



**MILWAUKEE AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGE DISTRICT BOARD
MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN
JUNE 3, 2004**

CALL TO ORDER

A Special Meeting of the Milwaukee Area Technical College District Board was held in open session on Thursday, June 3, 2004, and called to order by Chairperson Maierle at 5:32 p.m. in the Board Room, Room M210, at the Milwaukee Campus of Milwaukee Area Technical College.

ITEM A. ROLL CALL

Present: Jeannette Bell, Peter Earle, Carl (Chuck) Gobel, William Hughes, Mark Maierle, Linda Sowell, Keith Terry, and Bobbie Webber. Lauren Baker arrived at 5:48 p.m.

ITEM B. COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN MEETINGS LAW

Chairperson Maierle indicated that proper notice of the meeting had been given in compliance with the Wisconsin Open Meetings Law.

ITEM C. MATC DISTRICT FY2004-05 BUDGET

Discussion President Darnell E. Cole presented 2004-2005 Budget Challenges and distributed a General Fund Analysis. Ms. Theresa Barry, vice president, Student Services, stated that the Student Senate had suggested increasing the student parking pass fee to \$30. Dr. Cole distributed a memorandum regarding Contracted Services.

Mr. Earle suggested freezing contracted services, noninstructional services supplies, and travel expenses. He also suggested capitalizing building repairs. Mr. Earle proposed a reduction in Public Information (marketing) without affecting targeted FTE-generating activities.

Ms. Baker arrived at 5:45 p.m.

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Ms. Bell suggested exploring structural efficiencies and efficient delivery of services.

Ms. Baker suggested freezing non-teaching and learning expenditures at current levels.

Mr. Rob Hartung, vice president, College Advancement, stated that applications had increased 25 percent during the past year, based on promotional efforts of the college in five specific areas.

Dr. Hughes recommended that faculty/staff/students/citizens develop budget principles to guide decision making and priorities of the college. He also stressed that revenues should be generated by expanding business activities and increasing enrollment from high schools, for example.

Ms. Sowell expressed concern regarding the budgeted increase in travel expenses.

Mr. Gobel inquired if responses would be prepared for questions/concerns expressed at the June 1, 2004, Public Hearing on the Budget. Dr. Cole stated that issues would be addressed during the Closed Session since personnel issues were involved. Mr. Gobel requested that public comments from the Budget Public Hearing be addressed.

Ms. Sowell inquired if final decisions had been made regarding the Mequon Campus jewelry courses. Dr. Cole stated that the equipment and supplies would be relocated to the Oak Creek and Milwaukee Campuses and that jewelry courses would be offered at those campuses as well as with a high school partnership. Ms. Sowell requested that information regarding the jewelry courses be communicated to taxpayers.

Mr. Maierle left the meeting at 6:43 p.m. Ms. Baker assumed the Chairperson's role.

Dr. Cole noted that comments from the public were considered when the budget had been established.

Mr. Maierle returned to the meeting at 6:47 p.m.

Mr. Webber emphasized the need to preserve jobs when considering budget reductions.

Mr. Gobel stated that it would be appropriate to discuss programs and concerns expressed in the Budget Public Hearing during the Open Session of the meeting.

Dr. Cole stated that the goal had been to try to preserve teaching and learning in the child care center, and that it was the only lab currently supported by auxiliary services. Dr. Cole stated that a recommendation had been made to reduce the number of weeks that student service specialists would be available, not to eliminate individuals. He indicated that the Office of Corporate Learning would work with the potential influx of Hmong students.

ITEM D. CONSIDERATION OF PERSONNEL AND STAFFING ISSUES

Compliance with Open Meetings Law

Chairperson Maierle stated that the board intended to convene into Closed Session.

Motion It was moved by Mr. Webber, seconded by Ms. Baker, to convene into Closed Session pursuant to Section 19.85(1)(c) of the Wisconsin Statutes to discuss Item D., Consideration of Personnel and Staffing Issues, to consider employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation data of individual public employees over whom the MATC District Board has jurisdiction or exercises authority. The board may reconvene into Open Session to take action on matters discussed in Closed Session under Item D.

Discussion Mr. Tom Held, reporter with the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, objected to the board convening into Closed Session on the basis that it was an inappropriate exemption under the state Open Meetings Law. Attorney Christy Brown stated that the exemption cited provided for convening into Closed Session because matters involving specific individuals would be discussed.

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Action Motion to convene into Closed Session approved, the roll call vote being as follows:

Ayes – Baker, Bell, Earle, Gobel, Hughes, Sowell, Terry, Webber, and Maierle – 9.

Noes – None.

The board convened into Closed Session at 7:12 p.m.

The board reconvened into Open Session at 7:48 p.m.

Discussion Chairperson Maierle noted that the board had been presented with the names of individuals who may receive lay-off notices.

Ms. Barry stated that there was a proposal to reduce the work week of some educational assistant positions from 52 to 42 weeks. She noted that educational assistants in the health occupation laboratories would be exempt from the proposal.

Dr. Cole distributed a Summary of Vacant Positions. Ms. Baker recommended that non-personnel items not related to instruction be frozen at current levels. She asked that cuts in personnel be balanced between represented and nonrepresented personnel. Mr. Gobel and Chairperson Maierle requested a list of positions to be cut and the impact on the college.

Mr. Gobel departed the meeting at 8:09 p.m.

Mr. Earle suggested cutting expenses in areas other than personnel and balancing positions between represented and nonrepresented employees. Ms. Bell suggested eliminating positions that are no longer needed.

Ms. Baker opined that it was important to maintain child care centers at all four campuses, and asked that administration fund the centers. Dr. Rick Kettner, West Allis campus vice president, reported that there were approximately 250 children enrolled in the centers. He noted that there were a number of qualified child care centers, many of which were

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operated by MATC graduates, which competed with the college's centers. Ms. Bell suggested that the child care centers be used as learning labs. Mr. Earle requested information on the number of children who are children of students, employees, and community parents; the age break out; and space utilization. He suggested that expenses associated with child care centers may be aidable costs since they are operated as learning labs. Ms. Barry noted that student activity fees contributed over \$100,000 to support the child care centers. Dr. Hughes suggested the possibility of establishing the child care centers as charter schools and seeking partnerships as funding sources. Ms. Bell questioned the appropriateness of taxpayers funding the child care centers.

Mr. Terry stated that because raises had been given to employees, the college was now in a deficit position. He opined that there was a flaw in the system; and that there was a need for taxpayer representation on the board and that decisions should be made in the best interest of taxpayers.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bobbie R. Webber
Secretary