

**Skyline College**  
**Health, Safety & Emergency Preparedness**  
**Committee**

**Minutes**

**Thursday, September 2, 2021**

**1:00 pm – 2:00 pm**

**I. Agenda** **Eloisa Briones**

- Motion to approve Agenda for September 2, 2021 were approved.

**II. Review & Approval of August 5, 2021 Minutes** **Eloisa Briones**

- Motion to review and approve August 5, 2021 minutes were approved.

**III. Report and Updates**

**a. Recovery and Safety Update**

**Ben’Zara Minkin (for Ray Hernandez)**

- As District Health Officer Ray Hernandez was unable to attend, District Emergency Preparedness Manager Ben’Zara Minkin provided a recovery team update. He also gave the committee site vaccine information and where testing for students and employees was available. Additionally, Board and District policy with respect to face coverings, vaccine and Cal/OSHA requirements were also reviewed.
- Board and District vaccination policy for employees including the attestation process were further reviewed. Steps to reduce levels of mistrust of health and other officials that may exist in student and other populations are being considered. At present, a mask is required indoors for all students and employees regardless of that person’s vaccination status.
- The District has considered surveillance testing for unvaccinated persons and that a vendor has been arranged. The Committee was advised that the District is ready and prepared to implement such guidelines but awaits final determination by Board. SMCCCD policies must adhere to Cal-OSHA as an employer, but that in certain instances the District may choose to implement more protective policies than those recommended by Cal-OSHA.
- The Committee was informed that Skyline is ready to administer surveillance testing in response to a board determination to do so.

**b. Air Quality Index (AQI)**

**Ben’Zara Minkin**

- The Committee was advised that the District is providing training to Facilities and other staff in preparation for wildfire smoke precaution. Moreover, the District has prepared a decision matrix that determines in advance whether or not on-site classes will be held based on measured AQI at given points of time. The Committee was advised that N95 mask protection is available and more than adequate to protect against wildfire smoke. Additional training will be made available via Keenan Safe Colleges training modules.

**c. Public Safety**

**Jim Vangele**

- Public Safety has been effective in distributing PPE to faculty and staff. Public Safety has also been

present and active on campus orienting new students and faculty on navigating the campus, including the move to Building 19. Despite the suspension of the permit system, parking compliance has been orderly and without problems. Public Safety team has helped manage campus during vaccination drives, and has also been assisting with weekly food distribution. Overall the campus is safe and Public Safety has been available to answer questions, be present and visible, and resolve any problems as they arise.

**d. Facilities**

**John Doctor**

- An update was provided on the status of campus construction and capital improvement projects. The work proposed for Buildings 1 and 2 are currently being reviewed by State of California architects. The faculty and staff 30-unit housing project on College Ridge is currently in progress and ready by next year summer. The work in Building 19 is nearing completion as contractors are working through their final list of items. Also, PPE and hand sanitizer supplies are also available upon request.

**e. Reporting on Safety Concerns**

**ALL**

- None.

**IV. Safety Committee Purpose and Charge**

**ALL**

*Review, Discuss and Provide Feedback on including an Equity lens in the Committee Charge*

- Joe Morello provided an update to the committee regarding the possible update of committee charge with respect to an equity lens. He reviewed the proposed modified language which reflected updated role for committee. Joe also reviewed a proposed timetable for the modified language to be considered by committee members' constituent groups. Feedback should be returned to the committee working group by September 17<sup>th</sup>, with a final draft for consideration available on Oct 7<sup>th</sup> meeting.
  - The committee considered the benefit of using standardized language consistent with collective bargaining agreements rather than language adapted at each campus which has the potential to create inconsistency in interpretation or application across the District.
  - Joe Morello raised the possibility of a uniform committee structure, noting that the committee and its functions have evolved over time. Another committee member stressed the value of being both concise yet flexible will extend the life-span and usefulness of the committee.
  - The committee agree to extend the duration of the meeting by 30 minutes to facilitate further discussion.

**V. October 7, 2021 Preliminary Agenda Items**

**ALL**

- The Committee Chairperson invited suggestions in addition to safety committee purpose and charge and recovery updates.
  - One committee member asked to have an agenda item to review committee procedures. Another committee member asked to review committee membership, committee size, how committee membership is determined.
  - A motion was proposed to re-vote to amend previous minutes approval, which was seconded.

**VI. Round Table Health and Safety**

**ALL**

*Open discussion of campus specific/district-wide questions, comments and concerns*

- Jessica Silver-Sharp and Lori Slicton presented concerns from counselors scheduled to return to campus in two week's time.
- Concerns listed as follows:

- *How effective can filtration be in a closed room with no natural air during a 1-2-hour meeting with students?*
- *Consistent with earlier concern about not having a testing / monitoring of students or visitors, are checkpoints possible, as at several other California community colleges?*
- *How will they be notified in the case of an outbreak – please provide more details. Also, counselors observe that unlike in the case of classroom instruction, counselors like librarians receive visits from the community and consequently do not know who will be entering the space. How can they be assured that those visitors are vaccinated?*
- *What assurance is there that health screenings are done on a regular basis? Who is doing screenings?*
- *Since vaccinated persons are excluded from quarantine, how will it be known if a vaccinated person has been notified that they may have had contact with an infected person?*
- *If UC requires all students and employees to have vaccines, can SMCCCD also implement this policy?*
- *Can district implement a policy for vaccine verification before students are on campus with reference to full return in January for Spring term?*
- *If an unvaccinated student schedules an appointment with a counselor or other employee, they feel strongly that they have a right to know. If so, the employee may choose to interact with the student in a protected way such as using a plexiglass barrier or meet remotely—will there be an opportunity for remote interaction on campus?*
- *Counseling faculty request that administration acknowledge the possible level of exposure that counseling faculty are exposed to without knowledge or assurance of the effectiveness of ventilation and filtration in enclosed spaces where students will be less than six feet away, while not being able assure that student has been vaccinated or is asymptomatic.*
- Jessica Silver Sharp’s statement from counselors further observes that at CSM and Canada, counselors are not required to return to work this month. AFT is hoping to obtain one uniform policy.
- In response, the committee was advised that that there will be testing locations at all three campuses. The discussion distinguished between required testing for a person who has been exposed as compared to surveillance testing a person who has been vaccinated or shows no symptoms.
- The Committee was further informed that a space assessment in Building 19 will be conducted with counselors next Wednesday. The space assessment process has identified areas where additional filtration was needed and, in those places, have deployed air-scrubbers/MERV-13 equipment. It was emphasized that Facilities wants everyone to return to campus safely and is working now as it has been working for the last year and a half to make the facilities as safe as possible. The use of work orders was highlighted so that each request or concern can be tracked and followed up on, which promotes good accountability.

## **VII. Adjournment**

- Committee Chairperson Eloisa Briones introduced a motion to adjourn at 2:22pm which was approved.

The Health, Safety & Emergency Preparedness Committee agenda and minutes from prior meetings can be found at <https://www.skylinecollege.edu/healthsafetycommittee/agendasminutes.php>