

PCCD Unification Taskforce

Meeting Notes

December 11, 2025, from 12pm to 2pm PCCD Board Room

Attendance

Taskforce Membership present:

- Tammeil Gilkerson (Facilitator, Administrator)
- Nancy Cayton (Service Employees International Union)
- Chungwai Chum (Peralta Classified Senate)
- Yang Hu (Peralta Classified Senate)
- Jeff Sanceri (Peralta Federation of Teachers)
- Jennifer Shanoski (Peralta Federation of Teachers)
- Leslie Blackie (District Academic Senate)
- Tom Renbarger (District Academic Senate)
- Eva Jennings (Administrator)
- Gary Albury (Administrator)
- Amy Lee (Administrator)
- David Johnson (Administrator)
- Rebecca Opsata (Administrator)
- Kristina Hoessl (Student)
- Rosa Perez (Student)
- Bianca Ramirez (Student)

Absent:

- Richard Thoele (Service Employees International Union)

Notes by Mark Johnson

Welcome

Chancellor Gilkerson welcomed everyone at noon and encouraged taskforce members to grab some food from the buffet.

Public Comment

There were no public comments

Review Notes from November 4, 2025, meeting including FAQ recommendations

Mark went over the [notes from the last meeting](#) and apologized for not following up on the follow up item to share a GoogleDoc with draft FAQs for feedback. There were no concerns raised regarding the notes.

Review feedback from Student Experience Survey & Discussion

Tammeil led a review of Student Experience [survey feedback](#). The survey on enhancing the student experience received 83 responses, with faculty being the majority of respondents. Tammeil presented key findings from the survey, highlighting areas of alignment and inconsistency across colleges. The conversation was paused, so the taskforce had time to review the extensive comments from the survey

- Bianca noted need for support for students beyond the classroom, like students who have to support their families
- Kristina suggested that all students get the same type of support system that athletes get, as seen in Last Chance U.
- Leslie observed the importance of scheduling, coordinated schedules that reduce competition, are mindful about online vs in-person and class sizes
- Eva noted that timing of services is important – services should be provided when and where they are needed
- Rosa suggested people providing student services get training, so they don't provide contradictory answers to the same questions
- Jennifer pointed out that employees need support too, particularly those faculty in leadership positions.
- Bianca agreed that standardizing policies and procedures across the colleges would be beneficial for students.
- Becky noted the feedback was a lot to digest

Tammeil concluded the discussion by thanking all who took the survey, and suggesting the next steps are to circle back with the feedback grouped and clustered into more digestible hunks, and Jennifer volunteered to help.

DAS Topics

Leslie explained the District Academic Senate felt it's a good time to start thinking about how Oakland City College will organize its academic senate. DAS did a review of how department chair meetings are held and found differences across the colleges, with some run by VPIs and other run as subcommittees of the faculty senates. Leslie shared progress on examining shared governance structures and plans to gather information from other colleges with multiple campuses. The group also discussed the need to address faculty and staff support in the context of unification, with Jennifer noting the stressors faced by faculty leaders. Leslie asked ASCCC for advice, and they had none to offer, but they're excited to see what we do.

Accreditation & Chancellor's Office Meeting Update

All agreed to flip the next two agenda items, 6-7 (hilarity ensued), and cover Accreditation before Restructuring.

Regarding Accreditation, Tammeil noted that ACCJC has granted a one-year extension on the accreditation cycle to all four colleges and provided attendees with [their letter](#) noting that ISER reviews would be spring of 2029 with focused site visits in fall 2029. The letter acknowledged, “the District’s commitment to improvement as it continues its efforts in the best interests of its students.”

Tammeil noted that the meeting with the state chancellor’s office also went well, focusing on finances and invited Deputy Chancellor & COO Greg Nelson to help recap that discussion and provide some background financial information.

Looking at [projected SCFF finances](#), Tammeil explained the structure of the SCFF (Student Centered Funding Formula) allocation, which includes a basic allocation (70%), a supplemental allocation (20%), and a student success allocation (10%). The district is currently in a hold harmless period with the state, meaning we are not receiving COLA (Cost of Living Adjustment) increases. She also defined FTE (Full-Time Equivalent) students and explained how the numbers are calculated.

Greg then walked through the [district's budget and funding allocations](#). The discussion covered how the district's budget projections show a neutral position for the current and next year, but projected deficits of 9 million for 27-28 and 16.6 million for 28-29, giving the district a two-year runway for a transformation plan that addresses those projected deficits. The proposed three-college district structure would affect funding allocations, with a projected deficit of 3.3 million if implemented, though this would improve to a surplus of 3.9 million by 29-30 (and that does not include other changes, like restructuring of admin positions discussed below). Eliminating duplicative administrators and programs, as well as the importance of reaching the 10,000-student threshold to qualify for additional funding and qualify for COLA, will help. The group also addressed the grandfathered center status, which provides permanent eligibility for certain "center" funding allocations. The conversation ended with a plan to present this information to campus and constituency groups in the coming months.

- Tom thanked Greg and invited him to Merritt to give the presentation in the Spring.
- David asked about center status, and it was confirmed that once recognized as a center, that status is grandfathered to retain income associated with the status
- Becky echoed and confirmed, center status is in perpetuity
- Tammeil noted another benefit which is double counting of students enrolled at college and center – we can double count those students for SCFF

Student Success Teams & Restructuring Admin Positions

Tammeil then announced preliminary plans for restructuring in collaboration with the college presidents, based on two years of listening sessions, to create Student Success Teams, and how to get more students to completion of their goals for transfer/certificate graduation. The goal here is to organize around students.

She noted that on Tuesday 12/9, the Board approved a new job description for "Executive Vice President Student Learning & Success" which is new role that combines responsibilities currently spread across VP Instruction and VP Student Services roles. There will still be staff support (e.g. executive assistants) for both instruction and student services. The goal is to reduce administrative overhead, not classified professional support. Tammeil noted in her view that we have far too few faculty and classified professionals in the appropriate positions for what we currently need.

The plan also includes changing the VP Administrative Services role to Director of Business Administration, the role that existed before the district-wide switch to VPAS. The District

Service Center is also changing how it supports the colleges, with designated college support teams.

- Nancy asked who made the decision to make the changes and Tammeil explained it was a collaborative decision including the college presidents, executive cabinet, and based on nearly two years of input across the district.
- Jennifer asked if there will be org charts reflecting the new structure and Tammeil assured her this is currently in progress. Jennifer also asked for cost/benefit analysis of the restructuring.
- Gary asked about pay and Greg confirmed that the new Exec VP role is the same salary schedule as the current VP jobs.
- Leslie noted that historically, the district has had instruction and student support combined in the past.
- Tammeil and Becky both noted that decision making was long, and difficult as we know these decisions impact human beings. These decisions were not made lightly but needed to be made whether or not there is unification.
- Leslie asked if the divisions are going to be the same across the district and suggested now it is a good opportunity to think through how divisions are organized.
- Leslie expressed appreciation on behalf of DAS to Tammeil, Greg, and all at the DSC for valuing the shared governance process.

Meeting Schedule and Next Steps

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, January 29, 2026, from noon to 2pm instead of the usual second Thursday. We'll then go back to our regular 2nd Thursday of the month date in February (Thursday, February 12, 2026).

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:38pm.