



**MEETING OF THE
NEW JERSEY COUNCIL OF COUNTY COLLEGES
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2023 – 5:00 P.M.
MIDDLESEX COLLEGE
2600 WOODBRIDGE AVE., EDISON, NJ 08818
(WEST HALL, PARKVIEW ROOM)**

AGENDA

Networking – 5:00 - 5:15 P.M.

Welcome and Dinner – 5:15 – 6:00 P.M.

Community College Highlights

Trustee Spotlight Award- Jessica Stewart, Camden County College

Deborah and Lawrence Nespoli Scholarship Award- Katie Baumgarten, County College of Morris

Richard and Ann Wellbrock Chair Scholarship Award- Naci Robinson and Kendal Umana, Union College of Union County

BUSINESS MEETING (6:00 P.M.)

I. WELCOME

1. Meeting Called to Order - Reading of Public Announcement
2. Introductions and Announcements – Chair Mary Zimmermann
 - ACCT Congress- October 9 – 12, 2023

3. BUSINESS

3. ACTION: Approval of Minutes* (*pg. 3*)
 - A. June 5, 2023 Executive Committee Meeting
 - B. June 21, 2023 Council Meeting
 - C. August 7, 2023 Executive Committee Meeting

4. ACTION: Acceptance of Council Financial Statements* *(pg. 10)*

A. July 2023

B. August 2023

5. Report on Temporary Investments* *(pg. 12)*

6. Council Committees: Leadership and Membership* *(pg. 13)*

III. STRATEGY

7. FY2024 State Budget Overview

8. Council Priorities for FY 2024

- State Policy Agenda / Strategy
- State Budget Request for FY2025

9. Legislative Update* *(pg. 15)*

10. Review of 2023-2024 Council Meetings and Events

11. Trustee Leadership Academy Update

*Attachments

**MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
NEW JERSEY COUNCIL OF COUNTY COLLEGES
JUNE 5, 2023 - 4:00 P.M.
VIA ZOOM**

ATTENDEES: Mary Zimmermann, Union (chair); Barbara Gaba, Atlantic Cape; Jessica Stewart, Camden; Tony Iacono, Morris; Dot Hall, Salem; Michael Gorman, Salem.

MINUTES

1. Approval of Minutes- May 8, 2023*

By motion of Dot Hall, and seconded by Mike Gorman, the minutes of the May 8, 2023 Executive Committee meeting were approved without amendment.

2. Review of Council Financial Statements – May 2023*

By motion of Mike Gorman, and seconded by Barbara Gaba the May 2023 Council financials were accepted.

3. State Budget Update and Legislative Report

Fichtner reported that the activity surrounding the state budget is winding down, and we feel that we are in good shape. The Council has garnered strong support for the \$20 million increase in state operating aid. Senators Zwicker and Singleton, and Assemblywomen Pinto- Marin and Carter, have been great advocates for us. They submitted resolutions to both the Senate and Assembly to include the additional \$20 million in state operating aid to the community colleges. The resolutions are receiving great bi-partisan support. The Council will send letters to encourage all members of the Legislature to sign on as co-sponsors of the resolutions.

4. Action: Chapter 12 Allocations

By motion of Mike Gorman, and seconded by Barbara Gaba the FY2024 Chapter 12 Allocations were approved without amendment. The allocations will be forwarded to the full Council for their consideration and vote at the June 12, 2023 Council meeting.

5. Trustee Leadership Academy (Virtual)- June 22 and June 29

Fichtner reported that Council will be conducting two virtual trustee trainings in conjunction with ACCT in the coming weeks. There was enough need to have this second training. We will keep the committee updated on future trainings.

6. Review of June 12, 2023 Council Meeting

Fichtner reviewed the June 12, 2023 Council Agenda with the Executive Committee:

Welcome Reception and Awards Ceremony

Agenda Organizational Items

- Approval of FY2024 Budget
- Adoption of the NJCC Workforce Consortium for Workforce and Economic Development Bylaw Amendments (Noticed to Council Membership on March 20, 2023)
- FY2024 Chapter 12 Allocations

Discussion Items

- Racial and Social Justice Discussion
- SY2024 State Budget Update
- Legislative Update
- Trustee Leadership Academy Update

Meeting adjourned.

*Attachments



**NEW JERSEY COUNCIL OF COUNTY COLLEGES
MONDAY, JUNE 21, 2023
VIA ZOOM
MEETING ID 822 1887 5449, PASSCODE 638826**

MINUTES

I. WELCOME

1. Meeting was Called to Order at 6:30 p.m. - Reading of Public Announcement

In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act of the State of New Jersey, advance notice of this Public Meeting of the Council was provided on November 21, 2021 by posting written notice of this meeting on the Council website and by transmitting the meeting notice to The Trenton Times, The Trentonian, and to the Secretary of State.

ATTENDEES:

<u>College</u>	<u>President</u>	<u>Board Chair</u>	<u>Board Alternate/ Other Trustees</u>
Atlantic Cape	Barbara Gaba		
Bergen	Eric Friedman		
Brookdale	David Stout		Barbara Horl
Camden	Lovell Pugh-Bassett		Jessica Stewart
Essex	Augustine Boakye		
Hudson			
Mercer	Deborah Preston		Lawrence Nespoli
Middlesex			Chrissy Buteas
Morris			
Ocean	Jon Larson		
Passaic	Steven Rose		Denise Marco
Raritan			
Rowan at Burlington	Michael Cioce	Anthony Wright	
Rowan at South Jersey	Frederick Keating		
Salem	Michael Gorman		Dot Hall
Sussex	Jon Connolly		
Union			Mary Zimmermann
Warren			

There were 20 voting members of the Council who were present during the business meeting, constituting a majority and quorum.

Additional Attendees:

Council Staff: Aaron Fichtner and Megan Swieconek

II. BUSINESS

2. ACTION: Approval of Minutes

By motion of Barbara Gaba, and seconded by Jon Connolly, the minutes of the March 13, 2023 Executive Committee meeting; March 20, 2023 Council meeting; April 17, 2023 Executive Committee meeting; and May 8, 2023 Executive Committee meeting were approved without amendment.

3. Acceptance of Council Financial Statements

By motion of Barbara Gaba, and seconded by Dot Hall, the Council accepted the financial statements for March 2023, April 2023, and May 2023.

4. Report on Temporary Investments

The Council currently keeps its cash reserves in an account with Spencer Savings Bank. The Council is also enrolled in the NJ Cash Management Fund. As of May 31, 2023, the Council's NJ Cash Management Fund holdings are \$2,014,785.

5. ACTION: Approval of NJCCC FY2024 Budget

By motion of Jon Connolly, and seconded by Barbara Horl, the Council approved the FY2024 NJCCC Budget.

6. ACTION: Adoption of the NJ Community College Consortium for Workforce & Economic Development Bylaw Amendments*

By motion of Lovell Pugh Bassett, and seconded by Dot Hall, the Council adopted the NJCC Workforce Consortium bylaw amendments.

7. ACTION: FY2024 Chapter 12

By motion of Barbara Horl, and seconded by Jon Connolly, the Council approved the FY2024 Chapter 12 allocations.

III. **STRATEGY** (the following items were reviewed with the Council on June 12, 2023 when no quorum was present).

8. Racial and Social Justice Discussion

Fichtner reported that the presidents met last Friday for a Racial and Social Justice retreat. The discussion was facilitated by Stephanie James Wilson. It was a very productive discussion. The presidents agreed there needs to be a “part 2” retreat later this year. This discussion and recommendations that come out of this will reconstitute the Council’s Racial and Social Justice Committee.

9. FY2024 State Budget*

Fichtner reported that the activity surrounding the state budget is winding down, and we feel that we are in good shape. The Council has garnered strong support for the \$20 million increase in state operating aid. Senators Zwicker and Singleton, and Assemblywomen Pinto- Marin and Carter, have been great advocates for us. They submitted resolutions to both the Senate and Assembly to include the additional \$20 million in state operating aid to the community colleges. The resolutions are receiving great bi-partisan support. The Council will send letters to encourage all members of the Legislature to sign on as co-sponsors of the resolutions.

10. Legislative Update*

Fichtner and Nowak reviewed the legislative report in the Council packet. Of significance is the Higher Education Oversight package. After two hearings, the bills were released by the Assembly Higher Education Committee. The Council’s amendments were included in the release of these bills. There is no official word as to when the Senate will take up the package.

11. Trustee Leadership Academy

Fichtner reported that Council will be conducting two virtual trustee trainings in conjunction with ACCT in the coming weeks. There was enough need to have this second training. We will keep the committee updated on future trainings.

Meeting Adjourned.

**MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
NEW JERSEY COUNCIL OF COUNTY COLLEGES
AUGUST 7, 2023 at 12:00 PM
NJ COUNCIL OF COUNTY COLLEGES, 1 N. JOHNSTON AVE., HAMILTON, NJ 08609**

ATTENDEES: Mary Zimmermann, Union (chair); Barbara Gaba, Atlantic Cape; Sheetal Ranjan, Bergen; Dot Hall, Salem; Michael Gorman, Salem.

MINUTES

1. Approval of Minutes- June 5, 2023*

By motion of Mike Gorman, and seconded by Barbara Gaba, the minutes of the June 5, 2023 Executive Committee meeting were approved without amendment.

2. State and Federal Policy Updates

- FY2024 Budget Overview – We were successful. The budget passed including the \$20 million increase in Operating Aid to the community colleges. The Council will receive \$1 million for College Readiness Now program and \$1 million to continue the Designated Service Provider work that started earlier this year.
- Legislative Update- The Higher Education Oversight package has been signed, including the Council amendments. Fichtner is currently working with a committee of presidents to draft regulation to OSHE.
- Statement in Response to Supreme Court decision- the Executive Committee members were in support of the statement. It will go back to the presidents for one final review. The committee members agreed it should be sent out as an Op Ed authored by Fichtner on behalf of the Council. It should be shared with all of the legislators and Council partners.

3. Council Priorities for FY2024

- **Key Discussion Items:**
 - **State Policy Agenda / Strategy**
 - 1. Refocus Government Affairs Efforts to Increase the Influence of Community Colleges in State Policy Making**
 - a) Finalize and then advance a bold policy agenda for community colleges.
 - b) Release an RFP for Strategic Communications.
 - c) Hire a Project Manager for Policy as part of the Council’s Innovation and Partnership team.
 - d) Build a broad coalition in support of the policy agenda.
 - 2. Advance Racial and Social Justice in Our Colleges and in Our State**

- a) Release the statement on the Supreme Court decision and publish op-ed.
- b) Relaunch the Racial and Social Justice Committee.
- c) Hold a statewide conference to highlight promising practices and build partnerships.

3. Lead an effort of the 18 Community Colleges to Address a Wide-Variety of Academic Issues

- a) Hire a Chief Academic Officer at the Council.
- b) Priority topics include: General Education framework, Prior Learning Assessments, dual enrollment, transfer culture, pathways between noncredit and credit programs, assessment.

4. Continue to promote Innovation and Collaboration in Community Colleges

- a) Host a statewide community college conference in June 2023.
- b) Continue implementation of the Pathways to Career Opportunities Initiative.
- c) Launch the Community to Opportunity Initiative, funded by the Tepper Foundation, to support the basic needs of students.
- d) Conduct a review of the funding formula for state operating aid and propose improvements.

- **Review of 2023-2024 Council Meetings and Events-** Fichtner shared a tentative schedule of the 2023-2024 Council meetings and events with the Executive Committee members. All the members were supportive and excited about the proposed events.
- **Modernization of Governmental Affairs – Review of Proposed RFP-** Fichtner reviewed his vision of refocusing the Council’s government affairs efforts. The Executive Committee members came to consensus on all of the recommendations, except releasing the RFP broadly. The members voiced their concerns about this. It was agreed that the RFP would be single sourced to Porzio, at the lesser contracted amount Fichtner suggested. Fichtner will return in September with Porzio’s proposal for consideration.

4. NJCCC Personnel Updates

- **NJCCC Presidents Evaluation** – Fichtner will submit a summary of accomplishments and areas for further action to Zimmermann and Iacono. This document will be the foundation of an evaluation process. Zimmermann and Iacono will work together to determine appropriate next steps for the evaluation and will consult Presidents and the Executive Committee.
- **Organizational Structure-** Fichtner shared the revised Organizational chart with the Executive Committee.
- **Hiring Additional Staff-** The Executive Committee members approved two new hires, a Chief Academic Officer and a Project Manager for Governmental Affairs.
- **Salary Recommendations** – The Executive Committee members approved Fichtner’s recommendations for staff salary increases, retroactive to July 1, 2023.

Meeting adjourned.