



**PALO VERDE COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Regular Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 14, 2026

Closed Session: 4:00 p.m. | Open Session: 5:00 p.m.

Physical Meeting Location: One College Drive, Blythe, CA - CL 101

LiveStream Meeting Location: PVC Needles Center, 725 W. Broadway, Needles, CA

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1. OPENING OF MEETING

1.1 CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:02 p.m. by Vice President/Acting President Gloria Copple.

1.2 ROLL CALL

- **Trustees Present:** Gloria Copple, Jon McNeil, Brad Arneson, Glenda Williams, Stella Styers, Scott Dean, Melina Rangel-Ruiz-Student Trustee(arrived at 5:12 p.m.)
- **Trustees Absent:** Angel Ramirez
- **Administrators Present:** Dr. Bruce Moses, Superintendent/President, Dr. Sam Robinson, Acting Assistant Supt./VP of Instruction and Student Services, Stephanie Slagan, Assistant Supt./VP of Administrative Services and College Advancement
 - Dr. Bruce Moses departed the meeting during Closed Session and was not present when the Board reconvened to Open Session.

Note:

- *In accordance with California Education Code, the Student Trustee's vote is advisory and does not count toward the final Board action.*

1.3 APPROVAL OF CLOSED SESSION AGENDA

Motion: Approve the Closed Session Agenda for this meeting.

Moved by: Jon McNeil

Seconded by: Stella Styers

Action: Motion Carries

Vote:

- **Yes:** Gloria Copple, Jon McNeil, Brad Arneson, Glenda Williams, Stella Styers, Scott Dean

2. HEARING OF CITIZENS - CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

Public comment on items listed on the Closed Session agenda will be heard prior to the Board adjourning to Closed Session. Each speaker is limited to five (5) minutes, with a maximum of fifteen (15) minutes per topic, unless otherwise determined by the Board President. The Board cannot take action on items not listed on the agenda.

2.1 PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

Richard Castillo, representing the California Teachers Association (CTA), addressed the Board regarding Item 3.1, Closed Session—Labor Negotiations with the CTA. He noted that negotiations began in April 2025 and have been ongoing for approximately one year. Mr. Castillo stated that several articles of the successor agreement remain under negotiation, though many have been narrowed to specific outstanding issues.

He provided examples of remaining items, including timelines related to faculty notifications following investigations, compensation, salary and benefits, work calendar, work hours, and faculty evaluations. He indicated that, in many cases, discussions have been reduced to agreement on single provisions within each article.

Mr. Castillo encouraged the Board, during Closed Session, to actively engage with the District’s negotiation team by asking questions, reviewing both District and union proposals, and considering the feasibility of outstanding items, particularly those related to compensation.

He further stated that additional negotiation sessions are scheduled, including an upcoming four-hour session and several meetings through May and early June, with the goal of reaching resolution before the end of the semester. Mr. Castillo concluded by expressing the union’s desire to reach agreement and move negotiations forward.

3. RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION

The Governing Board recessed to Closed Session at 4:08 p.m.

3.1 CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR (GOVERNMENT CODE 54957.60)

- Agency Representative:
 - Dr. Bruce Moses, Superintendent/President
- Employee Organizations:
 - CSEA Chapter 180
 - Palo Verde Community College Association/CTA

3.2 PUBLIC EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE/DISMISSAL/RELEASE (GOVERNMENT CODE 54957)

3.3 PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION (GOVERNMENT CODE 54957(B))

- Superintendent/President

3.4 CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION; SIGNIFICANT EXPOSURE TO LITIGATION (GOVERNMENT CODE 54956.9)

- 8 Cases

4. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

The Governing Board reconvened to Open Session at 5:05 p.m.

4.1 FLAG SALUTE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

4.2 REPORT ON ANY ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION

Vice President/Board President Copple reported that, in Closed Session, the Board took action to terminate the Superintendent/President without cause pursuant to Article 10D of his contract. The action was approved by a 4–2 roll call vote as follows:

- Trustee McNeil — Yes
- Trustee Williams — Yes
- Trustee Dean — Yes
- Trustee Copple — Yes
- Trustee Styers — No
- Trustee Arneson — No

4.3 APPROVAL OF OPEN SESSION AGENDA

Motion: Approve the Open Session Agenda as amended, with the removal of Item 8.2 – 2025–2026 Needles Budget/Revenue and Expenditures Update, and with Action Items 12.1 through 12.3 amended to strike all references to CCLC and ACCT guidance and to align the duties of the Board officers solely with Palo Verde Community College District Board Policy BP 2210.

Moved by: Jon McNeil

Seconded by: Scott Dean

Action: Motion Carries

Vote:

- **Yes:** Gloria Copple, Jon McNeil, Brad Arneson, Glenda Williams, Stella Styers, Scott Dean

4.4 APPROVAL OF MARCH 10, 2026, REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Motion: Approve the March 10, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes.

Moved by: Jon McNeil

Seconded by: Scott Dean

Action: Motion Carries

Vote:

- **Yes:** Gloria Copple, Jon McNeil, Brad Arneson, Glenda Williams, Stella Styers, Scott Dean

4.5 ANNOUNCEMENT OF RECUSAL FROM AGENDA ITEMS

No recusals were declared.

5. HEARING OF CITIZENS - NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Public comment on matters not listed on the agenda but within the jurisdiction of the District will be heard during this section only. Each speaker is limited to five (5) minutes, with a maximum of fifteen (15) minutes per topic, unless otherwise determined by the Board President. The Board cannot take action on non-agenda items but may refer matters to the Superintendent/President for follow-up or place them on a future agenda.

Ryan Cople addressed the Board and stated that he had submitted a complaint regarding comments made about him during the March 10 Board meeting. He expressed concern that he had been discussed publicly in connection with his position and the athletics program without prior notice and while he was not present due to a previously scheduled family vacation. He noted that he had also submitted a prior formal request regarding the matter and had not yet received a response.

Mr. Cople spoke about the personal and professional impact of the situation, including experiencing a medical emergency at work that required ambulance transport to the hospital, which he attributed in part to the stress of the circumstances. He emphasized that behind Board discussions are individuals and students who are directly affected.

Mr. Cople highlighted the accomplishments and impact of the athletics program, noting that over 100 student-athletes have been served, many of whom have continued their education. He provided examples of student success, including individuals who received full-ride scholarships and completed their degrees, and described the program as providing mentorship, structure, and opportunities for students who may not otherwise have had access.

He addressed concerns regarding integrity and fairness, stating that he has maintained a clear separation between his professional responsibilities and personal relationships and has not provided preferential treatment. He acknowledged that there are community perceptions suggesting otherwise and expressed concern about the impact of those narratives on the program and its students.

Mr. Cople further explained that the athletics program requires year-round work, including recruiting, student support, housing coordination, and enrollment assistance, and is not limited to the active sports season. He requested that the situation not negatively impact the program or the student-athletes it serves.

He also encouraged the Board to consider how it supports student opportunities and community engagement, emphasizing the broader value of athletics programs. Mr. Cople concluded by reaffirming his commitment to the college, the program, and the community, noting that he is a local resident and alumnus, and expressed appreciation to those who attended the meeting in support of the program.

Ryan Pence, teacher at Palo Verde High School, addressed the Board and provided his perspective on the impact of athletics on students at the high school level and as they transition into college. He stated that, through his experience working with students and in coordination with coaches, including Coach Jones, he has observed that connecting students to athletics increases their interest in pursuing higher education.

Mr. Pence emphasized that athletics serve as a pathway to access and retention for students who might not otherwise consider attending college. He noted that

involvement in sports helps build student engagement and commitment, which in turn positively impacts academic performance. He further stated that athletics and academics work together, explaining that once students are connected to a sport, their academic success often improves.

Mr. Pence concluded by reiterating his support for the athletics program and its role in creating opportunities for students.

Anthony Jones, high school coach and parent, addressed the Board regarding the impact of athletics on student development. He shared his personal background, noting that he was raised by a single mother and lost his father at a young age, and stated that athletics and coaches played a significant role in providing structure, mentorship, and direction in his life.

Mr. Jones described athletics as a positive influence that helped him avoid negative outcomes and pursue higher education, noting that members of his team also went on to attend college. He emphasized that sports programs provide students with structure, support, and a sense of community, particularly for those who may lack stability or positive influences elsewhere.

He expressed concern about the potential loss or reduction of athletics programs and questioned what alternative opportunities would be available to students without them. Mr. Jones concluded by stating his commitment to mentoring and supporting students through athletics and emphasized the importance of maintaining programs that provide students with positive pathways and opportunities.

Cecilia Navarro addressed the Board regarding the value and impact of the basketball program. She stated that she had attended multiple games and observed significant growth in student-athletes over the course of the season, particularly noting increased confidence among players.

Ms. Navarro expressed concern upon hearing that the basketball program might be eliminated, stating that athletics are essential in providing opportunities for students. She noted that some local students pursue athletics at other colleges and that programs like Palo Verde College's serve as a stepping stone for students to continue their education and athletic careers, including opportunities to earn scholarships.

She further stated that athletics can influence whether some students choose to attend college at all and emphasized that eliminating such programs could result in a loss of student enrollment and engagement. Ms. Navarro also commented on the importance of building a program over time, noting that newer programs require continued support and development.

Additionally, she expressed support for the basketball program's leadership, specifically referencing Coach Ryan Copple's commitment to student success. She concluded by encouraging the Board to consider expanding athletic offerings rather than eliminating existing programs, emphasizing the positive impact on students and the broader community.

Elizabeth Berry addressed the Board regarding statements made at the March 10, 2026 Board meeting related to the Needles Educational Center graduation. She began to reference a specific Trustee by name and was ruled out of order by Trustee Styers, who cited Administrative Procedure 2430 and directed that speakers not reference individual Board members. Ms. Berry acknowledged the direction and continued her comments without naming individuals.

Ms. Berry stated that attendance at the Needles graduation is not required for those traveling from Blythe and that the community understands the challenges associated with travel. She noted that holding a ceremony in Needles would eliminate the need to reimburse student travel expenses and stated that the Rotary Club has offered to cover the cost of the Needles graduation.

She further emphasized that the discussion involves real students and families and urged the Board to focus on solutions that support the community. Ms. Berry concluded by encouraging the Board to act in alignment with the institution's stated values of ethics and integrity.

Dr. Sam Robinson read an anonymous statement during Public Comment. Copies of the statement were made available for public review at the meeting. The statement is attached to and incorporated into these minutes as Attachment A.

[Attachment A - Public Comment \(Anonymous Statement\).pdf](#) 

Melina Rangel-Ruiz, Student Trustee, read a statement during Public Comment. The statement is attached to and incorporated into these minutes as Attachment B

[Attachment B - Public Comment \(M. Rangel-Ruiz\).pdf](#) 

The District received fifty-two (52) letters in support of holding the Needles Educational Center graduation. Copies of the letters were made available for public review at the meeting. The letters are attached to and incorporated into these minutes as Attachment C.

[Attachment C - Letters of Support Needles Center Graduation.pdf](#) 

6. PUBLIC HEARING

There were no public hearings scheduled for this meeting.

7. REPORTS

Reports are limited to a maximum of fifteen (15) minutes, unless otherwise determined by the Board President.

7.1 PVCCA/CTA - RICHARD CASTILLO, PRESIDENT OF PVCCA/CTA

Richard Castillo, addressed the Board and stated that a few faculty members wished to speak regarding the importance of negotiations for the unit. He then invited faculty member Dana Rethwisch to address the Board.

Dana Rethwisch addressed the Board regarding the potential impact of proposed changes to Health Savings Account (HSA) contributions. She shared that she has ongoing medical needs and relies on HSA funds to cover significant prescription costs, noting that a recent

prescription cost approximately \$3,600 and that the HSA contribution was critical in assisting with that expense. She expressed concern that the elimination of the HSA contribution would create financial hardship for her and her family.

Ms. Rethwisch also discussed the timing of faculty compensation for additional duties, explaining that while additional work may begin at the start of the academic year, compensation is not received until several months later due to the pay structure. She further stated that faculty members dedicate significant time and effort beyond their regular duties to support student success and institutional goals, including her role as Curriculum Co-Chair. She expressed concern that these efforts are not always fully recognized and encouraged the Board to consider faculty workload and contributions during negotiations.

Mr. Castillo resumed his report and provided additional information regarding the status of negotiations. He outlined upcoming negotiation dates and stated that approximately 13 hours of bargaining time remain scheduled. He indicated that many contract articles have been narrowed to specific outstanding issues, including provisions related to due process timelines, compensation, salary and benefits, work calendar, work hours, and faculty evaluations.

Mr. Castillo discussed specific areas of negotiation, including timelines for administrative action following faculty investigations, compensation for prison education programs, and faculty workload considerations. He also addressed proposals related to salary and health benefits, including concerns regarding potential changes to HSA contributions and compensation structure.

He stated that the parties are nearing the end of negotiations and expressed concern regarding the length of the negotiation process. Mr. Castillo encouraged the Board to engage with the District's negotiation team, review proposals from both sides, and consider opportunities to reach agreement. He concluded by stating that the union remains interested in reaching resolution and welcomed any questions from the Board.

7.2 ACADEMIC SENATE - SARAH FRID, PRESIDENT OF ACADEMIC SENATE

Sarah Frid reported that she had no report.

7.3 CSEA, CHAPTER 180 - ALICE DEAN, PRESIDENT OF CSEA CHAPTER 180

Tina Felix, Secretary of CSEA Chapter 180, provided a report to the Board in the absence of CSEA Chapter 180 President Alice Dean. She encouraged the Board to approve the health and welfare item on the agenda and explained that the item relates to upcoming negotiations for a new contract period.

Ms. Felix stated that the prior contract was delayed for two years and that the unit is now entering the third year of the agreement, which begins in July. She clarified that the item represents preparation for negotiating the next contract rather than a traditional reopener. Ms. Felix requested that the Board take this context into consideration and expressed appreciation to the Board.

7.4 ASSOCIATED STUDENT GOVERNMENT - MELINA RANGEL-RUIZ, STUDENT TRUSTEE

Melina Rangel-Ruiz announced upcoming student activities, including a Pride Club bird-watching event scheduled for April 22 at 8:00 a.m., where participants will have the

opportunity to observe local wildlife on campus.

She also reported that, at 1:00 p.m. the same day, the Healing Circle and MEChA will host a “Plant and Pause” event. She stated that the event will include information on agricultural environments and hands-on activities such as planting lavender and chamomile.

Student Trustee Rangel-Ruiz encouraged attendance at these events and noted that additional information would be shared with the campus community as needed.

7.5 ACTING ASSISTANT SUPT./VP OF INSTRUCTION AND STUDENT SERVICES, DR. SAM ROBINSON

Dr. Sam Robinson referenced her attached report and shared that she looks forward to continuing to work with both CSEA and CTA during the negotiation process. She stated that, although she is newer to negotiations, she believes meaningful progress has been made during the current semester and that discussions have been productive.

Dr. Robinson emphasized the importance of open communication, encouraging all parties to approach negotiations with open minds and a willingness to listen to different perspectives in order to find common ground. She expressed her belief that the parties are close to reaching agreement on remaining items and conveyed a positive outlook on the progress being made. She concluded by noting that she looks forward to continuing this work with both bargaining units.

7.6 ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT/VICE PRESIDENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES AND COLLEGE ADVANCEMENT - STEPHANIE SLAGAN

Stephanie Slagan reported that new furniture has been ordered for the lower level of the CL Building, which will be installed over the summer. She noted that the updated furnishings will include flexible and collaborative workspaces, as well as lounge-style seating for student use.

She also reported that new classroom furniture has been ordered for both floors of the CL Building, with installation planned for the summer. She stated that these updates will include new desks and seating to enhance the learning environment.

Ms. Slagan further reported that the District is in the process of updating its travel policy. She noted that the revised policy is being developed in collaboration with multiple departments with the goal of streamlining processes and improving efficiency for District travelers. She indicated that the updated policy will be brought forward to the Board for consideration in the near future.

7.7 SUPERINTENDENT/PRESIDENT - DR. BRUCE MOSES

Dr. Bruce Moses departed the meeting during Closed Session and was not present when the Board reconvened to Open Session. No report was provided.

7.8 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Trustee Stella Styers reported on recent community and campus events. She highlighted the recent job fair and expressed appreciation to staff involved in organizing the event, noting it was well attended and successful. She shared that Walgreens plans to open a new location in the community, with a tentative opening anticipated in August.

Trustee Styers also recognized a student for demonstrating strong customer service skills and professionalism, and noted her connection to a longtime local family. She expressed appreciation for students who reflect positively on the College and community.

She further reported on a recent community barbecue event, where she connected with community members, including Deborah McGregory, who expressed appreciation to the College for use of its facilities. Trustee Styers noted opportunities for networking and collaboration, including engagement with representatives from Riverside County.

Trustee Styers shared that she attended a workforce forum and referenced discussions related to collaboration and strengthening partnerships within the community. She also highlighted remarks from Riverside County Supervisor Manny Perez emphasizing the importance of working together to support the College and community.

Additionally, Trustee Styers noted participation by College staff at a community outreach event supporting student services and enrollment efforts, and expressed appreciation for staff engagement and representation in the community.

She concluded by acknowledging the College's continued presence and positive impact at community events and encouraged ongoing efforts to maintain strong community connections.

Trustee McNeil reported on recent community engagement activities. He shared that he, along with Board President Cople, attended the Living Waters program sponsored by the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, which focused on tribal water issues and included participation from local tribal representatives, a film presentation, and community discussion.

He highlighted that Jaclyn Randall was recently selected to serve on the local hospital board following a competitive application process and expressed pride in her appointment and recognition by Riverside County.

Trustee McNeil also reported on community events in Needles, including a regional outreach event with multiple county departments providing services to residents, as well as upcoming community events such as a car show.

He further discussed ongoing community interest regarding the Needles graduation ceremony, noting that the issue has been widely raised by community members, including at local events and in everyday interactions. He stated that the Needles City Council has issued a "call to action" and submitted correspondence to the Board, and that multiple community members have expressed support for holding a graduation ceremony in Needles. Trustee McNeil emphasized that the matter remains an important community concern and expressed a desire to find an amicable solution.

Trustee Dean provided remarks regarding the Board's role and responsibilities, emphasizing the importance of fiscal stewardship, supporting student success, and maintaining the long-term financial stability of the College. He noted the Board's fiduciary duty to balance competing priorities, including serving students, supporting employees, and ensuring financial sustainability.

Trustee Dean also discussed the distinct roles within the governance structure, stating that the Board is responsible for setting policy and direction, while the

Superintendent/President is responsible for implementing policy and managing the day-to-day operations of the College. He emphasized the importance of evaluating agenda items through the lens of fiscal responsibility, institutional stability, and alignment with governance roles.

He further stated that the current agenda reflects a need for strong alignment between spending decisions, fiscal conditions, and transparency to ensure appropriate Board oversight.

Trustee Dean also reported attending the recent job fair and expressed that it was a successful event. He shared his participation in a community initiative through Ironwood State Prison, where staff and inmates prepared and distributed Easter baskets to students in local elementary schools. He noted that approximately 100 baskets were assembled and delivered to students in need and expressed appreciation for the effort and community impact of the program.

Trustees Brad Arneson, Glenda Williams and Gloria Cople, stated that they had no report.

8. PRESENTATIONS

8.1 PRESENTATION OF PVCCD INITIAL PROPOSAL TO CSEA CHAPTER 180 2026 REOPENER AGREEMENT NEGOTIATIONS

A public hearing for public comment will be held during the Board of Trustees Regular Meeting on May 12, 2026.

8.2 2025-2026 NEEDLES BUDGET/REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE'S UPDATE

This item was removed from the agenda as part of the approval of the Open Session Agenda.

9. DISCUSSION ITEMS

9.1 FIRST READ OF REVIEWED/REVISED BOARD POLICIES AND ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

Board Discussion:

Discussion was held regarding BP 6250 – Budget Management, specifically the proposed reserve level establishing a minimum unrestricted general reserve of 35% of the total budget.

Trustee McNeil commented that community colleges typically maintain higher reserve levels compared to K-12 districts and noted that this approach seems counterintuitive to him, as it prioritizes maintaining reserves rather than spending funds directly on students. He questioned whether establishing a minimum reserve of 35% could limit flexibility, specifically asking what would happen if the District needed to reduce reserves below that level.

Ms. Slagan responded that the District has maintained reserves above 40% since 2019 and stated that a 35% minimum is manageable based on the District's financial practices.

Trustee McNeil clarified that his comments were for discussion purposes and that he was not proposing a change to the policy.

10. INFORMATION ITEMS

10.1 REPORT OF PURCHASES AND WARRANTS - MARCH 2026

10.2 OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL

Board Discussion:

Board President Copple inquired about the AHEAD Conference in Providence, Rhode Island. Christina Felix explained that the AHEAD Conference is a national disability and accessibility conference that includes participation from a wide range of institutions and provides opportunities to learn best practices in supporting students with disabilities.

Dr. Robinson noted the importance of the conference in light of upcoming ADA-related changes that will impact the College. Trustee McNeil commented on the value of out-of-state travel, stating that attending conferences outside of California provides broader perspectives and opportunities to learn from other institutions. Board President Copple expressed agreement with Trustee McNeil.

11. CONSENT ITEMS

All Consent Items will be considered for approval in a single motion. A total of 15 minutes will be allotted for questions or clarifications from Board members and for public comments on Consent Items. Following this period, any Board member may request that one or more items be moved to the Action Agenda

11.1 APPROVAL OF CURRICULUM ITEMS

Board Discussion:

Trustee Dean requested that Item 11.1 be separated from the Consent Agenda Calendar, stating that the item asked the Board to approve curriculum actions described in general terms, including language indicating that actions “may include” various changes without clearly specifying those changes. He expressed concern regarding the lack of specificity and stated that, as a trustee, he has a responsibility to review and approve concrete actions rather than broad categories of potential actions. Trustee Dean indicated that, without clearly identified courses, programs, or revisions, he did not believe he had sufficient information to make an informed decision and recommended that the item be tabled and clarified before being brought back to the Board for potential approval.

Dr. Robinson provided clarification, explaining that the language referenced is standard introductory language used to encompass all possible curriculum actions. She noted that the specific details for each curriculum change are outlined within the supporting documentation and have gone through the established review process, including the Curriculum Committee, Academic Senate, and College Council, prior to being presented to the Board.

Following the clarification, Trustee Dean withdrew his request to separate Item 11.1 from the Consent Agenda Calendar.

11.2 APPROVAL OF PERSONNEL ACTIONS REPORT - APRIL 2026

Board Discussion:

Trustee Dean stated that it was his understanding that some positions which previously required a college degree are now listed as not requiring a degree but instead indicating

that a degree is “preferred” or allowing for equivalent experience, and asked whether that was accurate.

Dr. Robinson responded that the District is following best practices to expand applicant pools and increase diversity by encouraging broader participation. She explained that updated language is intended to recognize relevant experience, certifications, and prior learning as alternatives to traditional degree requirements, where appropriate.

Elena Rodriguez further clarified that, as part of the District’s Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Plan and in alignment with guidance from the Chancellor’s Office, the District is implementing an equivalency model. She explained that for faculty positions, minimum qualifications may be met through equivalency, which is reviewed through the Academic Senate, and that the District is working to extend the equivalency model to classified and management positions.

Trustee Dean inquired whether the District utilizes a matrix or established criteria to determine equivalency. Ms. Rodriguez responded that criteria for equivalency are established and included in job announcements when applicable. She noted that, for faculty positions, equivalency determinations are reviewed through the Academic Senate.

Trustee Dean noted that degree requirements apply to positions beyond faculty roles, including classified staff. Ms. Rodriguez confirmed that the District is working to align with Chancellor’s Office guidance by adopting an equivalency model.

- 11.3 APPROVAL OF PART-TIME TEMPORARY STUDENT WORKERS FOR SPRING 2026 SEMESTER
- 11.4 APPROVAL OF CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT PATHWAY AGREEMENT WITH GRAND CANYON UNIVERSITY
- 11.5 APPROVAL OF EDUCATIONAL ALLIANCE PARTICIPANT AGREEMENT WITH GRAND CANYON UNIVERSITY
- 11.6 APPROVAL OF THE REVISED 2026–2027 PROTECH ACADEMIC CALENDARS FOR CTE FACULTY
- 11.7 APPROVAL OF REVISED ACADEMIC CALENDARS – FALL 2026 AND SPRING 2027
- 11.8 APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS FOR APRIL 2026

Motion: Approve Consent Items 11.1 through 11.7 as presented and/or amended.

Moved by: Jon McNeil

Seconded by: Glenda Williams

Action: Motion Carries

Vote:

- **Yes:** Gloria Copple, Jon McNeil, Brad Arneson, Glenda Williams, Stella Styers, Scott Dean, Melina Rangel-Ruiz

12. ACTION ITEMS

- 12.1 ELECT/APPROVE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD FOR 2026

Vice President/Acting Board President Copple opened the floor for nominations for the office of Board President for 2026.

- Trustee McNeil nominated Trustee Gloria Copple, seconded by Trustee Dean.

- Trustee Styers nominated Trustee Brad Arneson, seconded by Trustee Arneson. Following the close of nominations, Executive Assistant Alaniz conducted a roll call vote.

- **Roll Call Vote – Trustee Gloria Cople**

Motion made by Trustee McNeil, seconded by Trustee Dean.

- **Yes:** Gloria Cople, Jon McNeil, Glenda Williams, Scott Dean
- **No:** Stella Styers, Brad Arneson
- **Action:** Motion Carries

12.2 ELECT/APPROVE VICE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD FOR 2026

Board President Cople opened the floor for nominations for the office of Vice President of the Board for 2026.

- Trustee Williams nominated Trustee Jon McNeil, seconded by Trustee Cople.

Board Discussion:

Trustee Arneson inquired whether Trustee McNeil was eligible to serve as a Board officer due to the censure. Executive Assistant Alaniz confirmed that he was eligible to serve as a Board officer but not on ad hoc committees.

Following the close of nominations and discussion by the Board, Executive Assistant Alaniz conducted a roll call vote.

- **Roll Call Vote – Trustee Jon McNeil**

Motion made by Trustee Williams, seconded by Trustee Cople.

- **Yes:** Gloria Cople, Jon McNeil, Glenda Williams, Scott Dean
- **No:** Stella Styers, Brad Arneson
- **Action:** Motion Carries

12.3 ELECT/APPROVE CLERK OF THE BOARD FOR 2026

Board President Cople opened the floor for nominations for the office of Clerk of the Board for 2026.

- Trustee McNeil nominated Trustee Scott Dean, seconded by Trustee Williams. Following the close of nominations, Executive Assistant Alaniz conducted a roll call vote.

- **Roll Call Vote – Trustee Scott Dean**

Motion made by Trustee Williams, seconded by Trustee Cople.

- **Yes:** Gloria Cople, Jon McNeil, Glenda Williams, Scott Dean
- **No:** Stella Styers, Brad Arneson
- **Action:** Motion Carries

12.4 ELECT/APPROVE RIVERSIDE COUNTY COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION REPRESENTATIVE FOR 2026

Board President Cople opened the floor for nominations for the Riverside County Committee School District Organization Representative for 2026.

- Trustee Arneson nominated Trustee Angel Ramirez, seconded by Trustee Styers.
- Trustee Dean nominated Trustee Brad Arneson, seconded by Trustee Cople.

Board Discussion:

It was noted that Trustee Ramirez served as the representative in the prior year. Trustee McNeil stated that, if Trustee Ramirez were present, he would have asked him to continue

serving in that capacity. It was further noted that the appointment is mandatory. Trustee Dean nominated Trustee Arneson, who confirmed his willingness to serve. Trustee McNeil expressed support for Trustee Arneson serving in the role. Trustee Arneson then withdrew his prior nomination of Trustee Ramirez.

Following the close of nominations and discussion by the Board, Executive Assistant Alaniz conducted a roll call vote.

- **Roll Call Vote – Trustee Brad Arneson**

Motion made by Trustee Dean, seconded by Trustee Copple.

- **Yes:** Gloria Copple, Jon McNeil, Brad Arneson, Glenda Williams, Stella Styers, Scott Dean
- **Action:** Motion Carries

12.5 APPROVAL OF AUTHORIZED AGENTS AND RCOE CERTIFICATION OF SIGNATURES FOR PVCCD

Motion: Approve the Authorized Agents and RCOE Certification of Signatures for PVCCD, as amended to revise the RCOE Certification of Signatures attachment.

Moved by: Jon McNeil

Seconded by: Gloria Copple

Action: Motion Carries

Vote:

- **Yes:** Gloria Copple, Jon McNeil, Brad Arneson, Glenda Williams, Stella Styers, Scott Dean, Melina Rangel-Ruiz

12.6 APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 04.14.26-11.6 RECOGNIZING FACULTY APPRECIATION WEEK: MAY 4–8, 2026

Motion: Adopt Resolution No. 04.14.26-11.6 recognizing May 4–8, 2026, as Faculty Appreciation Week in the Palo Verde Community College District.

Moved by: Brad Arneson

Seconded by: Jon McNeil

Action: Motion Carries

Vote:

- **Yes:** Gloria Copple, Jon McNeil, Brad Arneson, Glenda Williams, Stella Styers, Scott Dean, Melina Rangel-Ruiz

12.7 APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 04.14.26-11.7 RECOGNIZING CLASSIFIED SCHOOL EMPLOYEE WEEK: MAY 17–23, 2026

Motion: Adopt Resolution No. 04.14.26-11.7 recognizing May 17–23, 2026, as Classified School Employee Week in the Palo Verde Community College District.

Moved by: Scott Dean

Seconded by: Jon McNeil

Action: Motion Carries

Vote:

- **Yes:** Gloria Copple, Jon McNeil, Brad Arneson, Glenda Williams, Stella Styers, Scott Dean, Melina Rangel-Ruiz

12.8 APPROVAL OF MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN PALO VERDE COMMUNITY

COLLEGE DISTRICT AND PALO VERDE COLLEGE FACULTY ASSOCIATION, CTA/NEA

Motion: Approve the Memoranda of Understanding between Palo Verde Community College District and the Palo Verde College Faculty Association, CTA/NEA, regarding release time for Executive Officers and Academic Senate Officers for the 2025–2026 academic year.

Moved by: Brad Arneson

Seconded by: Stella Styers

Action: Motion Carries

Vote:

- **Yes:** Gloria Copple, Jon McNeil, Brad Arneson, Glenda Williams, Stella Styers, Scott Dean, Melina Rangel-Ruiz

12.9 APPROVAL OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH PALO VERDE COMMUNITY COLLEGE ASSOCIATION FOR EXTRA DUTY ASSIGNMENT (MICHAEL CALABRESE – AWS CERTIFICATION)

Motion: Approve the Memorandum of Understanding with the Palo Verde Community College Association for an extra duty assignment for Michael Calabrese related to AWS certification activities.

Moved by: Stella Styers

Seconded by: Brad Arneson

Action: Motion Carries

Vote:

- **Yes:** Gloria Copple, Jon McNeil, Brad Arneson, Glenda Williams, Stella Styers, Scott Dean, Melina Rangel-Ruiz

Board Discussion:

Prior to consideration of this item, Board President Copple disclosed that Michael Calabrese is not an immediate family member but is related to her and inquired whether recusal was required. Executive Assistant Alaniz advised that recusal was not required.

12.10 APPROVAL OF REVISED/NEW MANAGEMENT JOB DESCRIPTIONS

Motion: Separate the job descriptions for individual consideration.

Moved by: Trustee Dean

Second: None

Action: Motion died for lack of a second.

Motion: Approve the revised and new management job descriptions as presented.

Moved by: Jon McNeil

Seconded by: Brad Arneson

Action: Motion Carries

Vote:

- **Yes:** Gloria Copple, Jon McNeil, Brad Arneson, Glenda Williams, Stella Styers, Melina Rangel-Ruiz

- **No:** Scott Dean

Board Discussion:

Trustee Dean made a motion to separate the job descriptions for individual votes. He stated that, with respect to the revised Director of Outreach and Student Equity position, the associated duties have been distributed among existing staff for over a year and that the College has continued to operate without disruption during that time. He expressed his belief that the position should remain unfilled until additional information is available regarding how best to structure the role.

Trustee Dean further stated that he has information regarding the position that could not be shared in open session and indicated that separating the item would allow the Board to consider each position individually. He emphasized the need to prioritize resources carefully, particularly in light of ongoing enrollment challenges, and stated that focus should remain on direct student services, instruction, and programs that increase access and student success.

Trustee Dean also expressed broader concern that the organizational structure may be becoming increasingly top-heavy and cautioned against expanding administrative positions beyond what is operationally necessary, noting the importance of maintaining a balanced and sustainable institutional structure.

Dr. Robinson provided context in response to Trustee Dean's comments, stating that the Director of Outreach and Student Equity position is needed and has been vacant. She noted that, while the associated duties have been distributed among existing staff, this has resulted in additional workload and compensation, including stipends and reassigned time for multiple employees.

Dr. Robinson further explained that the position oversees one of the District's largest categorical funding sources, supporting numerous programs and positions, including counseling services. She stated that the fund exceeds \$1 million and requires appropriate leadership and oversight. She emphasized that the absence of a dedicated director has resulted in a lack of centralized leadership in this area and indicated that filling the revised position would provide necessary structure and management.

Trustee Dean reiterated his concern regarding the position, stating that based on his understanding and additional information he could not share in open session, he believed filling the position at this time could create issues that the Board may need to address in the future.

Dr. Robinson sought clarification regarding Trustee Dean's statement and questioned whether his comments indicated a concern requiring recusal. Trustee Dean responded that he was not recusing himself but was expressing his belief that the position should not be filled at this time because it may cause a problem in the future.

Board President Copple clarified that the item before the Board was approval of the job description, not the immediate filling of the position.

Dr. Robinson further explained that updating the job description is part of the recruitment process and that hiring could take months due to recruitment challenges.

Trustee McNeil inquired whether the position was related to Umoja, and Dr. Robinson clarified that it is the Student Equity Director position, which oversees a categorical funding allocation of approximately \$1.3 million that supports counseling and student programs. She reiterated that, in the absence of a dedicated director, responsibilities have been distributed among staff and emphasized the need for centralized leadership to manage the program effectively.

Student Trustee Rangel-Ruiz expressed strong support for the position, stating that from the Associated Student Government (ASG) perspective, there is a significant need for a dedicated individual to serve in this role. She noted that, in the absence of a Student Equity Director, responsibilities have been distributed among various individuals, resulting in increased demands on students and staff and a lack of clear guidance.

Student Trustee Rangel-Ruiz shared that ASG members have at times relied on staff who assist outside of their regular duties to provide support, and she referenced prior support received from Dr. Bolin who provided guidance and mentorship to student leaders. She indicated that, while ASG has recently secured an advisor, additional leadership and coordination are still needed.

She emphasized that, particularly with new ASG members joining, it is important to have a dedicated leader to provide structure, support, and continuity. Speaking from a student perspective, she stated that the role is highly needed to help guide students and support the many responsibilities associated with student programs.

Dr. Robinson added that the District is required to submit a state-mandated Student Equity Plan each year. She stated that, this year, the plan required a committee effort with multiple individuals contributing to complete the work. She explained that the Director of Outreach and Student Equity position would provide leadership for this process and help create more continuity in the development of the plan.

Trustee Cople inquired about the proposed new Director of Budgeting and Procurement job description

Ms. Slagan explained that the position is needed due to the District's growth in enrollment and categorical funding, which has resulted in increased workload in areas such as accounts payable, procurement, and accounts receivable. She stated that staffing levels in the Business Office have remained unchanged despite this growth and that current staff have been working extended hours to meet operational demands. Ms. Slagan emphasized that the position is intended to improve efficiency, ensure timely processing of financial operations, and support overall institutional needs.

Trustee McNeil inquired whether the position would support implementation of zero-based budgeting. Ms. Slagan responded that the District is in the process of implementing a zero-based budgeting system and that the position would assist in those efforts, as well as support budget development, auditing, and coordination with Human Resources.

Board President Cople inquired whether the position would require the use of a consultant, and Ms. Slagan confirmed that no consultant would be utilized for this position.

LLC FOR THE SIMULATIONIQ ONE ROOM SYSTEM

Motion: Approve the sole source agreement with Education Management Solutions, LLC for the SimulationIQ One Room System.

Moved by: Scott Dean

Seconded by: Jon McNeil

Action: Motion Carries

Vote:

- **Yes:** Gloria Copple, Jon McNeil, Brad Arneson, Glenda Williams, Stella Styers, Scott Dean, Melina Rangel-Ruiz

Board Discussion:

Trustee Dean inquired about the cost of the agreement and whether other bids were sought from different companies.

Ms. Slagan explained that the item is presented as a sole source because the SimulationIQ One Room System is a unique, technology-driven system for which there are no comparable alternatives. She noted that supporting documentation from the manufacturer was provided to demonstrate the system's uniqueness and stated that issuing a bid would not be effective, as there is no equivalent product available.

Dr. Robinson added that the system is not limited to a single piece of equipment, but rather includes the entire simulation room environment. She explained that the system allows for programmed simulations, real-time observation, recording, and debriefing, and emphasized that it will provide valuable instructional support for nursing students, particularly in light of challenges related to clinical placements.

12.12 APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT WITH MESA ENERGY SYSTEMS, INC. FOR THE NEEDLES CENTER BUILDING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM UPGRADE

Motion: Approve the agreement with Mesa Energy Systems, Inc. for the Needles Center Building Management System upgrade.

Moved by: Jon McNeil

Seconded by: Scott Dean

Action: Motion Carries

Vote:

- **Yes:** Gloria Copple, Jon McNeil, Brad Arneson, Glenda Williams, Stella Styers, Scott Dean, Melina Rangel-Ruiz

Board Discussion:

Trustee McNeil inquired whether the project was being funded through deferred maintenance or the Needles Center budget.

Ms. Slagan responded that the project will be funded through the Capital Outlay Fund.

12.13 APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT WITH GRAND RIVER SOLUTIONS, INC.

Motion: Approve the agreement with Grand River Solutions, Inc. for professional services.

Moved by: Jon McNeil
Seconded by: Glenda Williams
Action: Motion Carries

Vote:

- **Yes:** Gloria Copple, Jon McNeil, Brad Arneson, Glenda Williams, Stella Styers, Scott Dean, Melina Rangel-Ruiz

Board Discussion:

Trustee Dean inquired whether Grand River Solutions, Inc. is a legal firm and questioned the need for the agreement related to Title IX compliance when the District already retains legal counsel.

Ms. Rodriguez explained that Grand River Solutions specializes in Title IX matters and that the District's participation is connected through its membership with an insurance liability consortium. She stated that Title IX processes require separate roles, including a hearing officer, decision-maker, and advocate, and that utilizing an external organization helps maintain neutrality and separation of responsibilities.

Trustee Dean asked why the District's legal counsel could not perform these functions. Ms. Rodriguez clarified that outside counsel would assist with appeals or legal matters, while the use of an external Title IX provider ensures a neutral and compliant process for investigations and decision-making.

12.14 APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT WITH RECORDS CONSULTANTS, INC. FOR COLLEGE-WIDE PHYSICAL FIXED ASSET INVENTORY SERVICES

Motion: Approve the agreement with Records Consultants, Inc. to provide college-wide physical fixed asset inventory services.

Moved by: Jon McNeil
Seconded by: Gloria Copple
Action: Motion Carries

Vote:

- **Yes:** Gloria Copple, Jon McNeil, Brad Arneson, Glenda Williams, Stella Styers, Scott Dean, Melina Rangel-Ruiz

12.15 APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT WITH FOSTER & FOSTER CONSULTING ACTUARIES, INC. FOR GASB 74/75 ACTUARIAL VALUATION SERVICES

Motion: Approve the agreement with Foster & Foster Consulting Actuaries, Inc. for GASB 74/75 actuarial valuation services.

Moved by: Jon McNeil
Seconded by: Brad Arneson
Action: Motion Carries

Vote:

- **Yes:** Gloria Copple, Jon McNeil, Brad Arneson, Glenda Williams, Stella Styers, Scott Dean, Melina Rangel-Ruiz

12.16 SECOND READ AND APPROVAL OF BOARD POLICIES

Motion: Approve the Board Policies as presented.

Moved by: Jon McNeil

Seconded by: Brad Arneson

Action: Motion Carries

Vote:

- **Yes:** Gloria Cople, Jon McNeil, Brad Arneson, Glenda Williams, Stella Styers, Scott Dean, Melina Rangel-Ruiz

Board Discussion:

Trustee McNeil stated that, similar to his prior comments regarding Student Conduct, the language in BP 5500 seemed “nebulous” to him. He referenced the section defining a student as any person who has applied for admission, been enrolled, or expressed an intent to enroll in a college program, and questioned whether that language would allow the District to suspend someone who is not currently enrolled. He noted that the language suggests that an individual who merely expresses intent to enroll could be subject to discipline and stated that he found that aspect of the policy noteworthy.

12.17 DISMISSAL OF LEGAL COUNSEL SERVICES WITH ATKINSON, ANDELSON, LOYA, RUUD & ROMO (AALRR)

Motion: Discontinue the use of legal services from Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo (AALRR), with the firm to complete any currently assigned matters, and no new matters to be assigned.

Moved by: Scott Dean

Seconded by: Jon McNeil

Action: Motion Carries

Vote:

- **Yes:** Gloria Cople, Jon McNeil, Glenda Williams, Scott Dean, Melina Rangel-Ruiz
- **No:** Brad Arneson, Stella Styers

Board Discussion:

Trustee Cople introduced the item regarding the dismissal of legal counsel services with Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo (AALRR) and stated that concerns had been raised regarding advice received that was not aligned with other legal counsel. She stated that AALRR would continue to handle any currently assigned matters to completion, but no new matters would be assigned and their services would conclude thereafter.

Trustee McNeil inquired whether legal advice had been obtained regarding the Board’s ability to discontinue use of AALRR’s services. Board President Cople confirmed that legal advice had been received and that the proposed action was consistent with that guidance.

Trustee McNeil further sought clarification regarding the status of the existing contract. Trustee Cople explained that the contract would remain in effect for currently assigned

matters, which AALRR would continue to handle to completion, but that no new matters would be assigned and services would conclude thereafter. Trustee McNeil asked whether the currently assigned matters were primarily related to Human Resources. Trustee Copple responded that the matters also included several complaints.

12.18 APPROVAL OF ABSENCE FOR TRUSTEE ANGEL RAMIREZ - FEBRUARY 10, 2026

Motion: Approve the absence of Trustee Angel Ramirez from the February 10, 2026, Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees.

Moved by: Brad Arneson

Seconded by: Jon McNeil

Action: Motion Carries

Vote:

- **Yes:** Gloria Copple, Jon McNeil, Brad Arneson, Glenda Williams, Stella Styers, Scott Dean, Melina Rangel-Ruiz

13. CLOSING OF MEETING

13.1 POSSIBLE FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Trustees discussed potential future agenda items, including a request for information regarding the Assistant Superintendent/Vice President of Instruction and Student Services position.

Additional discussion included clarification related to payroll practices and employee compensation timelines, with staff indicating that the matter is currently governed by existing contract language and may be addressed through ongoing negotiations.

Trustees also briefly discussed concerns raised regarding the Business Office and employee processes, and it was noted that follow-up information would be provided administratively as appropriate.

13.2 ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 7:11 p.m.



Stephanie Sagan, Acting Superintendent/President

Minutes approved at May 12, 2026, Regular Board Meeting

Minutes generated by Naomi Alaniz, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent/President and Board of Trustees. These minutes are a concise summary of reports, discussions, and actions taken at this meeting. For detailed comments and discussion, a tape is available to the public for 30 days after the date of this meeting.

Hello Mrs. Alaniz;

I am submitting the following message for consideration during public comment at tonight's Board meeting. Given the nature of the content, I respectfully request that it be read aloud if permissible. If it cannot be read during the meeting, I respectfully ask that it be forwarded to the Board of Trustees for their awareness. Thank you for your time and assistance.

Anonymous Statement

Trustees,

This message is being shared anonymously due to a real and ongoing fear of retaliation. That fear is not abstract—it is the result of the environment your recent and ongoing actions have created.

There is a growing and widely shared concern among employees that speaking openly, offering a different perspective, or raising concerns comes with risk. That is not how a healthy workplace should function, and it reflects a breakdown in your leadership and responsibility.

Employees are watching how individuals are treated. When those who contribute positively to the institution are publicly challenged, undermined, or blocked, it sends a clear message to others to remain silent rather than risk becoming a target.

There is also a concerning perception that those who question what many experience as unethical leadership are met with resistance, while behavior aligned with your agenda or perspective is elevated, supported, or protected. Regardless of intent, that perception is real and continues to spread.

Instead of focusing on the positive work taking place across the college, the focus has shifted toward negativity, public conflict, and division. These behaviors are visible and are shaping the day-to-day experience of working here.

The result of your actions is declining morale and eroding trust in your leadership. Employees are struggling to feel safe, to feel valued, and to fully contribute in their roles. This is affecting how people work together, the overall environment, and the ability of the college to function effectively for students.

You have put this institution at risk, and many do not feel safe enough to say so openly.

When you say you want what is best for employees and the community, that must mean all employees and the entire community—not just those who support you or align with your

perspective. Remember, your responsibility is to serve the whole institution, not just those who agree with you.

All employees of this college should be supported in doing their work, not placed in positions that create instability or undermine progress.

Leadership requires accountability, consistency, and the ability to work through disagreement without creating division.

This should serve as a clear signal that change from you as trustees is needed.

It is time to reset, to act with integrity, to work collaboratively, and to refocus on what is right for the entire institution and the students it serves.

Good evening members of the board, administration, faculty, and community members.

As you already know I am Melina Rangel Ruiz, and I serve as your ASG Student Trustee. I'm here today to advocate for our students at the Needles extension campus and to request your support in allowing them to hold their own commencement ceremony at their campus.

This request is grounded in three key principles: **student safety, equity, and institutional responsibility.**

First, safety. Students from Needles are expected to travel nearly four hours round trip along Highway 95 to attend commencement here. This is not a minor inconvenience—it is a significant safety concern. The road conditions, distance, and increased traffic—especially during a major event—create unnecessary risk for students and their families on a day that is meant to celebrate their achievements. We should not be asking our students to compromise their safety in order to participate in their own graduation.

Second, equity. Our Needles students have consistently expressed that they feel overlooked and excluded from broader campus traditions. They are often unable to participate in commencement-related events, including dinners and celebrations, due to distance and access. As a result, they are not experiencing the same sense of recognition and belonging as students on the main campus.

Equity means meeting students where they are—not expecting them to overcome structural barriers just to be included.

Third, institutional responsibility. The Needles campus has demonstrated both the willingness and the ability to support its own commencement ceremony. Their community has stepped forward to assist financially, showing strong local investment in student success. When a community is ready to support its students in this way, we as an institution should not stand in the way—we should support and empower that effort.

As ASG leadership, we stand in full support of the Needles students. We believe it is not only reasonable, but necessary, to allow them to celebrate their accomplishments within their own community.

I also want to address the comparison that is sometimes made between community college commencements and university commencements. This comparison is not appropriate. Community colleges serve a fundamentally different population—students who are often balancing work, family responsibilities, and financial challenges. Our role is to provide access and flexibility, not to impose models that do not reflect our students' realities.

Across California, community college districts such as Los Angeles Community College District and San Diego Community College District already support multiple, localized commencement ceremonies to ensure accessibility for all students. These institutions recognize that equity sometimes requires different approaches—not identical ones.

We cannot continue to celebrate student success while continuing to overlook the wants and needs of Needles students. When students come forward and clearly express that something is unfair, it is our responsibility to listen and respond with action.

The request from Needles is reasonable. It is supported. And it aligns with our mission as a community college.

I respectfully urge the board to consider this request with the seriousness it deserves and to take a step toward a more equitable and student-centered approach to commencement.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Tuesday, March 17, 2026

The Palo Verde College Board of Trustees
One College Drive
Blythe, CA 92225

725 W. Broadway St.
Needles, CA 92363

Dear Members of the PVC Board of Trustees,

It has been brought to my attention that the Board will be voting on whether to allow the Needles Educational Center to hold a graduation ceremony for the Needles graduating students this year. I believe that it is the ethical mandate of the board to support an inclusive environment and services which means allowing Needles students and their families the same opportunities as the Blythe students. As a member of the community of Needles and a tax paying resident, whose tax dollars go toward the Needles Educational Center, I want to be able to celebrate our college graduates in our town and the opportunity would be lost if the graduation was only held in Blythe.

I am requesting that the Board allow the graduation to be held in Needles as it has been since 2014. Travel from one campus to another is burdensome which is why historically there has been a separate ceremony in Needles, to which, attendance by the board, faculty, and staff is not mandatory as I understand it. The Needles Community will understand if any board members cannot make the journey. I would further request that the board handles their financial concerns as a separate matter and honor the vision statement and values of Palo Verde College.

Sincerely,

Evelyn Kormes
143 N.K Street
Needles Ca
92363

3/16/2026

The Palo Verde College Board of Trustees
One College Drive
Blythe, CA 92225

725 W. Broadway St.
Needles, CA 92363

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Sincerely,



REBECCA D. SHAW

P.O. BOX 1154 Needles, CA 92363

RDSLKY@gmail.com

3/25/2026

The Palo Verde College Board of Trustees
One College Drive
Blythe, CA 92225

725 W. Broadway St.
Needles, CA 92363

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Sincerely,

Ella Corona
2001 Peru St Needles, Ca
760-903-3676

3/25/2026

The Palo Verde College Board of Trustees
One College Drive
Blythe, CA 92225

725 W. Broadway St.
Needles, CA 92363

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Sincerely,

Hannah Corlew
516 California Ave
602-810-6404

3/16/2026

The Palo Verde College Board of Trustees
One College Drive
Blythe, CA 92225

725 W. Broadway St.
Needles, CA 92363

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Sincerely,

E. Diane Guston
577 Calif. Ave.
Needles, CA. 92363

Tuesday, March 17, 2026

The Palo Verde College Board of Trustees
One College Drive
Blythe, CA 92225

725 W. Broadway St.
Needles, CA 92363

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Sincerely,

Joseph Godoy
Diane Young 214^{EST} Needles

3/16/2026

The Palo Verde College Board of Trustees
One College Drive
Blythe, CA 92225

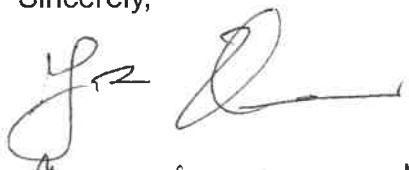
725 W. Broadway St.
Needles, CA 92363

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Sincerely,



GENEVIEVE LIMPINCO
404 F STREET NEEDLES, CA 92363
STW-Limpinco.genev@student.paloverde.edu
(760) 903-1456 / (442)-542-1646

3/16/2026

The Palo Verde College Board of Trustees
One College Drive
Blythe, CA 92225

725 W. Broadway St.
Needles, CA 92363

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Sincerely,



Rainna Resendiz

rainnaresendiz970@gmail.com

1905 Luna Vista Needles Ca 92363

Tuesday, March 17, 2026

The Palo Verde College Board of Trustees
One College Drive
Blythe, CA 92225

725 W. Broadway St.
Needles, CA 92363

To the Members of the PVC Board of Trustees,


We, the graduating phlebotomy students of Spring 2026 from the Needles Center, are writing in support of a commencement ceremony to be held in Needles. We, as students embedded within the Needles community, feel that a ceremony held at the Needles center would best align with our needs and interests, both as students and as individuals.

Foregoing the commencement ceremony in favor of a centralized Blythe ceremony would isolate our fellow community members from attending in support of us. If a ceremony is only held in Blythe, it creates barriers including time and financial constraints that would prevent friends and family members from attending. The sudden increased time commitment of attending a Blythe ceremony would also prove a constraint on us students. It would add 4 hours of transportation on us, and there would be a much larger pool of students and speeches to sit through; instead of a small ceremony, this would be an all day event for attendees from Needles, which also impacts any personal or family needs and dedications outside of this ceremony.

We feel that a decision affecting the students should be made with student consultation first and foremost. The Associated Student Government functions as a liaison where both students and staff can consult with one another, and the Associated Student Government has already advocated for a Needles Ceremony. With this in mind, we ask the board and the administration to pay heed to student voices. We ask that the Needles Center be able to resume planning for local graduations as it has done since 2014, and to be allowed to do so for future students.

Signed:


Michele Harris


Adrian V.


Aeryelle Fritz

Tuesday, March 17, 2026

The Palo Verde College Board of Trustees
One College Drive
Blythe, CA 92225

725 W. Broadway St.
Needles, CA 92363

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Sincerely,

Evelyn Dawis 0162461

Tuesday, March 17, 2026

The Palo Verde College Board of Trustees
One College Drive
Blythe, CA 92225

725 W. Broadway St.
Needles, CA 92363

Dear Members of the PVC Board of Trustees,

It has been brought to my attention that the Board will be voting on whether to allow the Needles Educational Center to hold a graduation ceremony for the Needles graduating students this year. I believe that it is the ethical mandate of the board to support an inclusive environment and services which means allowing Needles students and their families the same opportunities as the Blythe students. As a member of the community of Needles and a tax paying resident, whose tax dollars go toward the Needles Educational Center, I want to be able to celebrate our college graduates in our town and the opportunity would be lost if the graduation was only held in Blythe.

I am requesting that the Board allow the graduation to be held in Needles as it has been since 2014. Travel from one campus to another is burdensome, which is why historically there has been a separate ceremony in Needles, to which attendance by the board, faculty, and staff is not mandatory as I understand it. The Needles Community will understand if any board members cannot make the journey. I would further request that the board handles their financial concerns as a separate matter and honor the vision statement and values of Palo Verde College.

Sincerely,

Kayla Lazzarino
501 Cibola St
Needles CA 92363

Tuesday, March 17, 2026

The Palo Verde College Board of Trustees
One College Drive
Blythe, CA 92225

725 W. Broadway St.
Needles, CA 92363

Dear Members of the PVC Board of Trustees,

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I am requesting that the Board allow the graduation to be held in Needles as it has been since 2014. Travel from one campus to another is burdensome, which is why historically there has been a separate ceremony in Needles, to which attendance by the board, faculty, and staff is not mandatory as I understand it. The Needles Community will understand if any board members cannot make the journey. I would further request that the board handles their financial concerns as a separate matter and honor the vision statement and values of Palo Verde College.

Sincerely,

Lynn K. Smith
139 1/2 Erin Dr.
Needles, Ca.
92363

Tuesday, March 17, 2026

The Palo Verde College Board of Trustees
One College Drive
Blythe, CA 92225

725 W. Broadway St.
Needles, CA 92363

Dear Members of the PVC Board of Trustees,

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Sincerely, *Elizabeth Clark*

*117 Monterey, Needles CA 92363,
978-542-5003*

Tuesday, March 17, 2026

The Palo Verde College Board of Trustees
One College Drive
Blythe, CA 92225

725 W. Broadway St.
Needles, CA 92363

Dear Members of the PVC Board of Trustees,

It has been brought to my attention that the Board will be voting on whether to allow the Needles Educational Center to hold a graduation ceremony for the Needles graduating students this year. I believe that it is the ethical mandate of the board to support an inclusive environment and services which means allowing Needles students and their families the same opportunities as the Blythe students. As a member of the community of Needles and a tax paying resident, whose tax dollars go toward the Needles Educational Center, I want to be able to celebrate our college graduates in our town and the opportunity would be lost if the graduation was only held in Blythe.

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Sincerely,

*Pamela A. Moses, Program Specialist
Needles Head Start*

Tuesday, March 17, 2026

The Palo Verde College Board of Trustees
One College Drive
Blythe, CA 92225

725 W. Broadway St.
Needles, CA 92363

Dear Members of the PVC Board of Trustees,

It has been brought to my attention that the Board will be voting on whether to allow the Needles Educational Center to hold a graduation ceremony for the Needles graduating students this year. I believe that it is the ethical mandate of the board to support an inclusive environment and services which means allowing Needles students and their families the same opportunities as the Blythe students. As a member of the community of Needles and a tax paying resident, whose tax dollars go toward the Needles Educational Center, I want to be able to celebrate our college graduates in our town and the opportunity would be lost if the graduation was only held in Blythe.

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Sincerely, Shilo Bennington
1970 Clary Dr #1023 Needles Ca
602) 769-3664

Tuesday, March 17, 2026

The Palo Verde College Board of Trustees
One College Drive
Blythe, CA 92225

725 W. Broadway St.
Needles, CA 92363

Dear Members of the PVC Board of Trustees,

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Sincerely,

Suzie Brooks-Torres
1001 Lilly Hill Dr. #24 Needles, CA
(760) 910-3940

Tuesday, March 17, 2026

The Palo Verde College Board of Trustees
One College Drive
Blythe, CA 92225


725 W. Broadway St.
Needles, CA 92363

Dear Members of the PVC Board of Trustees,

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Sincerely,


409
~~421~~ A street
Needles CA 92363
760 985 4050

Tuesday, March 17, 2026

The Palo Verde College Board of Trustees
One College Drive
Blythe, CA 92225

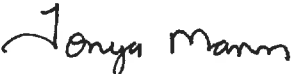
725 W. Broadway St.
Needles, CA 92363

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Sincerely,


404 F St
Needles, Ca 92363

Tuesday, March 17, 2026

The Palo Verde College Board of Trustees
One College Drive
Blythe, CA 92225

725 W. Broadway St.
Needles, CA 92363

Dear Members of the PVC Board of Trustees,

It has been brought to my attention that the Board will be voting on whether to allow the Needles Educational Center to hold a graduation ceremony for the Needles graduating students this year. I believe that it is the ethical mandate of the board to support an inclusive environment and services which means allowing Needles students and their families the same opportunities as the Blythe students. As a member of the community of Needles and a tax paying resident, whose tax dollars go toward the Needles Educational Center, I want to be able to celebrate our college graduates in our town and the opportunity would be lost if the graduation was only held in Blythe.

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Sincerely, *Jilliana* (213)-705-1163

Tuesday, March 17, 2026

The Palo Verde College Board of Trustees
One College Drive
Blythe, CA 92225

725 W. Broadway St.
Needles, CA 92363

Dear Members of the PVC Board of Trustees,

It has been brought to my attention that the Board will be voting on whether to allow the Needles Educational Center to hold a graduation ceremony for the Needles graduating students this year. I believe that it is the ethical mandate of the board to support an inclusive environment and services which means allowing Needles students and their families the same opportunities as the Blythe students. As a member of the community of Needles and a tax paying resident, whose tax dollars go toward the Needles Educational Center, I want to be able to celebrate our college graduates in our town and the opportunity would be lost if the graduation was only held in Blythe.

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Sincerely,



442-423-9326

Tuesday, March 17, 2026

The Palo Verde College Board of Trustees
One College Drive
Blythe, CA 92225

725 W. Broadway St.
Needles, CA 92363

Dear Members of the PVC Board of Trustees,

It has been brought to my attention that the Board will be voting on whether to allow the Needles Educational Center to hold a graduation ceremony for the Needles graduating students this year. I believe that it is the ethical mandate of the board to support an inclusive environment and services which means allowing Needles students and their families the same opportunities as the Blythe students. As a member of the community of Needles and a tax paying resident, whose tax dollars go toward the Needles Educational Center, I want to be able to celebrate our college graduates in our town and the opportunity would be lost if the graduation was only held in Blythe.

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Sincerely,



1501 LILLY HILL DR. APH. 28
NEEDLES CA.

928) 542-3616

Tuesday, March 17, 2026

The Palo Verde College Board of Trustees
One College Drive
Blythe, CA 92225


725 W. Broadway St.
Needles, CA 92363

Dear Members of the PVC Board of Trustees,

It has been brought to my attention that the Board will be voting on whether to allow the Needles Educational Center to hold a graduation ceremony for the Needles graduating students this year. I believe that it is the ethical mandate of the board to support an inclusive environment and services which means allowing Needles students and their families the same opportunities as the Blythe students. As a member of the community of Needles and a tax paying resident, whose tax dollars go toward the Needles Educational Center, I want to be able to celebrate our college graduates in our town and the opportunity would be lost if the graduation was only held in Blythe.

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Sincerely,


404 F. Street
Needles CA 92363
(909) 238-1856

Tuesday, March 17, 2026

The Palo Verde College Board of Trustees
One College Drive
Blythe, CA 92225

725 W. Broadway St.
Needles, CA 92363

Dear Members of the PVC Board of Trustees,

It has been brought to my attention that the Board will be voting on whether to allow the Needles Educational Center to hold a graduation ceremony for the Needles graduating students this year. I believe that it is the ethical mandate of the board to support an inclusive environment and services which means allowing Needles students and their families the same opportunities as the Blythe students. As a member of the community of Needles and a tax paying resident, whose tax dollars go toward the Needles Educational Center, I want to be able to celebrate our college graduates in our town and the opportunity would be lost if the graduation was only held in Blythe.

I am requesting that the Board allow the graduation to be held in Needles as it has been since 2014. Travel from one campus to another is burdensome, which is why historically there has been a separate ceremony in Needles, to which attendance by the board, faculty, and staff is not mandatory as I understand it. The Needles Community will understand if any board members cannot make the journey. I would further request that the board handles their financial concerns as a separate matter and honor the vision statement and values of Palo Verde College.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. H. B.", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Tuesday, March 17, 2026

The Palo Verde College Board of Trustees
One College Drive
Blythe, CA 92225

725 W. Broadway St.
Needles, CA 92363

Dear Members of the PVC Board of Trustees,

It has been brought to my attention that the Board will be voting on whether to allow the Needles Educational Center to hold a graduation ceremony for the Needles graduating students this year. I believe that it is the ethical mandate of the board to support an inclusive environment and services which means allowing Needles students and their families the same opportunities as the Blythe students. As a member of the community of Needles and a tax paying resident, whose tax dollars go toward the Needles Educational Center, I want to be able to celebrate our college graduates in our town and the opportunity would be lost if the graduation was only held in Blythe.

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Sincerely,

Michelle Smith
2027 Carty PL
Needles CA 92363

3/16/2026

The Palo Verde College Board of Trustees
One College Drive
Blythe, CA 92225

725 W. Broadway St.
Needles, CA 92363

Dear Members of the PVC Board of Trustees,

It has been brought to my attention that the Board will be voting on whether to allow the Needles Educational Center to hold a graduation ceremony for the Needles graduating students this year. I believe that it is the ethical mandate of the board to support an inclusive environment and services which means allowing Needles students and their families the same opportunities as the Blythe students. As a member of the community of Needles and a tax paying resident, whose tax dollars go toward the Needles Educational Center, I want to be able to celebrate our college graduates in our town and the opportunity would be lost if the graduation was only held in Blythe.

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Sincerely,

Regina Quironez
Regina Quironez

3/16/2026

The Palo Verde College Board of Trustees
One College Drive
Blythe, CA 92225

725 W. Broadway St.
Needles, CA 92363

Dear Members of the PVC Board of Trustees,

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Sincerely,

Mariah Valentine
1970 Clary Dr. Apt 521
Needles CA 92363

Phone# 760-903-6209
E Mail danielle3344@yahoo.com

3/16/2026

The Palo Verde College Board of Trustees
One College Drive
Blythe, CA 92225

725 W. Broadway St.
Needles, CA 92363

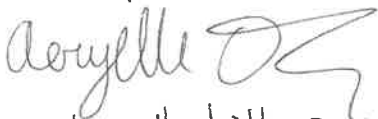
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Sincerely,

Aeryelle Fritz



1001 Lillyhill Dr. Apt 15 Needles, CA, 92363

aeryelle.fritz@gmail.com

700 953 2408

Tuesday, March 17, 2026

The Palo Verde College Board of Trustees
One College Drive
Blythe, CA 92225

725 W. Broadway St.
Needles, CA 92363

Dear Members of the PVC Board of Trustees,

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Sincerely,

Michael Harding
1601 Lillyhill dr. Apt 94
Needles Ca 92363

Michael Harding 928 251 6297

Tuesday, March 17, 2026

The Palo Verde College Board of Trustees
One College Drive
Blythe, CA 92225

725 W. Broadway St.
Needles, CA 92363

Dear Members of the PVC Board of Trustees,

It has been brought to my attention that the Board will be voting on whether to allow the Needles Educational Center to hold a graduation ceremony for the Needles graduating students this year. I believe that it is the ethical mandate of the board to support an inclusive environment and services which means allowing Needles students and their families the same opportunities as the Blythe students. As a member of the community of Needles and a tax paying resident, whose tax dollars go toward the Needles Educational Center, I want to be able to celebrate our college graduates in our town and the opportunity would be lost if the graduation was only held in Blythe.

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Sincerely,

Eric Anthony
404 F St.
Needles, CA 92363
442 214 2072

Tuesday, March 17, 2026

The Palo Verde College Board of Trustees
One College Drive
Blythe, CA 92225

725 W. Broadway St.
Needles, CA 92363

Dear Members of the PVC Board of Trustees,

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Sincerely,

Ellen M. Ledbetter

*404 F St.
Needles, CA
92363*

Tuesday, March 17, 2026

The Palo Verde College Board of Trustees
One College Drive
Blythe, CA 92225

725 W. Broadway St.
Needles, CA 92363

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Sincerely,



Matthew Soufer
407 EST
NEEDLES CA 92363

760-903-6599

Tuesday, March 17, 2026

The Palo Verde College Board of Trustees
One College Drive
Blythe, CA 92225

725 W. Broadway St.
Needles, CA 92363

Dear Members of the PVC Board of Trustees,

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Sincerely,

Johnny Souter
319 Fst Needles CA
442 235 9496

Tuesday, March 17, 2026

The Palo Verde College Board of Trustees
One College Drive
Blythe, CA 92225

725 W. Broadway St.
Needles, CA 92363

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Sincerely,



404 F. St.
Needles Ca
92363

3/16/2026

The Palo Verde College Board of Trustees
One College Drive
Blythe, CA 92225

725 W. Broadway St.
Needles, CA 92363

Dear Members of the PVC Board of Trustees,

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Sincerely,

Sylvia Wolff 928-201-8517
216 Oak Circle
Needles CA 92363

3/16/2026

The Palo Verde College Board of Trustees
One College Drive
Blythe, CA 92225

725 W. Broadway St.
Needles, CA 92363

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Sincerely,



Email Joe Rabbit@Hotmail.com.

Tuesday, March 17, 2026

The Palo Verde College Board of Trustees
One College Drive
Blythe, CA 92225

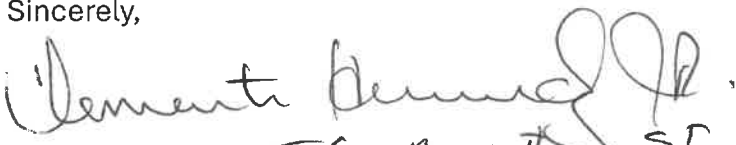
725 W. Broadway St.
Needles, CA 92363

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Sincerely,


2105 EC Monte St
Needles, CA. 92363
626-991-3956

3/16/2026

The Palo Verde College Board of Trustees
One College Drive
Blythe, CA 92225

725 W. Broadway St.
Needles, CA 92363

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Sincerely,

Marionna Geiger
760-990-9558

3-16-26

3/16/2026

The Palo Verde College Board of Trustees
One College Drive
Blythe, CA 92225

725 W. Broadway St.
Needles, CA 92363

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Sincerely,

Angel Campos Montalvo



(442) 542-9012

407 F St Needles, CA 92363

angel.campos10240@gmail.com

3/16/2026

The Palo Verde College Board of Trustees
One College Drive
Blythe, CA 92225

725 W. Broadway St.
Needles, CA 92363

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Sincerely,



Ann Miner
404 Fst Needles
Ca 92363

setfreeannie@gmail.com

3/16/2026

The Palo Verde College Board of Trustees
One College Drive
Blythe, CA 92225

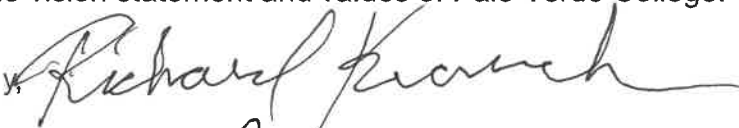
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Needles, CA 92363

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Sincerely,



4047 Street
Needles, CA

929-529-8210

3/16/2026

The Palo Verde College Board of Trustees
One College Drive
Blythe, CA 92225


725 W. Broadway St.
Needles, CA 92363

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Sincerely,


404 F Street

3/16/2026

The Palo Verde College Board of Trustees
One College Drive
Blythe, CA 92225

725 W. Broadway St.
Needles, CA 92363

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jani Cox", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

3/16/2026

The Palo Verde College Board of Trustees
One College Drive
Blythe, CA 92225

725 W. Broadway St.
Needles, CA 92363

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Sincerely,

Baldo Ochoa

404 P St Needles, CA

(909) 845-1607

3/16/2026

The Palo Verde College Board of Trustees
One College Drive
Blythe, CA 92225

725 W. Broadway St.
Needles, CA 92363

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Sincerely,

Stephanie A. Pellano

404 E St

Needles, CA

442-214-5245

3/16/2026

The Palo Verde College Board of Trustees
One College Drive
Blythe, CA 92225

725 W. Broadway St.
Needles, CA 92363

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Sincerely,

Carol Nomura
404 F STREET
Needles Ca. 92363
(760) 819 4163

3/16/2026

The Palo Verde College Board of Trustees
One College Drive
Blythe, CA 92225

725 W. Broadway St.
Needles, CA 92363

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Sincerely,

Thomas Shifrin
404 F. Street Needles California 92363

3/16/2026

The Palo Verde College Board of Trustees
One College Drive
Blythe, CA 92225

725 W. Broadway St.
Needles, CA 92363

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Sincerely,

Jamie Tawney
404 F St.
Needles, CA 92363
760-877-3940

3/16/2026

The Palo Verde College Board of Trustees
One College Drive
Blythe, CA 92225

725 W. Broadway St.
Needles, CA 92363

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Sincerely,

Shannon V. Egelhoff (760) 903-3846
404 F St.
Needles, Ca. 92363

3/16/2026

The Palo Verde College Board of Trustees
One College Drive
Blythe, CA 92225

725 W. Broadway St.
Needles, CA 92363

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Sincerely,

Chris Broadway
521 Palm Way
Needles, CA 92363
442-799-0104

3/16/2026

The Palo Verde College Board of Trustees
One College Drive
Blythe, CA 92225

725 W. Broadway St.
Needles, CA 92363

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Sincerely,

Carole Broadway
521 Palm Way
Needles, CA 92363
760-348-5896

3/16/2026

The Palo Verde College Board of Trustees
One College Drive
Blythe, CA 92225

725 W. Broadway St.
Needles, CA 92363

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Sincerely,

Crystal dach
442-542-1541
404 F St 92363 Needles Ca
dachcrystal2@gmail.com

3/16/2026

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One College Drive
Blythe, CA 92225

725 W. Broadway St.
Needles, CA 92363

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Sincerely,

Dustie Carter Poisonworth@gmail.com
760-903-6586
#66762
723 Downay Avenue Needles, CA 92363






Board of Trustees Regular Meeting - Apr 14 2026 - Minutes

Final Audit Report

2026-05-13

Created:	2026-05-13
By:	Naomi Alaniz (naomi.alaniz@paloverde.edu)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAAF9pxuS7vL6bPEVA3xIC4u91goPzr3qaG

"Board of Trustees Regular Meeting - Apr 14 2026 - Minutes" History

-  Document created by Naomi Alaniz (naomi.alaniz@paloverde.edu)
2026-05-13 - 7:34:12 PM GMT
-  Document emailed to Stephanie Slagan (stephanie.slagan@paloverde.edu) for signature
2026-05-13 - 7:35:27 PM GMT
-  Email viewed by Stephanie Slagan (stephanie.slagan@paloverde.edu)
2026-05-13 - 8:35:56 PM GMT
-  Document e-signed by Stephanie Slagan (stephanie.slagan@paloverde.edu)
Signature Date: 2026-05-13 - 8:36:11 PM GMT - Time Source: server - Signature Appearance Selected: MOBILE_IMAGE
-  Agreement completed.
2026-05-13 - 8:36:11 PM GMT