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PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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COS Board of Trustees Meeting – September 11, 2018

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. The fall semester officially begin August 27 with a week of activities held each day to inform and engage students as they became integrated into the fall semester.

Ms. Melby also shared an update on final changes and updates to the 2018/2019 District Final Budget which made its way through Integrated Planning and Budget and College Council. The State budget for 2018/2019 has some major initiatives such as the new Student Centered funding model, the addition of a fully online campus, increased dollars for Full Time Faculty, California Promise, and Financial Aid Technology monies.

According to Melissa Green – Vice President of Student Services, much of August was spent in preparation for the new fall semester. This included finalizing plans for Week of Welcome, International Student Orientation, and the Siskiyou Promise Reception; in addition to advising and registering students.

In January 2017, Trustees approved the Sabbatical Leave Request for Jayne Turk for the 2017/2018 academic year. In her leave request Turk outlined her plan to complete a 36-unit certificate in Conflict Resolution. Specifically: 1) complete 30 units at Southern Oregon University; 2) create College of the Siskiyous curriculum, workshops, and seminars; 3) enhance subject knowledge and teaching skills set; and, 4) create a plan for a Conflict Resolution Center. During her year-long sabbatical, Professor Turk completed the necessary coursework for the Conflict Resolution Certificate, earning a 4.0 in the 36 (quarter) units complete; created noncredit curriculum for 13 classes, and a 26-page plan for a Conflict Resolution Center.

At the August meeting, the SJCCD Board of Trustees voted to initiate a process moving the District from “at-large” to “by-trustee-area” elections (Resolution No. 2018-2019-02). The next step

in this process is to hold two public hearings regarding the draft plans for “by-trustee-area” elections. During a special meeting held August 22, Trustees held the first public hearing, a second public hearing was held September 11. Public comment received during each public hearing was considered. Trustees approved the District’s intention to officially adopt the District’s plan for “by-trustee-area” elections.

Senate Bill 1809, the 2018 Budget Act education trailer bill, includes language initiating a new funding program for Community Colleges, specifically directed to improve financial aid processes and management systems to better service students seeking financial aid. The funding provides a one-time only \$13.5 million and an ongoing \$5 million in funding. The financial aid technology funding is a long-awaited product of a fruitful and hard advocacy on the part of specific financial aid community college professionals, the CCC League and our Chancellor’s Office government relations leadership. Based on the methodology from the Chancellor’s Office, the College of the Siskiyous total allocation for 2018/2019 is \$152,009. The District will receive \$110,926 in one-time funding and also \$41,083 of ongoing funding received in monthly payments of approximately 8% increments beginning July 2018. Trustees approved the Financial Aid Technology Allocation.

Trustees heard a report on funding established by California legislation to support California College Community Colleges. The California College Promise, established by AB 19 (Santiago, 2017) provides an important opportunity to implement evidence-based strategies to improve college access and success. The legislation establishes clear goals aligned to the Vision for Success, specifically calling on California College Promise to increase the number of high school students enrolling “college-ready” directly into the California Community Colleges, the number of students successfully completing a career education goal or transferring, and reducing and eliminating achievement gaps. The 2018/2019 Budget Act allocates \$46 million for the program for California Community Colleges. The intent of AB 19 is to support California Community Colleges in accomplishing the following goals:

- Increasing the number and percentage of high school students who are prepared for and attend college directly from high school and increasing the percentage of high school graduates who are placed directly into transfer-level mathematics and English courses at a community college.
- Increasing the percentage of students who earn associate degree or career and technical education certificates that prepare them for in-demand jobs and increasing the percentage of students who report being employed in their field of study.
- Increasing the percentage of students who successfully transfer from a community college to a CSU or UC and increasing the percentage of students who graduate from college with a baccalaureate degree.
- Reducing and eliminating regional achievement gaps for students from underrepresented groups, including, but not limited to, low-income students, current or former foster youth,

students with disabilities, formerly incarcerated students, undocumented and AB 540 students, and students who are veterans.

To participate in the California College Promise, districts are required to complete a certification form to verify compliance with minimum requirements of the program. College of the Siskiyous will receive an allocation of \$220,037, which is based on a funding formula that includes factors such as number of units taken in the past by first-time, full-time students, FTES and the number of Pell recipients. The District will receive \$220,037 for fiscal year 2018/2019 to be used to expand the Siskiyou Promise Program at College of the Siskiyous.

Other Significant Board Action

- Approved the Consent Agenda (Reading of the Minutes; Disbursement Summary; Presentation of September 2018 Personnel List; CCFS-3110 Quarterly Financial Status Report; 2018/2019 Men's and Women's Basketball Schedules; Excused Absence of Governing Board Member; and, Dates of Upcoming Board Meetings).
- Approved revisions to Board Policy 2510 as a second and final reading.
- Approved the Final Budget for 2018/2019 for submission to the State and for the District's use for the 2018/2019 fiscal year.
- Approved the CalFresh Outreach Services Subcontract between CSU, Chico Research Foundation and College of the Siskiyous that will begin October 1, 2018 and continue for three years until September 30, 2021.
- Approved participation in the 2018 Chancellor's Office Tax Offset (COTOP) program for the 2018/2019 fiscal year.
- Approved tentative agreement for 2017/2018 Compensation reopener between the California School Employees Association and the District.
- Approved remaining in the Balanced Fund option for the CCLC Retiree Health Benefits Trust.
- Approved recommendation to elect a new Trustee for Area 1 to replace retired member Penny Heilman.
- Approved acceptance of the Board of Trustees' self-evaluation for 2017/2018 and goals for 2018/2019.

The next regular COS Board of Trustees meeting will be held October 2, 2018 at the Yreka Campus in the Rural Health Sciences Institute (RHSI). Closed session will begin at 5 p.m. followed by the public open session beginning at 6 p.m.