

**DRAFT  
MINUTES**

**DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
SPECIAL WORKSHOP  
GULF COAST STATE COLLEGE**

**November 6, 2017**

2 p.m. CDT  
Advanced Technology Center, Room 156

**Members Present:** Katie L. Patronis (presiding), Elizabeth M. Kirvin, Tom L. Lewis, Jim W. McKnight, Steve D. Millaway, Joe T. Tannehill, Jr., David P. Warriner, Dr. John R. Holdnak, and Derrick G. Bennett

**Absent:** Donald R. Crisp and Ralph C. Roberson

**Others Attending:** Loretta Costin, Leslie Hapner, Becca Hardin, Cheryl Flax-Hyman, Al McCambry, Katie McCurdy, Glen McDonald, and John Mercer

**1. Call to Order** Ms. Patronis called the workshop to order at 2:05 p.m.

**2. Update on College Economic Development Programs and Activities** Dr. Holdnak provided a summary of current Economic Development Activities and introduced Ms. Becca Hardin, executive director, Bay Economic Development Alliance, and Ms. Katie McCurdy, Bay District Schools STEM Administrator.

Dr. Holdnak called on Ms. Hardin to provide an overview of the successful public/private collaboration of the College and Bay Economic Development Alliance. Ms. Hardin stated the support that the College has provided when prospective companies come to visit the area has been pivotal in their decision to locate to Bay county. Ms. Hardin provided a copy of 850 Magazine highlighting the GKN article and explained the domino effect of other businesses locating to Bay county because of GKN. She stressed that workforce is critical to incoming businesses and having Gulf Coast State College available to them is beneficial.

Dr. Holdnak called on Ms. McCurdy to provide information on the GCSC/Bay District School STEM Pipeline. Ms. McCurdy stated the goal of the STEM Pipeline is to provide an opportunity for K-12 students to be exposed to STEM opportunities on the GCSC Campus throughout the school year and summer; to increase STEM awareness and curiosity among these students; as well as promote the STEM educational pathways available at GCSC.

Ms. McCurdy stated collaboration between GCSC college professors, the Navigators, and Bay District schools has been the key to the success of the

program. She has seen an improvement in the eagerness of students wanting to continue their education beyond high school.

Dr. Holdnak reported the College submitted a pre-application for Triumph funds to support an Advanced Manufacturing Innovation Institute (AMI<sup>2</sup>) at the College. He called on Mr. McDonald to update the trustees on the application. Mr. McDonald stated this will be a public-private partnership of industry, local/state/federal agencies, and academia that work together and invest in the development of world class facilities, technologies, capabilities, education, training, and workforce development/recruitment. He presented a power point which highlighted the workforce challenges, local numbers to consider, and why companies and people are coming to Florida and the value of GCSC.

Ms. Costin reviewed current occupational educational opportunities at the College and the how these focus on the relationship between the College, the STEM Pipeline, workforce needs, and the end result of an employable workforce. Mr. McCambry discussed the non-credit opportunities at the college, supporting the same outcomes.

Mr. McDonald presented the plan for the Advanced Manufacturing Innovation Institute and explained the Institute will provide state of the art skill training to individuals who are seeking future employment in advanced manufacturing. The GCSC AMI<sup>2</sup> will leverage Bay County's network of educational institutions, research facilities, business/industry partners, and military installations to build a sustainable hub of advanced manufacturing training, development, and production.

The trustees provided individual comments of support, were in favor of the project, and excited to see the collaboration taking place for a successful venture.

- 3. 2018 Legislative Session and Board Advocacy** Dr. Holdnak gave a brief overview of the current activities in Tallahassee. Discussion followed regarding board advocacy and potential involvement in Washington, D.C. and Tallahassee legislative activities.

Trustees reviewed the Council of Presidents 2018 Legislative Priorities and discussed highlights of SB 540 in comparison to SB 374. Trustees will be available to assist in contacting legislators as needed.
- 7. Adjournment** The meeting was adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

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Secretary

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Chair, District Board of Trustees