



**CEC Governing Board Meeting
November 15, 2024 @ 3:30 p.m.
Join the meeting now**

Dial in by phone
+1 970-462-9165 Conference ID143692418#

Call to Order – Laura called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. with the reading of the Mission Statement.

Mission Statement

Colorado Early Colleges' mission is to prepare a diverse population of students for life by developing their mind, body and character through rigorous academic studies, and character development activities in cooperation with the community we serve.

All students, regardless of background or skill level, will have the opportunity to pursue a growth mindset that will allow them to achieve mastery and will demonstrate that they can succeed in school, in college, and in their chosen career.

No exceptions. No excuses.

Attendees:

- Board of Governors: Laura Calhoun, Terry McDonald, Arthur Cyphers, Jessie Mathis, Larry Mohr (absent), and Fish Abrhaley
- Chief Executive Officer: Dr. Jill Gildea
- Executive Leadership Team: Cameron Mascoll, CFO; Stephanie Livingston, Executive Director of Organizational Development and HR; Ann Schultz, Executive Director of Academics; Saeed Sarani, Executive Director of Operations; and Mark Murbach, Executive Director of Facilities Management.
- Attorneys: Dustin Sparks and Amber DeCarli
- Other staff as required: Brenda Rhodes, Executive Office Administrator, Laura C., Caitlin W., Robin Z., Gordon B., Rebecca F., Dee Dee V., Maren B., Tom S., Kitty M., Ryan M., Keshia M., Sarah B., and Cody P.

Approval of Agenda

- Tery made a request to amend the agenda and add “Discussion to Move Board Meetings to a Different Day of the Week” under Board Discussion and Action.
- Jessie made a motion to approve the agenda per the amendment above; Art 2nd. Approved. The meeting minutes reflect this update to the agenda.

Correspondence/Board Comments

- Correspondence - None
- Welcome Dr. Jill Gildea, CEC Chief Executive Officer

- On behalf of the Board, Laura welcomed Dr. Jill Gildea as CEC's new Chief Executive Officer.

Administration Report – Dr. Jill Gildea

- Highlights From First Weeks at CEC – Dr. Gildea
 - Jill told the Board that over the past few weeks she has enjoyed meeting and visiting staff and learning more about our schools. She thanked everyone for supporting students.
 - Jill introduced Ryan Marks, Saeed Sarani, and Cameron Mascoll and highlighted what they would be presenting during the Board meeting.
 - She closed her remarks stating that she is happy to be at CEC.
- CARS Report Presentation – Ryan Marks, Chief of Authorizing and Accountability, CSI
 - Ryan presented a high level overview of CSI's Annual Review of Schools (CARS) report and explained how Board members could read and discern the data being reported out. Ryan summarized and explained each school's performance ratings and talked about the new metrics CSI used for the Financial Performance and Organizational Performance sections of the CARS report.
- Marketing Plan To Support 2025-26 Enrollment – Saeed Sarani
 - Saeed highlighted the six Marketing strategies CEC is using to drive enrollment for the 2025-26 school year.

Finance – Cameron Mascoll

- Audit Report
 - Cameron reported that the 2024 CEC Network Audit marked the 5th consecutive year of clean audits for CEC. The Board congratulated Cameron and the Finance team on their work.
- 1st Quarter FY2025 Financials
 - Cameron noted that there are no red flags with the 1st quarter FY2025 financials, and the financials have been submitted to CSI per their deadline.

Public Comment - None

The Board welcomes Public Comment. Please keep comments to 3 minutes or less per person. Should you have a question for the Board that requires a response, please submit your question via email to the CEC Governing Board President, Laura Calhoun, at cecgoverningboard@coloradoearlycolleges.org who will then respond to your question via email.

Executive Session

- C.R.S. §24-6-402(4)(d), specialized details of security arrangements, specifically discussion of CEC's Safe School Plan.
 - At 4:48 p.m., Art made a motion to enter Executive Session per C.R.S. §24-6-402(4)(d), specialized details of security arrangements, specifically discussion of CEC's Safe School Plan, §24-6-402(4)(a), C.R.S.), the purchase, acquisition, lease, transfer, or sale of any real, personal, or other property interest, specifically Sale of Wheaton property and Horsetooth property, §24-6-402(4)(f), C.R.S.), personnel matters, specifically an employment investigation, and §24-6-402(4)(b), C.R.S.), legal advice specifically regarding CEC's security plans, sale of real property, a CORA request, and employment matters. Jessie 2nd. Approved
 - The following individuals were invited into Executive Session: all present Board members, Dr. Jill Gildea, legal counsel Dustin Sparks and Amber DeCarli, Brenda R., Cameron M., Kitty M., Mark M., Saeed S., and Stephanie L.
 - At 4:57 p.m., Kitty M. left Executive Session.
 - At 5:09 p.m., Cameron M., Mark M., Saeed S., and Brenda R. left Executive Session.

- At 5:45 p.m., Stephanie L. left Executive Session.
- At 6:45 p.m. Jessie made a motion to exit Executive Session. Art 2nd. Approved.
- At 6:46 p.m. all present Board members, Dr. Jill Gildea, and legal counsel Dustin Sparks and Amber DeCarli rejoined the public meeting.
 - Upon entering the public meeting, Dustin Sparks stated that CEC security plans and sale of real property topics were not part of the legal advice discussion, and that Laura Calhoun had recused herself from the employment matters legal advice discussion.

Board Discussion and Action

- Approve October 11, 2024 CEC Governing Board Meeting Minutes
 - Terry made a motion to approve the October 11, 2024 CEC Governing Board Meeting Minutes. Fish 2nd. Approved.
- Approve 2024 CEC Network Audit
 - Art made a motion to approve the 2024 CEC Network Audit. Terry 2nd. Approved.
- Approve CEC Safe School Plan
 - Fish a motion to approve the CEC Safe School Plan. Art 2nd. Approved.
- Vote on Employment Matter
 - Jessie made a motion to table the Vote on Employment Matter. Terry 2nd. Approved.
- Discussion to Move Board Meetings to a Different Day of the Week
 - Terry raised the question if the Board would consider moving the Board meeting day from Friday to Thursday. Discussion included considering staff who attend Board meetings as well as an overview of documents that would need to be updated to reflect a new Board meeting day.
 - Board members agreed to table further discussion and consideration to the December 13, 2024 Board meeting.

Other Business - None

Future Meetings of the Governing Board

- December 13, 2024 @ 3:30 p.m. Virtually Via Teams
- January 17, 2025 @ 3:30 p.m. Virtually Via Teams
- February 22, 2025
 - Board Retreat @ 8:30 a.m. at CECD North
 - Board Meeting @ 3:30 p.m. at CECD North

Adjourned – Laura adjourned the meeting at 6:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Brenda Rhodes, CEC Executive Office Administrator

Signed

Fish Abrhaley

Fish Abrhaley, CEC Governing Board Secretary