

President's Report August 2025

Tech Expansion/Bond Projects

Chittim & Del Rio Tech expansion – We will have a separate recurring report item that will cover the status updates on all construction projects going forward.

Leases

We have reached an acceptable agreement with Sul Ross State University with terms as directed by the Board. The new lease agreement will go their Board of Regents in November for approval. In the interim we have signed a three-month extension to the current lease at the new rates pending their board approval of the new four-year lease agreement.

Legislative

During this special session there were bills filed that would impact property taxes; however, those bill, as filed, do not impact community colleges. We will continue to monitor any legislative developments in any upcoming special sessions.

Several new laws were passed this year that will impact our faculty:

- SB 2615 – Prohibits remote work in institutions of higher education – faculty must teach classes and office hours from campus (impacts full-time faculty teaching online) – does not apply to adjunct or dual credit, some exceptions provided for illness, and non-teaching remote work. It goes into effect now.
- SB37 – This bill requires the Board of Trustees to authorize the creation of a Faculty Senate/Council and establish the policy governing it. We are working with our legal counsel to draft the policy. We may not have it ready for the board packets and might have to bring it to the Board meeting. In essence the policy should set out the parameter, authority and composition of the Faculty Senate/Council to comply with the law.

2025-2026 Academic Year

We held a Staff Convocation Day on July 24th, Adjunct Convocation Day on August 7th, and the Faculty Convocation on August 13th. All our employees are ready and excited to begin the new academic year. We presented the Strategic Plan (2025-2030), the QEP plan, and updates for this upcoming academic year.

Accreditation

We are in the final stages of completing our responses from the Off-Site Committee review, they will be submitted September 1st along with our Quality Enhancement Plan. As a reminder our On-Site Committee review will be on October 20-23.

Engagement

Met with Crystal City ISD Superintendent on July 31st, and attended the CCISD Board Meeting on August 11th, where they approved our Dual Credit MOU for the 2025-2026 Academic year.

Upcoming Meeting/Events

8/21	August Board Meeting
8/29-31	Palomino Festival
9/1	Labor Day Holiday
9/18	September Board Meeting
9/11-13	CCATT Conference
10/16	October Board Meeting
10/20-23	SACSCOC Onsite Accreditation Visit
11/20	November Board Meeting (potentially combine with December Board Meeting)
11/26-28	Thanksgiving Holiday
12/2	Christmas at the College
12/4	Potential Board Meeting (Nov/Dec) – for Audit approval
12/9	December Graduation in Del Rio