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## PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **COS Board of Trustees Meeting – October 3, 2017**

Weed / COS – In his staff report to the Board Dr. Stephen Schoonmaker – Superintendent / President provided a brief summary regarding highlights of what has been happening on campus and interactions in the community. A lot of fun was had at the annual Scholarship Dinner September 9<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Schoonmaker is the recipient of the Coat of Many Colors and the Mongolian fur hat which he will wear to every Board of Trustee meeting held over the course of the next year. All in all, the robust bidding for the desserts and the coat/hat raised so many worthy contributions to help COS students gain an invaluable and irrevocable education at College of the Siskiyous. He has also enjoyed supporting several of the fall athletic teams by attending men's football, and men's and women's soccer games on campus. As the fall season progresses he plans on attending more athletic contests for all fall athletic programs to cheer on our students and their coaching staff.

According to Melissa Green – Vice President of Student Services, the 2018/2019 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is now open. Students who plan to attend college in 2018/2019 are encouraged to apply early. Vice President Green also reported the California Student Aid Commission just announced the new California Community College Grant (CCCG) to encourage students to enroll in 15 units each semester. This will allow the students to complete their degree and/or transfer to a university in two years. Students MUST be enrolled in 15 units and follow their Comprehensive SEP (Education Plan) every semester. The CCCG is a \$1,500 annual grant for those students attending at least 15 units per term. These students will also receive the Cal Grant B annual amount of \$1,672 and the Full Time Student Success Grant annual amount of \$1,000.

Dr. Todd Scott shared with the Trustees the Nursing Department will offer a spring 2018 Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) course, and testing for certification will again be hosted on the Yreka campus. Later in the spring, the Nursing Department will offer a Certified Home Health

Aide course for CNA's to be certified to deliver care in the home. Both courses answer requests from our community partners in healthcare and are identified "needs" in Siskiyou County. Nursing is fortunate to have qualified faculty who meet the requirement for nursing board approval to provide instruction in these courses. Dr. Scott also reported Nursing Program Director, Cora Brownell, has been appointed to the California Community Colleges Nursing Advisory Committee (3CNAC), to represent the far north of the State. This is a statewide committee which focuses on regulations, grants, and programs impacting community college nursing programs. In addition, the Adult Education Block Grant consortium in Siskiyou County recently hired a new Director named Heather Stafford. Her office will be located at the Siskiyou County Office of Education. Kim Freeze, new COS Director of Non Credit and Community Education will serve as the COS representative on this consortium.

The 2017/2018 Final Proposed Budget was approved at the September 12 Board of Trustees monthly meeting reported by Darlene Melby – Vice President of Administrative Services. This is the first time the College will be using Banner's Budget Development module whereby staff will be able to interface and post the budget information directly into the general ledger. Business Office personnel are in the final review stage of creating slides that will instruct budget managers of the details to be able to post into the Banner system by October 15<sup>th</sup> where it will be available for the departments to review and monitor through Banner Finance Self-Service.

Vice President Melby also reported work continues on year-end reconciliations and adjustments in order to prepare the 2016/2017 Annual CCFS-311 final financial report due to the Chancellor's Office by October 10<sup>th</sup>. Once the final report is complete, final preparation for the District audit will be addressed.

Earlier this spring, the Accreditation Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) Western Association of Schools and Colleges visited the COS campus. As a result of this visit, one of the recommendations to meet the Standards required the College to develop a Technology Master Plan in order to integrate this area with other campus plans, strengthen the process, and create alignment of resources with planning. This document will be part of the Accreditation Follow Up report which will be delivered to the ACCJC in October. The development of the Technology Master Plan was part of the Technology Committee's agenda for the past year to ensure that all college constituents had the opportunity to participate in the development of the document. The draft has been shared with several campus constituent groups for feedback and recommendations and will continue to be refined over the next year. Trustees approved acceptance of the Technology Master Plan 2016/2020.

Pursuant to Education Code Section 84040, the Board of Governors is required to adopt criteria and standards for the periodic assessment of the fiscal condition of California

Community College districts. In accordance with this requirement, the System Office has established standards for sound fiscal management and a process to monitor and evaluate the financial health of California's Community College districts. These standards are based on the principles of sound fiscal management that are contained in the California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 58311.

The College of the Siskiyous' Administration provides general input for the Self-Assessment Checklist for submission to the Board. The Self-Assessment Checklist reflects "sound fiscal management" and highlights indicators for future budgetary consideration. The checklist reflects the positive environment in which the District currently operates. Base enrollment has stabilized; substantial on-going and one-time State revenue increases have been established. Administration is striving to maintain the ending Unrestricted Fund Balance for 2017/2018 comparable to the balance from 2016/2017. Trustees accepted the Sound Fiscal Management Self-Assessment Checklist.

#### **Other Significant Board Action**

- Approved the Consent Agenda (Reading of the Minutes; Disbursement Summary; Personnel List; Excused Absence of a Governing Board Member; and Dates of Upcoming Board Meetings).

The next regular COS Board of Trustees meeting will be held November 7 at the Weed Campus in the Board Room. 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.