Location: Rio Hondo College Board Room  
3600 Workman Mill Road, Whittier CA 90601

Members Present: Ms. Madeline Shapiro, Vice President  
Mr. Gary Mendez, Clerk  
Ms. Norma E. Garcia, Member (arrived 6:15 p.m.)  
Ms. Mary Ann Pacheco, Member  
Jaime “JJ” Magallón, Student Trustee

Members Absent: Ms. Vicky Santana (Excused)

Staff Members: Ms. Teresa Dreyfuss, Superintendent/President  
Dr. Kenn Pierson, Vice President Academic Affairs  
Mr. Henry Gee, Vice President Student Services  
Dr. Vann Priest, Academic Senate President  
Ms. Kathy Pudelko, RHCFA President  
Ms. Gina Bove, representing CSEA President  
Ms. Sandy Sandello (Recorder)

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Call to Order

Ms. Shapiro called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Gary Mendez led the salute to the flag.

C. Roll Call

Ms. Vicky Santana reported absent (excused).

D. Open Communication reported from the Public

No comments were made from the public.

E. Study Session

- Accreditation Preparation – The Board engaged in a roundtable discussion reviewing potential questions for the upcoming Accreditation visit (See attached).

BOARD OF TRUSTEES: Gary Mendez, Vicky Santana, Norma Edith García, Mary Ann Pacheco, Madeline Shapiro, Jaime “JJ” Magallón, Student Trustee
II. CLOSED SESSION

Pursuant to Section 54957:

Ms. Shapiro recessed to Closed Session at 7:15 p.m. Upon returning from Closed the following action was taken:

- PUBLIC EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE / DISMISSAL / RELEASE
- PUBLIC EMPLOYEE APPOINTMENT
  - Vice President, Finance and Business

103. On motion of Mr. Mendez, seconded by Ms. Garcia, the Board voted by unanimous vote of the four members present [Garcia, Mendez, Pacheco, Shapiro] to approve the appointment of Myeshia Armstrong as the Vice President of Business and Finance.

III. ADJOURNMENT

Date of Next Regular Meeting: Wednesday, October 8, 2014, 6:00 p.m. (Rio Hondo College, Board Room, 3600 Workman Mill Road, Whittier)
Board Preparation Questions

1. What is the campus climate for students, faculty, staff, and administration?

   ✓ Rio Hondo considers itself a family. We have conflict like all campuses and families but overall, our constituent groups work together to solve problems and do the work of the college. The students are the most harmonious of the groups and according to the Campus Climate Survey are very satisfied with their educational experience at Rio Hondo College. In general the Climate Survey shows that employees have seen improvements in working together through participatory/shared governance.

2. Use of participatory/shared phraseology -- how is it used at Rio Hondo?

   ✓ Rio Hondo College has a long history of utilizing the term Shared Governance and made the decision in Planning Fiscal Council (PFC) to combine the historical term along with the term Participatory from AB1725. The Board values participatory/shared governance and adheres to BP/AP 2410 and 2510.

3. What do you think of the recent presidential selection process? Has it improved?

   ✓ The Board followed all of its policies and procedures when implementing the recent Superintendent/President search process. In fact, the board implemented a method to evaluate the search process. The three part evaluation combined a survey, examination of adherence to policies and procedures, and facilitated discussion. The documentation included in Standard IV evidence indicates that the board received high marks for this process.

4. What are areas of improvement for the board and college?

   ✓ Two-way communication from the board to the faculty and staff and the administration and these groups is an area that we have focused on for improvement. The college is also continually seeking to improve in the area of Basic Skills – finding ways to better serve the under-prepared students.

5. What do you know about the SLO process at the college? Is it faculty driven?

   ✓ The process for SLO’s is faculty driven at Rio Hondo and in fact, the SLOutions software used for tracking and assessing SLO’s was created by the former SLO coordinator. Since the last accreditation site visit in 2008, the College has made enormous strides in the definition and assessment of SLOs. The College has significantly improved its assessment process as a whole, particularly with respect to incorporating assessment results into the institutional planning/review process.
6. Tell us about the Ethics statement and policy at Rio Hondo. What is the difference?

✓ Following Rio Hondo’s Warning status from the last ACCJC accreditation visit, the college formed a group to write an Ethics Statement for the campus. This was accomplished as part of the college’s follow-up report to re-affirm full accreditation status. The college recently adopted a board policy incorporating an Institutional Ethics Statement to further enhance the college’s commitment to its Ethics and core values.

7. How is the relationship between the board and superintendent/president? How about for the rest of the college?

✓ The relationship is excellent with the President where both communicate individually and as a board. The Board and President support each other in all college endeavors.

✓ Board hears concerns and communicates fairly with all college employees and the community. When a concern is expressed and action is necessary, the board works through the college President to seek more information or carry out tasks.

8. How are the college efforts related to student success progressing?

✓ The college formed a Student Success Task Force and a Student Equity Committee along with many sub-groups to work on the State’s Mandates in these areas along with the ongoing college commitment to student success. The efforts are progressing very well with the creation of new programs such as the First year Success Centers that are focusing on the needs of students at Rio Hondo College.

9. How is the college doing with Institutional Planning and linking resource allocation to the budget process?

✓ The current Institutional Planning process began more than five years ago and has become part of the college culture. The process inherently links resource allocation for staffing, technology, equipment, facilities, and additional budget request to the budget itself. Once the college completes its planning process, it recommends resources through the college president. Those resources are then approved by the board as part of the budget.
10. How does board policy support the institutional mission?

✓ The Board of Trustees and college employees continuously review the Mission Statement and assure that not only board policy but all aspects of the college operations fall within the Mission of Rio Hondo College.

11. What is the basis for the Board Goals – what is your process?

✓ During the Board of Trustees annual retreat, we hold a discussion facilitated by college staff to evaluate prior year goals and develop the goals for the upcoming year.

12. What is the process and how did you do with the recent Board of Trustee evaluation and Superintendent/President Evaluation?

✓ The Board of Trustee evaluation was supported by a three-part process facilitated by the Office of Institutional Research and Planning. The process included a Board self-evaluation survey, evaluation of accomplishments based on Board Goals and best practices, and a facilitated discussion. The Superintendent/President evaluation included a campus-wide survey of the Presidents performance followed by evaluation in closed session with the members of the Board of Trustees. Members of the Board were also surveyed and their input utilized in the evaluation process and discussion.

13. What is the Board’s role in budgeting and other fiscal responsibilities?

✓ The board reviews and approves the annual tentative and adopted budget. The board established a policy that requires a minimum of 5% be held in reserve for the college. One of the board goals is fiscal solvency and the board uses it as a guiding principal to review and approve the budget provided by staff.

14. What college improvements have you seen since the last accreditation process and the colleges warning with recommendations?

✓ The college has experienced great strides in the following areas since the last accreditation cycle.

  > Institutional Planning Process – included resource allocation
  > Climate of the campus and the collegiality of constituent groups working together
  > Student Success efforts – especially in supporting incoming first year student success center.
  > TMC - 18 approved by the chancellor’s office
  > Presidential selection process
15. What major issues are the college facing - what do you see boards role in addressing them?

- The college is facing increased state mandates regarding Student Success and Student Equity. The board has supported the efforts of the college staff and worked with constituents in their service areas to open doors to access community organizations and resources.

- The college is currently experiencing lower than expected enrollment following the State budget cuts and forced decreases in sections. The Board is working with staff to implement new marketing and outreach efforts to bring in students to meet growth targets.

16. What are the Board relationships with each other?

- Board members work well together in a polite and collegial effort to support the college and its students. The focus on students is a common theme for all members and this brings them together on most issues.

17. How does the board address its own professional growth?

- The Board set professional development as one of its goals last year and this year. Board members are encouraged to seek growth opportunities and report back to the full board about the experiences. The Boards master calendar includes scheduled professional development activities.

18. What do you see as the current and future board challenges?

- Individual board member to respond.

19. Tell us more about the issues you faced related to the development of degrees and the former President’s discrimination complaint – how were they handled and what was the outcome?

- Individual board members to respond.