

President's Report to the Edison State Community College Board of Trustees December 12, 2024

➤ President's Office

- The Regional Workforce Development Summit on November 19 was a major success. The 25 attendees explored ways to strengthen our partnerships with organizations in the region and to better equip students with the career readiness skills that will help them succeed on the job.

➤ Academic and Student Affairs

- Currently, the Spring 2025 semester enrollment is up by 13% in headcount and 10% in credit hours when compared to the same number of days out from Spring 2024 semester. These numbers are subject to change and will not be finalized until early February.
- Congratulations to Dr. Melissa Wertz on being selected as a Peer Reviewer for the Higher Learning Commission!

➤ Grants Update

- Thank you to Dr. Rick Hanes, Christina Raterman, and the many subject matter experts from various offices who worked on the recent submissions of the following grant applications:
 1. Campus Safety Grant -- \$130,000 for improvements to internal and external communications, door security, and visual security.
 2. Rural Guided Pathways Project – application to participate in a cohort of colleges nationwide as they seek to implement and/or improve the Guided Pathways to Success model at their institutions. The project would provide expert coaching, best practice resources, and training institutes to help colleges with their Guided Pathways work.
 3. Caring Campus Network – application to join a nationwide network of colleges whose aim is to engage in a cultural change that helps to welcome students and create the sense of belonging that is so important in the effort to increase persistence and completion. The training and expert coaching involved is valued at \$50,000.

➤ Accreditation and Academic Effectiveness

- The Ohio Department of Higher Education recently approved Edison State's self-assessment of Perkins Grant monitoring requirements for fiscal year 2025 with no corrective actions needed. Thank you to Kim Zornes, Dean of Accreditation and Academic Effectiveness, for her great work on this!

➤ Information Technology Services

- As a follow-up to the discussion at last month's Board meeting regarding redundancy and backing up critical college information, the following explanations are here provided:
 1. Website, Catalog, Blackboard, Office365, Bookstore – All data and information are in the cloud with the individual vendors, who have redundancies in place. There is no concern with data security or retrieving the data if these systems go down.
 2. Ellucian software used for Student Services, Accounting, Payroll, Registration/Records, employee information – Ellucian Software is hosted on the premises with old hardware. Backups are completed daily and stored in the Annex 600 building, which is next to the Edison State baseball field. There is a risk of losing data from a natural disaster or a bad actor.
 3. The following solutions are being explored:
 - Data warehouse for backups - Completely offsite and could have us back up immediately
 - S3 cloud storage for backups - Completely backed up in the cloud and could have us back up within hours
 - Moving to Ellucian SaaS or another ERP on the cloud

➤ Trustee Celebrations

- Many thanks to Trustee Elizabeth Gutmann for her outstanding service to the Board since 2018! Today is her last meeting. Trustee Gutmann, we wish you all the best in your future endeavors, and we will miss you greatly!

➤ Upcoming Events

- Nursing Pinning – December 12 (6:30pm)
- Employee Holiday Luncheon – December 13 (11:30am)
- Police Academy Graduation – December 17 (6:00pm)
- Farm Forum at Edison State – December 19 (8:00am)
- Holiday Break (College is closed) – December 23- January 1
- Spring 2025 Duty Days – January 13-17
- Spring 2025 Semester Begins – January 20
- Edison State Board of Trustees Meeting – January 22 (2:00pm)