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PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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COS Board of Trustees Meeting – July 11, 2017

Weed / COS –Trustees heard an informational report on the distribution of COS Foundation scholarships for 2017/2018. This spring, the Foundation received 35 applications from students attending Golden Eagle Charter, Happy Camp, McCloud, Etna, Mt. Shasta, Yreka, Dunsmuir, and Weed High Schools; and continuing COS students. No applications were received from Mattole Valley Charter, Butte Valley, Modoc, or Tulelake High Schools. After all applications were reviewed, the Foundation awarded scholarships to 25 students (31 scholarships awarded) which total \$27,400. Fourteen scholarships were not filled as there were no applicants that met the scholarship criteria; or, the applicant was unable to satisfy qualifications as required by the endowed scholarships. The balance of the total funding available is used to support the Foundation Work Study Program of which there are currently three COS continuing students participating.

Each year, semi-annual Professional Growth Awards (PGA) are presented to COS employees who are continuing their education to further advance their educational goals. The goals of the PGA program are intended to improve job-related skills, provide an atmosphere of growth and vitality, and encourage ongoing participation in formal education and training. Two employees received a Professional Growth Award in June. The employees who received a Professional Growth Awards were Eric Yerkes, Information Technician and Monique Gonzalez, Athletics Coordinator/Eligibility.

In 2005, in recognition of the statewide nursing shortage, the State of California allocated funds to increase the enrollment capacity of community college nursing programs and, ultimately, to increase the number of registered nurses. COS first received funding in 2006 to implement its LVN to RN Step-Up Program, and has received seven additional awards since that time to support this program. A new application was submitted in May 2017, and notification of the award was received in June 2017.

Since first implementing the RN Step-Up Program, 10 cohorts have graduated, and a new class began in June 2017 with 30 students enrolled. In addition to continuing to expand the enrollment capacity of the program, there will be an emphasis on student assessment, remediation, and retention processes as well as professional development for faculty. COS will receive \$97,000 for fiscal year 2017/2018. Funds will provide for faculty remediation of students at risk, assessment materials,

simulation lab supplies, books and gas cards for students, instructional supplies and equipment, staff training and travel. Trustees approved acceptance of the Enrollment Growth Grant for Associate Degree Nursing Program from the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office and authorized approval of expenditures associated with the grant program.

Since 1995, COS has had a successful Upward Bound Program. This academic preparation program provides students who are low-income and/or first generation the academic skills, resources, and personal support necessary to complete high school and to enter and succeed in a program of postsecondary education. In November 2016, the College submitted a grant renewal application to the U.S. Department of Education to continue the Upward Bound Program. In June 2017 the College received notification of funding for \$1,658,600 for an additional five years beginning September 1, 2019 and continuing through August 31, 2024. (The Upward Bound Program has two years of continued funding remaining that will carry through August 31, 2019)

The COS Upward Bound Program serves 74 or more students in the high schools of Siskiyou County. Students in the Upward Bound Program received regular academic year tutoring and supplemental instruction. They also receive advising and assistance with college admission applications and financial aid, opportunities to attend workshops and college tours, and much more. Program participants also attend a six-week Summer Program held at the COS Campus in Weed. Funding from the grant is used to support salaries and benefits for the Upward Bound Director, Academic Advisor, Administrative Assistant, and TRiO Academy Advisors. In addition, funding is also used for summer residential advisors and faculty, as well as travel, food, and lodging expenses for students during the Summer Program and College Tour. Trustees approved acceptance of the Upward Bound grant.

Other Significant Board Action:

- Approved 2017/2018 Agreement between the Siskiyou County Sheriff's Office and District. The agreement provides for an employee who provides expertise and guidance in the delivery of police academy modules II and III. The employee also serves as a liaison between the District and the California Peace Officer Standards and Training Commission.
- Approved revisions to the JPA agreement for Northern California Community College Self-Insurance Group.
- Approved resolution (No. 2017-2018-02) to declare district official representative on the Community College League of California Board as Darlene Melby, Vice President of Administrative Services and Kent Gross, Controller as the designated alternate representative.
- Approved resolution (No. 2017-2018-03) to declare district primary representative on the Community College Insurance Group (CCIG) as Theresa Richmond, Associate Vice President of Human Resources and Darlene Melby, Vice President of Administrative Services as the designated alternate representative.
- Approved recommendation of the Retiree Health Benefits Committee to remain in the Balanced Fund option for the California Community College League of California (CCLC) Retiree Health Benefits Trust.
- Approved 2017/2018 Agreement between the Farmworker Institute for Education and Leadership Development (FIELD) and the District to provide non-credit ESL instruction in areas outside of the District's service area.

- Approved 2017/2018 Agreement between the San Francisco Police Department and the District to provide instruction in educating police academy students and post-police academy employees.

The next regular COS Board of Trustees meeting will be held August 1 at the Yreka Campus in the Rural Health Sciences Institute (RHSI). A study session will begin at 4:30 p.m. followed by closed session at 5 p.m. The public open session will begin at 6 p.m.