at numbers that four-year schools and K-12 are graduating, as well as drop-out rates. They measure the market in terms of education and training; however, it is important to remember that Arizona is competing with other markets. Companies that explore relocation to Arizona include financial services, healthcare, machining, IT, Chase, Wells Fargo, and State Farm, among others. The challenge is that the recovery has been uneven. The majority of employers in Arizona are involved with tourism and the retail industry which only provide minimum wage jobs. The community colleges and ASU help students prepare for workforce needs, but this education only helps for the first five years. What happens long-term? Community colleges have displaced apprenticeship programs. There are rural versus urban markets and they are competing with markets that have these shortages as well. There is not only a current labor market but also a projected labor market.

**DISCUSSION**

**Question:** There are businesses in Maricopa County that are developing specialties. Are there any trends?

**Response:** Microelectronics in Phoenix and the Southeast Valley are two examples. There is dramatic growth in the Northwest and Southeast part of the county, and people are commuting to parts of the Valley where they do not live.

**Question:** Wickenburg is suffering terribly. Is there any possibility for this part of the county?

**Response:** GPEC is putting a strategy together for development. Since the rail runs through this area, Wickenburg needs to develop businesses that use this means of transportation.

**Question:** Is Phoenix exporting or importing?

**Response:** Phoenix is a large consumption market versus producer. Exporting is only at 17%. The county needs to create a culture for exporting. Ninety percent of businesses are small businesses. They should develop a business plan with international trade in mind.

**Comment:** Carl Perkins Funds require advisory groups for each workforce development program (Manufacturing, IT, Advanced Business Service, Healthcare, etc.). Several programs have developed an advisory group for all colleges, but some colleges still have advisory groups for specific programs. The District is moving toward district-wide advisory groups.

**Comment:** K-12 needs improvement

Mr. Camacho continued his remarks by stating that according to Fortune 500, education needs to be improved. The Valley has great K-12 schools. There are transformative schools that are disruptive in innovation, but many schools underperform. The Valley needs to celebrate good schools; otherwise, underperforming schools will drive the market. Educational attainment is the goal.
In analyzing the Fortune 500 companies that do or don’t move here, some of the reasons include change in management, insignificant growth, or executives that visit the market and see potential. The goal over time is to have them move their headquarters here. An important point is that Arizona needs to grow their own. In the Atlanta marketplace, most were homegrown. Arizona has to cultivate the market.

Question: Underperforming students: What is anyone doing anything about this problem?
Response: Principals play an important part. The Education piece needs more dollars. The average stay for teachers is three years, not seven as it used to be. Every child should have access to a world class education.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

President Gutierrez took this opportunity to thank Mr. Camacho on behalf of Maricopa for the time spent explaining what is important to the community.

Board Member Saar commented that we need to determine where we want to go in Workforce Development. Are we filling the skills gap? What can we put into policy to accomplish this end?

Mr. Kimmens commented that his office looks at capacity needs and will develop a dashboard for better information. We need to listen to employers and survey them. This way we can look at what the measurables might be. At the meeting of March 8, there was concern expressed about employer data and the educational attainment by students. The District needs to work with DES in getting that information. We need to see when machining students will be ready for the market. Prop 301 will be over in a few years. When we know what occupational programs are needed, we will work to develop them. In addition, we will look at each college and the District to assign programs. We need to move away from duplication and do more with collaboration. How can we serve the needs of employers? There are a variety of different strategies.

President Gutierrez indicated that the DES Agreement is before us. Security is the issue. Is our IT going to guarantee that data is secure? Is IT prepared to do that? He does not sense that there is a sense of urgency over what we are facing. We have no support from the legislature, but we can’t do more of the same. It is not the solution. This is the pathway to obsolescence. There has to be some sort of reorganization. It has been said that “No one has ever been let go.” There needs to be a sense of urgency for change. Things are diffused. No one is holding it together.

Interim Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost Dr. Paul Dale commented that Maricopa has three things that speak to sense of urgency:
1. A renewed sense of CTE Issue
2. Significant process in the Center for Excellence
3. MCOR – new venues of reaching the business community

MCOR President Gene Giovannini commented that the Corporate College is the point of communication with over 3,000 people from State Farm. They participated in onboarding and internship programs with GWC Early College High School and also the tuition reimbursement program. State Farm is expecting to increase to 12,000 employees. The Corporate College will work on creating opportunities for these employees to become students.
Board Member Saar asked if we were working as closely as we can with JTEDs. If it is difficult for students to work with us, they are going to do it themselves. It is important that students from K-12 come to us. There are gaps in the marketplace, and we need to provide the skills that employers hire. We should be doing more with HR to identify what they need and match our education with them. Students want to get where they want faster. The needs of students today are different.

ADJOURNMENT TO AGENDA REVIEW

The Policy Committee Meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m. and moved to Agenda Review

AGENDA REVIEW

The agenda for the April 26, 2016 Regular Board Meeting was reviewed and discussed. The following items were discussed in greater detail:

11.1 Chandler-Gilbert Community College Mission, Vision and Values. The correlation of the college’s mission, vision and values was discussed as to how it complemented and tied into the District’s mission, vision and values. Another area discussed was the issue of sustainability.

11.2 Minow Claim Settlement. It was pointed out that if there were questions pertaining to this settlement, an executive session would be scheduled.

12.3 IGA for Dual Enrollment with Public School Districts. It was pointed out that this was done in mass each year.

The Leases for spaces at Wigwam Commons were pulled off the agenda due to inability to complete the transactions in time for the regular board meeting.

14.7 Network Hardware Replacement at PVCC. It was explained that these were upgrades and that Cisco is typically used.

ADJOURNMENT

The Agenda Review adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

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Johanna Haver
Governing Board
Secretary