Saddleback College

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thursday, September 24, 2026, at 3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

President's Conference Room AGB 106

MEETING MINUTES

Present:	Dr. Lonita Cordova Isaiah Henry Kevin Middleton Violeta Zahrae Emily Cramer, staff	Trustee Lisa Bartlett Jim Leach Brendan O'Donnell Elizabeth McCann, staff Andrew Hom, staff	Cara Davidoff Scott Kitcher Jennifer Voelker Paula Barrow, staff
Absent:	Noah Aguilar Yolanda Farrow Mark Schwartz	M. Mahboob Akhter Anthony Ferry	Dr. Morgan Barrows Dr. Lisa Schenitzki
Guest:			

1. Meeting called to order at 3:06 p.m.
   - Attendance taken and quorum was achieved.
2. Board Development Committee – Jim Leach/Dr. Elizabeth McCann
   - Executive Committee members had lunch with Javad Mokhbery, prospective board member. He is currently hesitant to join the Board. Javad would like to attend the meetings, so he will be added to the distribution list and will be welcome any time he is able to join.
3. Consent Agenda Approved
   - August 27, 2026, Meeting Minutes
   - Gifts Received (8/1/26 – 8/31/26)

   Motion made by Trustee Lisa Bartlett, and seconded by Scott Kitcher, motion approved.
4. Finance Report – Dr. Elizabeth McCann
   - The endowment fund is currently at $12.7 million. We are doing great.
   - Since Anthony Ferry, Treasurer, is absent, we will wait for him to give the full finance report.
5. Associated Student Government Report – Noah Aguilar (absent, no report)
6. Classified Senate Report – Violeta Zahrae
   - Classified Senate held the first general meeting of the academic year.
     - Discussed goals for the year
     - Gathered feedback from members on key priorities for this year
     - The major focus for the executive team is to strengthen classified representation by filling all remaining vacancies on college and district committees.
     - Looking forward to continuing work on Vision 2035 Initiative.
   - She is excited and thankful for the opportunity to participate and support the gala event this year.
7. Faculty Report – Dr. Morgan Barrows (absent, no report)

8. SOCCCD Report – Trustee Lisa Bartlett
    - A lot going on at the District level.
    - Looking at the budget overall.
        - We want to be proactive in addressing any issues early.
        - Looking at different sources for low dollar interest through various entities and organizations to help with construction costs for major infrastructure projects, like student housing and other big dollar items. Grants and other funding opportunities would help offset some of the costs.
    - We have been proactive with Chris McDonald and his team on cybersecurity issues and fraudulent enrollment.
        - SOCCCD is focused to keep on top of things, so we do not lose financial aid dollars and give out funds to fake students.
        - We are making sure our dollars are protected, and our students are protected.
        - Over the last four years over $100 million of financial aid has been stolen from the state's 116 community colleges due to fraud.
9. President's Report – Dr. Lonita Cordova
    - The staff appreciation lunch was today.
    - Attended a summit at Mount SAC that looks at how we can provide industry experience for our veterans and also our workforce folk coming onto the campus.
    - Looking forward to the gala.
10. Foundation Report – Dr. Elizabeth McCann
    - Focusing on two major events. The first is President Cordova's installation ceremony hosted by the South Orange County Community College Board of Trustees, The Chancellor, and the Saddleback College Foundation.
        - Dr. Cordova is Saddleback College's twelfth president.
        - The installation will take place on Wednesday, September 30th from 4:00-6:30 p.m. in McKinney Theater.
            - Check-in is at 4:00 p.m., the program starts at 4:30 p.m. and is followed by a reception at 5:30 p.m. in the courtyard outside the theater.
            - The caterer is The Grand Food and Beverage.
            - Joey Sellers' jazz students will provide entertainment during the reception.
    - The next big event is our gala on October 10th.
        - We are sixteen days away, right around the corner.
        - A fantastic evening is planned.
        - Celebrating our School of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math.
            - You will not want to miss the fun things going on from the moment you arrive.
            - The Top Sponsors reception starts at 5:30 p.m. and the general reception starts at 6:00 p.m.
            - We are still seeking donations for the silent and live auctions.
            - Anthony Ferry and Isaiah Henry were thanked for being top sponsors.
            - We cannot wait to celebrate with you!
11. Adjourned meeting at 3:38 p.m.