



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thursday, February 19, 2026, at 3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
 Saddleback College Stadium, Ferry Room

MEETING MINUTES

Present:	Noah Aguilar Cara Davidoff Georgina Martinez Jennifer Voelker Andrew Hom, staff	Dr. Morgan Barrows Anthony Ferry Dr. Lisa Schenitzki Elizabeth McCann, staff Emily Cramer, staff	Trustee Lisa Bartlett Isaiah Henry Mark Schwartz Paula Barrow, staff
Absent:	M. Mahboob Akhter Kevin Middleton	Scott Kitcher Brendan O’Donnell	Jim Leach Dr. Elliot Stern
Guest:	Dr. Jennifer LaBounty		

- Meeting called to order at 3:03 p.m.
 - Attendance taken and quorum was achieved.
- Board Development Committee – Dr. Elizabeth McCann
 - A new Board member joined in December, Jennifer Voelker with Karma Automotive, Inc.
 - Cara Davidoff is back from maternity leave and Scott Kitcher has been connecting with potential members. We need to have another meeting.
 - Trying to schedule a meeting with Javad Mokhbery.
 - Will connect with Kevin McClelland when it is a good time for him.
- Consent Agenda Approved
 - December 11, 2025, Meeting Minutes and October 16, 2025, Meeting Minutes
 - Gifts Received (1/1/26 – 1/31/26)
 Motion made by Anthony Ferry, and seconded by Trustee Lisa Bartlett, motion approved.
- Finance Committee Updates – Anthony Ferry
 - Overall positive performance for both funds for July-October period.
 - No change in investment strategies.
 - Proposed consideration to look at private equity for further diversity.
 - Immediate concerns on ethical and social responsibility, how do we have governance? There are a lot of questions.
 - Solid, over \$10 million in funds, which places us in a new bracket for different investments.
 - Waiting for Foundation accounting reporting transition
 - \$791,000+ awarded in scholarships.
- Associated Student Government – Noah Aguilar
 - It took six months for approval of the Car Meet event on March 27, 2026.
 - There will be burgers and boba drinks.
 - Event will be happening in parking lot 5A.
- Classified Senate Report – Georgina Martinez

- Chris McDonald spoke at the first meeting of the new semester about the Banner change of all systems for every department.
- Caring campus held their Sweetheart Campus, celebrating the big hearts that make Saddleback a Caring Campus with treats and photos with Blaze the Bobcat.
- Classified Professionals Day will be a day of rest (from Banner), refocusing on education and students.
- Faculty Representative Report – Dr. Morgan Barrows
 - Faculty agreed on best practices on AI usage.
 - Approved Study Abroad for Oxford and Paris
 - Working hard on converting all digital communication accessible per a federal mandate.
 - Faculty Center is helping faculty get classes online.
 - Academic Senate is looking at a condensed calendar again.
 - Task Force will review what it would look like to do this.
 - Faculty will lead and will have outside resources brought in.
 - One Book One College event is on April 22
 - Author of a feel-good book will be in the McKinney Theater at noon.
- Board of Trustees Report – Trustee Lisa Bartlett
 - The past couple of weeks the Trustees have been in Sacramento and Washington D.C. promoting what we need as a District. Top priority is getting students jobs.
 - In order to get jobs, students need paid internships and/or apprenticeship experience.
 - Six out of seven Trustees have gone to conferences.
 - We are working on getting the attention of legislatures, both state and federal.
 - It was a good trip bringing back lots of ideas to implement.
 - Board retreat is coming up.
 - Funds for P3 housing
 - Do not recommend using Basic Aid funds for housing.
 - Work with a private sector partner to use ‘O’ taxpayer dollars. This is a significant tax credit.
 - California Statewide Communities Development Authority – Private Activity Bonds with lower interests and tax credits means they do not have to charge market rates for units.
 - Need to put together a task force for student housing. Will use some Basic Aid funds, but bulk of the money is used for other things for students directly.
- President’s Report – Dr. Jennifer LaBounty
 - Basic Needs Impact for 2024-2025
 - Cost of living and wages are not matching.
 - Income support through financial aid.
 - Basic Needs Center is broader support through:
 - The food pantry – offers groceries and snacks and daily lunch for housing insecure students who lack access to adequate kitchen facilities.
 - Clothing closet – access to free clothing to support professional and academic needs, including uniforms, hygiene products, and diapers.
 - Individualized case management through resource connections: housing assistance, CalFRESH assistance, transportation assistance, book vouchers, school supplies, technology assistance, utility assistance, legal resource referrals and homeless youth financial aid dependency overrides.
 - Narrow support through:
 - Emergency grants to eligible students for one-time assistance up to \$1,000 per student to address urgent financial needs.
 - Hot lunch meals are reserved for lower income students.
 - Clothing closet looking to expand to other programs for providing students uniforms and toolkits.

- Internships/Experiential Learning
 - In instruction and student services
 - Research
 - Internship/Apprenticeship
 - Just awarded money for 2026 through 2029 from College Corps.
 - Working with Concordia University and IVC, offering 65 students for a yearlong program for community service paid to put on resumes. Each student receives \$7,000 a year and up to \$3,000 additional funding when they finish their hours.
 - a. Their goal is to build leadership skills and civic responsibility.
 - b. They want students with diverse backgrounds.
 - c. They want students to work with community based organizations. Areas are K-12 education, food insecurity and climate action.
- Just applied for Strategic Enrollment Program, STEM academy for adult learners.
 - Looking at what support these learners need.
- Saddleback College Vets Program won national recognition award (across 1600 schools) for number one Vets Chapter.
 - Kolin Williams recognized as a top five advisor to the club.
- Student Services and Adult Learners
 - Working with the cafeteria to provide hot meal vouchers.
 - Check out working with O.C. Wasted & Recycling for food products for setting up hot meals program.
 - O.C. Flex for transportation needs in Mission Viejo, Aliso Viejo, and Laguna Niguel.
 - Adult learners need childcare.
 - Experience learner internship both paid and nonpaid. Trying to get more organized to find out all the partners we have.
- Foundation Report – Dr. Elizabeth McCann
 - The Foundation received the first endowment for study abroad scholarship last semester.
 - This is a blended gift of an endowment and annual gift to support scholarships.
 - Awarding \$16,000 this summer for students going to Paris and Costa Rica.
 - Must meet criteria for financial need.
 - First round of awards will go to students studying in Paris for four weeks.
 - Opportunities for summer science research for Environmental Studies and Biology students with Cal State Long Beach, Chapman University, Cal State Fullerton, and a State Park.
 - Six students receive \$4,500 each.
 - Students present posters on their research once completed.
 - Donors have set aside an estate gift so the program to continues into perpetuity.
 - Inaugural Golf Tournament for VETS is on March 9, 2026, at Aliso Viejo Country Club.
 - Annual RX3 Flag Football event is on March 21, 2006, at Saddleback stadium.
 - There are ten teams are headed by NFL quarterbacks.
 - This event is exposure for Saddleback College, and the Foundation receives a significant gift to manage this event.
 - VIP ticket is \$1,300, Select ticket is \$200 and the General Admission tickets are \$50.
 - Finding a date for the sneak peek of the Math and Computer Science tour before the ribbon cutting date.
 - Annual Scholarship reception is on Thursday May 14th at 2:00 p.m. in the gym.
 - Hosted the Foundation Annual Giving Day on February 11, 2026.
 - This is a long term effort to build a culture of philanthropy on campus.
 - 1st Year – Big splash all day event raised \$9,000 with six first time donors.
 - 2nd Year – It was a rainy day; we raised \$3,000 but had a significant number of payroll deduction donors and thirteen first time donors.

- 3rd Year – We raised close to \$5,000 and had twelve payroll deduction donors.
 - Payroll Donor Appreciation lunch will be on April 8, 2026, in College Center.
 - Encouraging folks to still give on-line.
- Gala is on October 10, 2026, in the new Math and Computer Science Building.
- State of the District is on March 4, 2026, at ATEP at 4:00 p.m. The Chancellor and College Presidents will speak.
- Adjourned meeting at 4:18 p.m.