

**PIERPONT COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE  
BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

**Academics Committee Meeting**

**Friday, April 25, 2025  
10:30 AM**

**Pierpont's Advanced Technology Center (ATC)  
500 Galliher Drive  
Fairmont, WV 26554  
Room 201A**

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**MINUTES**

**Notice of Meeting**

A meeting of the Pierpont Community & Technical College (Pierpont) Board of Governors Academics Committee was held on April 25, 2025, beginning at 10:30 AM. The meeting was conducted in person at the Advanced Technology Center in Fairmont, WV. Advanced announcement of this meeting was posted on the WV Secretary of State's Meeting Notices Webpage.

*Committee Members Present:* Thomas Cole – Committee Chair, Jessica Killon, and Christine Miller

*Committee Members Absent:* Lisa Lang and Juanita Nickerson

*Others Present:* Members of the President's Cabinet, faculty, staff, and others

**I. Call to Order**

Thomas Cole called the meeting to order at 10:30 AM.

**II. Approval of Minutes – March 25, 2025**

A quorum was not present. Therefore, the minutes from the March 25 meeting could not be approved.

**III. Academic Programming**

**A. Resolution to Discontinue Applied Design A.A.S Degree Program**

David Beighley provided a high-level summary regarding the recommendation to discontinue the Applied Design A.A.S. program, which includes concentrations in Interior Design and Fashion Merchandising. He noted that the recommendation is based on low enrollment, graduation, and retention rates, as well as the absence of a full-time faculty member currently teaching in the program. External data also indicate that workforce and industry needs do not support continuing the program. A teach-out plan is in place should

the program be formally discontinued. David Beighley also mentioned that components of the program could potentially be restructured and offered through CCT in the future.

A quorum was not present; therefore, the item will be forwarded to the full Board for consideration without the approval of the committee.

**B. Resolution to Discontinue Technical Drafting C.A.S Degree Program**

David Beighley provided a high-level summary regarding the recommendation to discontinue the Technical Drafting C.A.S. program. He explained that this recommendation serves as a clean-up action following the discontinuation of the Drafting A.A.S. program two years ago. At that time, it was presumed that the C.A.S. degree would also be eliminated; however, the C.A.S. was not specifically spelled out in the original discontinuation action. David Beighley noted that there are currently no students enrolled in the program. He also shared that components of the program could potentially be restructured and offered through CCT in the future.

A quorum was not present; therefore, the item will be forwarded to the full Board for consideration without the approval of the committee.

**IV. Academic Affairs Update**

**A. Career and Corporate Training**

Dr. Joni Gray provided the following updates:

Targeted training opportunities are being offered in Braxton County, specifically in health sciences, trades, and electrical areas, with trainings ready for registration and May–July start dates. EMT Basic training will also be offered in Braxton County, as requested by local organizations. The 10-week EMT Basic course at Caperton Center is currently full with a waitlist of 10 students; there is consideration for offering an additional cohort at the ATC, Caperton, or in Monongalia County. Efforts are underway to locate a site for an EMT Basic course in Monongalia County and to develop an EMS High School CTE cohort.

The first Phlebotomy cohort has completed their program, with 7 of 9 students passing and preparing for their certification exam. These students will also participate in the upcoming Health Sciences Pinning Ceremony. Joni noted that these seven completers were individuals who would not have otherwise completed a traditional academic program.

In Randolph County, the Clinical Medical Assistant curriculum is nearly finalized, with a cohort anticipated to begin in September.

Joni also reported that the team is busy with Learn and Earn programs and is actively promoting them in the community. She attended the Aviation Career Fair yesterday and distributed flyers about the Learn and Earn opportunities. Additionally, there will be a



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"Lunch and Learn" event focused on CCT Learn and Earns on May 1 at 11:30 a.m., and Board of Governors members are invited to attend.

Finally, Joni invited Board of Governors members to join the inaugural Advisory Committee meeting, scheduled for May 1 at 6:30 p.m.

David Beighley reported that the Surgical Technology program has been formally discontinued at MTEC, and the EMS program could be discontinued at their next board meeting. He emphasized the importance of Pierpont remaining responsive to MTEC's needs and being prepared to offer programming if needed. David also noted that Pierpont is continuing to monitor the situations at NIOSH and Novelis and plans to be responsive by potentially providing retraining opportunities for individuals who lost their jobs. Pierpont will be present at the Novelis Career Fair on May 20.

Additionally, David Beighley reported that Pierpont experienced a reduction in state appropriations due to the state funding formula. He explained that a factor impacting the funding formula was the limited activity in CCT during prior years. David expressed his appreciation to Joni and her team for their efforts in changing the trajectory of CCT moving forward.

## **V. Adjournment**

There being no further business, Christine Miller moved to adjourn the meeting. Jessica Killon seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

*Respectfully submitted by Amanda N. Hawkinberry*



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