



Siskiyou Joint Community College District  
800 College Avenue  
Weed, CA 96094  
Telephone: (530) 938-5555  
Toll-Free: (888) 397-4339

## PRESS RELEASE

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Public Relations Office:  
Dawnie Slabaugh: (530) 938-5373  
Email: [slabaugh@siskiyous.edu](mailto:slabaugh@siskiyous.edu)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **COS Board of Trustees Meeting – February 7, 2017**

Weed / COS – In his staff report, COS President Scotty Thomason shared with the Trustees he recently attended the Annual Effective Trusteeship Workshop along with Trustee Kathy Koon and Student Trustee, Calvin Wagner. President Thomason then attended the Community College League of California Annual State Legislative Conference with Wagner.

The search for the next COS Superintendent / President is underway. COS is advertising the position in the Chronicle for Higher Education, HigherED Jobs, and a number of targeted listserves. A special webpage announcing the open position as well as instructions on how to apply is easily accessible from the college's homepage. Brochures are also available to anyone who may know of someone who wishes to apply for the position.

Despite heavy snowfall and campus closures, enrollment is looking good. Enrollment for the spring semester is approximately 28.38 FTES more than the same time period in spring 2016. Several late-starting classes are scheduled to begin over the next several weeks which will also help with enrollment for the year reported Melissa Green, Vice President of Student Services. To facilitate better access for students, extended office hours are now available in Counseling, Financial Aid, and the Admissions and Records offices. These offices are open from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday, and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday.

The District is currently in the beginning stages of developing the 2017/2018 budget. The timeline for the development of the budget is annually presented early in the planning stage to allow the Board to be informed as the development process. Information on the internal as well as external factors that will influence the 2017/2018 Annual Budget was also shared by Nancy Funk - Vice President of Administrative Services. The District's budget development process includes participation from all campus employees, and begins with the development of the basic assumptions based on the District goals and current state budget information. Timelines are delineated to ensure completion of the process in compliance with state statute.

According to the By-Laws of the COS Foundation, the Board of Trustees of the Siskiyou Joint Community College District shall have the authority to appoint or reject nominees and officers to the

Foundation Board. At the COS Foundation's Board of Director's meeting held January 26, 2017, the Directors re-elected Dawna Cozzalio - President, Rennie Cleland - Vice President, Nancy Funk – Treasurer, and Dawnie Slabaugh – Secretary for the 2017 year. In order to accomplish the purposes of the Foundation it is necessary to build and maintain a full Foundation Board. The By-Laws of the Foundation allow for a Board membership of up to 30. At the January 10, 2017 Board of Trustees meeting, President Greg Hanna appointed Trustee Carol Cupp as principal contact to the District Board of Trustees for 2017. Trustees approved the appointment of the new members and 2017 Officers to the COS Foundation Board of Directors. The new members are: Susan Westphal, Weed; Logan Smith, Yreka; Bruce Deutsch, Dunsmuir; and, David Gault, Mt. Shasta.

Trustees heard information about a newly acquired grant from the Ford Family Foundation. In July 2016, COS was approached by the Ford Family Foundation (FFF) regarding available funding in their Education for Job Readiness Program. The FFF was looking for projects that had an identified education need with a direct connection to workforce demand in Siskiyou County. The College submitted an application for funding for updating equipment for the Administration of Justice Program. In January 2017, COS received notification of funding for the full requested amount of \$67,425.

As a component of acquiring Module I certification, the College's Police Academy needs additional training equipment in order to meet the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) delivery requirements. POST has made several site visits to COS, most recently in November 2016, and has made recommendations regarding updating equipment in order to meet the requirements of certification for the Module I Police Academy. With the assistance of the grant funding from the Ford Family Foundation, students participating in the Police Academy will have the opportunity to meet POST certification standards. Trustees approved acceptance of the grant and authorized expenditures.

**Other Board Action:**

- Approved the monthly Personnel List discussed in Closed Session.
- Approved the monthly Consent Agenda.
- Approved the 2017/2018 Budget Assumptions
- Approved revisions to Board Policy, Chapter 2 – Board of Trustees as a second and final reading.
- Approved change in the contract bid threshold as provided from the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges.
- Approved appointment of two members of the Board of Trustees to serve as representatives on the Retiree Health Benefits Oversight Committee.
- Approved revisions to Board Policies: Chapter 3 – General Institution; Chapter 5 – Student Services; and, Chapter 7 – Human Resources, as a first reading.
- Approved resolution authorizing the pursuance of financing for capital projects: completion of the Ellucian project and new Soccer Field.

The next regular COS Board of Trustees meeting will be held Tuesday, March 7, 2017, at the Weed Campus in the Board Room. Closed session is expected to begin at 5 p.m. The public open session is expected to begin at 6 p.m.