MINUTES: September 17, 2024

MEETING: NORTH FLORIDA COLLEGE

MADISON, FLORIDA

TRUSTEES PRESENT: Mr. Ricky Lyons

Dr. John Grosskopf

Mr. Travis Coker

Mrs. Sandra Haas

Mr. David Howell

Mr. Billy Washington

Mr. Al Williams

Mr. Gary Wright

STAFF PRESENT: Larry Akers

Tyler Coody

Aaron Franklin, Recording Technician

Dani Mays

Traci McClung

Jennifer Page

Micah Rodgers

Kristin Summers

Michelle Wheeler, Recording Secretary

Mr. Rob Sniffen, Board Attorney

VISITORS PRESENT: Edna Ealy, Diane Williams

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by Chair Lyons, who asked Mr. Billy Washington to open the meeting with prayer and lead the pledge of allegiance.

**MOTION:** (Haas/Williams) That the District Board of Trustees adopts the agenda as presented. Hearing no objections, the motion carried by general consent.

**MOTION:** (Wright/Williams) That the District Board of Trustees adopts the minutes for the June 18, 2024, Budget Workshop and the August 20, 2024, regular meeting as presented. Hearing no objections, the motion carried by general consent.

**PUBLIC INPUT**

Dr. Grosskopf stated there have been no requests for public input.

**ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**

Associate Dean Summers presented following for approval:

**MOTION:** (Haas/Wright) That the District Board of Trustees approves to permit the President to waive the application fee for two recruitment events, one in the fall semester and one in the spring semester, with each event spanning a maximum of 31 days. Should these events result in a positive impact in enrollment, it is also recommended that the Board allows for the President’s discretion to continue to waive the application fee for these two recruitment events each semester. This recommendation will help determine if a focused recruitment effort promoting a waived application fee can positively impact enrollment. NFC Staff will report back to the Board on the outcome of these two semester events. Mr. Coker asked how much revenue we would be forgoing by waiving these fees and Mr. Rodgers estimated between $2,000 and $3,000. The motion carried unanimously.

**CAREER AND WORKFORCE EDUCATION**

**MOTION:** (Coker/Williams) That the District Board of Trustees for North Florida College approves the Career Pathways Articulation Agreement with Suwannee County. This recommendation will allow seamless articulation from Suwannee County and NFC to articulate credit into various programs. The motion carried unanimously.

**ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUSINESS SERVICES**

Dean Micah Rodgers presented the following items:

**MOTION:** (Coker/Washington) That the District Board of Trustees approves the Warrant List for August 2024. The motion carried unanimously.

The Statement of Account for August and the Current Funds Unrestricted Revenue and Expenditure Reports were presented as informational items. The Florida Prime account is earning 5.48%.

**MOTION: (**Haas/Coker) That the District Board of Trustees approves the attached Carryforward Spending Plan to get the fund balance down to 5%. The plan includes remodeling and adding CWE space and expanding NFC’s footprint in our district. The plan also includes a contingency amount for State-declared emergencies. The motion carried unanimously.

**DEVELOPMENT AND EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

Director Traci McClung reviewed the Foundation’s monthly scholarship report (attached) for September 2024.

**PRESIDENT’S HIGHLIGHTS**

Dr. Grosskopf gave an overview of the following:

* He shared that a significant modification to the FCS Funding Model was presented last week during a COP call called the Floor-First Funding Model that introduces a college per FTE funding component.  It was stated that the Commissioner of Education would like to codify this model into statute.
* Our office received a request for Trustee Attendance for the last 17 months.
* The COP is requesting $200 Million in new operational dollars. The FCS’s request will be $100 million in new operation dollars.
* NFC has responded to two requests from the Commissioner seeking to identify usage of textbooks created by specific authors or materials produced by specific publishing companies.
* State Health Insurance is moving forward with more information being disseminated via the State’s Website.
  + The institution can no longer enroll employees, but there is a long enrollment window. October 14-November 1 @ 6pm. (2 weeks)
  + In addition to helping employees migrate to the new coverage, NFC must cover the cost until there is a fiscal solution.
* Prohibition of firearms on campus will see political challenge this upcoming session due to rising anti-semitism on college campuses nationally
* Provided a review of election results impacting local delegation, and district superintendents. There will be significant turnover among our district education partners.
* Upcoming Events
  + Sep 23-27 QEP Trainings – will reach out to trustees for one-on-one sessions
  + Oct 14-17 SACSCOC Onsite Visit at Madison, Perry, and Live Oak
  + AFC Joint Conference Orlando – Trustees invited deadline to book October 5

Mr. Washington asked if the President could send him the details on the Floor First Funding Model.

**ATTORNEY TIME**

Mr. Rob Sniffen shared that there is no ongoing litigation and asked if the President could be dismissed as per tradition for the Board to discuss the details of his contract. President Grosskopf was excused, and the Board discussed some options for revising his contract. Tyler Coody presented two options.

**MOTION:**(Washington/Haas) That the District Board of Trustees approves Option 2 as presented retroactive to July of 2024 to align with the pay increases that were given to the rest of the staff at that time. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Coody will revise the contract as discussed and bring that back to the next meeting for the Board’s final approval.

**GOOD OF THE ORDER**

Mrs. Haas shared that her Godson had a wonderful experience at when enrolling NFC after being treated poorly at neighboring colleges. He is thrilled with our beautiful campus and our warm family culture. She shared that he felt like a person at NFC, not just a number.

Chair Lyons then announced that the next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 15, 2024, at 5:30 pm in Madison, FL. Mr. Al Williams was asked to pray before dinner and the meeting was adjourned at 6:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dr. John Grosskopf Ricky Lyons

President Chair

/mmw