

APPROVED MINUTES

COCHISE COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD REGULAR MEETING

**Tuesday, September 8, 2026
Sierra Vista Campus
4:00 p.m.**

1. GENERAL FUNCTIONS

1.01 Call to Order

Mr. Hudgins called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM.

Board Members Present:

Ms. Stephanie Money
Mr. Mark Farr
Mr. Don Hudgins
Mr. Steve Leeder
Mr. David DiPeso

1.02 Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Leeder led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.03 Adoption of Agenda

The administration requested the agenda be approved, with no modifications, the agenda was approved.

Mr. Farr moved, and Mr. Leeder seconded a motion to approve the agenda as posted. With no further discussion, the board approved with David DiPeso, Steve Leeder, Stephanie Money, Mark Farr and Don Hudgins all voting aye. **MOTION CARRIED.**

1.04 Citizen's In-Person Interim

There were no requests to address the board.

1.05 Standing Reports

1.05.1 Representative to the Arizona Association of Community College Trustees (AACCT)

Mr. Steve Leeder, AACCT Representative, did have new updates to report.

On 20 August, Mr. Leeder went to Flagstaff to represent the college at the AACCT board retreat. AACCT board retreat highlights included:

- Two presentations from Dr. Leslie; one of the principles of governance and one on policies.
 - Mr. Leeder reported that Dr. Leslie over estimated time had to “fly” through slides.
 - Mr. Leeder indicated that he was remised regarding providing slides at an early date, however they were provided on September 8, 2026, for distribution to the governing board members.
 - Mr. Leeder provided an overview of the slides and indicated that he will provide a future update regarding the good insights.
 - Dr. Leslie slide overview:
 - Mix of what you would find in the AACCT handbook
 - Dr. Leslie best practices form his time in San Antonio and other places
 - What Dr. Leslie has found to be effective
- Mr. Leeder, in his own words, overviewed the breakout session amongst different trustees that represent each of the colleges:
 - Answered the question are we important / is this really performing a role with AACCT/are we doing it effectively
 - Overall conclusion was yes, it is an important role, Trustee education
 - Mr. Leeder reported that the breakout session identified slight group internal struggles on feeling
 - Not as effective as they should be
 - Ramping up emphasis in some meetings
 - Internally how the structure works to support
 - There was nothing concrete to report on a remedy
- Mr. Leeder briefly discussed that during the retreat they also received a presentation on terms of legislative advocacy for the upcoming year.

Questions / Comments

Mr. Hudgins stated it sounded like it was time well spent.

1.05.2 Senate

The written Senate report for August 2026 was provided in the Board Packet for review and was accepted as published.

1.05.3 Student Government Association

The Student Government Association (SGA) presented an update to the Governing Board; highlights included:

- Sierra Vista Campus SGA Officers:
 - President: Emma Thatcher
 - Major: Microbiology; Pre-Med
 - Minor: Philosophy
 - Looks forward to working alongside SGA Officers to represent students, listen to their needs, and help create opportunities that strengthen the student experience at Cochise College.
 - Vice President: Russell Adams
 - Major: Medical Assistant
 - Looks forward to supporting SGA Officers and helping SGA continue building stronger connections with students across campus.
 - Secretary: Sydnee Stanley (*not present - in class*) introduced by Emma Thatcher
 - Major: Nursing
 - She's excited to support the team and contribute to the work SGA is doing for students.
 - Treasurer: Liam Rautanen
 - Major: Administration of Justice
 - Looks forward to supporting SGA and helping the organization use its resources responsibly, whilst also creating meaningful opportunities for fellow students.
 - Vice President for Public Relations: Esmeralda Sanchez
 - Major: Nursing
 - Looks forward to helping students stay informed about SGA events, activities, and opportunities to get involved on campus.
 - Vice President of Student Programming: Sebastian Hodgins
 - Major: Social and Behavioral Sciences
 - Role focuses on helping create events and activities that bring students together, build community, and provide opportunities for students to connect outside of the classroom.
- Conferences / Trainings / Activities
 - SGA Officers attended the American Student Government Association New Officers and Members Conference.

- The opportunity provided them with a chance to learn more student government, leadership, teamwork, and ways they can better represent the students they serve.
 - SGA Officers are participating in SGA district-wide officer training
 - This brought student leaders together from across Cochise College and gave them the opportunity to learn more about their individual responsibility as officers.
 - Participated in team-building activities that allowed them to learn more about one another
 - They discovered their leadership styles and the superpowers they bring.
- Goals for the Academic Year:
 - Develop a student discount initiative
 - Collaborate with the Cochise College Cupboard
 - Strengthen voting and civic engagement
 - Community involvement, and opportunities for students
 - Increasing student feedback and awareness
- Fall 2026 Events
 - Participated in Campus Experience for New Students
 - Welcome Back Barbecue (thanked senior leadership for being part of the barbecue)
 - Hosted our first student pop-up event of the semester, DIY Beaded Keychains
 - Club Fair gave students the opportunity to learn more about clubs, organizations and other ways to become involved at Cochise College
- Upcoming Events
 - September 17: Constitution Day
 - September 17: Blood Drive
 - September 21: Founders Day Celebration
 - October 23: Haunted Union
 - November 6 (Douglas Campus): Pit Fire Pottery Festival
- Concluded by:
 - Thanked the Governing Board, Dr. Perey, Senior Administration, Faculty, Staff, our amazing Advisors, Mr. Andy Espinoza, Food Services, Maintenance and Facilities, and everyone throughout Cochise College who supports student leadership and engagement.

Questions/Comments:

Mr. Hudgins addresses the students in attendance, thanking them for their hard work and dedication to helping their fellow students.

- Mr. Hudgins emphasized that the students' efforts significantly improve the student's experience.
- Additionally, Mr. Hudgins complimented the students on their professional appearance, thanked them for their attendance, and invited them to enjoy refreshments before departing the meeting.

Dr. James Perey noted a superhero collage display by the students and suggested they create a team name, referencing groups such as the X-Men, Justice League, and Teen Titans. Dr. Perey directed Andy Espinoza to report back on the final selection.

- Additionally, Dr. Perey commended the students' professional attire and requested the Chair, Board Members, and Students gather for a photograph.

1.05.4 College President

Dr. Perey provided updates to the Governing Board; highlights included:

- Commending the Student Government Association (SGA) on their presentation and positive start to the academic year, noting that the semester was entering its fourth week.
- He expressed appreciation to the College Faculty and Staff for their dedication to supporting students and the community.
- Dr. Perey transitioned into presenting a series of highlights and recognitions to the Board:
 - Moody's Rating Update:
 - Dr. Perey shared with the Board that they College Moody rating had improved from stable to positive.
 - According to the Cochise College account representative, this is an exceptional outcome for a public Community College of this size. The College was recognized for conservative financial planning, enrollment, diverse and stable revenue bonds, strong workforce positioning and healthy financials.
 - Dr. Perey highlighted that he believes the key takeaway is that the rating provides an external validation on what the College is doing in regard to finances and the approach that the College takes.
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- Dr. Perey congratulated:
 - Women's Basketball Head Coach Misty Opat, who was selected to serve on the Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA) Board of Directors as the Two-Year College representative. An outstanding national recognition of Coach Opat's leadership and

contributions to women's basketball. Her appointment provides an important voice for two-year Colleges within one of the sport's leading professional organizations.

- Mr. Cullen Scarborough on being selected to be included on the Veterans Wall at Canyon Vista Medical Center for 2026.

Arizona Legislative Update:

- The Arizona Legislature has concluded its 2026 regular session, and the FY 2027 state budget is now in effect. The Community Colleges have submitted their budget requests to the Governor's office for FY 2028. Expected that the next budget will continue to reflect a constrained fiscal environment.
- Highlighted some encouraging news regarding state revenues. The Joint Legislative Budget Committee's August Monthly Financial Highlights reported that July revenues exceeded the FY 2027 budget forecast by \$46.7 million, mostly from state sales taxes. If the additional revenue proves sustained, it could significantly improve the state's projected year-end carry-forward balance. If that doesn't happen, there will likely be another deficit going into the next budget cycle. The College will continue to work with the AC4, legislative delegation to communicate the College's needs.
- Reported on the upcoming election year having potential changes to the Arizona House and Senate. The College will monitor changes and keep the Governing Board updated of any impacts on Community Colleges.

Federal Legislative Update:

- Congress has enacted a Continuing Resolution (CR) that funds the Federal Government through December 11, 2026, which has provided level funding for all programs.
- Adult Education remains the area of greatest concern for Cochise College, as grants are tied directly to the program. The House FY 2027 proposal would eliminate the program, while the Senate would fund it at current levels. The College continues to monitor closely.
- The U.S. Department of Education (ED) is also moving forward with negotiated rulemaking related to accreditation. The ED would like to open accreditation to more competition and look into other metrics. For Cochise College, there is no immediate change to current HLC accreditation, any adjustments will be made as needed.
 - Additionally, Governing Board members were provided with a letter from the U.S. Secretary of Education, Linda McMahon. The letter was primarily focused on University and Four-Year Institutions. Although Cochise College is not a Research Institution, the College

did a quick analysis. Findings indicated that the College is meeting at least five of the seven components indicated in the letter. Dr. Perey noted that AACC confirmed that Community Colleges are not expected to take action. The College will continue to monitor developments and take appropriate action as needed.

Facilities Update:

Dr. Perey provided the following Facility updates:

- Noted that Facilities projects continue to move forward across the districts, although, because of weather and permitting, a few timelines were adjusted.

Douglas Campus

- Well boring and casing are complete, and the test pump has been installed.
 - Dr. Wendy Davis reported that the well testing has not begun. Contractors are measuring levels, pressuring it and ensuring structural stability.
 - In response to questions from Governing Board Members, Dr. Davis confirmed that the drilling exceeded 1,000 feet.
 - She also noted the geological explorations had been conducted prior to drilling and contractors were aware of the conditions. The new well is approximately a quarter mile from an existing well.
- Building 400 Renovation
 - Timeline has been extended.
 - Roof work is expected to resume late September, weather permitting.
 - Followed by interior construction in mid-October. Expected completion to be sometime in December.
- Building 500
 - An inspection identified they need to replace portions of the flat roof.
- Building 900 Roof Replacement
 - Flat roof work is complete, with the remaining sheet metal insulation delayed due to weather. Completion expected by end of September.
- Huachuca Hall Apartment Renovation
 - 1205 to 1208 are moving through the permitting process, with construction expected to resume in October and completion anticipated in early spring.

- Abatement and demolition of apartments 1201 to 1204 will begin September, followed by underground sewage line replacement.

Initiatives:

Dr. Perey provided the following updates regarding Strategic Planning:

- Work on College's next Strategic Plan is underway and remains on schedule. We are currently focused on gathering information, engaging employees and community stakeholders to help inform the direction of the plan.
 - Cochise College has engaged a consultant to assist with the process. The Strategic Planning Advisory Group held its first meeting on August 28th. The group reviewed information from the environmental scan, along with enrollment, student success and other trends to better understand the opportunities and challenges ahead.
 - Cochise College also began discussing the difference between long-term strategic priorities and more immediate operational needs.
 - Cochise College has begun open forums beginning on September 30, seeking input from community members, county and city representatives.
- Dr. Perey informed the Board Members about his presentation to the Local Realtor Association that was coming up on September 16th.
 - Four identified questions would be available to attendees in order for them to provide feedback.
- The Governing Board will have an opportunity to contribute to this phase of the process during its October 30th retreat.

Instructional and Workforce Update:

Dr. Perey provided the following updates regarding Instructional and Workforce Programs:

- The Fall Semester is off to a strong start, with Nursing, Allied Health, Career Business and Technical Education and Workforce Programs continuing to respond to student and regional needs.
- The EMT Program in Douglas welcomed its largest cohort since 2000. Registered Nursing remains strong with 68 first-year, 66 second-year students and 18 students began the RN-to-BSN program this fall. Faculty and Staff also continue community outreach and recruitment activities throughout the region.
- Construction is underway on the next Residential Construction Technology Build House following the sale of the previous student-built home. Cochise

College continues to strengthen industry and educational partnerships with the Southern Arizona Contractors Association and recruitment at the Arizona FFA State Leadership Conference.

- On September 15th, Cochise College will launch the first Southern Arizona Detention Officer Academy. The 10-week academy will train eight recruits from the Cochise and Apache County Sheriffs Offices and represents another important regional partnership supporting public safety and workforce development.

Questions/Comments:

Mr. DiPeso inquired about the previous work that was done on the Student Union building due to flooding damage.

- Dr. Davis provided the response that in 2019 the College did a refurbishment to the roof that collapsed and flooded the building. She noted that a replacement should have been done seven years ago, but the College had patching done at that time.

Community Engagements:

- Aug 12 & 14 – Campus Experience – New Student Orientation
- Aug 13 – Education Forward Arizona Meeting
- Aug 17 – Fall Semester Began
- Aug 18 – Foundation Orientation – Douglas Campus
- Aug 19-20 – AC4/ACCT Retreat – Flagstaff
- Aug 25 & 26 – Welcome Back Socials on each campus
- Aug 28 – TRiO 25th Anniversary Celebration
- Sep 2 – Foundation Meeting
- Sep 7 – College Closed – Labor Day
- Sep 8 – Regular Board Meeting

Upcoming Activities:

- Sep 10 – Reception at Consulate of Mexico in Douglas – 216th Anniversary of the Independence of Mexico
- Sep 16 – Presentation to the Local Realtor's Association
- Sep 17-23 – Dr. Perey Annual Leave (Dr. Davis will serve in his absence)
- Sep 23 & 24 – AC4 Business Meeting – Tempe
- Sep 25 – CLL, Legacy Foundation and Arizona Community Foundation (ACF) 2026 Annual Nonprofits Conference
- Oct 5 – Visit from ASU – Vice Provost of Academic Alliances
- Oct 6 – Next Regular Board Meeting – Douglas Campus

1.05.5 Monthly Financial Report – August 2026

The Financial Report for August 2026 was provided in the Board Packet and approved as submitted.

1.05.6 Monthly Academic Progress Report

The Governing Board reviewed the September Academic Progress Report regarding Adult Education and accepted it as submitted.

2. NEW BUSINESS *

2.01 Consent Agenda *

The following items were approved:

- 2.01.1 * Non-Exempt Staff; Appointment (*Wendy Cochran, Accountant, Sierra Vista Campus*)
- 2.01.2 * Non-Exempt Staff; Appointment (*Christina Durante, Advising and Career Services, Sierra Vista Campus*)
- 2.01.3 * Non-Exempt Staff; Appointment (*Cynthia Foreman, Financial Aid Assistant, Sierra Vista Campus*)
- 2.01.4 * Non-Exempt Staff; Appointment (*Fernando Miranda, Campus Services Technician, Douglas Campus*)
- 2.01.5 * Exempt Staff; Appointment (*Iridian Madrid, Assistant Athletic Trainer, Douglas Campus*)
- 2.01.6 * Exempt Staff; Appointment (*Judith Sandstorm, Technology Contract and Licensing Coordinator, Sierra Vista Campus*)
- 2.01.7 * Exempt Staff; Appointment (*Rebecca Gualtiere, Writing Lab Supervisor, Sierra Vista Campus*)
- 2.01.8 * Non-Exempt Staff; Resignation (*Samuel Courtney, Facility Services Technician, Sierra Vista Campus*)
- 2.01.9 * Non-Exempt Staff; Resignation (*Jose Gutierrez, Grounds Technician II, Douglas Campus*)
- 2.01.10 * Non-Exempt Staff; Separation (*Vivian Lambert-Knight, Graduation Technician, Sierra Vista Campus*)
- 2.01.11 * 2026-2027 Course Fee Changes
- 2.01.12 * Acceptance of Minutes for August 11, 2026 – Regular Meeting

Ms. Money moved, and Mr. DiPeso seconded a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, with no further discussion. The Governing Board approved, with David DiPeso, Steve Leeder, Stephanie Money, Mark Farr and Don Hudgins all voting aye. **MOTION CARRIED.**

2.02 Douglas Campus Student Union Roof Replacement

The administration requested that the Governing Board approve a proposal to replace the Douglas Campus Student Union roof from Progressive Roofing.

- The proposal has been provided by Progressive Roofing under a 1GPA Contract to install modified bitumen roof systems over substrates. The entire scope of work

was provided to the Governing Board Members for review. This proposal includes a five-year contractor warranty and a 25-year Garlands Systems warranty.

- Dr. Perey stated that if approved the project would commence in October of 2026 with an anticipated project length of one month. Funding for this project would come from deferred maintenance and fund balance.
 - Dr. Perey additionally noted that the kitchen within the Douglas Campus Student Union will likely need to be remodeled in the next few years, and it is important to fix the roof prior to that project.

Mr. DiPeso inquired about how far the repair work would extend into the trusses and whether the roof sheathing would be replaced.

- Dr. Davis informed the Board that Jim Barrows, Director of Facilities, would be able to provide an answer to that question. She did have that information readily available for the board.

Mr. Hudgins mentioned it sounded like framing. He also stated that the 20-25 years sounded like a reasonable expectation.

Mr. Hudgins asked about the last the last time there was a full replacement done.

- Dr. Davis did not have the data available with her at the time of the meeting. She did inform the Board that the 2019 refurbishments was unsuccessful.

Mr. Farr moved and Ms. Money seconded a motion to approve the proposal from Progressive Roofing to replace the Douglas Campus Student Union roof at a price of \$711,795. With no further discussion, the Governing Board approved, with David DiPeso, Steve Leeder, Stephanie Money, Mark Farr and Don Hudgins all voting aye. **MOTION CARRIED.**

3. INFORMATION ITEMS

INFORMATION

3.01 Communications

- Cochise College received a certificate from the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) recognizing Cochise College as a 2026 Member in Good Standing in acknowledgement of the College's service and dedication to the mission of higher education. The certificate was signed by Carol L. Del Carlo, Chair of the ACCT Board of Directors, and Jee Hang Lee, ACCT President and Chief Executive Officer.
 - Dr. Perey included that Jee Hang Lee is trying to coordinate a visit to Cochise College possibly in early December of 2026.
- Dr. Perey received a letter from the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) expressing sincere appreciation for Cochise College's support of Faculty who volunteer their time and expertise as

ACEN Peer Evaluators. The letter specifically recognized Dr. Hill and Dr. Ashline for their service as ACEN Peer Evaluators during the 2025-2026 Academic Year. They noted the important role that Institutions and Faculty play in advancing the quality of nursing education. They also thanked Cochise College for its leadership and ongoing partnership.

3.02 Liberal Arts Division Report

Dr. Angela Garcia, Dean of Liberal Arts, provided an update on the Liberal Arts Division

- Three priorities that guide the division:
 - Pathways, Enrollment, Relevance and Excellence
 - Program Developments: Specific academic pathways, including Education and Early Childhood Education (ECE) programs, as well as the interdisciplinary Studies degree.
 - Digital Media Arts Advisory Board Integration: The Digital Media Arts Program is joining the Business Advisory Board this semester. The division is excited to start expanding their opportunities out to the community more.
 - English AI Initiative Review: The English Department successfully implemented and concluded its targeted English AI Initiative during the prior Academic Year.
 - Readiness, Retention and Completion
 - Placement Research Initiatives: Actively Researching potential placement changes for both the English as a Second Language (ESL) and Reading Programs. Current discussions are underway regarding the overall effectiveness of English placement and available options.
 - CPD150 and English Support Lab Expansion: Continue to leverage the CPD150 course. The combined English 101 and English 101 Support Lab model was expanded in Fall 2024 to support online students in addition to the existing in-person format.
 - Reading 090 Integrated Course Collaboration: Created a Reading 090 course where instead of students taking Reading 092, they actually take a reading 090 class in collaboration with a Sociology 101 or Administration of Justice Studies 101 course so that they can get those reading skills combined with their college level course.
 - The division is currently scaling back the initiative to re-evaluate and optimize implementation strategies moving forward due to low enrollment.
 - Community Engagement

- Canyon Vista Medical Center Mural: Completed an indoor mural project at Canyon Vista Medical Center during the Spring 2026 semester.
 - Cochise County Fairgrounds Mural: Completed an outdoor mural project at the Douglas Fairgrounds during the Spring 2026 semester, with the formal ribbon-cutting ceremony scheduled to take place during the County Fair.
- Expanding Pathways
 - Interdisciplinary Studies Degree Implementation
 - Program Development: The division is currently developing a new Interdisciplinary Studies degree program to replace the existing Liberal Studies degree.
 - Degree Disciplines: This Interdisciplinary Studies degree would create a program where use of all five concentrations (Journalism, English, Humanities, Philosophy, and Communication) with a theme around persuasion to build multi-disciplinary skills that businesses are looking for.
 - Pathways: Collaborative discussions are underway with the University of Arizona (UofA) for transfer pathways.
 - Expanded Education Partnership:
 - Huachuca City Schools: Completed an MOU with Huachuca City School District for observation experiences. Four students are completing observations this semester, reporting back positive feedback.
 - Northland Pioneer College: Added bachelor's transfer pathway and one student started the program this summer.
 - University of Arizona: The division is actively re-engaging with the UofA education transfer pathway to restore a previous pathway.
- Develop Skills Employers are Seeking
 - Students learn very important things in liberal arts classes that function directly as employment skills and the College wants to leverage that to ensure employers and students know how important these skills are for everything they do, not just their education.
- Connections for Success (CPD 150)
 - Course teaches time management, SMART goals, how to navigate college and life.
 - Statistics (Note: causation cannot be inferred): Students who pass CPD150 are 68.3%, likely to be retained through the next Fall semester. Students who did not pass course had the lowest observed retention rate.
 - CPD150 Student Demographics and Findings: The CPD150 course serves as a required co-requisite for at-risk students testing into

developmental reading, English 095 (the classes below English 101), or developmental math classes. Additionally, 69.3% of surveyed students stated that everyone should be required to take this course, and a veteran English instructor noted that former CPD150 student enter English 101 better prepared, they know what to do and how to be successful.

- Community Engagement

- Arizona Commission on the Arts Grant: The College received a \$5,000 grant from the Arizona Commission on the Arts, marking several consecutive years of earning this funding. This year's allocation will support a large mural installation behind the soup area at the Pit Fire event and recruitment is underway for a guest artist to help. Faculty member Ash Dahlke was recently reappointed to a new three-year term on the Arizona Commission on the Arts.
- Creative Writing Events and Workshops: The division hosts two creative writing events (one for adults and one for children), alongside writing workshops. The creative writing workshop model has faced participation and sponsorship challenges since the pandemic, and the division is implementing new ideas this year to rebuild.
- The Mirage: The 2025 to 2026 edition received over 100 submissions and featured poetry, nonfiction, fiction and artwork photos including the publication's first bilingual Spanish and English format. Planning for 2027 may be a little bit smaller with a focus more on unpublished and student submissions.
- Prior Year Cultural Events: Community events from the past year included a zine-making workshop by Josh Galarza with approximately 50 attendees, a screening of the movie Dolores in collaboration with the Bisbee Central School Project and a presentation of the Black History 101 Mobile Museum. Off-campus student trips included a screening at the Fox Theater in Tucson with 11 attendees and a trip to the Aloha and Masks Festival in Phoenix.
- Upcoming Cultural and International Film Events: Scheduled events for the current year include a screening of the movie Olmo at the Fox Theater in Tucson, which currently has two full vans signed up. The College will also host a traveling art display titled Monstra's and organize an overnight student trip to Albuquerque, New Mexico, featuring the Albuquerque Folk Festival, a completed fresco guided tour and an in-progress mural tour by artist Frederico Vigil.
- Music Programs and Assisted Living Service Learning: The division will host its end of semester music concerts. It will also hold individual music recitals at the assisted living facilities, which is

organized as a partnership with Dr. Wantz for the Service Learning Project.

- Douglas Campus Gallery Exhibits: Will feature paintings from local and regional artists, a Wood Fire Ceramics display and showcase of high school art students.
- Sierra Vista Library Art Displays: Dean Abe Villarreal got the division in touch with Stephen Carlson to display some work from local historic painter Ethi Anderson-Smith, and they made prints so her work can go out and be in more place. The library will also host a Pit Fire exhibit, alongside a display of work by local photographer and alumna Wanda J. Betty.
- Introduction of Faculty and Staff
 - Dr. Garcia introduced attendees she brought along with her, which included Brian Homrighausen, who is CPD150 Faculty member and Cat Matthesen, who is the EDU full-time instructor. Dr. Garcia then introduced her three amazing department chairs; Roman Briggs (Humanities and Philosophy), Ella Melito (English Instructor), and Denise Canaz.
 - Dr. Garcia noted there are obviously others who are just as phenomenal, but she did not want to take up the whole business space.

Questions/Comments

Dr. Perey expressed appreciation for the presentation on how important the humanities are when talking about essential skills in the workplace. It was noted that this curriculum continues to be looked at very heavily. Dr. Perey emphasized that while the College tends to focus on workforce development, it is understood that those liberal art skills overall lend themselves to a better worker and a better work environment, ending with a thank you for all that the Faculty and Staff do.

Mr. Hudgins mentioned that some of those skills were on display with the Student Government Association Presentation.

3.03 Douglas Campus Gym Renovations

Dr. Davis provided information updated on the Douglas Campus Gym Renovations:

- Gymnasium Flooring Replacement: An update was shared regarding the upcoming gymnasium flooring renovations. According to Coach Carrillo, the gymnasium floor has not been fully replaced in at least 32 years, though the College has completed various refurbishments and recoating's to keep it manageable. The existing wood is down to its last refurbishments and can no longer be sanded down. A complete replacement is required.

- Interior Structural Renovations: In addition to the new floor, the administration will pursue a series of improvements of the interior space. A crane will be brought in to remove unused and vacant air handler units that have sat idle up in the corners of the gymnasium. Following their removal, the entire inside of the space will be cleaned up, painted and fitted with a brand-new bleacher system.
- Future Lobby and Restroom Renovations: The administration additionally plans to do some renovations on the lobby and bathroom area which will be a future action item. An architect is currently working on the design features for this phase which is expected to exceed a cost of one million dollars.

The Governing Board will be kept updated throughout the process, through Dr. Perey's monthly board reports.

Comments/Questions:

Mr. Hudgins shared they were happy to see that while the College is in there doing the floor, they are going to go ahead and do the rest that is needed as well. Mr. Hudgins noted that having a new floor and a new bleacher to sit in is awesome. He also noted that this new gym everybody's going to get to see and enjoy.

Dr. Perey added further perspective on the floor, explaining that it is to the point where you probably cannot do one more sanding on certain areas because the nails pop up through. He noted that if you have ever seen those old gym floors, they are all shimmed underneath, making them kind of an engineering feat when they were put in. Dr. Perey recalled they are not glamorous, but they have to be done, emphasizing that the College has facilities it needs to maintain for the educational environment and the culture. He stated that athletics is part of that, so it is stuff that has to be done, and he expressed appreciation for the Board's support on the project.

4. COMMENTS FROM GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS

Mr. Hudgins turned the time over to the Governing Board members to provide comments/share information.

- Mr. Leeder
 - Started excellent work continue it. He noted that he appreciates the dedication for all the staff and it is just fantastic work.
- Mr. Hudgins
 - Stated, thank you all for everything you do because this institution depends on each and every one of you and you just step up and do more than anyone else does. He noted that is why Cochise College is where it is, so we thank you for that.

5. EXECUTIVE SESSION

ACTION

5.01 Executive Session

Mr. DiPeso moved, and Mr. Leeder seconded a motion to move into Executive Session. There was no further discussion by the Board. The Board approved, with David DiPeso, Steve Leeder, Stephanie Money, Mark Farr and Don Hudgins all voting aye. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Mr. Hudgins recessed the regular meeting at 5:02 p.m., and the Board moved into Executive Session at 5:02 p.m.

Mr. DiPeso moved, and Mr. Leeder seconded a motion to close the Executive Session and resume the Regular Session. The Board approved, with David DiPeso, Steve Leeder, Stephanie Money, Mark Farr and Don Hudgins all voting aye. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Mr. Hudgins adjourned the Executive Session at 5:54 p.m. and reconvened the regular meeting at 5:54 p.m.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Hudgins adjourned the meeting at 5:54 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Kia Mullins, Executive Assistant, Office of the President

Ms. Stephanie Money, Secretary of the Governing Board