



**East Region Adult Education
Governing Board Meeting**

December 14, 2023

Cuyamaca College, 900 Rancho SD Parkway, El Cajon, CA, 92019, Room G-231

Minutes

● **Call to Order**

- The meeting was called to order at 1:06 pm by ERAE Governing Board President, Mary Beth Kastan. The following ERAE Governing Board members were present: Mary Beth Kastan, Lynn Neault, Mike Fowler, Patrick Keeley, and Rick Wilson.

● **SPECIAL REPORTS/RECOGNITIONS**

- There were no special reports or recognitions.

● **COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

- There were no communications from the public.

● **APPROVAL OF MINUTES – September 27, 2023**

- **Motion Passed:** The minutes were approved as written. The first motion to approve the minutes as written was made by Rick Wilson and seconded by Lynn Neault.
 - Yes Mary Beth Kastan
 - Yes Rick Wilson
 - Yes Mike Fowler
 - Yes Lynn Neault
 - Yes Patrick Keeley

● **REMOVAL OF ITEMS FROM/CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**

- There were no changes to the agenda. The first motion to approve the agenda as written was made by Rick Wilson and seconded by Lynn Neault.
 - Yes Mary Beth Kastan
 - Yes Rick Wilson
 - Yes Mike Fowler
 - Yes Lynn Neault
 - Yes Patrick Keeley

● **REPORTS/DISCUSSIONS**

A. Measurements of Success

Kim Bellaart gave the report for consortium enrollments from 2017–2018 through 2023-2024 and the number of adults served with 12+ hours. It was discussed among the group the enrollment numbers pre COVID and post COVID show an upward trend but not yet back to pre-COVID enrollment. Between last year quarter 1 and this year



quarter 1, there is a decline in the overall number of students who stayed with us for 12 or more hours. Heather Peterson from HOC said that the decline in those numbers could also be from students who took 12 hours or less of a class or did not complete, but that the numbers are coming back up as Adult Ed is collectively working at improving the onboarding process at all sites. Students who come to an orientation but decide not to enroll in the program will increase the number of students not completing 12 or more hours, but adding orientations has increased completion rates as students have a better understanding of the requirements. Kim also talked about the enrollments of the three types of students, ESL, ABE/ASE, and CTE we have enrolled/serve over the same time period.

Spotlight on Strategic Plan Objectives, Achievements, and Challenges

- ERAE is now including orientations for all students and doing more follow-up to help with continued student success.
- Looking at it by each program area, Academic and CTE programs show small gains from quarter 1 enrollments last year to quarter 1 enrollments this year. ESL is in high demand, especially at the beginning levels all over East County and has waiting lists. We are utilizing our Transition Specialists to help route students with other resources and to bridge them to other programs when they are ready for high school diploma, college, or a career technical program.
- Grossmont Adult also implemented our first Foundations for College and Career class tailored to support advanced level English Learners who want to work toward transitioning into high school diploma or equivalency classes or post-secondary career training.
- ERAE has the space to teach more ESL classes but needs more instructors to meet the demand.
- Steve Bailey highlighted two pathways, Business/Accounting Pathway and Culinary Pathway.
- Ute talked about how Adult Ed programs can bridge adult students to further career training at the colleges and/or into careers to fill needs of employers in region.
- Barabara Boggio spoke about the need for a better referral system with our community partners. Currently we have only self-reporting for students who enter college and we do that through yearly follow-up surveys. It is still difficult to track students who enroll in both K12 Adult Ed programs and GCCCD.
- Ute spoke about Transition Taskforce Updates: increased enrollment, regular meetings with college support services, coordinated efforts with A&R to screen for non/residency and SB554 eligibility, coordinated efforts with college counselors and outreach teams and to create a workgroup to map adult ed student experiences at colleges.
- Ute spoke about implementing a refined case management and bi-directional referral system to track and monitor transition data to determine ways to increase student success and design assessment tools for evaluation of



onboarding processes.

Transforming East Region Adult Education—A Proposal

- Kim and Ute will work on a draft for proposed workshops and creating a task force and will present them at the next meeting.
- What are the priorities for you/us over the next year, three years, and five years?

- **GOVERNANCE/ACTION ITEMS**

- There are no Governance/Action items.

- **Communication from Board Members**

- Patrick Keeley—Patrick wondered if for the time constrained person, are there shorter programs and are students given options if they learn/thrive better in an in-person class setting or do fine with an online or an asynchronous class option? He also asked: Do the community/students know about all the resources that are available to them? If not, how do we get the information to them? Patrick also spoke about the state budget and the concern about offering the right programs. Ute, Kim, and Steve shared that resources and options are shared with students through orientations, academic counseling, Transition Specialists, and continued follow up.
- Lynn Neault—Lynn mentioned that the campus is beautiful and how well the remodel went. Regarding the two pathways that were highlighted, Lynn thought that the Accounting pathway presented in the slide was not fully developed and could be so much more. Ute and Steve agreed that there are more options and information that could be added to a full representation of the pathways. Ute explained that the model on the slide is a simplified diagram, not what is presented to students. Lynn expressed an interest in understanding more about the challenges ERAE faces. She would like to spotlight ERAE to her board and to have more of a sense of togetherness versus schools tending to be territorial. How do we envision that? Lynn proposed ERAE board meetings each semester rather than 4 times a year.
- Rick Wilson—Rick wished everyone a happy holidays.
- Mike Fowler—Mike discussed the articulation process from high school going into our programs. Regarding the ERAE budget and the different roles each district/school handles, Mike asked if we could have fewer board meetings and more workshops/discussions on how we can best serve the East County community.
- Mary Beth Kastan—Mary Beth expressed appreciation for the mid-year update and expressed that it has been good taking a deeper look into ERAE's consortium. She agrees we need more discussion about what needs to happen over the next year, the next three, and the next five years, and mentioned wanting to understand the ERAE budget more.



- **ADJOURNMENT**
 - The meeting was adjourned at 2:30pm. The next ERAE Governing Board meeting will be held on March 5, 2024, at 9:00am. The location of the meeting is to be determined.