

**DRAFT**  
New River Community College Board  
(Region 10)  
Meeting Number Three Hundred Sixty-One

MINUTES

December 11, 2023

Meeting number three hundred sixty-one of the New River Community College Board was held on Monday, December 11, 2023, at New River Community College, Dublin.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Christopher Calfee (City of Radford) and Mrs. Becki Calfee  
Mr. Craig Chancellor (Floyd County)  
Mr. Bill Cunningham (Pulaski County)  
Dr. Peggy Dewald-Link (Floyd County) and Mr. Jim Link  
Ms. Jessica Littlejohn (Montgomery County)  
Mr. Chris McKlarney (Giles County)  
Mr. Cameron Peel (Pulaski County)  
Mrs. Bobbie Potter (Montgomery County)

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Mr. Richard Chidester (Giles County)  
Mr. Eric Johnsen (Montgomery County)  
Mrs. Tosha Mosier (City of Radford)  
Mr. Jonathan Sweet (Pulaski County)

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Ms. Melissa Anderson, Interim Vice President for Finance and Administrative Services  
Dr. Peter Anderson, Vice President for Instruction and Student Services  
Ms. Angela Covey, Executive Director of NRCC Educational Foundation, and Mr. Anthony Wilson  
Dr. Pat Huber, President, and Mr. Peter Huber  
Mr. Tim Jones, Director of Information Technology and Facilities Services  
Dr. Deborah Kennedy, Dean of Student Services  
Ms. Lori Mitchell, Dean of Business and Technologies  
Ms. Kathy Ridpath, Administrative Assistant for the President's Office  
Dr. Mark Rowh, Vice President for Workforce Development and External Relations  
Dr. Fritz Streff, Director of Institutional Effectiveness and Research, and Mrs. Fran Streff  
Dr. Sarah Tolbert-Hurysz, Dean of Arts and Sciences  
Mrs. Helen Wolfe, Dean of Health Professions, and Mr. Danny Wolfe

SPECIAL GUESTS

Mr. Ed Dalrymple, VCCS State Board Liaison  
Mr. Steven Denis, NRCC Retiree and Mrs. Nancy Denis  
Mr. Gary Hancock, NRCC Educational Foundation Co-Chair  
Mr. Jim Rakes, NRCC Educational Foundation Co-Chair, and Mrs. Janet Rakes  
Mr. Ray Wurzbarger, NRCC Retiree, and Ms. Jutta Green

## AGENDA ITEMS

### **1. Call to Order**

Mr. Bill Cunningham, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. A quorum was present and due notice had been mailed and published.

### **2. Welcome and Introductions**

Mr. Cunningham welcomed Mr. Dalrymple, Mr. Hancock, Mr. Rakes, Board members, and guests.

### **3. Agenda for Approval**

Mr. Cunningham asked for a motion to approve the agenda.

**Motion:** Dr. Peggy Dewald-Link made a motion to approve the meeting agenda. Mrs. Bobbie Potter seconded the motion.

**Action:** The motion carried unanimously.

### **4. Minutes for Approval**

The minutes of meeting number three hundred sixty, held on Monday, September 11, 2023, were disseminated in the meeting packet. There was one revision – location of the meeting changed to the Christiansburg site. Mr. Cunningham asked for a motion to approve the minutes.

**Motion:** Mr. Chris Calfee made a motion to approve the minutes with the correction. The motion was properly seconded.

**Action:** The motion carried unanimously.

### **5. President's Report**

Dr. Huber welcomed everyone in attendance.

#### Memorandum of Updates

Dr. Huber referred to a Memorandum of Updates (attached) that was previously disseminated. No questions were posed on the updates. The memorandum containing information items only included:

- General updates
- Enrollment
- Employee Updates (Full-Time)
- Foundation Update
- VCCS Sustainability Threshold Factors
- G3 Get Skilled, Get a Job, Get Ahead
- New River Community College Bridge to Radford University (NRB2RU)

- VCCS Healthcare Summit – Finding the Answers
- Student Services Update
- Workforce Development Update
- Virginia Ready
- VCCS Legislative Agenda
- SACSCOC Update
- Solar Project Update
- Canopy Project

## **6. Instruction and Student Services Report**

### New and Revised Programs

After a discussion of the process of curriculum changes, Dr. Anderson reported that the Curriculum and Instruction Committee met prior to the Board meeting to discuss the revisions for 2024-2025. On behalf of the Committee, Mr. Craig Chancellor recommended approval of the changes as presented.

**Action:** The motion carried unanimously.

## **7. Recognitions**

### 2023 Retirees

Three college employees retired in 2023. They included Mr. Steven Denis, Mr. John Van Hemert, and Mr. Ray Wurzbarger. Each retiree present was recognized by Mr. Cunningham and received a framed resolution recognizing their years of service to the college. Mr. Van Hemert was unable to attend; therefore, another appropriate venue will be used to present his resolution.

Dr. Huber expressed gratitude to the Board for their support of the college mission and presented them with gifts of appreciation.

## **8. Open Discussion/Q&A Session**

Mr. Dalrymple addressed the Board and brought greetings from the Chancellor. He stated the Chancellor is working to bring colleges together by their designated Go Virginia regions to establish programs that can be shared among these colleges. Mr. Dalrymple provided an update on the Virginia Infrastructure Academy. A healthcare summit was held recently, and an additional summit will be held in early 2024 that will include the VCCS colleges and CTE centers of the associations who support the Virginia Infrastructure Academy. Mr. Dalrymple continues to meet with various groups to promote VCCS initiatives.

Mr. Chris Calfee expressed appreciation to Dr. Huber and staff for all the work that is done for the college.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m. The next regular meeting of the New River Community College Board is scheduled for Monday, March 4, 2024, at NRCC in Dublin.

Respectfully submitted,

Mr. Bill Cunningham, Chair

Dr. Patricia B. Huber, Secretary

## ***MEMORANDUM OF UPDATES***

TO: College Board Members

SUBJECT: College Updates

DATE: November 22, 2023

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### **General Updates**

Fall semester classes end December 12. Exams will begin December 13 and end December 18. The college will close for the holidays at noon December 22 and will reopen January 2, 2024.

### **Enrollment** *(as of November 17)*

**College contact:** Dr. Fritz Streff – [fstreff@nr.edu](mailto:fstreff@nr.edu)

#### Fall Semester Enrollment

- Headcount – 4,148 (up 3.86% compared to this point in time last fall)
- FTE's (Full-Time Equivalent students) – 2,487 (up 5.22% compared to this point in time last fall)
- Statewide: Total VCCS enrollment (FTEs) is 3.46% compared to this point in time last fall.

Registration for Spring 2024 semester is under way. Spring classes will begin January 22.

### **Employee Updates (Full-Time)**

**College contact:** Melissa Anderson – [manderson@nr.edu](mailto:manderson@nr.edu)

- Steven Denis, associate professor of automotive technology, and Ray Wurzbarger, associate professor of accounting, will retire at the end of Fall Semester 2023.
- Katie Brown has been hired as a development and financial aid specialist in the Office of the NRCC Educational Foundation.
- Stacie Whitlock has been hired as human resources manager.
- The following positions have been advertised and are in the process of being filled: accounting instructor, electrician, media specialist manager.

### **Foundation Update**

**College contact:** Angie Covey – [acovey@nr.edu](mailto:acovey@nr.edu)

Highlights of the year's work for the NRCC Educational Foundation include the following:

- Awarded more than \$1.4 million in tuition and textbook assistance to over 800 students
- With support from the region's businesses and industries, private citizens, and local governments, awarded 350 ACCE scholarships to high school students

from the New River Valley; in return, ACCE students have contributed more than 29,000 hours of community service within the New River Valley

- Managed over 300 individual scholarship endowment funds
- Raised more than \$20,000 to support the Student Food Pantry and student success initiatives

### **VCCS Sustainability Threshold Factors**

**College contact:** Dr. Pat Huber – [phuber@nr.edu](mailto:phuber@nr.edu)

“VCCS Sustainability Threshold Factors” is an annual measure of colleges’ viability. The four factors include (1) Regional Population, (2) Three-Year Average Annual FTE, (3) Total Operating Costs per Annual Student FTE, and (4) Change in High Demand Non-Credit Credentials Earned. Results for FY2023 for VCCS colleges (see Attachment A) were presented to the State Board at its November meeting. (*Note:* NRCC was “all clear” for all four factors.)

### **G3 Get Skilled, Get a Job, Get Ahead (G3)**

**College contact:** Dr. Peter Anderson – [ptanderson@nr.edu](mailto:ptanderson@nr.edu)

The Get Skilled, Get a Job, Get Ahead (G3) program provides tuition assistance for targeted career areas in high demand in Virginia.

A total of \$423,155 in G3 funding has been awarded to 308 students in targeted credit programs for the fall 2023 semester. In addition, to date 52 students enrolled in short-term workforce development courses have been awarded \$43,640.

### **New River Community College Bridge to Radford University (NRB2RU)**

**College contact:** Dr. Peter Anderson – [ptanderson@nr.edu](mailto:ptanderson@nr.edu)

The New River Community College Bridge to Radford University (NRB2RU) program is a partnership between the two institutions through which first-year applicants to Radford who do not meet the university's standard admission criteria may be selected to take courses at New River for their first year while living in RU dormitories. Successful students enroll in courses at Radford the following fall semester. The 2023-24 cohort includes 35 students.

*Note:* The college is working collaboratively with RU on a “Tartan Transfer” program/agreement to enhance transfer opportunities for NRCC students. More information should be available by the College Board’s spring meeting.

### **VCCS Healthcare Summit: Finding the Answers**

Dr. David Doré, Chancellor of the Virginia Community College System, will host a Healthcare Summit on November 29 in Richmond. This summit will provide a forum for healthcare, state, education, and workforce leaders to create action plans for scaling best practices and expanding healthcare programs across the commonwealth to meet Virginia’s healthcare workforce needs. Representatives from NRCC’s hospital partners (Carilion and HCA) and NRCC administrators plan to attend.

## **Student Services Update**

**College contact:** Dr. Peter Anderson - [ptanderson@nr.edu](mailto:ptanderson@nr.edu)

The College Attainment for Parenting Students (CAPS) Program is in its second semester with a full cohort of 20 students. NRCC is one of five VCCS colleges that received this grant award. Through this program, college staff are placing an intentional emphasis on increased support of parenting students and other adult learners.

The annual Friendsgiving meals were held on November 15 and 16 with approximately 300 students enjoying a traditional turkey luncheon. In addition, nearly 70 holiday food boxes were distributed to students on the same dates. The generosity of NRCC faculty, staff, board members, and community members allowed the college to provide food boxes to more students than previous years.

Club sports are under way with approximately 40 students participating in the following:

- The men's basketball team plays in the Pulaski recreation league.
- The women's volleyball team plays in the Christiansburg recreation league and various college/university club tournaments.
- The men's baseball team competes against other community colleges and some college/university clubs or JV teams.

## **Workforce Development Update**

**College contact:** Dr. Mark Rowh – [mrowh@nr.edu](mailto:mrowh@nr.edu)

NRCC has recently received approval for new FastForward programs in Flux Cored Arc Welding and Gas Metal Arc Welding.

Current and upcoming classes include EKG/Phlebotomy, Production Technician, Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM), Apartment Maintenance, Nurse Aide, Clinical Medical Assistant, and Heavy Equipment Operator, among others.

## **Virginia Ready**

**College contact:** Dr. Mark Rowh – [mrowh@nr.edu](mailto:mrowh@nr.edu)

Under the state-wide Virginia Ready Program, a privately funded initiative, students who complete a FastForward program and pass the associated certification exam may receive an award of \$1,000.

## **VCCS Legislative Agenda**

**College contact:** Dr. Mark Rowh – [mrowh@nr.edu](mailto:mrowh@nr.edu)

The 2024 session of the Virginia General Assembly will open January 10. During (and prior to) the session, communication will be maintained with members of the New River Valley delegation in support of the VCCS legislative agenda. This will include visits to the General Assembly while in session.

VCCS strategic priorities, with colleges aligned by Go Virginia regions, are as follows:

**Increasing Capacity Regionally**

- State-of-the-art career & technical programs and facilities
- Expanded FastForward
- Expanded Career Placement Centers
- Expanded Online Learning for Adults
- Statewide Marketing to Promote Affordable Educational Opportunities
- Community College Advisors at Every High School

**Providing Every High School Student with a Meaningful Postsecondary Credential**

**Funding What Works – scaling the VCCS outcomes-based funding model**

**SACSCOC Update**

**College contact:** Dr. Mark Rowh – [mrowh@nr.edu](mailto:mrowh@nr.edu)

The college has submitted its Fifth Year Interim Report required by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACSCOC) as part of the process for reaffirmation of accreditation. The college is awaiting results and/or requests for additional information regarding the report.

**Solar Project Update**

**College contacts:** Tim Jones – [tjones@nr.edu](mailto:tjones@nr.edu) and Ronnie Nichols – [rnichols@nr.edu](mailto:rnichols@nr.edu)

The college is continuing its work to develop a solar farm to be located along the entrance road near the U.S. Route 11 entrance. The initial bids the college received for construction were much higher than anticipated; the college has worked with engineers to rescope and rebid the project. The college should receive the new bids by the end of December.





## **Canopy Project**

**College contacts:** Tim Jones – [tjones@nr.edu](mailto:tjones@nr.edu) and Ronnie Nichols – [rnichols@nr.edu](mailto:rnichols@nr.edu)

The college continues its work to add lighted canopies between each of the four buildings. The design work has been completed and approved by the Architectural Review Board (ARB) for state-owned properties. VCCS Facilities Management Services granted approval on November 9 to proceed with the project. The next step is approval by the Division of Engineering and Buildings (DEB), the state “building official” for construction on state property. Construction should begin early in 2024 with completion by June 2024.



## Attachment A

### FY 2023 VCCS Sustainability Threshold Factors

College	Regional population (July 1, 2022)	3 Year Average Annual Student FTE (AY 2021- 2023)	Total operating costs per annual student FTE (FY 2020-2022)	Change in high demand non-credit credentials earned (FY 2020-2022 Final)
Blue Ridge	268,151	2,049	\$ 11,715	179
Brightpoint	564,598	4,897	\$ 8,518	NA
CCWA	NA	NA	NA	457
Central Virginia	263,698	2,044	\$ 9,865	(28)
Danville	101,714	1,465	\$ 10,825	18
Eastern Shore	44,965	391	\$ 18,522	23
Germanna	473,468	4,677	\$ 8,654	680
J. Sargeant Reynolds	742,163	4,826	\$ 10,051	NA
Laurel Ridge	328,754	3,476	\$ 8,991	196
Mountain Empire	82,161	1,407	\$ 12,508	57
Mountain Gateway	61,185	602	\$ 16,388	82
New River	184,284	2,445	\$ 9,358	62
Northern Virginia	2,558,969	29,857	\$ 8,981	(4)
Patrick & Henry	79,149	1,430	\$ 12,805	93
Paul D. Camp	120,005	715	\$ 13,546	76
Piedmont Virginia	270,319	2,670	\$ 11,129	64
Rappahannock	187,120	1,502	\$ 11,337	54
Southside Virginia	183,288	1,861	\$ 11,706	183
Southwest Virginia	97,953	1,595	\$ 12,628	6
Tidewater	1,140,993	10,713	\$ 9,283	182
Virginia Highlands	70,526	1,410	\$ 10,105	10
Virginia Peninsula	499,718	3,853	\$ 10,073	89
Virginia Western	259,579	3,303	\$ 10,918	240
Wytheville	114,195	1,342	\$ 10,979	29

1. A service region with a population falling below a minimum of 100,000 minimum population (yellow=population less than 110,000; red=population below 100,000) Source: University of Virginia Weldon Cooper Center, Demographics Research Group. (2023). Virginia Population Estimates. Retrieved from <https://demographics.coopercenter.org/virginia-population-estimates>)

2. Failure to maintain a minimum of 500 annual full-time equivalent (FTE) students average (includes dual enrollment; yellow=less than 1,000 FTE, red=less than 500 annual FTE) Source: VCCS Annual Enrollment Reports Headcount and FTE enrollments and Credit Hours 01A

3. Incurring total operating costs per annual student FTE over 125% of the system average, with increasing costs as a trend (3-year average) (VCCS 3 Year Average=\$11,256; VCCS 125% over 3 Year Average:\$14,070) yellow=costs above the system average, but less than 125%, red=costs over 125%; red diamond = above 125% system average for two or more years out of three; yellow triangle= above or equal to system average for two or more years out of three) Source: VCCS Audited Financial Statements

4. A decreasing trend in high-demand non-credit credentials earned (red=decreasing trend from FY20 to FY222) Source: Fast Forward Completions and Credentials Data

Updated: 10/20/2023