

1 10-17-18 Cerritos BOT
2 >> Good evening everyone and
3 welcome to the Cerritos College
4 Board of Trustees Meeting for
5 October 17, 2018. Tonight we
6 will start with a moment of
7 silence. Thank you. Next we
8 will have the Pledge of
9 Allegiance lead by -- I will do
10 it. Please put your hand over
11 your heart. Ready. Begin.
12 >> I pledge allegiance to the
13 flag to the United States of
14 America and to the Republic for
15 which it stands, one nation
16 under God, indivisible, with
17 liberty and justice for all.
18 >> President Lewis: Roll call
19 please.
20 >> Board president Zurich
21 Lewis.
22 >> Here.
23 >> Board Vice President Shin
24 Liu.

25 >> Here.

Sample footer

2

1 >> Board Clerk

2 Camacho-Rodriguez.

3 >> Present.

4 >> Member Carmen Avalos.

5 >> Here.

6 >> Member James Cody Birkey.

7 >> Present.

8 >> Member Marisa Perez.

9 >> Here

10 >> Member Sandra Salazar is

11 absent. Student Trustee Phil

12 Herrera.

13 >> Present

14 >> And President Superintendent

15 Fierro.

16 >> Present.

17 >> President Lewis: All

18 right. With that we quorum. Is

19 there a member of the board

20 wishing to reorganize the agenda

21 in anyway? Seeing none I need

22 to make an attention. It's come

23 to the attention of the board

24 there is an immediate item to be

25 added to closed session with

Sample footer

3

1 real property negotiator and

2 regarding a census track and the

3 lot of the revision that is

4 available to you. Is there any

5 objection to adding this to the

6 closed session? We need a 2/3

7 vote. Seeing no objections we

8 will add it to our closed

9 session.

10 >> I just know in order to add

11 that it had to come after the

12 posting of the agenda and in

13 this case it did, correct.

14 >> October 16 so now we move

15 to -- okay. We need a roll call

16 vote so could you give the roll

17 call please.

18 >> Is there a motion?

19 >> Motion to walk on the

20 additional items that were noted

21 by our President Zurich Lewis.

22 >> President Lewis: Is there
23 a second?
24 >> Second.
25 >> President Lewis: Is there

Sample footer

4

1 any objections to the adoption
2 of said motion? Without
3 objection we will not need a
4 roll call vote and it walks on,
5 so next is the comments from the
6 audience. We have Sam on
7 teaching learning conditions at
8 Cerritos College.
9 >> [INAUDIBLE].
10 >> President Lewis: Yes.
11 Please make sure blue light is
12 on.
13 >> It's on. I'm an older
14 returning student at Cerritos
15 College here, and I have no
16 financial interest whatsoever,
17 no vested interest whatsoever in
18 what is happening with these
19 negotiations for the cost of
20 living adjustment increase

21 request, but I want to say I am
22 here to show my support for the
23 faculty particularly the part
24 time faculty who are a lot of
25 times freeway fliers. They run

Sample footer

5

1 around jumping you know get here
2 to get to the classes on time
3 and their working conditions are
4 our learning conditions. We as
5 students I just want to show my
6 support for the part time
7 faculty and I really hope that
8 the Board of Trustees and the
9 President Superintendent Dr.
10 Fierro will seriously consider
11 the request for the cost of
12 living adjustment. It's just a
13 basic human right for them, and
14 we need to show our support
15 particularly our part time
16 faculty. Also there's an issue
17 about health care, and there
18 needs to be a fund for providing

19 health care when those needs are
20 not met for particularly our
21 part time adjunct faculty, and
22 that's it. I just want to show
23 my support for our hard working
24 part time faculty and all the
25 faculty that teach here at

Sample footer

6

1 Cerritos College. Thank you.
2 [Applause]
3 >> President Lewis: Thank
4 you. Next will be Cesar
5 Hernandez for the Dream Club and
6 expressing support of for
7 undocumented students.
8 >> My name is Cesar Hernandez
9 and on behalf of the Dream Club
10 for the support and the larger
11 Cerritos College community has
12 given the undocumented student
13 population here on campus. It's
14 been a year since the current
15 Administration wanted to end
16 DACA and Cerritos College has
17 lead the way to support all

18 students who wish to better
19 themselves in the community
20 regarding of citizenship status.
21 Dr. Fierro that statement of
22 support that you send out had a
23 tremendous personal impact on
24 myself. At every chance our
25 professors have demonstrated

Sample footer

7

1 their willingness to be allies
2 and we're grateful for that and
3 of course the strongest members
4 are the UndocuAlly Task Force
5 and many events such as the ones
6 that are canned this week. On
7 Monday students were have
8 one-on-one sessions with an
9 immigration lawyer. Yesterday
10 they had the chance to attend
11 workshops and help students
12 apply for the Dream Act and
13 today we were at Falcon Square
14 showing the resources that the
15 campus has to offer undocumented

16 students and as students and
17 staff to sign postcards towards
18 President Trump and the
19 respective Congress person
20 stating their support for
21 immigration reform or a dream
22 act. We did sign most of the
23 ones we get so we left the last
24 few for you guys because we love
25 you guys so much so if you're

Sample footer

8

1 interested ask us. You will get
2 this hipster tattoo that the
3 cool kids have and grateful for
4 the support you have given us.
5 We want to stress for the
6 continued support and eventually
7 lead to a Dream Resource Center
8 that would be of great
9 assistance to our students.
10 Thank you.
11 [Applause]
12 >> President Lewis: Next is
13 Corinne Sutherland on parking
14 issues.

15 >> [INAUDIBLE] [Off Mic] he's
16 trained. Hello, hello. Hello
17 people. All right. Smile
18 people. You're worst than my
19 students. All right. Parking
20 issue number one I have a
21 problem and I don't know if
22 anybody else does and the
23 Employee of the Month is way too
24 low and looks like it's open so
25 you start to go for it and then

Sample footer

9

1 we find out it's been assigned
2 so is there way to make that
3 sign taller so we can eye ball
4 it and able to go around and get
5 parking on that. In lot three
6 that speed bump, more like a
7 speed mountain. It's high and
8 nice to get it shaved down a
9 little bit and cracked up on the
10 motorcycle the other day, and
11 yes he does ride and if there's
12 a sign that says "slow down" or

13 do something and I would hate
14 somebody to crack something and
15 it's high. Not everyone slow
16 down and some people pull up and
17 you don't want to have a
18 situation with a car and last
19 but not least he supports COLA
20 because he gets a little
21 allowance from me to buy dog
22 biscuits. Cheer up people, my
23 word and health care --
24 [INAUDIBLE] he supports too.
25 Bye.

Sample footer

10

1 [Applause]
2 >> President Lewis: Thank
3 you. Next is Juan Carlos on
4 COLA.
5 >> Hello. Hello. Okay. It's
6 kind of sensitive. My name is
7 Juan Carlos. I'm a field
8 representative for [INAUDIBLE]
9 office and I come to the board
10 to read a letter signed by
11 himself. Dear members of the

12 Board of Trustees and honored to
13 represent the Cerritos Community
14 College District and I am
15 writing in strong support of
16 Cerritos College Faculty and
17 their request to receive a cost
18 of living adjustment otherwise
19 known as COLA. The faculty
20 dedicate their time efforts and
21 talents to our students and it
22 is imperative they're ensured a
23 fair wage and respect and ask to
24 honor the COLA and recognize the
25 [INAUDIBLE] for the community.

Sample footer

11

1 Thank you for the time and
2 consideration of the matter. If
3 you have concerns reach out to
4 the District Office.
5 [Applause]
6 >> President Lewis: Our next
7 speaker is Dr. Ted stoles on the
8 CCFF contract.
9 >> Good evening President

10 Fierro, President Lewis, Board
11 Members, union sisters and
12 brothers and my son Thomas who
13 is not doing his homework
14 tonight to come support us. I
15 am a philosophy instructor. I
16 have been here for 15 years.
17 I'm the former President of the
18 Union and at one time I had
19 hair. The Cerritos College
20 Faculty Federation Collective
21 Bargaining Agreement with the
22 district is not a business
23 transaction or contract. It is
24 at any rate should be more like
25 a constitution and bill of

Sample footer

12

1 rights. It concerns the terms
2 and knows can of faculty
3 employment at Cerritos College
4 and so it should describe our
5 assignments, work load and
6 benefits and wages and grievance
7 remedies for the
8 misinterpretation or

9 misapplication or violation of
10 the provisions and should
11 identify what constitutes the
12 basis for faculty discipline or
13 termination which is called just
14 cause in most faculty contract
15 that I am aware of and the union
16 file a charge for the district's
17 refusal to negotiate a common
18 place article in any union
19 contract. What constitute the
20 basis for discipline or
21 termination of faculty in this
22 particular case? Our Collective
23 Bargaining Agreement is a
24 legally binding document entered
25 into good faith and enforce and

Sample footer

13

1 the it should be more, a moral
2 document, the highest express,
3 the Master Plan for the faculty
4 duties rights and benefits.
5 Indeed it should identify and
6 codify the highest and also

7 principles of the teaching
8 profess. It should be in a way
9 -- it should be a way to measure
10 our school stature and success
11 as an institution of higher
12 education. It should make us
13 the envy of all districts in
14 California. Finally and most of
15 all however after 15 long years
16 it should have been completed by
17 now. Thank you for your time.
18 [Applause]
19 >> President Lewis: Our next
20 speaker is Professor McNulty.
21 >> [Off Mic].
22 >> Our next speaker is Pilar
23 Mata.
24 >> So I am reading a statement
25 from adjunct counselor Lisa who

Sample footer

14

1 wasn't able to be here tonight.
2 "Good evening to the Board of
3 Trustees and to all present.
4 First foremost I am grateful to
5 work at Cerritos College and for

6 the opportunity tonight. To me
7 achieving seniority in a faculty
8 positions means the following.
9 Students have been served and
10 professional skills to serve
11 students at the highest level
12 have been refined. Knowledge of
13 campus and community resources
14 has been attained so that
15 students can quickly be referred
16 to the help they need to make
17 their college journeys as easy
18 as possible. Vital
19 relationships with students have
20 been developed and maintained to
21 enhance a sense of connectedness
22 and community here at Cerritos
23 College. As we know this foster
24 student retention and
25 completion. I am grateful for

Sample footer

15

1 the seniority rights article. I
2 appreciate that this article was
3 negotiated and agreed upon

4 between the faculty and
5 Administration at Cerritos
6 College. To me the seniority
7 rights article means that the
8 Cerritos College Administration
9 is acknowledging and supporting
10 faculty who have effectively
11 served students and contributed
12 to Cerritos College in positive
13 ways. To me it is Cerritos
14 College Administration saying
15 the following: Thank you
16 faculty for your length of good
17 service and we want you to here.
18 Just as we want students to feel
19 they're part of a supportive
20 community here at Cerritos
21 College we as the Cerritos
22 College Administration want you
23 our faculty to feel this too.
24 Providing me as a Cerritos
25 College counseling faculty

Sample footer

1 member adequate and consistent
2 hours each semester allows me to

3 continue my good work with
4 students. It allows me to be as
5 available as possible to address
6 students' needs leading to
7 student success. Lastly it
8 allows me to work in the career
9 they have worked hard to achieve
10 and do what I love at Cerritos
11 College, a place I am happy so
12 to serve and from Lisa an
13 adjunct counselor on seniority.

14 [Applause]

15 >> President Lewis: Our final
16 speaker is Paula.

17 >> Good evening Board Members
18 and everyone present. I am
19 Paula. I'm a full time faculty
20 librarian here at Cerritos
21 College and I just wanted to
22 take a couple of minutes to talk
23 about the same issue of
24 inequality for our adjuncts. I
25 know you heard it from many of

Sample footer

1 us before but I hope this time
2 how unjustly and immorally you
3 have been treating them. I feel
4 obligated to share my personal
5 life tonight to shed more light
6 to this issue. I had just
7 arrived from Brazil when I
8 started taking classes in the
9 year at Cerritos College in 2000
10 with my boyfriend. We both
11 graduated from here and worked
12 at different capacities here at
13 the college and why we love this
14 campus so much. Well, that boy
15 is now my husband and he is now
16 one of your adjunct in the
17 Philosophy Department and we are
18 private -- we are expecting our
19 first child, so but we have been
20 faculty members here for several
21 years but unfortunately we face
22 very different realities. He
23 can only teach here and dedicate
24 the amount of time he does for
25 his classes and students because

Sample footer

1 we're married. That's the
2 truth. Even though my husband
3 is very good at his subject. I
4 don't think he would be saying
5 this to tonight but I am saying
6 this. I see him spending hours
7 of his own time to learn the
8 lesson and teach the students
9 here just like many of the
10 adjuncts I see him assisting
11 students outside the classroom
12 and office hours by reading
13 their papers for projects
14 outside the classroom, giving
15 feedback and advice, replying to
16 Emails. Now is he fade for any
17 of that? No he's not and I am
18 not mentioning grading too,
19 right. now this is the thing
20 that blows my mind. How unjust
21 is that that our part timers
22 make roughly 44% of what our
23 full timers make? 44%. Talk
24 about unequal pay for equal
25 work. How's that possible for a

1 college that claims to be so
2 progressive in so many ways?
3 How do we want our under paid
4 adjuncts to motivate the
5 students to dream big? That's
6 impossible. I don't understand
7 why adjuncts are treated with so
8 much disrespect. Dr. Fierro
9 when you proudly talked about
10 the college accolades during
11 convocation I am sure we owe a
12 lot of that to the part timers.
13 They're tired of hearing the
14 appreciation but they get the
15 same old paycheck. You're lucky
16 they're stage this long during
17 this situation. Most are them
18 are scraping by teaching at
19 multiple campuses and not enough
20 to pay for insurance and rent
21 and food. If you account for
22 the time their salaries are
23 lower than people work at
24 Traders Joe's. That's the

25 truth. Is this how the college

Sample footer

20

1 shows appreciation to them?
2 Show them the money they really
3 need, so maybe you don't want to
4 hear this but I can guarantee to
5 you by not giving them enough
6 you're compromising the quality
7 of education our students are
8 getting so my point is this. I
9 don't think a raise for them is
10 enough. I think they have the
11 very same qualifications as the
12 full time faculty so they
13 deserve the same wages period,
14 nothing less except pay parity
15 for the adjuncts. How can this
16 be disputed? And I urge you to
17 make drastic changes to the
18 salaries and benefits. Thank
19 you.
20 [Applause]
21 >> President Lewis: And now
22 we will go to reports and
23 comments from constituent

24 groups. Is there a constituent

25 group wishing to give a report?

Sample footer

21

1 Faculty Senate President April

2 Griffin.

3 >> I'm going to talk a little

4 bit about the ten plus one so

5 from an academic standpoint

6 faculty are important to higher

7 education. We provide quality

8 instruction to students and as

9 stated in Ed Code we have a

10 variety of functions that are

11 commonly referred to as ten plus

12 one and cited in Cerritos

13 College policy which is titled

14 participation in local decision

15 making. In accordance with

16 Title five the board recognized

17 that the Faculty Senate is the

18 representative of all faculty at

19 Cerritos College and the primary

20 function of the Senate is make

21 recommendations to the Board of

- 22 Trustees and Administration with
- 23 respect to development and
- 24 implementation of policy
- 25 regarding academic and

Sample footer

22

- 1 professional matters on the
- 2 college. These are included but
- 3 not limited to. Curriculum
- 4 including establishing course
- 5 content and prerequisite and
- 6 courses within disciplines,
- 7 certificate and policy and
- 8 educational development
- 9 standards and policies
- 10 concerning student preparation
- 11 and success, college governance
- 12 structure as related to faculty
- 13 roles, faculty involvement in
- 14 the accreditation process
- 15 including self studies and
- 16 annual reports, policies for
- 17 faculty professional development
- 18 activities, processes for
- 19 program review, processes for
- 20 institutional planning and

- 21 budget development, selection
- 22 evaluation and retention of
- 23 faculty and the plus one other
- 24 academic and professional
- 25 matters as mutually agreed upon.

Sample footer

23

- 1 The Board of Trustees and
- 2 Administrators will consult
- 3 collegially with the Senate when
- 4 adopting procedures and policies
- 5 with the forementioned matters.
- 6 However in curriculum degree
- 7 requirements and grading
- 8 policies and educational program
- 9 development the board and
- 10 Administrators should rely on
- 11 the advice and judgment of
- 12 Faculty Senate or faculty here
- 13 at Cerritos College. So why am
- 14 I talking about this? The ten
- 15 plus one which was strengthened
- 16 by the senate was created to
- 17 fill a vacuum in the community
- 18 college system and other

19 institutions supported the
20 Academic Senate as formal policy
21 recommending bodies for
22 admission standards, degree
23 requirements curriculum
24 development, academic planning
25 and hiring evaluation of

Sample footer

24

1 promotion of academic employees
2 as stated in the 1966 commission
3 of the review of the Master
4 Plan. Ten plus one was created
5 then because we lacked what
6 other institutions had and
7 emphasized the need for full
8 time faculty and in the
9 community colleges respond
10 creatively to the challenges in
11 the decades must have a stable
12 core of full time faculty with
13 long-term commitments to their
14 college. Under current
15 conditions part time faculty no
16 matter how talented are unable
17 to participate in programs

18 design curriculum or advise
19 students and even if they're
20 invited to do so it's impossible
21 if they're teaching at other
22 colleges in order to make a
23 decent living. In 1986 the
24 review of the Master Plan the
25 reviewers recognized it's

Sample footer

25

1 important to have faculty that
2 are dedicated to a college and
3 included in processes and are
4 treated fairly, respected by
5 Administration and Board of
6 Trustees. More than 30 years
7 later we're requiring that
8 creativity again. We face
9 challenges like implementation
10 of Guided Pathways, or student
11 equity and achievement programs.
12 If Cerritos College wants to be
13 successful in the future we need
14 to be successful navigating the
15 quick changing landscape of

16 initiatives so the
17 Administration and board needs
18 to understand respect and
19 support the role of faculty and
20 ten plus one.
21 [Applause]
22 >> President Lewis: Is there
23 any other constituent wishing to
24 give a report? CCFB President
25 Stephanie Rosenblatt.

Sample footer

26

1 >> Good evening. I would like
2 to start by playing a game. I
3 don't know if you guys saw this.
4 This is the inside I know we get
5 it online but it's more
6 impressive in print. It's
7 beautiful actually. My husband
8 brought this home because his
9 parents and a lot of his family
10 live in Dr. Salazar's district
11 and when I flipped through this
12 it's really impressive all the
13 things that we're doing and I
14 loved all of the pictures of

15 students and the different
16 programs that were highlight so
17 this is the game I want to play.
18 I am going to talk about one of
19 the programs highlighted or
20 awarded in this publication and
21 you guys are going to tell me
22 the faculty member that works in
23 the program. Okay. Can we do
24 it? We can all play. All
25 right. Okay. Cerritos College

Sample footer

27

1 honored is a California strong
2 work force star. Gold stars go
3 to dental hygiene?
4 >> [Off Mic].
5 >> All right. Yeah.
6 >> [Off Mic].
7 >> Okay. Registered Nursing.
8 >> [Off Mic].
9 >> Nice. All right. Falcon
10 restaurant now able for online
11 reservations.
12 >> [Off Mic].

13 >> I guess I eat there a lot
14 more than you guys do. Men's
15 and women's tennis pulls off
16 rare dual title. Anybody up on
17 sports coaches?
18 >> [Off Mic].
19 >> That's terrible you guys.
20 You're not doing so well on this
21 game. And then we won the
22 excellence award so we won the
23 2018 excellence award for the
24 Cerritos Complete program which
25 features high touch

Sample footer

28

1 interventions. Who help
2 designed the high touch
3 interventions?
4 >> [Off Mic].
5 >> All right. All right. So
6 thank you. I made my point so
7 we do a lot of great stuff here.
8 We do a lot of great stuff here.
9 We do it together but when April
10 was talking about ten plus one
11 the faculty are responsible for

12 developing the curriculum. In
13 this magazine we talk for three
14 years in a row we celebrated the
15 largest graduation class and
16 that's true but our students
17 stay on average four to six
18 years, right, so that work
19 happened six or four years ago
20 and we're seeing the fruit now
21 and we see it without support
22 because I know there's a lot of
23 staff support to facilitate the
24 degrees and certificates
25 happening, right, but they

Sample footer

29

1 wouldn't happen without us
2 developing curriculum and
3 without us collaborating
4 together and working as
5 professionals, right. this
6 place can't run out us and the
7 state recognizes that and the
8 whole situation with the
9 negotiations is getting a little

10 bit frustrating because we have
11 been in negotiations for a year.
12 We spent the last three weeks in
13 side bar conversations according
14 to the special forces which
15 would be Kimberly and Solomon we
16 got close to an innovative
17 agreement that would help us go
18 forward in a way that would be
19 respectful to everyone that
20 works here, but now here we are
21 on October 17, 2018 and feels
22 like the health care of 30 of
23 the high needs colleagues is
24 being held hostage because we
25 haven't reached an agreement but

Sample footer

30

1 they need the expensive plan
2 because if you look at the break
3 down of what takes what plan
4 people take what they need and a
5 third take the cheapest plan and
6 some take the expensive plan
7 because they have needs for the
8 health care and in the statement

9 from the speaker last time it's
10 not free even though the college
11 pace for the plan. There's
12 still a lot of out of pocket
13 expenses and we came last week
14 and shared some highly personal
15 stories and at the end of the
16 night I was left with a hallow
17 feeling and I called out people
18 to come out and speak and
19 probably like me they practiced
20 the speech before they got here
21 and were cool and they broke
22 down talking something at work
23 and scary in the family and why
24 did I have to do that? Doesn't
25 seem to be necessary to keep

Sample footer

31

1 health care that we feel we
2 already have earned. We also on
3 top of health care that we all
4 need, not just the full timers
5 and keep the health care that we
6 have did figure out to pay for

7 it for the part time colleagues
8 and equal pay for equal work.
9 We can make a jump towards the
10 future and treat them the way
11 they deserve to be treated but
12 aside from that we need salaries
13 to keep up with inflation and
14 like Juan Carlos said passing
15 COLA is a no brainer and the
16 state gave it to us for that
17 purpose and the CPI and 3.9%.
18 For housing it's 5.3. Are there
19 other people besides me renting?
20 Oh yeah; right? Dennis. Thank
21 you. I feel better because I
22 was the only one.
23 >> [Off Mic].
24 >> Yeah. So rent has gone up
25 more than that. Like my rent in

Sample footer

32

1 Long Beach went up so much and I
2 would have canceled but I can't
3 and I have to live somewhere and
4 housing is 5.3%. We need what
5 we're calling COLA plus because

6 just COLA is not going to fix
7 the inflation problem for us.
8 It's not go going to help us
9 help us catch up for the raises
10 we didn't get during the
11 recession and help with the
12 inequities with pay and we will
13 get more than we have now now is
14 the time to fix things and
15 you're people that want to fix
16 things. I think you're
17 innovators and did the work to
18 get to office and stand in the
19 way of working people keeping
20 what they have or helping part
21 timers try to get the respect
22 that they deserve and one of the
23 ways is pay people appropriately
24 because the state pays the same
25 for each student in the class

Sample footer

33

1 whether taught by a full time or
2 part time instructor.
3 >> Could you summarize your

4 comments?
5 >> Sure. What we're asking
6 for is not breaking the bank and
7 less than 50% of what we will
8 get next year and that's less
9 than the statutory requirement,
10 less than our proportionate
11 share and willing to share the
12 risk and adopt a revenue sharing
13 formula worked in San Diego for
14 a decade and liked by the CBO
15 there and the Chancellor and the
16 unions. That's all we want. We
17 don't want to put anything that
18 put the district at risk
19 financially because we love here
20 and love the students and don't
21 want to bankrupt the place that
22 we committed so much of our time
23 to. Thank you.
24 [Applause]
25 >> President Lewis: Thank

Sample footer

34

1 you. Thank you.

2 [GAVEL]

3 >> Please order. Order.
4 Thank you. Thank you. Good
5 job. Would you like to give a
6 presentation?
7 >> [Off Mic].
8 >> President Lewis: Fair
9 enough. Next we move to the
10 Institutional Presentation, the
11 recognition of the Classified
12 Employee of the Month. Robert
13 Contreras who unfortunately
14 could not make it here but we
15 have a wonderful plaque for him
16 right here. If you can see this
17 Robert it's waiting for you.
18 [Applause]
19 >> President Lewis: Next is
20 the Institutional Presentation
21 of the overview of retirement
22 costs of which our Vice
23 President Felipe Lopez will give
24 a report.
25 >> Felipe Lopez: Hi. Good

Sample footer

1 evening so today I am here to
2 talk about retirement costs and
3 so on the agenda -- go through
4 this real quick, so two items
5 I'm going to talk about. First
6 retirement costs and then under
7 the retirement costs I'm going
8 to talk a little bit about
9 governmental standing accounting
10 standards board 45 and also 75
11 and move into pension costs and
12 then with under pension costs
13 talk a little bit about GASB
14 statement number 68. Okay. So
15 just for some information
16 regarding retirement costs.
17 Currently as of July 1, 2018
18 Cerritos College had
19 approximately 368 retirees.
20 Those employees are what we call
21 non active employees and have a
22 break down showing to you of who
23 make up those. About 173
24 faculty, 170 -- 147 classified
25 and six confidentials and 42 --

Sample footer

1 >> Hold on a moment Dr. Lopez.
2 Is this available on the --
3 yeah, unfortunately it's not
4 available on the website.
5 >> Felipe Lopez: Give me -- I
6 will wait.
7 >> President Lewis: Yeah,
8 give us a second real quick.
9 >> Carmen Avalos: I feel we
10 should invite the faculty back.
11 We welcome them to listen to the
12 presentation as well. It would
13 be great.
14 >> Dr. Fierro: You should
15 have it in your Email now and
16 should be up in a second.
17 >> Carmen Avalos: On our
18 website?
19 >> President Lewis: In the
20 Emails.
21 >> Dr. Fierro: It should be
22 on the website in a minute.
23 >> Carmen Avalos: Okay I'm
24 sorry you said non active in
25 this case?

1 >> Retirees so we classify
2 employees as active employees
3 which are current employees and
4 then non active employees and
5 retirees.

6 >> [INAUDIBLE].

7 >> Felipe Lopez: Yes.

8 >> I was looking at numbers
9 earlier and 50% of the overall
10 salaries and benefits amount --
11 I'm sorry. 33% is benefits such
12 as these; right?

13 >> [Off Mic].

14 >> Yes.

15 >> So these are continued
16 obligations of faculty and staff
17 who are no longer active at
18 Cerritos College?

19 >> Right , right.

20 >> President Lewis: Refresh the
21 page Trustee Avalos.

22 >> Felipe Lopez: So you got
23 it? All right. So part of the
24 overall benefit package and this

25 is the second bullet part of the

Sample footer

38

1 benefit package to all full time
2 employees we provide some amount
3 of compensation or contribute to
4 their health premiums for those
5 that qualify for coverage, so
6 Cerritos College currently
7 provides up to \$2,400 annually
8 per person towards the CalPERS
9 Medi-Cal plan premium that we
10 offer here at Cerritos. Those
11 costs to the district, the
12 previous Fiscal Year 2017-18
13 totaled \$859,000 nearly and then
14 we're estimating the next fiscal
15 year our current fiscal year of
16 18-19 that would increase to
17 about \$883,000 towards retiree
18 health premiums.
19 >> Just to clarify why
20 wouldn't a retiree qualify for
21 coverage and out of the retirees
22 what percentage do qualify?
23 >> Of the 368 they're

24 currently in our plan.

25 >> [Off Mic].

Sample footer

39

1 >> All of these. What I mean

2 for those that qualify for

3 coverage for individual to

4 qualify for this there's a

5 couple of things they actually

6 have to retire either through

7 CalPERS or CalSTRS and they have

8 to retire in our CalPERS medical

9 plan, and so if you retired and

10 choose not to utilize our health

11 care you're not provided this

12 benefit. You have to actually

13 retire within the CalPERS

14 medical plan to be able to

15 qualify.

16 >> So quick question. Of the

17 folks that utilize it the reason

18 they utilize it until they

19 qualify for another medical plan

20 such as Medicare?

21 >> This is provided lifetime.

22 >> Carmen Avalos: Oh okay.
23 >> Felipe Lopez: So at a
24 certain age and Medicare the
25 premiums would decrease but we

Sample footer

40

1 contribute through the life of
2 the individual.
3 >> [Off Mic].
4 >> Yes we do.
5 >> [Off Mic].
6 >> No, the supplemental is
7 different.
8 >> [Off Mic] -- so is that
9 amount is lifetime but what
10 happens is that the rates before
11 65 they have certain amount but
12 once they go into the Medicare
13 they can change the plan and the
14 rates go down, but the district
15 contribution remains the same.
16 Does that make sense?
17 >> Carmen Avalos: Yes that
18 makes sense and there is a
19 defined amount and you're
20 contributing \$200 a month?

21 >> Felipe Lopez: Yes.
22 >> Sorry. Why is there such a
23 big jump between the two years?
24 The actual in 2017 and our --
25 [INAUDIBLE].

Sample footer

41

1 >> So the current year 18-19
2 year that we're in also includes
3 or assumes the premium rates for
4 the individuals who just took
5 the cert, the early retirement
6 incentive.
7 >> So there's a bump?
8 >> Yes there's a bump of
9 retirees that went in so that
10 went into effect so that's why
11 you see the bump.
12 >> Is there a -- I mean
13 without sounding morbid is there
14 a number of folks that at a
15 certain year that are part of
16 this obligation? Like do we
17 have an aggregation of folks who
18 are retired within a certain age

19 bracket? Does that make sense
20 what I am asking? In other
21 words are we -- is there any
22 variation on this number?
23 Because it's getting close to a
24 million dollars a year, not that
25 -- I well, I think we should be

Sample footer

42

1 diligent on our obligations but
2 just noting the size of it. Is
3 there any --
4 >> The age population currently
5 or --
6 >> What I am trying to estimate
7 is what the long-term obligation
8 is on this if 20 years from now
9 is there any difference in the
10 number of folks that we
11 anticipate would be receiving
12 it?
13 >> Right. Well as I get
14 through a little bit more of
15 this so we actually go through
16 an actuarial study that does
17 this for us, looks at different

18 assumptions, mortality rates and
19 so on.
20 >> [INAUDIBLE].
21 >> So ideally that depending
22 on the age population within the
23 retirees yeah you would amount
24 an increasing in the amount of
25 premiums that we're paying out

Sample footer

43

1 so as that pool increases
2 depending how many drop off so
3 there's some assumptions used
4 when they go through this to
5 make those notations, but yeah
6 if you look over the history of
7 this this has steadily increased
8 over the years.
9 >> Okay.
10 >> Felipe Lopez: So some of
11 the reasons why we're talking
12 about retiree costs so in 2004
13 just to kind of give you a
14 little history in 2004 the
15 governmental accounting

16 standards board otherwise known
17 as GASB issued statement number
18 45. That statement was the
19 accounting and financial
20 reporting for employers for post
21 employment benefits other than
22 pensions that we call OPEB.
23 This statement was required for
24 Cerritos College to recognize
25 its OPEB obligations and the

Sample footer

44

1 financials for the year end
2 June 30, 2009 so when this was
3 announced in 2004 this was
4 coming down Cerritos College in
5 2005 reacted by opening a
6 retiree health benefit fund.
7 And the reason why this was open
8 is to start setting dollars
9 aside to be able to pay these
10 retiree health premiums down the
11 road, and so since now it was
12 going to be a financial
13 liability now it's going to be
14 required to be recorded in the

15 financial contributions started
16 to begin in 2005 and then as of
17 this most recent fiscal year of
18 June 30 of 2018 the fund had a
19 total of 14,000,900 -- or
20 \$14,095,000 that was designated
21 set aside for the purpose of
22 funding retiree health premiums
23 and so the last contribution to
24 this fund was made in 2016, and
25 so over the years have set aside

Sample footer

45

1 a good amount of money towards
2 the continuing funding of
3 retiree health premiums, and so
4 the reason why the GASB was
5 implemented is more trying to
6 illustrate improving the
7 financial transparency and
8 improving on the financial
9 statements was the primary
10 reason for the implementation of
11 this.
12 >> Why have we not corrected

13 since 2016 to that fund?
14 >> Felipe Lopez: Well, in
15 2017 we had adopted a deficit
16 budget and so there was no
17 additional funds to be
18 contributed. The last 2016
19 contribution was as a result of
20 the district receiving a lot of
21 one time dollars that were
22 contributed over to that fund,
23 but since then there hasn't been
24 any allocation towards that
25 fund.

Sample footer

46

1 >> Dr. Fierro: And the other
2 reason the actuarial report was
3 through this year and as far as
4 we knew based on the last report
5 on liabilities we had the
6 liability covered. The new
7 report shows that we have a
8 deficit on that particular
9 budget that the liability is
10 greater than we have set aside
11 and we're trying to contribute

12 again to match the actual
13 liability but one of the reasons
14 -- one obviously last year we
15 finish in a deficit, but two we
16 didn't have the need to continue
17 to contribute until we got the
18 new report and we knew how much
19 more was the liability and the
20 report came out a couple months
21 ago.
22 >> Yeah. The report was
23 finalized June of this year.
24 >> So what's the purpose of
25 this.

Sample footer

47

1 >> From an accounting
2 standpoint it's to provide more
3 information to the reader
4 regarding because in the past
5 this liability was never
6 recorded on the books.
7 >> Okay.
8 >> It was always reported in
9 what they call a footnote, in

10 the footnotes. It talked about
11 it but it didn't illustrate it
12 on the financial statements, so
13 the governmental standards board
14 and looking at this and the
15 increasing liabilities and the
16 impact it was having across the
17 nation regarding certain cities
18 that were filing bankruptcy this
19 was a big thing that needed to
20 be addressed to actually be put
21 out there on the financials to
22 show what the actual liability
23 of governmental agencies had
24 regarding these other post
25 employment benefits because

Sample footer

48

1 they're really driven by each
2 governmental entity themselves
3 and so they dictate how much
4 they actually are going to offer
5 their employees.
6 >> So the \$14 million is used
7 for what?
8 >> This is set aside and used

9 to --

10 >> [INAUDIBLE] used to pay the

11 above amount of about \$900,000

12 here?

13 >> Yes

14 >> So every year that payment of

15 883, this past year is taken out

16 of the 14 million?

17 >> Yes.

18 >> So every year that amount

19 goes down unless we replenish

20 it?

21 >> That's correct

22 >> And when we talk about the

23 \$14 million and reserves and

24 different interpretation of

25 reserves, definitions is this

Sample footer

49

1 should be that would be included

2 in the --

3 >> Reserve calculation?

4 >> Yes.

5 >> No. This is not included

6 in the reserve calculation.

7 These monies that are set aside
8 in the funds are not mandated by
9 law, and they could if chosen to
10 be pulled back to the
11 Unrestricted General Fund at
12 which time would be used in part
13 of the reserve calculation.
14 >> But it's a set aside so
15 it's set aside?
16 >> It's set aside designated
17 for the purpose of funding
18 retiree health premiums.
19 >> So unless there is some
20 extraordinary circumstance
21 that's the only thing it will
22 do?
23 >> Yes.
24 >> Because the facility argued
25 this is part of the reserve and

Sample footer

50

1 the million dollars reserve.
2 >> This is a number that is
3 often used to come up with the
4 overall number --
5 >> Yes, 80 million, 50 million,

6 whatever, this includes that?
7 >> Yes.
8 >> Amount of money used for
9 our retirement health care fund.
10 >> Yes.
11 >> Wait, what you're implying
12 if we raise salaries to a point
13 where we needed to draw money
14 from a reserve amount the amount
15 proposed it would include this?
16 >> I don't know. That's the
17 question I am trying to
18 understand.
19 >> Dr. Fierro: Let me clarify
20 a little bit of that. it's set
21 aside so we can make monthly
22 payments. We're in the pay as
23 you go system and get a loan of
24 the car and pay monthly out of
25 the salary type of deal so the

Sample footer

1 issue we carried it as a
2 liability just like a car
3 payment as a liability every

4 year so set this apart in order
5 to cover that. In some of the
6 numbers put forward as reserves
7 this particular fund has been
8 included. We do not count it as
9 part of the reserve because
10 based on the fund that was
11 created under the direction of
12 the board we have kept it as
13 pathway to be able to make our
14 payments without touching the
15 General Fund, so if we were
16 going to over spend beyond what
17 we receive every year in
18 resources the first fund will be
19 utilized will be the fund
20 balance in the General Fund
21 which is technically considered
22 our reserve. If that was going
23 to expire at some point the
24 board has to make the decision
25 to move other funds into the

Sample footer

1 General Fund before it could be
2 used because right now they are

3 out of our reach --

4 >> Or the state could make that

5 decision?

6 >> No, just you. Unless we

7 have state --

8 >> Right and if we're out of

9 reserves that would --

10 >> Dr. Fierro: There are a

11 number of circumstances for that

12 to happen but before that I

13 would be concerned about the

14 accreditation and state

15 oversight.

16 >> Carmen Avalos: Quick

17 question so the \$14 million that

18 we have put aside should cover

19 for the next 14 years

20 technically if we don't

21 replenish it.

22 >> Dr. Fierro: Technically.

23 >> Carmen Avalos: I get that

24 part and the same for the next

25 14 years. It's never going to

Sample footer

1 stay the same.

2 >> Dr. Fierro: Technically

3 but the idea is have enough in

4 the fund and the interest with

5 other things will help us pay

6 without depleting the principal.

7 >> Got it.

8 >> In 18-19 we went propose

9 any funding?

10 >> Dr. Fierro: Not yet. Now

11 that we have the actual report

12 and we're short \$4 million if I

13 am not mistaken probably at the

14 end of the year depending how

15 the fund balance ends the

16 recommendation will be to

17 whether or not to allocate

18 additional resources to that

19 fund or not.

20 >> Okay. Thank you.

21 >> Okay. So I'm going to try

22 to explain this as best I can

23 because we're going to get into

24 the accounting world --

25 >> Don't get too excited

Sample footer

1 >> And so as Dr. Fierro part of
2 GASB 45 required us to get an
3 actuarial study and we have to
4 get that study no less than
5 every two years and so we can
6 get it more frequently. There's
7 a number of reasons why we would
8 get it frequently. If we made a
9 major revision to our benefits
10 that affected the retiree
11 premiums that would trigger a
12 major surplus would trigger
13 that. That's the major reason
14 we had one done this past June
15 so as you noticed and then I
16 wanted to explain the difference
17 you see me in the first study in
18 accordance with GASB 45 /75 so
19 all the fiscal years up to 2017
20 were under GASB 45. We have now
21 -- GASB 75 superseded 45 so this
22 fiscal year that we closed,
23 17-18, is under the new
24 pronouncement of 75 and I want
25 to briefly explain the

1 differences because there are
2 some major differences between
3 the two.
4 >> Can you start by explaining
5 why we skipped 30 -- GASB
6 thirties?
7 >> Because if you want to talk
8 about each of the individual
9 GASBs for different accounting
10 reasons --
11 >> [Off Mic].
12 >> These two relate to
13 retirement, OPEB.
14 >> Got it so we had 30 before
15 we went into retirement changes?
16 >> Yes.
17 >> Okay.
18 >> Most of the ones between 45
19 and 75 superseded a previous
20 GASB.
21 >> Got it.
22 >> So there's a lot of updates
23 done over the years when they
24 put something in practice it

25 might be a good intention but

Sample footer

56

1 over the years there could be an
2 adjustment. That's what
3 happened to 75. 75 actually
4 went into place as kind of a
5 follow up to what happened to
6 the pension which is the next
7 group I'm going to talk about,
8 GASB 68, and so that's what 75
9 did, so under GASB 45 actuarial
10 and the report in 16 the accrued
11 liability totaled 16 million --
12 nearly \$16.2 million and so in
13 comparison to the amount of
14 money we set aside we felt very
15 confident is that we're very
16 close to basically fully funding
17 that that obligation. Now, we
18 went into GASB 75 and we just
19 updated our study in the new
20 number that will be recorded
21 that you will be seeing on our
22 books when we present our audit
23 report later on in December to

24 the board for approval. It

25 increased to a little more than

Sample footer

57

1 21.2 million and considered what

2 they call a net OPEB liability.

3 The major differences between

4 the two GASBs is that under 45

5 it required us to record an

6 annual contribution, what they

7 call ark. Under 75 is requires

8 us to record the entire amount

9 that is in the actuarial so

10 there's a major shift in that so

11 that's really the only major

12 difference in it so we will be

13 reflecting the \$21.2 million in

14 the financials as of June 30,

15 2018.

16 >> So I'm going to put this in

17 my dumb brain explanation. In

18 the early days we were obliged

19 to say -- use the car payment

20 example. We were obliged to

21 save a thousand dollars a month

22 and now you have a debt.
23 >> 30,000.
24 >> \$30,000 that you owe so now
25 we're sitting saying we have a

Sample footer

58

1 \$21.2 million debt that we have
2 on our books that we didn't have
3 previously.
4 >> Exactly.
5 >> President Lewis: It's a
6 great explanation. Thank you
7 Board Member Birkey.
8 >> I'm not the greatest guy
9 >> And a couple of questions do
10 we have OPEB bonds? No. There
11 are some agencies out there I
12 only know one college in
13 California that has a OPEB bond.
14 >> Do you know what name?
15 >> Yeah.
16 >> What college it is?
17 >> It's Peralta community
18 college district.
19 They're in the \$100 million of
20 the OPEB. They have a different

21 situation. They offered
22 lifetime benefits across the
23 board and get them into very
24 significant financial issue
25 which required and one of the

Sample footer

59

1 reasons they went out for the
2 OPEB bond because there no way
3 to fund internally extra
4 \$100 million to fund that, so
5 not very many districts do this.
6 The debt payment that is made on
7 this OPEB bonds is from the
8 General Fund so I would highly
9 recommend not doing this
10 situation and so and then really
11 when it comes down to it there
12 are two options of the
13 accounting standard. Sometimes
14 you hear about trusts. Could
15 you put the funds into a trust?
16 And the answer is yes so really
17 you're down to two options:
18 Trust or no trusts. If you

19 considered no trust which is
20 basically the mechanism we
21 currently have and continue to
22 set aside funds, the GASB
23 doesn't allow to you utilize
24 those assets to be used to off
25 set the liability you record the

Sample footer

60

1 net effect and the reason that
2 is because you the board and the
3 district -- we still have the
4 opportunity to pull back the
5 funds and use them for any other
6 purpose so the accounting
7 standard doesn't allow us to off
8 set the liability. An example
9 we have 21.two. We have
10 14 million set aside and really
11 it's a \$6 million net
12 difference. If we had it in a
13 trust we would record \$6 million
14 on the books but because we
15 don't have a trust we will
16 continue to record the
17 21.2 million

18 >> And even the account and
19 currently 14 and let's say we
20 worked on it and got it to 21 it
21 would not delete this liability
22 unless we put it into a trust?
23 >> Felipe Lopez: That's
24 correct.
25 >> [Off Mic].

Sample footer

61

1 >> Felipe Lopez: No.
2 >> [Off Mic].
3 >> Felipe Lopez: Not to be
4 used to be off set. We're not
5 out of compliance with anything
6 because the GASB doesn't require
7 you to implement a trust. It
8 just tells you what the
9 accounting treatment is if you
10 have a trust versus no trust.
11 >> But can't we use our assets
12 and the balance sheet scenario
13 use the assets as a general
14 offset to the liabilities?
15 >> Well, we do report the

16 asset and the liability.
17 >> So if we have \$21 million
18 of an asset in a fund and a
19 \$21 million liability.
20 >> Yes, they're reflected and
21 we try to highlight that as much
22 as possible of that effect.
23 Where sometimes it gets a little
24 tricky and a lot of -- like when
25 you're doing your bond ratings,

Sample footer

62

1 doing the credit rating this
2 topic always comes up and
3 primarily it's always a negative
4 -- even if you set aside the
5 funds it's always a negative if
6 you don't have a trust because
7 in their mind you can pull the
8 funds back anytime and not
9 guaranteed to off set the
10 liability.
11 >> In other words what the
12 rating agencies would say to
13 dumb it down again is sure you
14 have the money now, but who is

15 not to say if things got tricky
16 for you that the money would
17 actually be there and you would
18 still have the \$21 million
19 liability?
20 >> That's exactly correct.
21 >> Okay.
22 >> Felipe Lopez: Okay. So
23 you know overall we've done a
24 good job creating the fund
25 setting aside dollars towards

Sample footer

63

1 this liability. At some point
2 we will have to evaluate how to
3 continue to set aside funds to
4 be able to offset this liability
5 of now which is 21.2 million.
6 In the next couple of years we
7 have to get an updated study and
8 whatever changes that is we will
9 have to be reflective in our
10 financial statements. Okay.
11 >> [Off Mic] sorry. Going
12 back to the trust thing so at

13 this point you're not
14 recommending that we put it in a
15 trust at this point? You're
16 waiting for the actuarial study
17 to be completed?
18 >> It's completed.
19 >> This is a discussion.
20 >> This is a discussion, not a
21 recommendation presentation.
22 >> Okay. So my other basic
23 question is if we don't put the
24 money in an irrevocable trust
25 are we breaking laws or

Sample footer

64

1 financial procedures or
2 standards?
3 >> No,.
4 >> We don't have to do it if
5 we don't want to?
6 >> No we don't.
7 >> It just improves the create
8 rating.
9 >> It improves the financial
10 presentation. Having less debt
11 on your books is always a great

12 thing and so ideally if you
13 fully fund your OPEB obligation
14 typically when you put in the
15 irrevocable trust you're putting
16 the money into the market and
17 potentially better rate of
18 return on your investment and
19 ideally the trust once fully
20 funded would fully fund and
21 continue to pay those retiree
22 costs right out of the fund
23 without any additional
24 contributions to it.
25 >> So that's the other

Sample footer

65

1 benefit.
2 >> Yeah, once you fully fund
3 the OPEB obligation there is no
4 requirement on any additional
5 contributions into the trust
6 granted as long as the pool
7 stayed the same. Obviously if
8 another 50 went into the pool
9 then you would have to do update

10 the actuarial to account for the
11 additional retirees and
12 potentially have to contribute
13 at this point.
14 >> So it's long enough you can
15 accommodate for the growth?
16 >> That is true as well.
17 >> This money is again for our
18 own employees health care
19 benefits when they retire.
20 >> Yes.
21 >> And the only thing they can
22 be used for?
23 >> In a trust.
24 >> If it's in a trust and the
25 irrevocable means we can't do

Sample footer

66

1 anything and even if the board
2 chooses to reverse it it's
3 locked in there forever.
4 >> We're doing that already.
5 The only difference is by law
6 there is no other option to
7 spend it that way because right
8 now --

9 >> The intended purpose is
10 currently for that same purpose.
11 >> Yeah, there's a red rope
12 around it.
13 >> Dr. Fierro: Correct. So
14 you're not breaking in laws.
15 We're in full compliance the way
16 we are. The money at this point
17 is out of our reach because we
18 don't have the authority to use
19 it for anything but what you
20 said to do. However, in ten
21 years let's say there has been a
22 rotation and someone decides
23 that you take that money out and
24 you put it in back in the
25 General Fund at that point

Sample footer

67

1 essentially you're funding the
2 retirement of the current
3 employees, so that is one of the
4 benefits because you're securing
5 the contributions to anyone that
6 retires from the college from

7 this point on and someone that
8 has retired prior to, so it's
9 mostly -- I guess guaranteeing
10 our retirees from the past and
11 the future have the
12 contributions covered. Now,
13 it's important to clarify what
14 he said and in an investment
15 pool and have the ability to
16 make more money but there is the
17 potential of bear markets and a
18 long-term accounts and have the
19 benefits of recovering your
20 market, but we obviously have to
21 account for ups and downs of the
22 market if that was the case and
23 is true the same if we keep it
24 in the investment pool of the
25 county.

Sample footer

68

1 >> So this is one of those
2 things that again getting really
3 nerdy into finance stuff, but
4 can you explain why having a
5 good credit rating matters?

6 Because I mean fundamentally to
7 me the reason why it matters is
8 because we pay less interest on
9 money that we would need to
10 borrow, and therefore we have
11 more money on hand. We don't
12 have to throw money at banks
13 that we never get back when
14 we're in a situation to borrow
15 money for various needs.
16 >> Felipe Lopez: Typically
17 where this comes into effect
18 with a rating aspect we
19 typically don't get loans from a
20 bank or we haven't --
21 >> [INAUDIBLE]
22 >> And issued with bonds and go
23 to open market and sell our
24 bonds which we did earlier this
25 year and issued \$75 million.

Sample footer

69

1 That credit rating from the
2 investors is a big deal. If you
3 can increase your credit rating

4 to be Triple A secured
5 investment the likelihood of an
6 investor willing to pay and get
7 less yield saves the taxpayer
8 overall debt, and so that's the
9 ultimate goal is.
10 And that trickles back to the
11 college ; right?
12 >> That trickles back to the
13 at a payer. There is no out of
14 pocket for the district because
15 bonds are paid ad valorem taxes
16 >> But if a taxpayer and there
17 is a hundred million dollar bond
18 that incorporates the financing
19 cost so the net to the college
20 is larger dependent upon --
21 >> Yeah, the cash would be,
22 you're right. So the cost of
23 issuing that debt would be less
24 but overall the significant
25 amount -- it would be a

Sample footer

1 significant -- less debt put on
2 to the actual taxpayer

3 themselves.
4 >> Dr. Fierro: What you're
5 saying is correct. What you're
6 saying is correct. The other
7 thing that is important to
8 clarify we did go for the
9 \$75 million release of bonds.
10 We traveled to San Francisco to
11 make the sale of the bonds and
12 the negotiation, and based on
13 the current financial position
14 of the district we were able to
15 make a really good argument as
16 to why we carry the liability
17 but these are the assets that we
18 have and we were rated at the
19 same level as last time, so we
20 sort of broke even with that on
21 that regard, but if we did not
22 have for instance the level of
23 reserves we have so on and so
24 forth it would have been harder
25 to make the argument we should

Sample footer

1 have been rated at the credit
2 level we were rated, so at this
3 point and I'm not -- I don't
4 want to speak for Felipe and
5 make sure that the bond is fund
6 side primarily for obviously the
7 credit but for the longevity of
8 people, the people and the
9 financial ability of the
10 district as we move forward.
11 When you have 300 people plus
12 depends on that contribution
13 that we have to make every year
14 and another you know 300 in the
15 next 20 years we have to make
16 sure that we are in a position
17 to fulfill the commitments that
18 we have made.
19 >> I completely agree with
20 that. That's easier for me to
21 understand at first blush. The
22 part how the credit rating
23 affects the college I think
24 takes a little bit of brain
25 power but it makes sense to me

Sample footer

1 if the tax payers approve a
2 certain amount of money if we
3 have a lower credit rating we
4 have to throw extra money at
5 interest to buy the bonds which
6 means we get less net what is
7 approved by the tax payers so it
8 makes it expensive on the
9 students. They get less of what
10 the voters are trying to give
11 them, so it's helpful to be
12 healthy in these financial ways
13 because it opens doors for us
14 financially.

15 >> Dr. Fierro: Correct.

16 >> Okay.

17 >> Felipe Lopez: As I stated
18 about 75 this went into effect
19 June 30 of 2018. Really the
20 purpose to improve accounting
21 and financial reporting by state
22 and local governments for other
23 post employment benefits other
24 than pensions. Okay. Here's an
25 example. I want to briefly show

1 you when the presentation on the
2 audit so here's an example of
3 what a schedule would look like
4 on that. Column A is what will
5 reflect what is in the actuarial
6 study, the funds. Column B is
7 represented in the trust so for
8 us the middle column is zero and
9 obviously A minus B which in
10 this case is the same thing what
11 we report in column A so the
12 21 million. Okay. All right.
13 So that's retirees. Now let's
14 shift quickly into pension --
15 >> How many shifts are there?
16 >> This is the last shift.
17 >> Okay.
18 >> Dr. Fierro: You could
19 consider this the great GASB.
20 >> I was waiting to make that
21 joke.
22 >> Felipe Lopez: So the
23 college offers two pension
24 programs and the CalSTRS

25 primarily for our faculty and

Sample footer

74

1 Academic Administrators and then
2 we have CalPERS which is
3 primarily for all the classified
4 managers and confidentials are
5 under these programs and so over
6 the years here are the rates
7 that the district -- these are
8 the employer pension rates that
9 the district contributes on
10 behalf of each of the employees
11 and their relative pension pool.
12 Starting in 2017-18 going all
13 the way down to 2021.
14 >> Carmen Avalos: The rates
15 that you're showing for STRS and
16 CalPERS can you tell us why
17 there is a 1%age different on
18 17-18 and almost 2% different
19 and back to one and you know
20 just one. What is the
21 difference -- (INAUDIBLE)
22 >> Felipe Lopez: Stirs is easy
23 and Governor Brown set these up

24 and increased 1.85% continually

25 on STRS and the reason they were

Sample footer

75

1 increased because historically

2 for years the district had to

3 pay eight and a quarter and in

4 2004 these rates started

5 increasing and they are going to

6 increase all the way they get to

7 19.1% in 2021 at which time STRS

8 will have the ability to still

9 continue to raise the rates, but

10 they're going to be capped.

11 They can't have an annual

12 increase greater than 1% so

13 they're dictated by the pension

14 pools themselves, so STRS has it

15 set out to all the way to 2021

16 and those are rates for each of

17 the years. PERS did their

18 pension forecast differently.

19 They use an actuarial to

20 forecast this and every year

21 they do the current and forecast

22 out. Those pensions for 2019-20
23 and 20-21 are subject to change
24 because they're not set in stone
25 because those could change based

Sample footer

76

1 on the how the fund is
2 performing and so they do an
3 analysis on an annual basis
4 based on how well the
5 performance of the overall
6 pension fund is doing will
7 dictate how they are going to
8 address those rates, and so the
9 reason why STRS started
10 increasing their rates is
11 because there was a very big
12 need unfunded pension liability
13 that was out there and the state
14 had some major concerns of the
15 inability to fund pensions for a
16 long-term basis, so Governor
17 Brown stepped in and basically
18 implemented these rate increases
19 across the board.
20 >> Carmen Avalos: So

21 currently for CalSTRS the
22 increase is 1.85.
23 >> Yeah, if you do the
24 calculation that's the amount
25 except the last year. That year

Sample footer

77

1 it's less but it's just a target
2 rate of 19.1 and so it's just
3 how they set it.
4 >> Carmen Avalos: In terms of
5 the CalPERS is there an
6 adjustment? For example we see
7 the increases sunset in 2021 and
8 thereafter 1% maximum. Is that
9 similar to Cal PERS?
10 >> No, PERS is completely
11 different. They adjusted the
12 rates on an annual basis and so
13 --
14 >> And is the better plan to be
15 on?
16 >> Felipe Lopez: Well from an
17 unfunded liability STRS is in a
18 better position that STRS is.

19 STRS has a much larger unfunded
20 liability compared to PERS and
21 the primary reason that is is
22 because STRS had a kind of a
23 fixed rate for many, many years
24 and created this really large
25 unfunded gap. PERS adjusted the

Sample footer

78

1 rates annually so their unfunded
2 was more manageable in
3 comparison to STRS.
4 >> [Off Mic].
5 >> Are you also going to
6 provide a break down of what we
7 have in terms of folks on
8 CalSTRS here? I don't see that?
9 >> I don't have the break down
10 of employees, number of
11 employees to STRS if that is
12 what you want.
13 >> What are the benefits?
14 They get a pension? How much do
15 they get a month? How much do
16 STRS employees get a month.
17 >> [INAUDIBLE].

18 >> Depends on years of service
19 and when they retired. It's a
20 formula developed through them
21 and so it really depends.
22 Obviously the longer you're in
23 the better you get out, but each
24 of them have minimum retirees
25 when you can retire out of the

Sample footer

79

1 system. I believe STRS the
2 minimum age of 60, but and PERS
3 is 55.
4 >> Right unless you're a peace
5 officer you're 50 depending what
6 you came into the system.
7 >> But we don't have any peace
8 officers here.
9 >> On average it's about \$225
10 a month.
11 >> Right for their mention.
12 >> Per person.
13 >> So 225 a month for the
14 pension and \$200 a month for the
15 retirement. Right, on average?

16 \$200 a month for their
17 retirement --
18 >> For the health care premiums
19 >> And you said 225.
20 >> If you take 885 and divided
21 by 12 and divided by --
22 >> No, you're talking -- that's
23 the health premiums. Pension.
24 We don't pay the pensions. The
25 State of California pays the

Sample footer

80

1 pension programs out of these.
2 >> [Off Mic].
3 >> We contribute a portion,
4 yes, that percentage into it.
5 >> [INAUDIBLE].
6 >> Dr. Fierro: That amount
7 that is collected for fringe is
8 about -- for every 100 there is
9 \$20 -- average, 20, \$22 whether
10 STRS or PERS is what we
11 contribute of all benefits.
12 >> Okay. I am trying to get a
13 picture on average so maybe you
14 can come back next meeting or

15 send it to us and on average
16 what are the retirees getting?
17 I understand it's based on
18 service and I want a general
19 picture.
20 >> Dr. Fierro: Like the
21 monthly pension?
22 >> Yeah.
23 >> Dr. Fierro: Well, it could
24 be -- like mentioned depending
25 when they come on board and

Sample footer

81

1 could be as low as 60, 65% or to
2 100% of the salaries and
3 individuals that started in the
4 original PERS and STRS and have
5 over 40 years of services and
6 they had the opportunity to
7 collect -- I can't remember what
8 they call it but double count
9 some years or something like
10 that, but you could get average
11 anywhere between 65% of the
12 salary to 100 or over 100. I

13 don't think we have any
14 employees that will qualify for
15 over 100.
16 >> Felipe Lopez: You know we
17 don't get that information
18 because the employee makes the
19 arrangement with the pension
20 programs. We never get that
21 information to know what
22 percentage that is really
23 between each individual retiree.
24 >> How much of that generally
25 are we contributing? None?

Sample footer

82

1 >> These are the percentages
2 of the salary. This percentage
3 represents -- so for example if
4 you made 100,000 under the STRS
5 program take that amount and
6 multiply by \$14,430 is
7 contributed on a annual basis so
8 it's a percentage of the salary.
9 >> That Cerritos College --
10 >> Contributes every month
11 towards the pension program.

12 >> What's the overall
13 obligation that we have right
14 now? Is that the next slide?
15 >> Yeah, you're jumping ahead.
16 So total contributions so here's
17 some numbers on the last fiscal
18 year of the amounts that were --
19 so under the CalSTRS plan the
20 most recent fiscal year which
21 was 14.43 percent we
22 contributed 11.3 million dollars
23 towards that pension program.
24 >> Is this divided by the 800
25 some folks?

Sample footer

83

1 >> Is this is the current
2 active employees.
3 >> I got you. This is full
4 time individuals under the STRS
5 pension program.
6 >> All right
7 >> And then 2018-19 you see the
8 rate increase to 16.8 percent
9 and what we have budgeted for

10 our contribution of 12.4 million
11 dollars and then number two is
12 the PERS reflected the same way
13 15.5 3 percent which is \$3.9
14 million and then that increases
15 to 18-19 to 18.six and budgeting
16 for 5.2 million dollars into the
17 pension program annually.
18 >> So it's --
19 >> It's driven off of the
20 salary.
21 >> President Lewis: Can we
22 finish the presentation and get
23 to your questions.
24 >> Again we don't have any
25 pension obligation bonds for

Sample footer

84

1 this. Again these are annual
2 contributions as part of our
3 payroll. So as I mentioned
4 before in 2012 again
5 governmental standards
6 accounting standards board
7 issued statement number 68,
8 accounting and financial

9 reporting for pensions, and so
10 and again the primary reason
11 this is improved accounting
12 financial reporting across local
13 and state governments and so
14 GASB 68 now required us to
15 record our proportional share of
16 the pension liability and so
17 this gets a little more
18 complicated because there's a
19 lot of players associated with
20 this, so now every year we get
21 an audit report from each of the
22 pension programs that are
23 audited annually that has
24 scheduled built into them that
25 says what Cerritos College is

Sample footer

85

1 listed in there, what our
2 proportional share of the
3 pension liability and basically
4 a math equation, what the total
5 system pension liability is,
6 what our proportional share.

7 You multiply the two and get
8 these rates on that. One thing
9 I want to say about this is it's
10 one of these accounting
11 standards that that it's -- when
12 it actually issued you stepped
13 back and went huh? Because it
14 didn't quite make sense in the
15 sense that every year we
16 contribute to the pension
17 program; right? And then when an
18 individual retires the pension
19 program is required to make
20 those contributions, but GASB
21 decided to say well what if the
22 pension program went bankrupt?
23 And it went bankrupt by law the
24 district would still have to
25 fund those pension eligible

Sample footer

86

1 employees, so these numbers here
2 reflect that. Are we ever going
3 to pay this type of money out?
4 No, we're not as long as the
5 pension program is healthy and

6 in place. Again I don't want to
7 throw out a bunch of red flags
8 and we have \$120 million of
9 pension liability that we owe
10 and set aside dollars. No, that
11 is not the case here. It's just
12 an accounting treatment on that.
13 You know I always make the
14 argument it's not like it's my
15 debt. I made the contribution
16 and you know the state's
17 obligation to make sure that
18 there's enough money in the fund
19 to be able to fund it, and so
20 but this is what's reported on
21 our financial statements, so I
22 wanted to present it because I
23 wanted to show you -- somebody
24 said why is the pension
25 liability so high? It's high

Sample footer

87

1 because it reflects our
2 proportional share and out of
3 the audit reports for STRS and

4 PERS so that's really kind of
5 what I all want to say about
6 this so nothing -- I don't want
7 to alarm anybody here but I
8 wanted to make is clear that
9 these are reflected in our
10 financial statements as much as
11 I can. Questions?
12 >> Carmen Avalos: I'm sorry.
13 I have a quick question so I
14 looking at what we're paying in
15 CalPERS and STRS and the slide
16 with the different percentages
17 so for example in 2017-18 the
18 contribution is 15.5 3% for PERS
19 employees and that's what the
20 college is paying?
21 >> Yes.
22 >> And do we have anything as
23 a result of the 2009 PERS reform
24 in regards to percentages being
25 paid by employees?

Sample footer

1 >> Yes --

2 >> [INAUDIBLE].

3 >> Yes, so there was a reform
4 act on pensions that happened
5 and went into effect in 2013.
6 >> 2013 , right.
7 >> now you hear the terms
8 classic versus non classic.
9 Classic employee or STRS or PERS
10 employees is an employee that
11 was hired prior to December 31,
12 -- on or prior December 31,
13 2012. You're hired on
14 January 1, 2013 you're under the
15 new pension rules, and there are
16 some distinct different rules
17 primarily the amount of
18 contribution that is limited.
19 It did increase rates to the
20 actual employee side of it, and
21 it actually increased the
22 eligible retirement program out
23 of the program and an example
24 would be on the PERS if you're a
25 classic employee you can retire

Sample footer

1 at 55. Under the new if you're
2 a new person into the system and
3 hired in 2013 or earlier the
4 early eligible retirement is 62
5 and so they made some
6 modifications on that. Similar
7 to --
8 >> Carmen Avalos: What is the
9 current formula for the college?
10 Is it 2.7, 2.5, 2.0? What is
11 it?
12 >> For?
13 >> For the CalPERS retirement.
14 I recognize they're the
15 percentages for a classic
16 employee at 55 what the
17 percentage? What's the
18 percentage? What's the formula
19 basically for a classic
20 employee?
21 >> Of what they get.
22 >> Right.
23 >> It's actually under classic
24 it ranges from 1.1% to 2.5%.
25 >> Two and a half?

Sample footer

1 >> Yes and under the new
2 program it ranges from either 1%
3 to 2.5%.
4 >> So it stays the same --
5 [INAUDIBLE].
6 >> The only difference is one
7 is at 1.1%.
8 >> Dr. Fierro: There is a
9 different on the new one and the
10 contribution is has a cap.
11 >> Carmen Avalos: Can you
12 provide that to us and the first
13 time I heard it and the
14 formulas.
15 >> Every year we get
16 adjustments rate on the cap as
17 if the salary and we're limited
18 to the contribution and those
19 employees new to the system that
20 are not current members of the
21 STRS or PERS plan.
22 >> Carmen Avalos. Okay great.
23 Is it the same for the CalSTRS?
24 >> Yes they're exactly the
25 same and pension reform acts

1 encompass both STRS and PERS.

2 >> Carmen Avalos: I think as

3 we have these conversations it's

4 important particularly as it

5 pertains to the years to invest

6 to even retire and I think we

7 need to look at the whole

8 picture and not just parts of

9 it. I understand this because I

10 fall under CalPERS at my current

11 job so I know that we have a

12 tier one, tier two and I mean

13 yes are considered classic but I

14 have seen up to five tiers in

15 certain agencies depending when

16 you came in regardless whether

17 you're classic or not and has to

18 do with hiring dates.

19 >> President Lewis: Faculty

20 Senate President did you have a

21 comment? Could you use the mic

22 please? Thank you.

23 >> [Off Mic] slide nine. So

24 on slide nine we see an increase

25 in the pension contributions

Sample footer

92

1 from 2017-18 and we seen these
2 go up since -- well, until 2021
3 and go up for 1 percent but if
4 the 2016-17 budget there was a
5 line item 69.3 that set a side
6 \$4 million of one time set aside
7 for the potential pension
8 increases. I am wondering why
9 we're not using the money now
10 that we have the bigger
11 requirements. As far as I know
12 we haven't touched the money and
13 the last time was on that '16-17
14 budget and indicated there was
15 interest accrued and not use it
16 and my question is why aren't we
17 using it now instead of COLA?
18 >> Dr. Fierro: Yeah, it's to
19 make sure account for the money
20 once we're past the projected
21 rates. At this point STRS could
22 increase 1% a year indefinitely
23 so at this point we could afford

24 to do it but they have

25 legislative authority to

Sample footer

93

1 increase 1% a year without going

2 through the legislation at this

3 point.

4 >> President Lewis: Any other

5 questions or comments from Board

6 Members?

7 >> No.

8 >> President Lewis: Seeing

9 none thank you for the

10 presentation. Next is our

11 Institutional Presentation on

12 the 2018 CCLC league policy

13 priorities. Dr. Fierro.

14 >> Dr. Fierro: Just don't

15 even know how to match the level

16 of excitement that he had during

17 his presentation. I never seen

18 him this excited during a board

19 meeting. GASB.

20 >> Carmen Avalos: You know

21 what it is you're excited when

22 you have attentive students. I
23 think that's what it is.
24 >> Dr. Fierro: Just talking
25 about it and like -- it looked

Sample footer

94

1 like Christmas morning for him.
2 >> Carmen Avalos: We're all
3 engaged.
4 >> Dr. Fierro: All right. So
5 this is a shorter presentation,
6 maybe not as quite as riveting
7 and interesting as our current
8 retirement and pension
9 liabilities, but this is just to
10 give you a preview of some of
11 the work that is going to happen
12 at the state level for advocacy
13 so this is something that was
14 presented for both state level
15 boards, the league board of
16 Board Members, and the CEO board
17 for the league which jointly
18 work on advocacy all community
19 colleges so you know the
20 legislative session just got

21 approved last bills that were
22 seen by the current Governor but
23 a number of issues that stayed
24 on the table that weren't
25 addressed and as a group at the

Sample footer

95

1 state level we're getting
2 together to develop the agenda
3 that we will advocate for
4 especially once we get to the
5 beginning of the year January
6 when we do the legislative
7 conference and our advocacy day
8 or the first one of the 2019, so
9 the first part is the
10 educational opportunity and
11 quality, and yes we did have a
12 change on our funding formula,
13 and luckily enough Cerritos
14 College came on the good end in
15 the funding formula this
16 particular time, but as of right
17 now we're talking about a three
18 year period in which we can not

19 get less than what we got last
20 year, not this year but last
21 year but based on our
22 calculations we should be okay
23 during the next two years, not
24 including our current year, so
25 one of the things that we are

Sample footer

96

1 going to advocate at the state
2 level is reallocation of the
3 formula to include an additional
4 COLA for next year. The early
5 conversation of the new formula
6 left out the evaluation of the
7 cost of living adjustment for
8 the subsequent years of the
9 implementation of the formula,
10 so one of the priorities for
11 next year at the state level is
12 going to be advocate for the
13 calculation of the COLA and the
14 allocation of the COLA on top of
15 the actual new funding formula.
16 The next part is something that
17 had a number of discussions and

18 critics on each side, but I
19 think we can all agree that we
20 have a pretty backlog in capital
21 outlay projects. In the 2016
22 election there was a state bond
23 that was passed and clear about
24 \$2 billion for constructions at
25 the state level. Our current

Sample footer

97

1 Governor has been very
2 financially responsible as we
3 can be in California, and he has
4 been very reluctant of spending
5 dollars from the bond that
6 passed in 2016, so he has been
7 rolling various projects and had
8 a number of projects including
9 one from Cerritos College that
10 is in the list and yet again we
11 didn't make that cut for this
12 year so one of the initiatives
13 that we at the state level is to
14 advocate obviously at the
15 legislative level but the

16 incoming Governor, Lieutenant
17 Governor to release the
18 resources for all capital outlay
19 projects so we can fix the
20 backlog and honor the will of
21 the voters in the State of
22 California. We are not sure how
23 this is going to happen next
24 year given the fact that the
25 budget for the 2019-20 has been

Sample footer

98

1 somewhat already outlined by
2 Governor Brown and by the time
3 the election switches the new
4 Governor probably is not going
5 to have enough time to make
6 significant changes to the
7 allocation, but we will continue
8 to make sure ad-- I will
9 continue to make sure as many
10 projects that are on the current
11 list for capital outlay are
12 approved for the 2019-20 budget.
13 This is something that again of
14 great importance to us. We have

15 spent significant time planning
16 with the different high schools
17 in the area to increase the dual
18 and concurrent enrollment
19 possibilities so the priority is
20 not necessarily to expand at
21 this point but it's to remove
22 the sunset. The sun set for AB
23 288 is scheduled to expire in
24 January 2022 and at that point
25 the Chancellor's Office is going

Sample footer

99

1 to have the opportunity to try
2 to advocate or make some
3 modifications to it and present
4 it again to the legislation, but
5 it is very clear on the data and
6 not only the data that has been
7 collected in the State of
8 California but the data across
9 the nation that students that
10 are expose the to these
11 opportunities are more likely to
12 go to college and more likely to

13 perform well once they make it
14 to college. This is
15 particularly beneficial to
16 students from under represented
17 backgrounds and students less
18 likely to go to college. When
19 dual and concurrent enrollment
20 was created it was created with
21 high performing students in
22 mind, but when under represented
23 students and students not
24 necessarily the traditional
25 college going student were

Sample footer

100

1 opposed to these programs the
2 showed that the students gained
3 more from the programs than the
4 students that were already
5 college bound.
6 So for us in California in
7 particularly at Cerritos College
8 we have a population of students
9 that will benefit greatly if
10 we're able to remove the sunset
11 and obviously expand the

12 programs to high schools. Now I
13 don't want you to get the
14 impression that the state and
15 that we have not done enough and
16 the legislation hasn't done
17 enough. They found other ways
18 to increase the possibilities
19 with the agreements and we have
20 been working to do that. In
21 fact we're almost done with the
22 CCAP La Mirada and completed
23 most of the other ones with the
24 partner districts but by
25 removing the sunset and

Sample footer

101

1 expanding it and removing some
2 of the red tape will make it
3 easier for students to access
4 the courses. We don't --
5 [INAUDIBLE] accountability
6 because a system of
7 accountability is not of use but
8 to make it easier for the
9 students to sites those courses

10 will be welcomed. An issue
11 that is fortunately taking a lot
12 of air time at the state is
13 affordability of food and
14 housing. I am very glad to see
15 that the conversation has moved
16 to the state level and becoming
17 a little more evident there is
18 an effort to try to address some
19 of the needs of our students so
20 the league at this particular
21 point has a committee composed
22 of Board Members and CEOs and
23 looking ways to advocate at the
24 state level and partner with
25 foundations and private agencies

Sample footer

102

1 to be able to address or reduce
2 some of the food insecurities
3 and we partner with the food
4 bank and serve students and
5 community members but that's a
6 drop in the bucket based on the
7 need of the state level. The
8 primary point of advocacy for us

9 is going to be the modification
10 to approve qualified CalFresh
11 vendors. As you're familiar and
12 Phil maybe familiar with this
13 than some of us whether we call
14 for proposals for RFP to bring
15 vendors into campus it's
16 difficult to get vendors that
17 are qualified and they have the
18 ability to accept CalFresh from
19 our students which puts our
20 students in a disadvantage
21 because many students do qualify
22 for it but they can't utilize
23 the card on campus. This is not
24 due to the willingness of the
25 vendors to be approved by

Sample footer

103

1 CalFresh. It's an extremely
2 complicated process with many
3 rules that don't allow many
4 vendors to get the necessary --
5 to meet the necessary
6 requirements to meet the needs

7 of our students so that's one of
8 our major steps for advocacy
9 during the next legislative year
10 and obviously housing. Housing
11 has continued to grow as an
12 issue. It is an issue that
13 obviously is going to be
14 difficult to address exclusively
15 at the level level so advocacy
16 at the state level and local
17 level jointly is something we're
18 planning to do in order to begin
19 addressing some of the things.
20 >> So I kind of missed it.
21 What kinds of solutions might
22 community colleges provide
23 regarding housing?
24 >> There have been some
25 conversation on building student

Sample footer

104

1 housing and some of that
2 conversation has fluctuated
3 between bonds and building
4 essentially going for bonds that
5 are exclusive to student housing

6 Public-Private Partnership in
7 which private business will
8 develop the housing and
9 agreements to house students in
10 those places will be made so
11 those are some of the
12 conversations. Some facilities
13 have the ability to have housing
14 and we have some community
15 colleges in the State Housing
16 students on campus, but there
17 are others in urban areas that
18 there is a little more difficult
19 to get student housing, and to
20 meet the profitability rates of
21 our Public-Private Partnership,
22 so some of the conversations are
23 relatively new. I think our
24 committees may be six months old
25 and had just a couple of

Sample footer

105

1 meetings but is gaining a lot of
2 momentum at the state and there
3 are some legislative support

4 behind it.
5 >> Thanks.
6 >> Dr. Fierro: Financial aid
7 and this has been one of our
8 points of advocacy. Actually
9 for the last three years or so,
10 and I think many of us feel
11 strongly I am excited as he was
12 with the presentation on this
13 one because we do receive only
14 10% of all the [INAUDIBLE] grant
15 resources and we have 66% or
16 more of all students that are
17 eligible and will benefit from
18 having a Cal Grant. Most of the
19 resources go to -- nothing
20 against our partners in the CSU
21 and UC systems but most of the
22 resources are consumed by and a
23 smaller group of students so
24 we're not advocating to take
25 anything away from the other

Sample footer

106

1 institutions. We're simply
2 advocating for an equal

3 distribution of resources based
4 on the needs of our students.
5 Having Cal Grant resources
6 obviously will allow our
7 students to meet some of the
8 food insecurity, housing
9 insecurity, tuition and most
10 importantly being able to take
11 classes year round to increase
12 completion and success rates.
13 We have been reciting the same
14 thing with the last three years
15 without a lot of traction and
16 obviously not going to stop us
17 and hopefully we get more
18 traction at the state level but
19 expanding the Cal Grant for
20 community colleges will address
21 some of the financial barriers
22 that our students have and will
23 solve more than one issue
24 besides obviously allowing them
25 to come to college during the

Sample footer

1 summer or taking more classes,
2 and that is for right now the
3 list that we have at the state
4 level. This is a draft of what
5 we have and it will continue to
6 be developed in the actually
7 this Friday and then again in
8 November and I will distribute
9 the final version in November to
10 make sure we're ready for the
11 January meetings. Any
12 questions?
13 >> I just have a couple of
14 comments. Thank you very much
15 for the presentation. On the
16 housing issue I definitely maybe
17 add this in the back burner
18 about doing student housing
19 here. I know the rural areas we
20 mainly have --
21 >> Orange Coast.
22 >> Orange Coast. We're
23 working on it.
24 >> I think there is a lot of
25 work on affordable housing and

Sample footer

1 have to financially how it pans
2 out and doing it in the
3 southeast city and want to keep
4 that conversation. The CalFresh
5 vendors. I was talking to
6 Trustee Chaffy at Santa Monica
7 College and they have several
8 vendors and it's a hard process
9 and Mike Logan is always here
10 and pass that that on to connect
11 with them and there are several
12 colleges state wide that have
13 been successful.
14 And it's an important part at
15 least for me when we talk about
16 the food service vendor contract
17 when it comes to us and I
18 believe it's a key issue and
19 that issue as well as vendors
20 not charging fees for cards.
21 Those are two issues I am
22 looking at and back to the Cal
23 Grant changes I think maybe a
24 little more education for the
25 board because I have heard the

1 presentation several times and I
2 still don't understand it and
3 Cal Grant A and Cal Grant B and
4 all these different things.
5 [INAUDIBLE] has the fascinating
6 presentation about Cal Grant and
7 I'm not sure if they're local or
8 where they're at but I would
9 love to have someone speak
10 because they're doing fantastic
11 work on community college cost
12 and I think as we start on this
13 path -- I know we did it for
14 other causes and but really
15 painting a portrait of
16 individual students at Cerritos
17 College and how little the Cal
18 Grant actually contributes
19 towards their education costs
20 and stuff and because I think
21 there has to be more work on
22 this because I don't think it's
23 really resonating so far we
24 have been talking about it for

25 years but there's not any

Sample footer

110

1 changes. I don't think people

2 understand it. It's not that

3 important and just financial aid

4 or they get confused between

5 that and FAFSA but I think that

6 whole discussion how Cal Grant

7 impacts our students needs to be

8 elevated and thank you very

9 much.

10 >> Dr. Fierro: Thank you and

11 they're really good comments.

12 We will make sure to talk about

13 in detail on the different

14 aspects of the Cal Grant, but I

15 think you're touching a very

16 important point. There is the

17 cost of the community college.

18 Most people assume because we

19 have the California promise, the

20 local promises and how much is a

21 unit at the community college?

22 \$46 and people assume that the

23 cost of attending community

24 college is only \$46 a unit. If

25 that is the case we will always

Sample footer

111

1 be listed in the affordable

2 places to go to college, but

3 every year we have to actually

4 send a letter to the federal

5 department, the U.S. Department

6 of Education, saying that we are

7 not an expensive place. The

8 reason we show on the top of the

9 list every year is because we

10 are in California, Southern

11 California is really expensive

12 and so on and so forth and we

13 have to explain yet cost of

14 attendance is too high so

15 understanding UC I understand

16 it's more expensive than a

17 community college but once you

18 eliminate the cost of tuition

19 the cost of going to UC is

20 essentially the same cost coming

21 to a community college because

22 they still have to eat and pay
23 transportation and pay rent and
24 they have to deal with the same
25 exact expenses as any other

Sample footer

112

1 person that lives in a large
2 metropolitan area especially in
3 Southern California so the point
4 is really well made and we will
5 make sure we bring information
6 details why it is very important
7 for us to advocate for an
8 increase on the Cal Grant for
9 community college students.
10 >> President Lewis: Okay.
11 Any other questions or comments?
12 Seeing none thank you Dr.
13 Fierro. The next item is
14 discussion item. The Board of
15 Trustees Resolutions. I put
16 this on the agenda because of a
17 number of Resolutions that we've
18 taken and some that have been
19 proposed in the past, and I
20 would like to take a look at not

21 only the current board policy
22 that we have on political
23 activity which essentially says
24 that we're not to use college
25 resources for the advocacy or

Sample footer

113

1 the opposition to a particular
2 candidate or proposition or any
3 other such political issue or
4 activity and while we haven't
5 done that I believe, and I think
6 that we should take a look into
7 either creating an entirely new
8 board policy or amending the new
9 political activity to
10 essentially say that the
11 Resolutions that we do take at
12 this board need to directly
13 relate to the college itself,
14 and so you know my -- again the
15 issues I brought up with the
16 Measure BB Resolution from the
17 last meeting is that it does not
18 directly relate to Cerritos

19 College, and to all of its
20 activities, so my proposal is to
21 send this to the board -- the Ad
22 Hoc Board Policy Committee to
23 take a look at and to discuss
24 and give a recommendation to the
25 full board either at the next

Sample footer

114

1 meeting or the next meeting
2 thereafter, so those are my
3 thoughts and those are the
4 reasons why I brought this to
5 the agenda. If anybody wants to
6 make a comment or otherwise.
7 >> Can you clarify again what
8 the proposed amendment would be?
9 >> President Lewis: Well, I
10 don't have -- I'm not going to
11 give direct specific language
12 but essentially something along
13 the lines of saying that we
14 should have Resolutions that
15 only directly relate to our
16 college, so celebrating DACA
17 week which is what we have here

18 at Cerritos College. That's
19 totally fine celebrating the
20 undocumented students. Anything
21 specifically related to Cerritos
22 College. I think that is
23 totally within our purview, but
24 in my opinion Resolutions on
25 Measure BB and other political

Sample footer

115

1 activities that aren't
2 specifically related to the
3 college is not something they
4 believe that we should be doing
5 and I think we should put it
6 into a policy so that we can
7 essentially have a self
8 restraint on what we do in the
9 future.
10 >> Well, I like to comment on
11 that. first of all I don't have
12 a problem at looking at it and
13 reviewing it and I have concerns
14 and the impact of the college
15 and the students are from a

16 various of the districts and one
17 the City of Cerritos and AB
18 unified so I don't know where
19 you're delineating it doesn't
20 impact us as a college -- let me
21 finish and the students being
22 prepared or not we're spending
23 more money to prepare them and I
24 don't see the disconnect and the
25 point you're trying to make and

Sample footer

116

1 that we shouldn't support it and
2 ultimately they're our students
3 and residents and when we look
4 at infrastructure changes and
5 increasing the capacity of what
6 the buildings are looking like
7 it impacts teacher and student
8 morale and a lot of things and I
9 don't know where the disconnect
10 happened but we're connected in
11 some way and talk about
12 education with K-12 and the
13 community college and moving
14 forward.

15 >> That's just it Trustee
16 Avalos you can apply that logic
17 to pretty much anything from --
18 really anything, whether it be
19 infrastructure bond that say the
20 City of Bellflower wants to do.
21 Well, students might have a
22 better commute if they have
23 better roads; right? While that
24 is true it doesn't directly
25 relate to Cerritos College, its

Sample footer

117

1 mission and its institution, so
2 I want to have a further
3 restraint on what we do need to
4 make as Resolutions because the
5 reason again we have Resolutions
6 is to support Cerritos College,
7 and it's to make a statement on
8 behalf of the institution as a
9 whole and we can have our own
10 personal opinions on political
11 activities whether candidates
12 for office or propositions or a

13 general issue, and so I think
14 that we as an institution need
15 to make sure that we don't start
16 going down any bunny trails or
17 slippery slopes in the future
18 based off some of the positions
19 we have taken in Resolutions in
20 the past few months.
21 >> I mean my opinion on this
22 would be it's of value for us to
23 look at issues that are larger
24 than the college or not directly
25 in the college's lap in a way

Sample footer

118

1 that whether it's by our own
2 rules that we set for ourselves
3 that we look to oblige ourselves
4 to look as ways as a college to
5 affect things on campus, so for
6 example when DACA was recinded a
7 year ago it was a big deal.
8 And what I thought we did
9 completely correctly was to look
10 for ways on campus to combat the
11 issue issue -- maybe that are

12 part of the federal policy and
13 beyond the purview what a
14 college board has say in you
15 about we have say how we react
16 on campus and what kind kinds of
17 -- we put together a plan that
18 related to if ice were to
19 perform raids on our campus and
20 how we deal with it. I think
21 that's exactly the kind of thing
22 we need to be focused on, so I
23 don't think that we should shy
24 away from dealing with larger
25 political issues but I do see an

Sample footer

119

1 advantage in framing our
2 conversations around what are
3 tangible actionable things we
4 can do as a college to implement
5 policies that are actionable on
6 our own campus.
7 >> Absolutely and I agree with
8 that statement. Just because
9 it's a federal issue doesn't

10 relate to our college. DACA
11 directly relates to our college
12 and that's exactly why that
13 phrase directly relates is a
14 broad statement in of itself.
15 There are a lot of things
16 directly relate to us and a lot
17 of things that we can effect the
18 conversation in a tangible
19 specific way, but what I am
20 trying to get at is to not to
21 have a board that is taking
22 political positions
23 unnecessarily in the future just
24 by virtue of making a
25 Resolution; that we can make

Sample footer

120

1 tangible changes to -- well, not
2 changes to immigration policy
3 but our own policies in reaction
4 to what happens at the federal
5 immigration level and we can
6 make certain statements
7 regarding you know what we can
8 do as part of you know being an

9 ecosystem let's say for the
10 issue of climate change. I
11 don't think we should be making
12 a statement one way or another
13 on climate change as a
14 Resolution but what we can do is
15 create programs in effect to
16 help better our environment
17 whether it be through you know
18 clean energy fuels or you know
19 less use of gases, anything like
20 that, so that's all I am trying
21 to say is that we need to make
22 sure that in the future we don't
23 take positions that may put us
24 in an unnecessarily divisive
25 light. Trustee Herrera.

Sample footer

121

1 >> I just have two questions.
2 Who would this Ad Hoc Committee
3 consist of? And what would the
4 voting requirements be to pass
5 whatever suggestions from the
6 committee?

7 >> President Lewis: Well, the
8 Ad Hoc Committee I believe as I
9 recall consists ever
10 Dr. Salazar, myself and Trustee
11 Camacho-Rodriguez if I recall
12 correctly, so essentially what
13 does come out of that Ad Hoc
14 Committee would pretty much be
15 an informal recommendation from
16 at least two of us and even you
17 know if there is no consensus.
18 Even if it's one person saying
19 one thing or the other it's just
20 reported what did happen at that
21 policy either a recommendation
22 comes or doesn't, and either way
23 the board has a whole can act
24 regardless of the recommendation
25 of the Ad Hoc Committee, so it

Sample footer

122

1 can create something entirely
2 new what the committee would put
3 out or adopt it wholesale.
4 Trustee Perez.
5 >> Marisa Perez: I would

6 request that the -- if you want
7 to do is limit -- sounds like
8 you're suggesting that the
9 language needs to be changed
10 because right now line nine of
11 the policy states initiative or
12 referendum areas that legitimate
13 interest of the district. And
14 that means different things to
15 different people and I suggest
16 that and the committee should
17 look at that and more direction
18 or clarity on that line and the
19 other thing too as we know on
20 another item that any member of
21 the public has a right for any
22 item to be put on the agenda and
23 I think that's a good thing that
24 our college does and like most
25 other government entities and I

Sample footer

123

1 have been in government my
2 entire career don't allow that
3 and if we need to place

4 restrictions make sure that
5 policy is amended or updated too
6 and ask the committee to look at
7 those in tandem. Thank you.
8 >> President Lewis: Thank
9 you. You're right and words can
10 mean a lot of things to
11 different people but future
12 boards or our current board goes
13 through an legitimate interest
14 or directly related verbiage
15 it's ultimately up to the board
16 at that point by a majority
17 board to take a position one way
18 or another. There's that. Is
19 there any objection to sending
20 it off to the board policy Ad
21 Hoc Sub-Committee? Seeing none
22 then we will have a discussion
23 on any future meeting dates
24 between Dr. Salazar and Trustee
25 Camacho-Rodriguez and myself.

Sample footer

124

1 All right. Next is the Study
2 Session the review of the

3 chapter one and two of board
4 policies so I don't believe
5 we're -- I know we're not going
6 to read it all out loud right
7 now in front of everybody, but
8 the board book certainly has it,
9 and it is available on our
10 website for anyone to access but
11 Dr. Fierro did you want to add
12 any comments other than whether
13 or not it is available in our
14 board book?
15 >> Dr. Fierro: So as you know
16 we will go through the
17 accreditation process in the
18 next a year and a half from now,
19 and the policy states that the
20 board will review the policies
21 regularly and the review will be
22 completed later than one year
23 with a regularly accreditation
24 visit and in the College
25 Coordinating Committee we

Sample footer

1 starting reviewing all chapters
2 of the policies and board
3 procedures and everything and in
4 the month of September we went
5 over chapter one and chapter two
6 which is mostly related to the
7 board. The different reviewers
8 and coordinating committee did
9 not have any requests for
10 changes. However, in BP20715
11 has to do with the who fills
12 Form 700. There was a question
13 about why the Dean of student --
14 of counseling did not have to
15 review or fill a Form 700 if
16 they do have oversight of --
17 [INAUDIBLE] I believe and the
18 reason for that is that budget
19 is actually under the purview of
20 the Vice President of the
21 student services, not
22 necessarily under the purview of
23 the Dean of Students so that's
24 the responsible party so changes
25 are not necessarily brought

Sample footer

1 forward at this particular time,
2 so you can either continue to
3 read them and determine whether
4 or not you want to make any
5 changes or let us know
6 [INAUDIBLE] to a former --
7 subsequent business meeting and
8 we can simply acknowledge the
9 review and no changes were made
10 so we will update the review
11 date within our policies.
12 Within the next several months
13 we will continue to review all
14 350 policies and procedures and
15 we are hoping to be done with
16 the review of all by April of
17 next year to ensure whatever we
18 review by April you get to
19 approve in May and we will be in
20 compliance with the policy and
21 on the way to have a successful
22 accreditation. We will provide
23 you with an accreditation update
24 of where we are, what we have
25 been doing, members of the

1 Committee and so on during our
2 next Study Session, but I can
3 tell you right now that the
4 credit has been meeting
5 regularly. There's a lot of
6 work being done and issues that
7 are identified at the moment are
8 being actively addressed so we
9 are hoping that the work
10 continue the way it is and again
11 hoping to have successful visit.
12 >> President Lewis: All
13 right. Thank you. Trustee
14 Perez.
15 >> Marisa Perez: Thank you.
16 I have a list of items and
17 policies I would like to
18 reviewed and let Andrea copy the
19 notes and I will say it quick.
20 12100, reviewing the Trustee
21 areas after the consensus.
22 >> I am excited about that and
23 coming up finally and some of
24 the boundaries are crazy.

25 >> Trustee Perez we can always

Sample footer

128

1 change them now.

2 >> Marisa Perez: Yes, you can

3 and legitimately I waited for

4 the census and a good point to

5 interlink. Number two, 2300 and

6 has to do with invocations. I

7 would like to addition to

8 religious leader having spirit

9 leader too and we don't have

10 religious leaders and have

11 people who are speaking and

12 motivating us and try to make

13 that a little bit broader. I

14 have to give kudos to Andrea,

15 Cheryl, Dr. Fierro on BP2340,

16 the agendas. It is really a

17 fascinating experience and how

18 wonderful and how transparent

19 and how much information is on

20 our agendas. I have been really

21 excited about that and I always

22 really brag about your work on

23 that so I wanted to thank you

24 for that. As everyone knows my

25 kids go to Bellflower School

Sample footer

129

1 District and have no information

2 on their School Board meetings

3 on the their website. You have

4 to dig around and nice when I

5 tell people yes we made

6 improvements over the last six

7 years. Yes, it was a change but

8 we're doing this so we have more

9 information out to the public so

10 I really wanted to acknowledge

11 everyone's work on that and

12 especially Andrea and it's been

13 a lot of work for her so thank

14 you. I also wanted to mention

15 and I mentioned this before we

16 need a AP developed for the

17 President Superintendent

18 selection and I know I Emailed

19 everybody about this a couple

20 time and I will do it again and

21 because last time we went to

22 hire a Superintendent President
23 we were recreating documents.
24 Remember we were -- I know Lynn
25 who has been here for forever.

Sample footer

130

1 She had some documents. A lot
2 of people had a lot of different
3 information --
4 [Laughter]
5 >> So again --
6 >> She meant to say you still
7 look good.
8 >> Yeah, but again it was a
9 lot of work and I know Adriana
10 did work and people who I knew
11 to try to recreate how we
12 selected the Superintendent in
13 the past so I don't want to miss
14 the opportunity to document it
15 and again not we want you ever
16 to leave but again I want to
17 make sure that he we have the
18 process documented and it was
19 again a lot of people's effort
20 and I felt the process was good

21 inclusive deliberate long
22 process and I want to make sure
23 and I will send this to Andrea
24 and have the policies come back
25 as part of the review process.

Sample footer

131

1 Thank you.
2 >> President Lewis: Trustee
3 on the invocation item I mean I
4 am totally good with add
5 spiritual leaders. That's not a
6 problem. I want to ask the
7 Board Members and the rest of
8 the members in the audience to
9 take it upon themselves and get
10 at least one speaker to come for
11 a board meeting. It's been a
12 little bit difficult considering
13 Wednesday nights is usually when
14 most Christians have Bible study
15 and some have mass and there's
16 usually a lot of religious
17 services on a Wednesday night so
18 I would ask that each member

19 here and anyone else in the
20 audience who would like to
21 volunteer to get a religious or
22 spiritual leader to come and
23 give an invocation because I
24 think when I first proposed this
25 it was intended to be inclusive

Sample footer

132

1 of all of our communities, and I
2 know that we can't get everybody
3 to come especially at such a
4 difficult time, but I would hope
5 that each one of us can bring at
6 least one person and commit to
7 say that one individual can
8 serve as our invocation speaker
9 at 7:00 o'clock on Wednesday
10 night so we can bring more
11 members of the communities here
12 and reflect the diversity that
13 is truly what is a part of our
14 district from anybody, so I
15 would hope that we can do that
16 and please contact Andrea with
17 anyone you can nail down for a

18 Wednesday night at 7:00 o'clock.
19 CCFE President Rosenblatt.
20 >> [INAUDIBLE].
21 >> [Off Mic].
22 >> I saw April do it. I
23 figured --
24 >> [Off Mic] I can't see the
25 line number anymore but I hope

Sample footer

133

1 you guys look at the form letter
2 that goes out. If you change
3 the rest of the policy to open
4 it up to spiritual leader or
5 something else the form letter
6 states that the person needs to
7 be part of a certain like
8 religious institution and you
9 would probably need to change
10 that too. Because we've had
11 interesting speakers come in to
12 give some comments that are like
13 reflective and they're not
14 leaders of a certain faith or
15 something and I their comments

16 were interesting and more
17 inclusive to change the
18 language.
19 >> President Lewis: Okay.
20 Thank you. Any other comments,
21 concerns or requests on any of
22 our chapter one and two
23 policies? Seeing none then we
24 will -- we don't have to receive
25 and file. It's just a Study

Sample footer

134

1 Session. All right. So now we
2 move to the one Consent Calendar
3 item and that is the employment
4 of classified short term expert
5 or student hourly personnel. I
6 will entertain a motion to
7 approve.
8 >> [Off Mic].
9 >> President Lewis: So moved
10 S there a second?
11 >> Second.
12 >> President Lewis: We have a
13 second. Any objection to said
14 motion? Seeing none Motion

15 carries. Now we move to reports
16 from officials and starting with
17 Phil Herrera.
18 >> Thank you. This last
19 weekend I attended the event in
20 Whitter and hosted by one of the
21 stores to get Chicano ware and
22 part of the rights workshop last
23 week. I am proud to say we got
24 15 people registered that
25 weren't registered. Today I was

Sample footer

135

1 hanging out with brothers and
2 sister from the Dream Club
3 helping out with the Educational
4 Master Plan week UndocuAlly and
5 I interviewed two of the sort
6 justices of the ASCC and. I
7 believe Casey will be using a
8 portion of the clip to submit
9 for the radio awards that were
10 applying for. I am also your
11 student representative for the
12 accreditation process if anybody

13 has any questions or comments
14 for me I am here for you. This
15 Friday I am participating in the
16 America cup and I am excited
17 about it. I can use any support
18 I can get. It's a thousand
19 dollars grand prize on the line
20 and I am hoping I go home with
21 it.
22 >> President Lewis. What time
23 are you cooking?
24 >> From 9:50 a.m. and
25 10:50 a.m. and the judges will

Sample footer

136

1 taste after that and on student
2 activity. Saturday night I will
3 be at homecoming with you all.
4 I will be walking one of the
5 homecoming princesses up to the
6 stage and besides that we have a
7 future event for Mecha coming up
8 and doing our own event in
9 Falcon Square. Lastly I want to
10 give a shout out to Bianca the
11 Chief editor of [INAUDIBLE]. I

12 guess she stepped out and I
13 appreciate her column that came
14 out in today's paper having to
15 do with cultural appropriation
16 of the Hispanic celebration of
17 [speaking Spanish]
18 so I am glad to see that and I
19 hope that we can have a
20 successful event for our event
21 on November 1 and hope to see
22 you all there.
23 >> President Lewis: Thank
24 you. Trustee Perez.
25 >> Marisa Perez. . Thank you

Sample footer

137

1 very much. Quickly I want to
2 recognize all the undocumented
3 students and the activities that
4 we're doing for this week.
5 Looking forward to hearing more
6 about it and seeing all the
7 great Social Media posts about
8 it, and again just a reminder
9 for the paint night this Friday

10 night in the student center to
11 support student scholarships. I
12 also -- yes last night I
13 attended the Bellflower Unified
14 School District candidates forum
15 they have a election on
16 November 6. They're a key
17 partner with us and all of the
18 K-12 partnerships. They have
19 four candidates up for three
20 seats. Last week professor
21 Patty George invited me with
22 several other students and one
23 of the counselors to speak about
24 STEM internships and research so
25 it was a good opportunity to

Sample footer

138

1 talk to our students about the
2 importance of doing internships
3 and researching so I wanted to
4 thank her. It's her
5 continuation of the work she did
6 on the sabbatical. She planning
7 a trip to Iceland next month and
8 trying to get student groups

9 there and follow up I asked Dr.
10 Fierro to give us update on the
11 creation of this scholarship
12 grant program for students to
13 travel internationally. I know
14 we financially supported the
15 students to go to Taiwan so I
16 want to open this opportunity.
17 I know there's a big group going
18 to Florence right and Patty is
19 doing Iceland and we had two
20 people that did sabbaticals on
21 foreign travel so I assume
22 they're going to propose
23 programs too and I want to make
24 sure we have opportunities for
25 all our students to travel

Sample footer

139

1 internationally and that's about
2 it so thank you.
3 >> President Lewis: Thank
4 you. Trustee Avalos.
5 >> I really have nothing to
6 report other than to tell you if

7 you registered students
8 October 22 the last day to
9 register to vote for the
10 November elections.
11 >> President Lewis: Trustee
12 Liu.
13 >> Shin Liu: I don't have a
14 report but this Saturday is the
15 homecoming and game. Hopefully
16 I see a lot of you. Thank you.
17 >> President Lewis: Thank
18 you. Dr. Fierro.
19 >> Dr. Fierro: I want to
20 express my support and gratitude
21 to -- well support towards DACA
22 students and gratitude to
23 everyone working with them from
24 the very beginning especially
25 the AB 540 Task Force and the

Sample footer

140

1 Dream Club. They have done an
2 incredible work supporting our
3 students and obviously this week
4 is to recognize them and
5 celebrate them so I am proud to

6 support them and to continue to
7 work with them to do what we can
8 to make their lives better at
9 least at Cerritos College.
10 Saturday morning I will be
11 participating in the Norwalk
12 parade and after that I will be
13 running to our homecoming
14 celebration so I was able to
15 negotiate to be placed closer to
16 the front of the parade so I can
17 sort of jump in the car and make
18 it to the float judging and the
19 lunch that we have with the
20 students Saturday and obviously
21 in the evening we will have a
22 small reception for anyone that
23 wants to come prior to the
24 homecoming game and then we'll
25 watch the festivities and

Sample footer

141

1 hopefully we will continue the
2 tradition of winning homecoming
3 games. We had a very

4 interesting presentation on the
5 1968 UCLA walk outs. I believe
6 just yesterday. The
7 presentation was interesting,
8 well attended and obviously
9 triggered a number of
10 conversations and thinking as to
11 what would that mean on today's
12 days and what is actionable
13 today and what was actionable
14 back then? So hope the students
15 exercise their critical thinking
16 skills and if they decide to act
17 that they have direction as to
18 implement the changes that they
19 want to see.
20 >> [Off Mic].
21 >> I don't know. I can't
22 remember -- I think it was
23 Monday. I attended the piano
24 Assembly with Christina Lopez
25 and I recommend you go to one of

Sample footer

142

1 those. Piano I like piano. I
2 can't play it but I really like

3 listening to it the students
4 what an incredible job and
5 performed some very complicated
6 pieces. Students playing two
7 piano at the same time and quite
8 something if you have the time
9 to see it I highly recommend it
10 and not only that they're
11 appreciative of having an
12 audience and training to perform
13 and although they know how to
14 play the piano and do it well
15 they get nervous even with one
16 person in the room and good
17 practice for them and so if you
18 haven't seen that I recommend
19 that. I want to thank Dr. Lopez
20 for reminding me every year when
21 those they are because I really
22 enjoy them. We just -- fresh
23 out of the oven and rank second
24 on of the state on the pharmacy
25 tech program. Just found that

Sample footer

1 out before -- actually when the
2 board meeting was starting so I
3 want to thank everyone, the
4 program for the good work and
5 it's a great recognition to be
6 the second program at the state
7 level on performance.

8 >> Who beat us?
9 >> Huh?
10 >> Who beat us?
11 >> I don't know.
12 >> How are we going going to
13 know who to take out?
14 >> [Off Mic].
15 >> I thought you were going to
16 say who to take out.
17 >> [Off Mic].
18 >> Dr. Fierro: So now we know
19 a little better but obviously
20 being second is a great
21 achievement so thank you to
22 everyone in the program and last
23 Thursday we were awarded the
24 excellencia award and that
25 essentially make us the best

Sample footer

1 California Promise and I will
2 argue probably the best promise
3 program at the national level
4 and that is a huge effort from
5 everyone that participated at
6 the district making this happen
7 so thank you for the work that
8 everyone is doing to make sure
9 we achieve this high
10 performance. It is not about
11 the award. It's what the award
12 means which means our students
13 are doing better and more
14 successful and we're reaching
15 higher. The award is nice to
16 have and a recognition of the
17 work that you all do but the
18 important thing being recognized
19 the awards translate into
20 metrics and performance
21 benchmarks which means our
22 students are doing better so
23 we're doing better for our
24 students.
25 >> President Lewis: Thank

1 you. Trustee Camacho-Rodriguez.
2 >> Nothing to report thank
3 you.
4 >> Trustee Birkey.
5 >> Nothing to report.
6 >> Trustee Salazar.
7 >> No report.
8 >> President Lewis: I had the
9 opportunity to attend the La
10 Mirada forum and four seats so
11 we will see how the voters say
12 on November 6 which is the first
13 time that the Norwalk La Mirada
14 School Board is going to be up
15 concurrent with an even year
16 November election. I had the
17 opportunity to attend the and
18 speak at the breast cancer walk
19 that was hosted here at Cerritos
20 College. We had Assemblywoman
21 Christina Garcia and Vice Mayor
22 Rios and herself a survivor of
23 breast cancer speak and it was a
24 great time to see a lot of

25 people come out. I want to

Sample footer

146

1 thank Lynn for coming out and
2 Tony for putting together the
3 entire event, so we're very
4 honored to host something like
5 that at Cerritos College and we
6 look forward to many more events
7 like that. Speaking of Norwalk
8 City Council the City Council
9 adopted a general economic plan
10 of how they want to invest city
11 resources and developing certain
12 what they call nodes. There are
13 ten different nodes they are
14 identified at which they will
15 narrow down to three. That's
16 different intersections and
17 areas that they believe could be
18 used for development for either
19 retail or any other community
20 benefiting item, and I think
21 that and I will when they decide
22 when have a public meeting to
23 decide which nodes to narrow it

24 down to and I think we should

25 all advocate for node eight and

Sample footer

147

1 is Alondra and pioneer and

2 across the street all the way to

3 pioneer and thereabouts around

4 bit around and I think that's

5 something that would greatly

6 benefit our students and would

7 benefit our faculty and

8 classified members as well to

9 have a well developed retail or

10 restaurant items across the

11 street or somewhere nearby that

12 we can kind of escape campus if

13 need be and if 41 tones or Zebra

14 Coffee isn't enough and the

15 Falcon cafe.

16 >> It's enough but you want to

17 know the options you're turning

18 down.

19 >> Fair enough. If you want

20 to get off campus and no other

21 two ways about it we should have

22 options outside so there's that
23 and I hope that I can have some
24 colleagues or other members of
25 the community here also advocate

Sample footer

148

1 for node eight for the Norwalk
2 City Council to invest resources
3 into. A couple other things and
4 I will attends the American cup
5 this Friday. I will try my best
6 to come and see you but I will
7 certainly attend the awards
8 ceremony which I will see you up
9 there because so it's not even a
10 big deal; right? Last but not
11 least the La Mirada theater is
12 hosting the a production of
13 murder on the orient express and
14 I will looking forward to going
15 on opening night this Friday so
16 if there's any interest from
17 anyone here there are still
18 tickets available, not for
19 opening night, in one of the
20 other shows I believe on Sunday

21 I believe has some so if you're
22 interested please let me know.
23 Before I finish my comments
24 staff has scheduled special
25 board meeting on Wednesday

Sample footer

149

1 November 7 at 7:00 o'clock of
2 which topics will include
3 accreditation report and update
4 and that bond update will
5 include information on the
6 performance art center and if
7 you haven't doesn't so already
8 let Andrea know if you're unable
9 to attend that meeting. With
10 that we will go into closed
11 session. Item ten conference
12 with Labor Negotiators and
13 representatives and employee
14 employees and unrepresented
15 employees and the other item and
16 are the real property negotiator
17 and negotiating parties Dr.
18 Fierro and what is under

19 negotiation is the price of real
20 property. If there are no
21 comments on these closed session
22 items then we'll go into closed
23 session and there will be no
24 read out.
25 [GAVEL]

Sample footer

150

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