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## PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **COS Board of Trustees Meeting – April 3, 2018**

Weed / COS –In his staff report, Dr. Stephen Schoonmaker – Superintendent/President, shared with the Board of Trustees highlights of what has been happening on campus and interactions in the community for the past month. The College hosted representatives from the National Interstate Passport Initiative. As a result of this visit and the College’s member interest in the Passport Initiative, the College will be receiving a \$10,000 mini-grant from the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) to develop and complete a Passport Block from our curriculum and pursue being named a Passport Institution by WICHE in early fall 2018.

During the week of March 12<sup>th</sup>, the College had a team of faculty, the Dean of Instruction, and two community members travel to Morelia, Mexico. From all reports received, the trip was a strong first step in working internationally on research and curriculum opportunities.

On March 24, Wenli Chang and Dr. Schoonmaker embarked on a six-day trip to Qingyuan, China. Three of those days were spent traveling, leaving three full days on the ground in China. The schedule while in China was ambitious; usually starting around 7:30 to 8 a.m. and not ending until 9:30 or 10 p.m. (or later). Ms. Chang and Dr. Schoonmaker visited five schools and one college; Dr. Schoonmaker presented a two-hour lecture on effective teaching techniques (as well as introducing College of the Siskiyous) to 100 English teachers and an additional 100 English high school students; visited the Education Bureaus of Qingyuan and Linnan; toured the Yao Museum; and, attended a Chinese Opera at an outdoor theatre.

Darlene Melby – Vice President of Administrative Services, reported the Integrated Planning and Budget (IPB) Committee heard the first “Open Hearing” presentation on March 23<sup>rd</sup> from Instruction. The intent of these hearings is to allow the committee the opportunity to listen to budget discussions and resource request justifications from each area on campus, (Instruction, Student Services, Administrative Services and President/HR/PIO). The process helps to ensure transparency through the governance structure and provides each member of this committee the ability to take back information to their respective areas for discussion. The

Open Hearings for Student Services, Administrative Services and the President/HR/PIO will continue until April 27. Upon the completion of this process, a document will be prepared consolidating all resource requests in a format that allows IPB the opportunity to prioritize and approve items before moving this information to College Council.

According to Melissa Green – Vice President of Student Services, 289 Graduation Petitions have been received for the 2017/2018 year. Of those, 218 are for Associate of Arts (AA) or Associate of Science (AS) degrees, three are Associate Degree Transfer (ADT), and 68 are Certificate of Achievement (COA). Priority filing of the *Petition to Graduate* was April 2. However, the office will continue to accept petitions through the month of May. Ms. Green also reported students who are interested in becoming the student graduation speaker must apply and audition before a panel comprised of staff, students, and faculty. The Student Speaker Application deadline is April 13. Applications are available in the Admissions & Records Office or students can download the application online from the graduation website.

Dr. Todd Scott – Vice President of Instruction shared with the Board, the Yreka Campus hosted a College and Career Day on March 27. Over 500 north county students, primarily 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade, participated in the big event and had the opportunity to meet with 60 presenters representing a diverse array of careers who gave our young people a glimpse of some amazing opportunities for stimulating thoughts for future employment ideas. This was a wonderful opportunity to promote and showcase the Yreka Campus to superintendents, principals, administrators, teachers, parents, and other community members.

### **Other Significant Board Action**

- Approved the Consent Agenda (Reading of the Minutes; Disbursement Summary; Presentation of April 2018 Personnel List; Excused Absence of Governing Board Member; and, Dates of Upcoming Board Meetings).
- Approved selection of candidates for the California Community Colleges Trustees Board Election.
- Accepted withdrawal of a Board member from the Board's Self-Evaluation committee.
- Approved revisions to Board Policies 3900 (General Institution: Speech – Time, Place, and Manner) and 7400 (Human Resources: Employee Travel) as a second and final reading.
- Approved updated salary placement for the position of Athletic Trainer.

The next regular COS Board of Trustees meeting will be held May 1, 2018 at the Weed Campus in the Board Room. Closed session will begin at 5 p.m. followed by the public open session beginning at 6 p.m.