



## **CEC Governing Board Meeting January 30, 2025 @ 3:30 p.m.**

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**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, and Fish Abrahaley
- Chief Executive Officer: Dr. Jill Gildea
- Executive Leadership Team: Cameron Mascoll, CFO; Stephanie Livingston, Executive Director of Organizational Development and HR; Saeed Sarani, Executive Director of Operations; Mark Murbach, Executive Director of Facilities Management.
- Other staff as required: Brenda Rhodes, Executive Office Administrator
- Other guests: Emma D., Jennifer D., Gordon B., Hannah R., Rebecca F., Trish D., Sarah B., Wendy R., Keshia M., Tom S., Maren B., Cody P., and Angela C.

**Approval of Agenda** – Jessie made a motion to approve the agenda; Terry 2<sup>nd</sup>. Approved.

### **Correspondence/Board Comments**

- Laura welcomed Larry Mohr back from his leave of absence.
- Laura updated the Board on an email she received from a former CEC parent

### **Administration Report – Dr. Jill Gildea**

- Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness Annual Report – Wendy Rhodes, Director of Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness

- Wendy’s presentation to the Board highlighted the numerous pathways offered to CEC students across all schools. Her presentation also included a summary of workforce trends, insights into “Gen Z,” CTE approach in the Early College Model, and graduation statistics from the class of 2024.
- Annual Facility Report – Mark Murbach, Executive Director of Facility Management
  - Mark talked about the mission, vision, and strategy regarding CEC’s approach in managing its facilities. He updated the Board on several completed projects and highlighted summer 2025 projects.
- Update on Federal Ruling Regarding Title IX Regulations – Dr. Gildea
  - Dr. Gildea shared that CSI sent an email suggesting that schools take action and revert back to their 2020 policies regarding Title IX to align with the new federal executive order. She shared that Colorado has robust state policies in place. She informed the Board that they will be voting on this topic during the “Board Discussion and Action” portion of the meeting.
- Official 2024-25 October Count Enrollment – Dr. Gildea
  - Jill briefly highlighted CEC’s official 2024-25 student enrollment.
- School Accountability Committee Mid-Year Reports – Dr. Gildea
  - Jill reminded the Board that they have access to all the School Accountability Committee Mid-Year Reports in their January 30, 2025 Board packet. Jill shared 5 common themes, with examples, which could be found throughout all the reports:
    - Academic Excellence and College Readiness
    - Career and Technical Education Pathways
    - Student Engagement and Character Development
    - Community and Family Engagement
    - School Safety and Student Well-being
  - Laura reminded the Board that they are welcome to attend SAC meetings.

## **Finance – Cameron Mascoll**

- Selection of a New Auditor for 2025
  - Cameron told the Board that CEC’s current auditor had submitted a letter of resignation and would not be our auditor for 2025. The auditor resigned because they will no longer do “single audits,” and CEC will probably always qualify for a single audit.
  - CEC received bids from 2 auditors and recommended DMC Auditing and Consulting for Board approval. This auditor was selected as they would meet CEC’s timeline and had experience doing audits for other CSI schools as well as other charter schools.
- Summarize 2024-2025 Amended Budgets
  - Cameron thanks the Heads of School, their Business Managers, and the Executive Leadership Team for their help on the amended budgets.
  - The financials Cameron shared with the Board included a summary of each school, the prior 2 years of actuals, the current budget, the proposed budget, the “variance” and notes.
  - Cameron stated that CEC is in a good place with the amended budgets and there are no red flags.
  - Finance committee members Art Cyphers and Larry Mohr agreed and told the rest of the Board they recommend that the amended budgets be approved.

## 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](mailto:cecgoverningboard@coloradoearlycolleges.org) who will then respond to your question via email.

## Board Discussion and Action

- Approve December 12, 2024 CEC Governing Board Meeting Minutes
  - After no discussion, Art made a motion to approve the December 12, 2024 CEC Governing Board Meeting Minutes. Jessie 2<sup>nd</sup>. Approved
- Approve New Auditor for 2025
  - Larry made a motion to approve DMC Auditing and Consulting as CEC's new auditor for 2025. Art 2<sup>nd</sup>. Approved
- Approve Resolution 2025.01.30A Approving 2024-2025 Amended Budgets
  - Discussion was held regarding approving the 2024-2025 amended budgets. Jessie asked if the Board would have further discussion regarding Windsor at its February retreat. Board members confirmed that the topic will be discussed.
  - Art made a motion to approve Resolution 2025.01.30A Approving 2024-2025 Amended Budgets. Terry 2<sup>nd</sup>. Approved per the following roll call vote:
    - Laura – Yes
    - Terry – Yes
    - Art – Yes
    - Jessie – Yes
    - Larry – Yes
    - Fish - Yes
- Rescind CEC Nondiscrimination/Harassment/Equal Opportunity policy (approved 7.2024) and Reinstate CEC Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity policy (approved 7.2021) and CEC Discrimination and Harassment policy (approved 7.2020)
  - Discussion was held regarding why the Board was rescinding CEC's Nondiscrimination/Harassment/Equal Opportunity policy approved 7.2024, and reinstating CEC's Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity policy approved 7.2021 and CEC's Discrimination and Harassment policy approved 7.2020.
    - Jill explained that CSI is recommending that school revert back to 2020 policies that are now in compliance with federal regulations. She noted that Colorado has its own state policies that are robust. By taking this action, the Board is affirming that CEC is in compliance with federal regulations and will follow 2020 regulations regarding Title IX processes and timelines.
  - Terry made a motion to Rescind CEC Nondiscrimination/Harassment/Equal Opportunity policy (approved 7.2024) and Reinstate CEC Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity policy (approved 7.2021) and CEC Discrimination and Harassment policy (approved 7.2020). Art 2<sup>nd</sup>. The motion was approved by the following roll call vote:
    - Laura – Yes
    - Terry – Yes
    - Art – Yes
    - Jessie – Yes
    - Larry – Yes
    - Fish - Yes

## Other Business

- Upcoming Governing Board Trainings Hosted by CSI
  - At least 1 Board member is required to attend
    - School Leader Hiring, Development, and Evaluation
      - Thursday, January 30 @ 5:30 p.m.
        - Jill and Laura are attending this training
    - Charter School Board Development and Self-Assessment
      - Monday, March 24 @ noon
        - Terry noted that he could attend this training
  
- 2025 CEC Graduation and Promotion Ceremonies
  - CEC Colorado Springs Middle School Promotion
    - Wednesday, May 14, 2025 @ 8:30 a.m.
    - CECCS Basecamp
  - CEC Fort Collins Middle School Promotion
    - Thursday, May 15, 2025 @ 5:30 p.m.
    - CECFC King Auditorium
  - CEC Colorado Springs High School Graduation
    - Monday, May 19, 2025 @ 10:00 a.m.
    - UCCS Gallogly Hall
  - CEC Online Campus Middle School Promotion - virtual/recorded
    - Monday, May 19, 2025 @ 10:00 a.m.
  - CEC Castle Rock Graduation
    - Monday, May 19, 2025 @ 1:00 p.m.
    - Douglas County Event Center
  - CEC Online Campus High School Graduation – virtual/recorded
    - Tuesday, May 20, 2025 @ 10:00 a.m.
  - CECD North Graduation
    - Tuesday, May 20, 2025 @ 10:00 a.m.
    - Arapahoe County Fairgrounds Event Center
  - CEC Aurora Graduation
    - Tuesday, May 20, 2025 @ 3:00 p.m.
    - Arapahoe County Fairgrounds Event Center
  - CEC Windsor Middle School Promotion
    - Wednesday, May 21 @ 9:00 a.m.
    - CECFC King Auditorium
  - CEC Windsor High School Graduation
    - Wednesday, May 21 @ 10:30 a.m.
    - CECFC King Auditorium
  - CEC Fort Collins Graduation
    - Wednesday, May 21 @ 2:30 p.m.
    - Aims Community College Welcome Center
  - Laura reminded the Board members to let Brenda know which promotions and graduation ceremonies they will be attending.

## **Future Meetings of the Governing Board**

- February 22, 2025
  - Board Retreat @ 8:30 a.m. at CECD North
  - Board Meeting @ 3:30 p.m. at CECD North
- March 20, 2025 @ 3:30 p.m. Virtually Via Teams
- April 17, 2025 @ 3:30 p.m. Virtually Via Teams

**Adjourned** – Laura adjourned the meeting at 5:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Brenda Rhodes, CEC Executive Office Administrator

Signed



Laura Calhoun, CEC Governing Board President