

# Board of Trustees

## Education and Workforce Development Committee Meeting

Tuesday, June 14, 2016

3:00 p.m.

Ann Richards Administration  
Building, Board Room  
Pecan Campus  
McAllen, Texas



SOUTH TEXAS  
COLLEGE

*In the Making!*

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South Texas College  
Board of Trustees  
Education and Workforce Development Committee  
Ann Richards Administration Building, Board Room  
Pecan Campus, McAllen, Texas  
Tuesday, June 14, 2016 @ 3:00 p.m.

**AGENDA**

“At anytime during the course of this meeting, the Board of Trustees may retire to Executive Session under Texas Government Code 551.071(2) to confer with its legal counsel on any subject matter on this agenda in which the duty of the attorney to the Board of Trustees under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code. Further, at anytime during the course of this meeting, the Board of Trustees may retire to Executive Session to deliberate on any subject slated for discussion at this meeting, as may be permitted under one or more of the exceptions to the Open Meetings Act set forth in Title 5, Subtitle A, Chapter 551, Subchapter D of the Texas Government Code.”

- I. Approval of Minutes for Tuesday, May 10, 2016 Committee Meeting..... 1 – 4
- II. Review and Recommend Action to Delete and Revise Existing Policies as Related to Dual Credit Enrollment at South Texas College .....5 - 11

- a. Deletion of Policy

- Policy #3235: *Tuition/Fee Waiver for Dual Enrollment Students Sponsored by Cooperating School Districts*

- b. Revision of Policies

- Policy #3230: *Dual Enrollment of High School Students*

- Policy #3232: *Dual Enrollment Student Eligibility Requirements*

- Policy #3234: *Adjusted Tuition Rate and Waiving of all Fees for High School Students Who Independently Enroll in College Courses Offered At STC Campuses and Facilities*

## **Approval of Minutes for Tuesday, May 10, 2016 Committee Meeting**

The Minutes for the Education and Workforce Development Committee meeting of Tuesday, May 10, 2016 are presented for Committee approval.

**South Texas College  
Board of Trustees  
Education and Workforce Development Committee  
Ann Richards Administration Building, Board Room  
Pecan Campus, McAllen, Texas  
Tuesday, May 10, 2016 @ 3:00 p.m.**

**MINUTES**

The Education and Workforce Development Committee Meeting was held on Thursday, April 14, 2016 in the Ann Richards Administration Building Board Room at the Pecan Campus in McAllen, Texas. The meeting commenced at 3:05 p.m. with Mrs. Graciela Farias presiding.

Members present: Mrs. Graciela Farias, Dr. Alejo Salinas, Jr., and Mr. Gary Gurwitz

Other Trustees present: Mr. Paul R. Rodriguez

Members absent: None

Also present: Dr. Shirley A. Reed, Dr. Anahid Petrosian, Mrs. Wanda Garza, Mr. Jayson Valerio, Mr. Serkan Celtek, Mrs. Laura Sanchez, Mrs. Brenda Balderaz, Mrs. Kristina Wilson, Mrs. April Castaneda, Ms. Sharon Rice, Ms. Chelan Williams, Dr. Yemi Adebowale, Ms. Sylvia Sandoval, Ms. Raquel DeGuzman Esguerra, and Mr. Andrew Fish.

**Approval of Minutes for Thursday, April 14, 2016 Committee Meeting**

Upon a motion by Mr. Gary Gurwitz and a second by Dr. Alejo Salinas, Jr., the Minutes for the Education and Workforce Development Committee meeting of Thursday, April 14, 2016 were approved as written. The motion carried.

**Review and Discussion of Concerns Raised by ADN Program  
Students in RNSG 2331**

Several concerns had been brought to administration by students in the Advanced Concepts of Adult Health (RNSG 2331) course that is the end-of-program course for the Associate Degree Nursing Program. This course is the most critical and challenging of the entire program. The course requires students to apply all concepts, theory, and content from all courses in the preceding two years of the program.

Because this is the most challenging course, there frequently are high failure rates. While this course is extremely difficult, it is designed to prepare students for the comprehensive NCLEX exam (state RN licensure exam). The College maintains the academic rigor of the course in order to maintain the state-mandated licensure pass rate.

Students had become very active on social media both criticizing and supporting the nursing faculty and academic rigor of the course. A delegation of twelve students signed up for Public Comments at the April 26, 2016 Regular Board Meeting, and ADN Program students Lisa Scherff and Mayra Davenport spoke on behalf of those students. The delegation claimed to represent some of the 80 students from the ADN Program Level 4 students who did not pass RNSG 2331 in Spring 2016.

Ms. Scherff voiced several complaints against the faculty, program, and College, asserting that their efforts to resolve their concerns with the faculty, department chair, and dean were not effective. Following her public comments at the Board Meeting, Ms. Scherff provided the Office of the President with her notes, which were included in this packet for the Committee's review.

This presentation to the Education and Workforce Committee was coordinated to provide an overview of the recent changes to the NCLEX testing format, corollary changes to the testing methodology at South Texas College, and the administrative response to the complaints.

Mr. Jayson Valerio, Interim Dean for Nursing and Allied Health, presented the following information to the Committee and responded to questions.

#### **Recent Changes to the NCLEX Testing Format**

The NCLEX was changed in April 2013 to increase the passing score, increase the content related to management of care, and to change the question format from primarily "multiple choice" questions to heavily relying on "alternate type" questions such as "fill-in-the-blank" and "multiple response/select all that apply" questions.

#### **Changes to the Testing in RNSG 2331**

In response to the changes to the NCLEX, program faculty and students (elected by their peers to represent each student cohort) collaborated to re-design the tests for RNSG 2331 to better prepare students for the NCLEX's new, more challenging format.

- **Additional Non-Multiple Choice Questions:** Program tests were developed to better prepare students for the types of questions (various formats other than multiple-choice) that they will encounter during the NCLEX, as supported by feedback from recent graduates who have completed the NCLEX.
- **Peer Review:** As tests are designed for RNSG 2331, they are peer-reviewed by faculty from within the program. This peer-review process helps verify that these cumulative unit exams are representative of the materials presented to students throughout their ADN Program careers and to the content of the NCLEX exam.

#### **Administrative Response to Student Complaints**

In response to the students' complaints, administration was in the process of conducting a follow-up investigation:

- Students have met with administration and their statements of complaint and support are being considered.
- Human Resources was conducting an investigation into the complaints against the faculty.
- Students were advised to follow the official grade appeals process whereby their grade and circumstances will be reviewed by a panel of independent faculty reviewers.
- A review committee was established to review the course content, syllabus, testing process, and instructional strategies to provide recommendations for improving the student success rate in this course.
- The process was expected to take approximately 30 days and the results would be shared with students, faculty, and the Board.

The PowerPoint was included in the packet, as well as a memo that was sent to the Board of Trustees on April 25, 2016 in response to the student complaints and ongoing investigation.

This item was for the Committee's information and feedback to staff, and no action was requested.

### **Presentation on Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board Almanac Data on South Texas College Student Performance Data from 2011 - 2015**

Mr. Serkan Celtek, Director of Research and Analytical Services, was scheduled to present data from the Texas Higher Education Coordination Board (THECB) *Almanac of Higher Education* related to student performance data at South Texas College.

Due to time constraints, this item was postponed to a subsequent meeting.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business to discuss, the Education Workforce Development Committee Meeting of the South Texas College Board of Trustees adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

I certify that the foregoing are the true and correct Minutes of the May 10, 2016 Education and Workforce Development Committee of the South Texas College Board of Trustees.

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Mrs. Graciela Farias  
Presiding

## **Review and Recommend Action to Delete and Revise Existing Policies as Related to Dual Credit Enrollment at South Texas College**

The Education and Workforce Development Committee is asked to review the following proposed deletion and revisions to existing Board Policy, and to recommend Board approval for action as necessary at the June 28, 2016 Regular Board Meeting.

It is necessary to make extensive changes to the policies related to South Texas College's programs awarding dual credit to high school students. There are a variety of programs affected, including partnerships with local school districts as well as programs for students independently enrolled in dual credit courses at South Texas College.

One major change is the transition of referring to all such programs as "dual credit" instead of the previously used "dual enrollment." This is necessary to be consistent with language being used by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and other rules and regulations.

Furthermore, the College needs to clearly designate that dual credit programs apply to courses that lead toward a certificate or associate degree, only. This excludes adult basic education and continuing and workforce education non-credit courses.

Approval to delete existing policy:

- Policy #3235: *Tuition/Fee Waiver for Dual Enrollment Students Sponsored by Cooperating School Districts*

Approval to revise existing policies:

- Policy #3230: *Dual Enrollment of High School Students*
- Policy #3232: *Dual Enrollment Student Eligibility Requirements*
- Policy #3234: *Adjusted Tuition Rate and Waiving of all Fees for High School Students Who Independently Enroll in College Courses Offered At STC Campuses and Facilities*

### **A. Deletion of Policy**

#### **a. Policy #3235: *Tuition/Fee Waiver for Dual Enrollment Students Sponsored by Cooperating School Districts***

The deletion of Policy #3235 is proposed as part of an effort to restructure the policies regarding dual credit programs overall. Under this proposal, the contents of current policy #3235 would be revised and incorporated into the revisions to Policy #3230: *Dual Enrollment of High School Students*, as discussed below.

Upon Board approval of the proposed incorporation of the two policies, Policy #3235: *Tuition/Fee Waiver for Dual Enrollment Students Sponsored by Cooperating School Districts* will no longer be necessary.

Policy #3235 is included in the packet, watermarked as "Delete – Original Policy" for the Committee's review and consideration.

## B. Revision of Policies

### a. Policy #3230: ~~Dual Enrollment of High School Students~~ **Credit Programs with Partnering Districts**

The proposed revisions to Policy #3230 include the title change as shown above, and revisions to describe the partnerships between school districts and the College to provide dual credit opportunities to students sponsored by the respective district.

The revised Policy #3230: *Dual Enrollment Programs with Partnering Districts* is proposed for the Committee's consideration, watermarked as "Proposed."

### b. Policy #3232: ~~Dual Enrollment~~ **Credit Student Eligibility Requirements**

The proposed changes to Policy #3232 are necessary to clarify the compliance of the dual credit programs with applicable state and federal regulations. This includes clarifying that dual credit programs are limited to college credit courses leading to a certificate or associate degree and establishing the prerequisite requirements for students who participate in dual credit programs.

The proposed changes to Policy #3232 include the title change as shown above.

The proposed revision to Policy #3232: *Dual Credit Student Eligibility Requirements* is included in the packet for the Committee's information and review. The additions to the policy are highlighted in yellow and the deletions are designated with a red strikethrough.

### c. Policy #3234: ~~Adjusted Tuition Rate and Waiving of all Fees for High School Students Who Independently Enroll in College~~ **Credit Courses Offered At ~~STC~~ any South Texas College Campuses and Facilityies**

The proposed changes to Policy #3234 include the title change as shown above

The proposed revisions are necessary to clarify the compliance of the dual credit programs with applicable state and federal regulations.

This includes clarifying that high school students who independently enroll in dual credit college credit courses will pay tuition at the "independent course tuition rate" and any applicable fees which will be set each year by the Board of Trustees as part of the tuition and fee schedule.

The current independent course tuition rate for *in-district* dual credit students is \$50.00 per credit hour and applicable fees will not be waived.

The current independent course tuition rate for *out-of-district* and *out-of-state / international* dual credit students is \$78.00 per credit hour and applicable fees will not be waived.

Furthermore, the revisions to Policy #3234 clarify that the adjusted independent course tuition rate and any applicable fees apply to students independently enrolled in college credit courses leading to a certificate or associate degree.

Finally, the revisions to Policy #3234 would clarify the governing rules and regulations to include the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board specifically, in addition to other state and federal regulations that may apply generally.

The proposed revision to Policy #3234: *Adjusted Tuition Rate and Waiving of all Fees for High School Students Who Independently Enroll in College Courses Offered At STC Campuses and Facilities* is included in the packet for the Committee's information and review. The change in title and additions to the policy are highlighted in yellow and the deletions are designated with a red strikethrough.

The new and revised policies have been reviewed by staff, the President's Cabinet, President's Administrative Staff, and Planning and Development Council (PDC) staff.

It is requested that the Education and Workforce Development Committee recommend for Board approval, at the June 28, 2016 Board meeting, the following:

Deletion:

- Policy #3235: *Tuition/Fee Waiver for Dual Enrollment Students Sponsored by Cooperating School Districts*; and

Revisions:

- Policy #3230: *Dual ~~Enrollment of High School Students~~ Credit Programs with Partnering Districts*;
- Policy #3232: *Dual ~~Enrollment~~ Credit Student Eligibility Requirements*
- Policy #3234: *Adjusted Tuition Rate and ~~Waiving of all~~ Fees for High School Students Who Independently Enroll in College Credit Courses Offered At ~~STC~~ any South Texas College Campuses and Facilityies*

The proposed action, including title changes, and which supersedes any previously adopted Board policy is recommended for Committee approval and recommendation to the Board of Trustees.

MANUAL OF POLICY

<b>Title</b>	<b>Tuition/Fee Waiver for Dual Enrollment Students Sponsored by Cooperating School Districts</b>	<b>3235</b>
<b>Legal Authority</b>	<b>Approval of the Board of Trustees</b>	<b>Page 1 of 1</b>
<b>Date Approved by Board</b>	<b>Board Minute Order Dated November 19, 1996 As Amended by Board Minute Order Dated March 11, 1999 As Amended by Board Minute Order dated March 27, 2000 As Amended by Board Minute Order dated May 6, 2004 As Amended by Board Minute Order dated July 28, 2005 As Amended by Board Minute Order dated April 16, 2009 As Amended by Board Minute Order dated December 15, 2015</b>	

Tuition and fees except for those specifically addressed in the Dual Enrollment Course Agreement, will be waived for students of cooperating school districts who are participating in dual enrollment college classes, provided the following conditions are met:

- 1) the cooperating school district participates in the College's Dual Enrollment Program, Academies, or an Early College High School associated with the College.
- 2) the cooperating school district agrees to provide a school district instructor who meets the College's criteria and all qualifications to be employed as a Dual Enrollment Faculty member;
- 3) the school district agrees to be invoiced and pay mileage and cost of a College instructor(s), as delineated on the Dual Enrollment Course Agreement, in cases where a College instructor is required;
- 4) the cooperating school district agrees to follow all course curriculum, procedures, and textbook requirements of the College;
- 5) the cooperating school district agrees to provide the classroom, equipment and materials, and cover any nursing/allied health course-specific testing fees and student liability insurance as applicable.

A late enrollment fee per course as approved by the Board of Trustees and as stated on the Student Tuition and Fees Schedule will be assessed for each student enrolled after the College's census date.

Enrollment of students in the College's Dual Enrollment Program, Academies, and Early College High Schools will be governed by all applicable state and federal regulations.

Delete  
Original Policy

## MANUAL OF POLICY

<b>Title</b>	<b>Dual Credit Programs with Partnering School Districts</b>	<b>3230</b>
<b>Legal Authority</b>	<b>Approval of the Board of Trustees</b>	<b>Page 1 of 1</b>
<b>Date Approved by Board</b>	<b>Board Minute Order dated November 9, 1995 As Amended by Board Minute Order dated March 11, 1999 As Amended by Board Minute Order dated May 6, 2004 As Amended by Board Minute Order dated July 28, 2005 As Amended by Board Minute Order dated June 28, 2016</b>	

South Texas College, through the authority of the President, may enter into agreements with school districts, for the dual enrollment of high school students for dual credit.

Tuition, differential tuition, and fees for Dual Credit students sponsored by partnering school districts will be charged as approved by the Board of Trustees.

The partnering school district must comply with the following:

- 1) The school district agrees to pay applicable tuition, differential tuition, and fees as approved by the Board of Trustees;
- 2) The school district agrees to pay the cost of a college faculty member, as delineated on the Dual Credit Course Agreement, in cases where a college faculty member is required. The school district agrees to pay mileage if the college faculty member travels to the school district;
- 3) The school district agrees to follow all course curriculum, procedures, and to provide required textbooks as specified by the College; and
- 4) The school district agrees to provide the appropriate classroom, equipment, and materials, as applicable, and permit access to the College's electronic learning resources when the course is taught at the school district.

Additional conditions may be included in agreements as applicable.

South Texas College has the option to hire a high school instructor who meets the College's credential requirements and who has been approved by the South Texas College department/program chair and the Office of Human Resources as a Dual Credit Faculty member.

Enrollment of students in the College's Dual Credit Program, Academies, and Early College High Schools will be subject to all rules and regulations of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, other state and federal regulations, and College policies and procedures as applicable.

# Proposed Revision

## MANUAL OF POLICY

Title	Dual <del>Enrollment</del> <b>Credit</b> Student Eligibility Requirements	3232
Legal Authority	Approval of the Board of Trustees	Page 1 of 1
Date Approved by Board	Board Minute Order Dated January 21, 1999 As Amended by Board Minute Order dated August 19, 2004 As Amended by Board Minute Order dated July 28, 2005 <b>As Amended by Board Minute Order dated June 28, 2016</b>	

High school students who may benefit from taking college-level courses to satisfy high school graduation requirements or who wish to begin their post-secondary education prior to graduation from secondary school are eligible to participate in the College's dual ~~enrollment~~ **credit** program.

*College-level courses are limited to those leading to a certificate or associate degree. Courses offered for dual credit are limited to academic courses in the current edition of the Lower Division Academic Course Guide Manual and college-level workforce education courses in the current edition of the Workforce Education Course Manual as outlined in Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board Rule Title 19, Part I, Chapter 4, Subchapter D, Rule 4.85.*

Students ~~wishing to~~ **who** participate in the program must meet the Texas Success Initiative (TSI) **college readiness** standards as established by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board ~~(THECB)~~ and the College, *or meet the applicable student eligibility criteria outlined in Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board Rule Title 19, Part I, Chapter 4, Subchapter D, Rule 4.85. or meet prerequisites as are required ~~(need to research before including)~~.* Students must meet the College's regular prerequisite requirements for the courses in which they enroll.

The ~~Vice President for Academic Affairs~~ **dual enrollment-credit program** is ~~authorized to put in place a district-wide program for dual enrollment that meets~~ subject to all **applicable** rules and regulations of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, **other state and federal regulations, and College policies and procedures as applicable.** ~~for such programs~~

# Proposed Revision

MANUAL OF POLICY

Title **Adjusted Tuition Rate and ~~Waiving of all~~ Fees for High School Students Who Independently Enroll in College *Credit* Courses Offered At ~~STC~~ any *South Texas College* Campuses and Facilities or Facility** 3234

Legal Authority Approval of the Board of Trustees Page 1 of 1

Date Approved by Board Board Minute Order Dated April 16, 2009  
*As Amended by Board Minute Order Dated June 28, 2016*

High school students who independently enroll in ~~€~~ college *credit* courses at ~~a-*STC*~~ any *South Texas College* campus or facility will be charged an ~~adjusted~~ *independent course* tuition rate and *will be subject to* all fees *applicable* ~~will be waived~~ as approved by the Board of Trustees.

The ~~is adjusted~~ tuition rate and ~~waiver of all~~ *applicable* fees *as approved by the Board of Trustees* applies to high school student(s) ~~who independently enroll at STC, and to students who enroll independently~~ from ~~identified~~ public schools, home schools, private schools, or charter schools ~~within the College's service area~~ *who enroll independently in college credit courses leading to a certificate or associate degree.*

Enrollment of high school students who independently enroll in college *credit* courses at ~~a-*STC*~~ any *South Texas College* campus or facility will be *subject to* ~~governed by all applicable~~ *the rules and regulations of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, other* state and federal regulations, *and College policies and procedures as applicable.*

# Proposed Revision