



The Peninsula's Community College

Thomas Nelson Community College Board

Wednesday, February 17, 2021
Virtual Meeting 5:00 P.M.

MINUTES NO. 438

PRESENT:

Ms. Mary Bunting
Ms. Izabela Cieszynski
Dr. Joyce Jarrett
Mr. Michael Kuhns
Mr. John W. McMillan, Jr.
Ms. Mary Ann Maimone

Mr. Allan Melton
Mr. Jonathan Romero
Ms. Elizabeth Tai
Mr. Scott VanVoorhees
Dr. Vince Warren
Dr. Donna Woods

ABSENT:

Mr. Augustus Owens

STAFF AND GUESTS:

Mr. Franz Albertini, Workforce Development
Dr. Porter Brannon, President
Dr. Lynda Byrd-Poller, Human Resources
Ms. Cyndie Callaway, Institutional Advancement
Mr. Steven R. Carpenter, Finance & Administration
Ms. Erica Charity, Office of the President
Ms. Marian Clifton, Public Safety, Allied Health and Human Services
Mr. Dave Coffey, Police Science Department
Mr. Tim Crittenden, Finance & Administration
Dr. Charles DeSassure, Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics
Ms. Beth Dickens, Mid-Level Managers
Dr. Susan English, Academic Affairs / Workforce Development
Mr. Steven Felker, Institutional Research and Effectiveness
Mr. Matt Hedrick, Learning Resources
Mr. Matt Jones, Daily Press
Mr. Paul Long, Public Safety, Allied Health and Human Services
Chief Kelvin Maxwell, Campus Police
Mr. Ed Morris, Mechanical Engineering Technology
Mr. Damond Pope, Information Technology
Dr. Kris Rarig, Student Affairs
Ms. Keisha Samuels, Human Services
Ms. Stacey Schneider, History Department
Ms. Michelle Shonk, College Support Staff Association
Dr. Patrick Smith, Psychology Department
Mr. Paul Tessier, Math Department
Dr. Lauren Williams, Academic Affairs

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Roll Call

By roll call vote in open session, the following members were in attendance:

Ms. Mary Bunting
Ms. Izabela Cieszynski
Dr. Joyce Jarrett
Mr. Michael Kuhns
Mr. John W. McMillan, Jr.
Ms. Mary Ann Maimone
Mr. Allan Melton
Mr. Jonathan Romero
Ms. Elizabeth Tai
Mr. Scott VanVoorhees
Dr. Vince Warren
Dr. Donna Woods

B. Approval of Minutes for December 16, 2020

It was moved (E. Tai) and seconded (A. Melton) that the Thomas Nelson Community College Board approve the December 16, 2020, Board minutes [No. 437] as presented.

By roll call vote the following members approved the motion.

Ms. Mary Bunting, Ms. Izabela Cieszynski, Dr. Joyce Jarrett, Mr. Michael Kuhns, Mr. John W. McMillan, Jr., Ms. Mary Ann Maimone, Mr. Allan Melton, Mr. Jonathan Romero, Ms. Elizabeth Tai, Mr. Scott VanVoorhees, Dr. Vince Warren, Dr. Donna Woods

The motion was approved.

II. CHAIR ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Public Comments

Dr. Patrick Smith read a letter from the Social Justice & Societal Change committee asking the board to consider a name change.

We, the members of the Social Justice and Societal Change Committee, officially support changing the name of Thomas Nelson Community College. Our College name serves as a constant reminder of, and association with, the racial oppression Thomas Nelson, Jr. perpetuated and personally benefitted from. The call for the removal of Thomas Nelson from our institutional name is not a demand to erase or change our history, but rather recognizes a more complete history, which includes the experiences of African Americans. We demand an end to the celebration of a historical figure representative of values incongruous with core values of our community college.

We support this name change not as an isolated action, but as a first step in perpetuating institutional changes in our College to create a safe, respectful, and meaningful environment for all employees, students, alumni, and the residents of our community. We have carefully reviewed the facts presented about our College's namesake, Thomas Nelson, Jr. We are aware of his connection to the American Revolution and to the inception of our country's government. We know Nelson, Jr. held several important positions and offices in Virginia during his lifetime and we acknowledge these are typically the elements of a legacy that makes a historical figure such as Thomas Nelson, Jr. worthy of being immortalized in the naming of buildings or lands to be used by the public for generations to come.

However, Nelson's legacy is also that of a man who benefitted tremendously from the wealth, privilege, and position of his family. Thomas Nelson and his family came to their wealth through the enslavement of human beings, and Thomas Nelson, Jr. routinely bought and sold hundreds of enslaved people in his lifetime. This is well documented in Nelson's own papers, including his will. Thomas Nelson, Jr. vigorously advertised substantial rewards for the return, capture, or imprisonment of slaves that had fled from slavery and he did so in the newspaper of record, The Virginia Gazette. Upon Nelson's death, every one of the people he owned at that time, save his blacksmith who was granted freedom, were transferred as possessions to his family members or sold to settle Nelson's substantial debts. All of this information is publicly available.

We do not believe this institution should continue to honor a man who fought so powerfully for freedom from England, yet relegated thousands of human beings to a life of enslavement for his personal enrichment. To have our College named for someone who did not recognize the humanity of African American people and who willfully participated in the horrors of slavery throughout his lifetime is not respectful of our former and current students, faculty, staff, and surrounding community.

As one of the largest institutions in the Virginia Community College System, we take seriously our mission to change lives, empower students to succeed, and enhance the civic and economic vitality of the Peninsula. We, by signing below, respectfully ask for the College's name to be changed to demonstrate our commitment to our core values.

B. Executive Committee Meeting

The College Board Executive Committee met on January 29 and are developing a plan for the Presidential Evaluation Process. The plan includes the following:

- Input from the president's direct reports
- Annual goal setting process
- Full Board approval of the evaluation process

C. Report from the College Board Liaison to the Thomas Nelson Educational Foundation Board of Directors

Mr. McMillan stated that there is no report because the foundation board did not meet since our last meeting.

D. Appointment of Nominating Committee for Chair and Vice Chair

- Ms. Mary Bunting (Lead)
- Dr. Donna Woods
- Mr. John McMillan

E. Report from the College and Facilities Naming Task Force - Ms. Callaway and Ms. Cieszynski

Ms. Cieszynski and Ms. Callaway discussed the work of the College & Facilities Name Task Force. This task force is not making a recommendation to the College Board because it has 6 College Board members on it.

There were several avenues that were taken to acquire information with the goal of ensuring the College Board had sufficient information. Historical information was used and presented during several town halls to constituency groups community members, College Council, and to this College Board. This historical information was made available and posted to our website and used as part of the context for two surveys. Mr. Felker reviewed the survey results of those who chose to participate from the community and students.

Ms. Clifton informed the board of the efforts of the outreach subcommittee. This committee met with community leaders three times and discussed some of the issues from Professor Schneider's historic research.

It was moved (I. Cieszynski) and seconded (A. Melton) that the Thomas Nelson Community College Board recommends that the name of the college name be changed to a name that more appropriately reflects our geographic service area and further recommends that the that State bear the costs associated with renaming.

By roll call vote the following members approved the motion.

Ms. Mary Bunting, Ms. Izabela Cieszynski, Dr. Joyce Jarrett, Mr. Michael Kuhns, Mr. John W. McMillan, Jr., Ms. Mary Ann Maimone, Mr. Allan Melton, Mr. Jonathan Romero, Ms. Elizabeth Tai, Mr. Scott VanVoorhees, Dr. Vince Warren, Dr. Donna Woods

The motion was approved.

It was moved (J. Jarrett) and seconded (I. Cieszynski) that the Thomas Nelson College Board recommends that Thomas Nelson campuses remain as currently named - the Hampton Campus and the Historic Triangle Campus; and the buildings (other than those to be demolished to make room for the replacement building on the Hampton Campus) be renamed in an appropriate manner.

By roll call vote the following members approved the motion.

Ms. Mary Bunting, Ms. Izabela Cieszynski, Dr. Joyce Jarrett, Mr. Michael Kuhns, Mr. John W. McMillan, Jr., Ms. Mary Ann Maimone, Mr. Allan Melton, Mr. Jonathan Romero, Ms. Elizabeth Tai, Mr. Scott VanVoorhees, Dr. Vince Warren, Dr. Donna Woods

The motion was approved.

III. SNAPSHOT REPORT Current Efforts Around Policing and Police Training Across the VCCS - Mr. Dave Coffey

Dr. English introduced Mr. Coffey to provide the Faculty Snapshot Report. Mr. Coffey and this content area was specifically chosen because the bulk of this evening's conversation stemmed from the national upswell around social justice and equity. Mr. Coffey has been leading statewide conversations around police education.

Mr. Coffey is the program head of the Administration of Justice program and he provided an overview of this program. Mr. Coffey was asked by the Chancellor to help answer the question of what can VCCS do to help bridge the gap to deal with social justice issues.

IV. BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

A. Review of December 10, 2020 Minutes

Ms. Bunting moved that the Thomas Nelson Community College Board approve the Budget and Finance Committee meeting minutes from December 10, 2020, as presented.

By roll call vote the following members approved the motion.

Ms. Mary Bunting, Ms. Izabela Cieszynski, Dr. Joyce Jarrett, Mr. Michael Kuhns, Mr. John W. McMillan, Jr., Ms. Mary Ann Maimone, Mr. Allan Melton, Mr. Jonathan Romero, Ms. Elizabeth Tai, Mr. Scott VanVoorhees, Dr. Vince Warren, Dr. Donna Woods

The motion was approved.

B. Accept for Informational Purposes FY 2021 Local Funds 2nd Quarter Statement

Ms. Bunting moved that the Thomas Nelson Community College Board accept for informational purposes the FY 2021 Local Funds 2nd Quarter Statement, as presented.

By roll call vote the following members approved the motion.

Ms. Mary Bunting, Ms. Izabela Cieszynski, Dr. Joyce Jarrett, Mr. Michael Kuhns, Mr. John W. McMillan, Jr., Ms. Mary Ann Maimone, Mr. Allan Melton, Mr. Jonathan Romero, Ms. Elizabeth Tai, Mr. Scott VanVoorhees, Dr. Vince Warren, Dr. Donna Woods

The motion was approved.

C. Accept for Informational Purposes the FY 2022 Recommended Local Funds Budget

Ms. Bunting moved that the Thomas Nelson Community College Board accept for informational purposes the FY 2022 Recommended Local Funds Budget, as presented.

By roll call vote the following members approved the motion.

Ms. Mary Bunting, Ms. Izabela Cieszynski, Dr. Joyce Jarrett, Mr. Michael Kuhns, Mr. John W. McMillan, Jr., Ms. Mary Ann Maimone, Mr. Allan Melton, Mr. Jonathan Romero, Ms. Elizabeth Tai, Mr. Scott VanVoorhees, Dr. Vince Warren, Dr. Donna Woods

The motion was approved.

D. Accept for Informational Purposes the FY 2021 State Budget 2nd Quarter Report

Ms. Bunting moved that the Thomas Nelson Community College Board accept for informational purposes the FY 2021 State Budget 2nd Quarter Statement, as presented.

By roll call vote the following members approved the motion.

Ms. Mary Bunting, Ms. Izabela Cieszynski, Dr. Joyce Jarrett, Mr. Michael Kuhns, Mr. John W. McMillan, Jr., Ms. Mary Ann Maimone, Mr. Allan Melton, Mr. Jonathan Romero, Ms. Elizabeth Tai, Mr. Scott VanVoorhees, Dr. Vince Warren, Dr. Donna Woods

The motion was approved.

E. Accept for informational Purposes the \$2.00 Tuition Differential for FY 2022

Ms. Bunting moved that the Thomas Nelson Community College Board accept the \$2.00 Tuition Differential for FY 2022, as presented.

By roll call vote the following members approved the motion.

Ms. Mary Bunting, Ms. Izabela Cieszynski, Dr. Joyce Jarrett, Mr. Michael Kuhns, Mr. John W. McMillan, Jr., Ms. Mary Ann Maimone, Mr. Allan Melton, Mr. Jonathan Romero, Ms. Elizabeth Tai, Mr. Scott VanVoorhees, Dr. Vince Warren, Dr. Donna Woods

The motion was approved.

V. CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION, AND STUDENT SERVICES COMMITTEE

A. Review of Meeting Minutes from December 9, 2020

Dr. Jarrett moved that the Thomas Nelson Community College Board approve the Curriculum, Instruction, and Student Services Committee meeting minutes from December 9, 2020, as presented.

By roll call vote the following members approved the motion.

Ms. Mary Bunting, Ms. Izabela Cieszynski, Dr. Joyce Jarrett, Mr. Michael Kuhns, Mr. John W. McMillan, Jr., Ms. Mary Ann Maimone, Mr. Allan Melton, Mr. Jonathan Romero, Ms. Elizabeth Tai, Mr. Scott VanVoorhees, Dr. Vince Warren, Dr. Donna Woods

The motion was approved.

B. Program addition: Architectural Technology Career Studies Certificate (CSC)

Dr. Jarrett moved that the Thomas Nelson Community College Board approve the addition of the Architectural Technology Career Studies Certificate, as presented.

By roll call vote the following members approved the motion.

Ms. Mary Bunting, Ms. Izabela Cieszynski, Dr. Joyce Jarrett, Mr. Michael Kuhns, Mr. John W. McMillan, Jr., Ms. Mary Ann Maimone, Mr. Allan Melton, Mr. Jonathan Romero, Ms. Elizabeth Tai, Mr. Scott VanVoorhees, Dr. Vince Warren, Dr. Donna Woods

The motion was approved.

C. Program addition: Ship Drafting and Design Career Studies Certificate (CSC)

Dr. Jarrett moved that the Thomas Nelson Community College Board approve the addition of the Ship Drafting and Design Career Studies Certificate, as presented.

By roll call vote the following members approved the motion.

Ms. Mary Bunting, Ms. Izabela Cieszynski, Dr. Joyce Jarrett, Mr. Michael Kuhns, Mr. John W. McMillan, Jr., Ms. Mary Ann Maimone, Mr. Allan Melton, Mr. Jonathan Romero, Ms. Elizabeth Tai, Mr. Scott VanVoorhees, Dr. Vince Warren, Dr. Donna Woods

The motion was approved.

D. Program addition: Virtual Machining and Design Career Studies Certificate (CSC)

Dr. Jarrett moved that the Thomas Nelson Community College Board approve the addition of the Ship Drafting and Design Career Studies Certificate, as presented.

By roll call vote the following members approved the motion.

Ms. Mary Bunting, Ms. Izabela Cieszynski, Dr. Joyce Jarrett, Mr. Michael Kuhns, Mr. John W. McMillan, Jr., Ms. Mary Ann Maimone, Mr. Allan Melton, Mr. Jonathan Romero, Ms. Elizabeth Tai, Mr. Scott VanVoorhees, Dr. Vince Warren, Dr. Donna Woods

The motion was approved.

V. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Kuhns recommended in the President's Report occur immediately after the Chair's Report during future College Board meetings.

A. The First 47 Days – Dr. Brannon

Dr. Brannon updated the board on her first 47 days as President of Thomas Nelson and discussed the following essential themes which ties into the first 100 days:

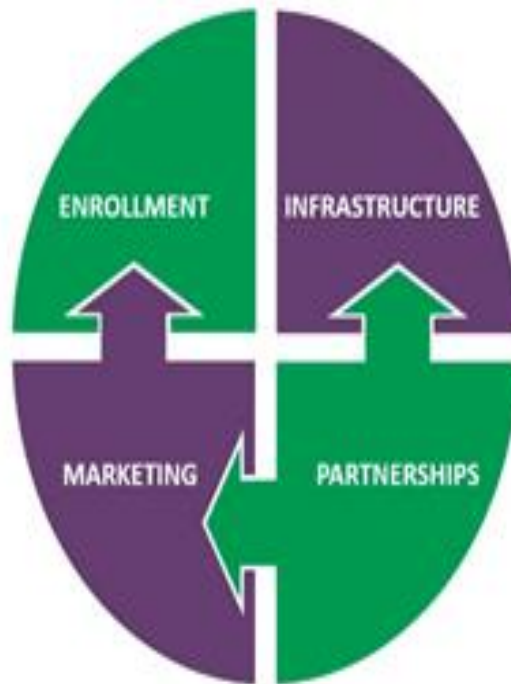
Presidents' First 47 Days

Enrollment

- Commitment to the Community
- Finish Line Initiative – Focussed on Attrition
- Workforce Development Programs
- Data Informed New Student Recruitment

Marketing

- Leveraging Social Media Platforms
- Conducting Marketing Study
- Engaging Faculty, Staff, and Students, Sharing Success Stories that Reaffirm Value of TNCC



Infrastructure

- Design Thinking
- Strategic Planning & Continued Process Improvement
- Technology & Facilities
- Relevant Programming
- Grant Writing Fundraising
- Personnel / Professional Development

Partnerships

- Faculty, Staff and Student Shared Governance
- Community College Workforce Cooperative
- K-12 and Local Universities
- HII – NN
- Military
- Civic and Economic Development Organizations



B. Enrollment Report - Dr. Rarig

**Thomas Nelson Community College
Registration Enrollment Statistics -- Spring 2020 v Spring 2021 As of
February 17, 2021**

Category	Registration Comparison			
	Spring 2020	Spring 2021	Change	
	February 19, 2020	February 17, 2021	N	%
Headcount	6,137	5,398	-739	-12.0
FTES	3,668	3,138	-530	-14.4

Source: VCCS Enrollment Summary Report (VSENSUM)

C. Commencement Update – Dr. Rarig

There will be a virtual Commencement on May13th at 10am on the Thomas Nelson website home page. With the advanced lead time, Dr. Rarig and the commencement committee will do some amazing things.

D. Workforce Development Update - Dr. English

Dr. English commended the workforce development group who are working through a plethora of funding opportunities that our students have. In addition to the REV funding there is also Virginia Ready which gives a \$1,000 incentive to complete the class and the credential. Recently, the state designated additional dollars to cover the first - third of a fast forward class.

As advocates within the localities, one of the great features of the Virginia ready program is a guaranteed interview with an employer. The more employers that participate in the program the more opportunities our students will have. Mr. Albertini and his workforce group have taken all of the student enrollment processes and converted them to be virtual processes.

Dr. English announced a 1.6-million-dollar grant that we were awarded. The focus of the grant is to have trade center in the Greater Williamsburg area. There is a need there so students will not have to travel to Hampton for our trade program.

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

Next College Board Meeting: April 21, 2021, Location TBD, at 5:00 p.m.