

Skyline College
Health, Safety, and Emergency Preparedness Committee
Minutes for
Monday, November 15, 2021
2:00 – 3:30 pm

Committee Members Present: Cassidy, Paul (RESOURCE); Chak, Kevin; Elliott, Donna; Vangele, Jim; Colin, Cherie; Doctor, John ; Erskine, Alice; Garcia, Vince (RESOURCE); Ghanma, Mousa; Lachmayr, Lucia; Golda Margate; Tentes, Theresa; Slicton, Lori; Tuck, Kristen; Watts, Tina; Wehrfritz, Marco; Hernandez, Raymond (RESOURCE); Silver-Sharp, Jessica; Suzuki, Masao; Weidman, Christopher; Tupper, Brian S. (RESOURCE); Tara Grover; Joe Morello (CHAIR)

I. Call to Order

Joe Morello

- Attaining a quorum, Meeting called to order by committee chair.
- Approval of agenda – motion approved.

II. Consent Agenda

Joe Morello

- Meeting minutes Sep 2: motion approved.
- Meeting minutes Oct 7: motion approved, with proposed changes.

III. Standing Reports

a. Health Center

Donna Elliot

- None / deferred.

b. Facilities

John Doctor

- Building 2, CA Department of State Architect approval expected in November.
- Building 19 B-wing restrooms are open. A-Wing restrooms should be open by the end of the week.
- College Ridge faculty and staff housing project on track to be completed by mid-summer of 2022.
- Building 1 renovation, state architects have approved the project.
 - In response to question from committee member regarding “access, noise, and dust” during work planned for Building 1, the Facilities Manager provided additional detail that renovations will include the restroom on first, second, and third floor during winter break.
 - Beginning in February, Choral Room and Kiln Room are scheduled to be demolished; demolition and foundation work for the elevator will be performed; and construction of a photography laboratory will commence in Spring term.
 - Construction areas will use fans to ensure sufficient air flow from outside and draped plastic sheets will be used to partition the construction air from the rest of the building. Some occupants may be temporarily relocated to shelter their work space from the impact of renovation work.

- c. Public Safety** **Jim Vangele**
- Highlighted the availability and informative quality of district website. Invited any questions from committee.

- d. Emergency Preparedness** **Ben'Zara Minkin**
- Postponed, time ceded to discussion from District Health Officer

IV. Updates

- a. Future meeting dates** **Joe Morello**
- Discussion and vote of future meeting times. The Committee chair described a variety of scheduling constraints that affect proposed HSEPC meetings.
 - Motion for Thursday(s) @ 12:45pm – 2:05pm, seconded.
 - Vote taken, Thursday(s) @ 12:45pm – 2:05pm is selected as the continuing meeting time.

- b. Return to Campus Briefings** **Ray Hernandez**
- The District Health Officer reviewed San Mateo County health data and status. State of California Health and CalOSHA June 15 rescinded restrictions on physical distancing, capacity limits on business activities. County tier system references to three metrics:
 1. County transmissions – San Mateo County is in the orange tier, as defined by the CDC.
 2. Severity of disease
 3. Vaccination – now includes *everyone*, not just eligible; San Mateo measure changed from above 90% to 74%. Goal is 80%, which with newly eligible vaccination of ages 5 – 11 is likely to reach the goal.
 - a. Vaccination will not reduce risk to zero, and risk may never be reduced to zero.

- c. COVID-19 Health, Safety, and Recovery** **Ray Hernandez**
- COVID testing will begin on Nov 29th. Human Resources is messaging affected employees. The name of testing contact person who will be present on campus Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays for employee testing.
 - Using a third-party vendor, testing process has been made as flexible as possible to accommodate employees. Student testing will commence in the Spring term.
 - Religious exemption authorized by Board of Trustees.
 - Website is up-to-date with regard to exemptions and how to obtain, including the possibility for a religious exemption. A student unable to obtain an exemption will be limited to remote / online learning alternatives only. In very near future, enterprise cloud resource WebSmart will be able to handle requests for religious exemptions in place of current manual process.
 - The District Health Officer answered specific further questions and detailed the parameters governing exemptions and the requirements for testing.

V. Constituent Group Updates

a. Safety concerns and recommendations noted on campus

AFSCME, AFT, CSEA, MC, Divisions

- Recommendations proposed by AFT representatives, Jessica Silver Sharp and Laurie Slicton, expressing joint concerns of AFT and CSEA collaboration, and also includes relevant feedback from a recent survey.
- A concern was raised with regard to 60 positive exposures over recent months and the Board of Trustees recent decision to allow religious exemptions.
- A viewpoint heard most from their constituency expressed that face-coverings should continue to be worn by all on campus regardless of vaccination status or county orders. It was judged to be neither equitable nor practicable to require face coverings for unvaccinated persons while excluding those vaccinated.
- It was further observed that it was not illegal for SMCCCD to enact additional precautions beyond what County Health Office or CalOSHA has required. It was expressed that the lack of a mask mandate may make faculty, staff, and students more anxious about returning to campus.
- One committee member expressed similar concern regarding student willingness to return to campus, citing lower enrollment counts in their classes.
- Faculty have asked for enhanced reporting of positive cases on campus, referencing specific room locations, as described at other institutions. This includes a fuller discussion of what is meant by exposure and transmission on District campuses. One committee member similarly found it difficult to reassure students, faculty, or staff citing a lack of specific case information.
- District Health Officer agreed that community members had a right to know and responded that the District is exploring how best to disseminate helpful case information while adhering to HIPAA regulations. District Health Officer then summarized the contact-tracing procedures recommended by the County Health office, including isolation, testing, definition of exposure, quarantine, who is notified in the case of exposure in classrooms and high-volume areas, and the criterion for returning to work. District Health Officer also affirmed that 15 minutes duration remains the currently relevant criterion for defining exposure.
- It was also affirmed by the College President that in the case where an instructor shows evidence of illness – the situation will be handled according to pre-COVID practices (e.g. arranging for a substitute), and modality will not be changed to ‘online’.
- Recommending additional safeguards for faculty, staff, and students interacting with those whose vaccination status is unknown. Recommendations include: reducing the level of occupancy for given rooms, improved signage with respect to symptoms and PPE guidance, monitoring buildings 3, 5, 6, 19 to enforce policies relating to COVID, access to more precise indoor filtration and ventilation data, and a request for portable filtration devices that can be available upon request.
- Public Safety expressed concern that occupancy of a space should not become a proxy for class-size bargaining concerns. One committee member asked about monitoring in high-traffic areas and how policies will be enforced in those areas.

- Facilities Manager indicated that HVAC data for every room is being developed and will be available in future.

VI. Future Agenda Items

a. Committee Membership and Charge **Joe Morello**

- Deferred / postponed to future meeting due to lack of time.

b. Exercise Program **Marco Wehrfritz**

- Deferred / postponed to future meeting due to lack of time.

VII. Adjournment **Joe Morello**

- Committee chairperson cited time, reviewed next proposed actions for the committee, and called for adjournment.