



Friday, December 3, 2021

Regular Meeting with Dr. King, Dr. Spizzirri, and Dr. Parnell

Minutes

A regular meeting of the Executive Council of the Faculty Association of Trinity Valley Community College met in the board room Athens Administration building with a call to order at 9:05 am on Friday, December 3, 2021. The following members were present:

- Carol Pendland
- Jennifer Hannigan
- Tom Sheram
- Brian Allen
- Richard Crosby
- Regina Clary
- Karen Shipman
- Dana Curry
- Dr. Jerry King, TVCC President
- Dr. Kristin Spizzirri, TVCC Vice President of Instruction
- Dr. Philip Parnell, TVCC Vice President of Student Services

I. Welcome

Dr. Spizzirri welcomed everyone and began the meeting.

II. TDCJ concerns

Items concerning curriculum changes and other pressing issues were discussed. Dr. King called for a meeting to be arranged. Dr. Spizzirri arranged a required meeting with all parties to discuss the issues at length. Dr. Spizzirri updated the members on the plan for TDCJ inclusion in the upcoming spring in-service.

III. Vaccinations

A question was raised regarding mandatory vaccinations. In Tuesday's meeting, Dr. Spizzirri said we should be exempt from any mandated vaccine, with the exception of certain programs like nursing. Dr. King confirmed that there will be no mandatory vaccinations at this time.

IV. Other items

A question as to the length of time to keep old paper LEAPS. Dr. Spizzirri agreed three years; however, if uploading LEAPS to Canvas, there is no need to keep the paper copies.



TVCC Faculty Association Executive Council

Listed below are items previously discussed at length with Dr. Spizzirri on Tuesday, November 30, 2021 at 1:30 pm. Regular members present: Carol Pendland, Jennifer Hannigan, Regina Clary, Tom Sheram, and Dana Curry.

In addition, the following items were briefly discussed with Dr. King on Friday, December 3, 2021. Dr. King's comments are included below.

I. Fall break and calendar

A question regarding possibly removing fall break and having a full Thanksgiving week off. Dr. Spizzirri explained how fall break counts as a week towards the 16-week calendar, as well as Thanksgiving week. Otherwise, the semester would be longer by extending a week into December. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board regulates the start date of the semester and our semester cannot begin before this date. Dr. Spizzirri followed up on this start date and confirmed it during Friday's meeting with Dr. King. Final exams for block schedule was discussed as well.

II. Syllabus system

The Faculty Association wanted to praise the new syllabus system and David May on all his hard work on it. Dr. Spizzirri agreed and will pass the information along.

III. Changes to the grade appeal system

The grade appeal process was discussed. Students should not be limited on their reasoning for appealing a grade. The chain of command should be followed on all levels when a student has a complaint: the student should be refocused to the instructor. Dr. Spizzirri reiterated her commitment for all to follow the chain of command.

IV. Changes to faculty schedules

An issue concerning changes to faculty schedules was discussed and addressed by Dr. Spizzirri.

V. Faculty salary schedule

Discussions were had regarding faculty salary schedules. Dr. Spizzirri is aware of concerns and will be happy to discuss questions with employees and HR, if needed.

VI. Other issues

A question was asked as to whether Christmas bonuses would be given this year. Dr. Spizzirri said in light of the recent salary increases, most likely there will be no bonuses this year.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 am