The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD) was called to order at 12:08 p.m. with President Scott J. Svonkin presiding.

The following members were present: Mike Eng, Mike Fong, Andra Hoffman, Sydney K. Kamlager, Ernest H. Moreno, Nancy Pearlman, and Scott J. Svonkin. Interim Student Trustee Gerson A. Liahut-Sanchez was not present.

Chancellor Francisco C. Rodriguez was present.

President Svonkin led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

REQUESTS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES – CLOSED SESSION

AGENDA MATTERS

None.

RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION

There being no objection, the regular meeting recessed to Closed Session in accordance with The Ralph M. Brown Act, Government Code sections 54950 et seq., and the Education Code to discuss the matters on the posted Closed Session agenda pursuant to Government Code section 54954.5.

The regular meeting recessed to Closed Session at 12:10 p.m.

RECONVENE REGULAR MEETING

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the LACCD reconvened at 1:42 p.m. with President Scott J. Svonkin presiding.

The Board members were present with the exception of Interim Student Trustee Liahut-Sanchez.

Chancellor Francisco C. Rodriguez was present.

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION – AUGUST 19, 2015

President Svonkin indicated that The Ralph M. Brown Act requires that certain matters determined in Closed Session be reported during the public session that follows.

The Board took no action that The Ralph M. Brown Act requires to be reported.
Accountability Reporting for California Community Colleges (ARCC): State reporting data is the one used by state legislators.

Dr. Leyba discussed national data on “Six-year outcomes for students who started at a two-year public institution by enrollment intensity.” The data indicates that full-time students are much more likely to complete their educational programs than part-time students. The presentation was followed by a discussion by the Board members as to why students do not attend college full time and how the District might increase its percentage of full-time students, and other student success strategies.

Chancellor Rodriguez distributed and the group discussed a report entitled “Six-year Outcomes of Students Entering LACCD in Fall Semester” for four consecutive graduation years (2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13, and 2013-14). He indicated that data for six-year completion rates for 2014-15 would be available in October. He explained that completion included one or more of the following outcomes: degree, certificate, or transfer. For the 2013-14 graduation year, the overall LACCD completion rate was 32.6 percent.

Review Local, State, and National Leadership Participation

Members of the Board reviewed potential opportunities for leadership at the state and national level and expressed interest in being more engaged with policy committees supporting the State Chancellor’s Office, California Community College League of California (CCLC), and the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC). Chancellor Rodriguez will provide a brief description of each opportunity, general responsibilities, and time commitment.

FEDERAL ADVOCACY AGENDA 2015-2016

Two members of the District’s federal advocacy team, Ms. Leslie Pollner from Holland & Knight and Mr. Rick Taylor from Dakota Communications, gave an overview presentation of Higher Education Federal Policy to the Board. They also distributed a fact sheet about the LACCD entitled “The Power of Nine.” They stated that both firms have good connections with the White House and Congress and that their goal was to help the Board identify legislative priorities for 2015-16. They discussed the recent visit by Trustees Svonkin, Eng, and Fong to Washington D.C., in which they attended 23 different meetings over a period of three days.

Some of the major issues in education and potential priorities that were suggested included ending sequestration, increasing Pell Grant funding and reinstating year-round Pell Grants, reforming graduation rate metrics, simplifying the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), America’s College Promise Act, The Campus Accountability and Safety Act, a new proposed College Ratings System, proposed teacher regulations, the development of a national student unit record system, The Strengthening Transparency in Higher Education Act, and the Department of Education’s Gainful Employment Rule.

Ms. Pollner stated that she and Mr. Taylor would like to organize visits to the LACCD campuses later in the year with congressional representatives, so that the campuses could showcase programs that are of interest to them. Ms. Pollner and Mr. Taylor recommended that every college identify three to five areas of strength they do very well so they could highlight these programs during the visits. They concluded by announcing that they would provide the Board members with regular updates.

Discussion also occurred regarding federal grant opportunities.