



MARICOPA
COMMUNITY
COLLEGES®

MARICOPA COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
GOVERNING BOARD INFORMATION SESSION
OCTOBER 12, 2010

MINUTES

A Governing Board Information Session of the Maricopa County Community College District Governing Board was scheduled to be held at 5:30 p.m. at the Glendale Community College, 6000 West Olive Avenue, Glendale, Arizona to A.R.S. §38-431.02, notice having been duly given.

PRESENT

GOVERNING BOARD

Debra Pearson, Member
Don Campbell, Member

Absent: Randolph Lumm, President
Jerry Walker, Secretary

ADMINISTRATION

Rufus Glasper
Maria Harper-Marinick
Debra Thompson
George Kahkedjian
Casandra Kakar for Anna Solley
Joyce Elsner
Clay Goodman for Ernie Lara
Chris Bustamante
Maria Reyes for Linda Lujan
Jan Gehler
Velvie Green
Phil Randolph
Paul Dale
Shouan Pan
Michael Glisson for Gene Giovannini
Steve Helfgot (absent)

CALL TO ORDER The information session was called to order at 5:37 p.m.

Welcome and Overview

The information session was called to order by Executive Vice Chancellor Dr. Maria Harper-Marinick who welcomed those in attendance to this Information Session on Public Safety Training Programs. She stated that this session was a follow-up to the session held on September 14 which focused on occupational programs. Dr. Harper-Marinick acknowledged the presence of board members Debra Pearson and Dr. Don Campbell. Mr. Lumm was unable to attend due to illness.

Dr. Velvie Green, President of Glendale Community College, also welcomed everyone present. She indicated that the Public Safety Building this meeting was being held in had been dedicated last January and was a functional tool used for training first responders in the community. She stated that as the second Maricopa community college established, GCC serves more than 30,000 students each year and has awarded more than 460,000 associate degrees. Many of these

students have either been transfer students or students updating their skills, in addition to taking classes in law enforcement or fire science.

The following presentations/comments were made:

I. Introduction and Overview: Larry Thacker, Mesa Community College

“Good afternoon members of the Governing Board, President Lumm, Chancellors executive council and guests. As Chair of the Occupational Administrators council, it is my privilege to serve as this afternoon’s moderator. Today we will provide you with a snapshot of the public safety programs that are provided by the Maricopa Community College District. Of all of the Workforce development programs within the Maricopa system, perhaps none other is as closely linked to the community as the public safety programs are. All of us, as citizens of our communities, are provided services from either the fire departments, the police departments or the emergency medical services. Whether you have ever had to call on any of these services or not, these people are always on call and diligently working to keep us all safe. It our best estimate that over 90% of all firefighters, EMTs, Paramedics and Police officers have received some, if not all of their public safety education from one of the Maricopa community Colleges. They also rely heavily on us for their continuing education needs as well. Not only do they come to us for their initial training, but often their promotional requirements are met through MCCCDC coursework as well. It is not unusual for us to educate an aspiring young firefighter or EMT or police officer and then see that same student return to us again and again as they gain employment then seek to stay current in their skills or to gain new skills that will help them to promote. It is also not an unusual scenario to see that firefighter, EMT or police officer become so closely aligned with the community college that they become adjunct faculty which creates another close bond between the community and the college. Last week, President Barack Obama in a speech at the first White House summit on community colleges said that community colleges are the “unsung heroes” of the education system. I believe that the community colleges role in educating our communities "unsung heroes" is another example of the critical role we play within our community. Let's take a look at some facts about Public Safety employees.

- In the Greater Phoenix Metropolitan Area there are currently:
 - 9,170 police and sheriff’s patrol officers.
 - 7,340 correctional officers and jailers.
 - 3,770 fire fighters, EMTs, and paramedics.
 - 1,380 detectives and criminal investigators.
 - 3,780 supervisors/managers of police/fire/corrections.
- Local governments account for over 80% of these jobs.
- Jobs in public safety pay well. In 2009 the average wage was:
 - \$60,949 for police and sheriff’s patrol officers.
 - \$49,529 for fire fighters.
 - \$41,934 for all jobs in the Greater Phoenix Metro.
- Public safety jobs are in demand. Between 2008 and 2018 the Greater Phoenix Metro will need to add or replace:
 - 1,977 police and sheriff’s patrol officers.
 - 1,385 correctional officers and jailers.
 - 1,187 fire fighters, EMTs, and paramedics.

- 404 detectives and criminal investigators.
- 1,326 supervisors/managers of police/fire/corrections.
- A surge in retirements is expected after the economy recovers.
- Public safety accounted for 11.8% of occupational enrollment at MCCC in FY2009-10.
- The vast majority public safety personnel in Greater Phoenix have taken courses through the Maricopa system.

During this afternoons presentation we will hear from various faculty members who will tell us about Police academies and fire academies and their affiliations with our colleges. We will also hear about emergency medical technology basic and advanced programs and the challenges that we face to meet accreditation requirements and find sufficient clinical experiences for our students. We will also hear about some exciting new specialty programs that have been created for our public safety programs. We will also hear about the creative ways that we partner with various public safety agencies to provide quality education.”

II. Law Enforcement: Police Academies: Jon Terpay, Chandler-Gilbert Community College Law Enforcement Training Academy at Chandler-Gilbert Community College-Williams Campus

Overview

“The Chandler-Gilbert Law Enforcement Training Academy (LETA) is a 40 week (2 semesters) program which students become eligible for peace officer certification upon graduation. The academy meets and exceeds all of the standards of the Arizona Peace Officers Standards and Training (Arizona POST). Students who graduate from the program are eligible to become full-time officers/deputies, or reserve officers/deputies for various police agencies within the State of Arizona.

Currently, there are two academy classes in process and classes are held every Tuesday & Thursday night, in addition to every Saturday. Students within the program may be open enrollees, or sponsored by an agency prior to beginning the academy. The benefits to this schedule are to allow for students to maintain their current employment status, with the hope to transition into a law enforcement career upon successful graduation.

Prior to being selected for the academy, students must undergo a rigorous background checks, in addition to a polygraph and medical examination from an Arizona POST doctor.

Curriculum

Students receive 870 hours of training and are awarded 30 credit hours upon graduation. Over the course of the program, there are 60 individual classes, 58 academic examinations, 12 practical examinations, five (5) scenario examinations, and one (1) comprehensive final exam administered by Arizona POST. Upon graduation from the LETA academy, the student’s certification is valid for up to 3 years.

Scholarships

Students sponsored by a police agency have their tuition, uniforms, and other equipment paid for and provided by their respective agency.

Arizona POST also provides partial funding in the amount of \$500.00 for each student who is sponsored by an agency. The money is provided to off-set costs incurred in the academy such as ammunition.

Current Law Enforcement Trends

Due to the current economic environment, law enforcement agencies throughout the state are understaffed. Arizona POST estimates approximately 1200 sworn officer vacancies currently exist within Arizona due to the fact that agency budgets have been cut across the board. In addition, over the next 5 years, it is expected another 1200 sworn positions will open through attrition and retirements. This will create a strain on the current full-time academies, in that they will not be able to accommodate the increase of students. It also creates an advantage for the LETA program. Several agencies have been using the LETA academy to bring on reserve officers who work for the police departments without compensation. By bringing on reserves, this creates a bank of eligible candidates to transition into a full-time employee/officer once agencies are allowed to begin hiring again. By doing this, they can save almost a year of training before the officer becomes a full-time “solo” officer on the street.

Career Pipeline Outreach

The LETA Academy utilizes part-time instructors who are certified law enforcement officers from various agencies. Officers are General Instructors recognized by Arizona POST, in addition to Subject Matter Experts in their field of instruction.

Many agencies visit the academy to actively recruit students from the program once they graduate, and many agencies use the LETA academy to bring on reserve officers for their agencies. Many of our graduates begin their career as a reserve, then transition into a full-time position when openings occur.

Staff

Each academy class has a Class Supervisor and a Recruit Training Officer (RTO). We currently have a Commander from Tempe Police Department, a Lieutenant and an Officer from the Mesa Police Department, and a Detective from the Chandler Police Department as part of our staff.

Equipment/Facilities

The LETA program utilizes facilities of police agencies and colleges for firearms trainings and defensive driving training for the academy. All other training occurs at the Williams Campus. Agencies that sponsor recruits also provide vehicles and other equipment as necessary during the course of the program.

Summary

The LETA Academy is an alternative to a full-time academy for students in their attempt to become certified peace officers, without having to change and/or terminate their current employment status.

The success of the LETA Academy has grown significantly over the past 2 years. Over 80% of the students who have graduated from the program have received either a full-time officer/deputy position(s), or have successfully become a reserve officer/deputy with a police agency within the State of Arizona. Due to the current economic environment this presents opportunities for the LETA program.”

II. Law Enforcement: Specialty Programs: John Kavanagh, Scottsdale Community College
SCC AJS Specialty Programs

AJS – AA Degree

- Prepares Students for Criminal Justice System Careers (mostly police officer but also corrections, parole and probation officer, crime scene technicians, federal agent and lawyer).
- Many students not destined for CJ careers also take it out of interest in the topic
Placement good for police and corrections but difficult for others due to additional education required and less job opportunities).

Crime Scene Certificate

- Prepares students to be crime scene technicians and detectives.
- 6 courses, some online.
- Average about 20 certificates per year.
- Jobs difficult to acquire due to intense competition.

Crime Scene Investigation

- All online programs consisting of six courses.
- Designed for police officers and investigators but open to all.
- Relatively new program.

AJS Faculty

- Two residential faculty members with doctorates who are retired police officers with investigative experience.
- Augmented by over a dozen retired or currently active police officers, detectives, crime scene technicians, lawyers or social scientists.

Forensic Science

- Arizona does not have a four-year undergraduate program designed to train criminalists (crime lab workers), even though this is a growing field.
- Consequently, area crime labs hire criminalists trained out-of-state or hire in-state chemistry majors and give them on the job training.
- This two-year degree program is the two-year community college degree designed of chemistry majors transferring to our universities modified to give them some forensic science and crime scene courses.
- Has a dedicated residential faculty member instructor with practical experience.

FTSE

- AJS - 128
- FOR - 20

II. Law Enforcement: Custom Training/Partnerships: Ron Burns, Rio Salado Community College

Rio Salado Partnerships: A Winning Combination for our Partners, our Students and the College.

- Phoenix Police Academy (now Arizona Law Enforcement Academy): 1990; Basic Law Enforcement Training.

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- Maricopa County Sheriff's Department: 1990; Law Enforcement and Detention Training.
- Mesa Police Department: 1994; Basic Police Training.
- Arizona Department of Public Safety: 1995; Basic Police Officer Training.
- Arizona Department of Corrections: 1997; Corrections Officer Training.

Customized Training: Meeting the Needs of our Partners.

- Phoenix Police Department.
- Arizona Peace Officers Standards and Training Board.
- US Department of Homeland Security: Crew Member Self Defense.

Pathways to Higher Education:

- Ottawa University.
- Northern Arizona University.

Mr. Burns commented that since 2003 Rio Salado College has developed 271 AAS degrees and 3600 certificate programs, and since 2005 3,444 officers have gone through their search warrant investigations program. They also work with the Peace Officers Agency and 940 students have gone through that program. For students who have obtained their AAS Degrees and want to get more education, Rio Salado College has partnered with Ottawa University and Northern Arizona University. They also have a 90/30 program partnership with Northern Arizona University.

III. Fire Science: Standardization Efforts: Bill Stipp, Estrella Mountain Community College**Regionalization of Fire Services:**

- Phoenix Response Consortium.
 - Governed by the CALSS.
 - Several Work Groups Support the Efforts - ROCC, Training, Communications, Spec. Ops.
- Urban Area Security Initiative.
 - Governed equally by Law Enforcement and Fire Agencies to distribute federal funds.

Standardization of Fire Programs in MCCCCD:

- Requested by CALSS – Our Customers.
- Began in 2007 under D. Donahue and continues today under S. Jones.
- Standard Programs and Courses.
- Better for the students.
- Can lead to shared resources and savings for the District.

Mr. Stipp mentioned that the Consortium was comprised of all Valley Fire Departments (26 agencies) and that this allows for the nearest fire truck to respond. They have a regional approach which follows the same guidelines and rules. He indicated that money is split 50/50 between law enforcement and fire services. They all operation under the same principles. Their customers have requested standardization on the part of the training at the different community colleges and these are being worked on. This will help with the availability and sharing of resources.

IV. Fire Science: Fire Academies/Partnerships: Doug DeSanti, Glendale Community College

MCCD Fire Academy Partnerships:

- Glendale Regional Public Safety Training Center.
 - City of Glendale.
 - City of Avondale.
 - City of Peoria.
 - City of Surprise.
- Buckeye Fire Training Center.
- Northwest Regional Training Academy.
 - Sun City Fire Department.
 - Sun City West Fire Department.

MCCD Fire Academy Partnerships:

- Goodyear
- Avondale
- Tolleson
- Rural Metro
- Wickenburg
- Whitmann
- Camp Verde
- Bullhead City
- Mayer
- Sierra Vista
- Wilcox
- Pine
- Phoenix
- Buckeye Valley
- Tonopah
- Circle City Morristown
- Black Canyon
- Daisy Mountain
- Tempe
- Cottonwood
- Tuba City
- Snowflake
- St John's
- Sedona

GCC Public Safety Sciences Building:

- Strong Public Safety Education Identity.
- FSC Opportunities for Partners.
- Entire Building Utilized as a Training Aide.
- Increased Efficiency for Students and Faculty.

Mr. DeSanti explained that the new training facility allows for four or five different skills to be taught at the same time since they have 25 props available. The cities of Buckeye and Sun City approached GCC a number of years back to provide training for their smaller academies. They are now able to take advanced firefighter classes. To date, three academy classes have graduated.

V. Fire Science: Specialty Programs: Jeff Case, Mesa Community College

Virtual Incident Command Center (VICC):

- History and Origins of the project.
- Location and Design.
- Goals and Plans for use.
- Challenges and Opportunities.
- Partnerships.
- Progress-Timeline.

Mr. Case stated that six years ago they approached all fire departments and asked them what could be done better. The Virtual Incident Command Center will occupy the fourth floor of the Downtown Campus and they are in the process of seeking resources to bring this all together in an effort to make sure they meet the high tech needs of all fire departments. They are in the architectural phase right now and afterwards will seek a contractor.

VI. Emergency Medical Services: EMT-Basic Programs/Partnerships: Dennis Dodt, Phoenix College

- EMT-Basic
 - Is the gateway course for several careers.
 - Is delivered at six of the 10 colleges.
 - Is regulated by the AZDHS and National Registry of EMTs.
- An estimated 90-95% of all Firefighters and Paramedics in Maricopa County earned their EMT certification through the MCCCDC .

Mr. Dodt mentioned that the EMT training came into existence in the 1970's when the cities wanted pre-medical services provided . This training is the gateway to positions as a firefighter.

VII. Emergency Medical Services: Advanced Paramedic Programs/Partnerships: Dan Donahue, Paradise Valley Community College

- History.
 - Daisy Mountain FD.
- Paramedic Program Components.
 - DHS, AHA, Medical Direction, Traditional/Hybrid, National & AZ Certification.
- Partnerships.
 - PVCC Science Division, SWA, Science Care, Multiple Fire Departments & Hospitals.
- Students>Jobs.
 - Firefighters, EMTs, Veterans, & Nurses.
 - Fire Departments, Hospitals, Military, & Ambulance Companies.
- Certificate>Degree.

Mr. Donahue explained that PVC had their inaugural class in 2006 and they are now conducting their 7th class. They are regulated by the Department of Health Services and audited every two years. They have a medical director to ensure that all regulations are being met. They do basic life support and advanced paramedic training. They offer traditional training, as well as a hybrid program which meets once a week and has 32-hours on-line hours. They have had 700-800 enrollments.

VIII. Emergency Medical Services: Accreditation Efforts/Clinical Coordination: Sonia Jones, IC Chair

- Brief History of the Paramedic Accreditation.
 - National Standard Curriculum.
 - National Registry of EMTs.
 - CoAEMSP.
- Instructional Position on Accreditation.
 - Individual College Accreditation.
 - Seeking District Awareness and Support.
 - One Paramedic Degree; One Paramedic Certificate.
 - Monthly Meetings and Project Structure.
- Process and Funding.
 - Requires One Year of Full-Time Attention.
 - Accreditation Requires Site Visits and Audits.
 - Fiscal Responsibility: The Institutions and the Students.

Ms. Jones explained that they have developed programs for each college in the spirit of One Maricopa. The paramedic accreditation process is a challenge in that it will require 6 months or one full year's attention. The National Standard Curriculum and National Registry of EMTs are the guiding force and certification agency. Since a variety of programs are offered at each college, they do not qualify for a consortium because each college is different. The process requires one year of full-time attention and \$5,000 in startup costs per college.

IX. Conclusion and Questions

Larry Thacker, Mesa Community College

“As you can see from this presentation, the public safety programs in the MCCD system are uniquely linked to the police, fire and emergency medical services providers. This is the strength of these programs. We are so closely linked because over the years, we have earned the trust of our communities emergency responders. They have discovered that they can count on us to provide the quality education and training needed in a responsive and professional manner. Education for emergency responders has always been important, but since the events of September 11, 2001, educating these people has never been of greater importance. We take great pride in how well we do this job and with your continued support, we will continue to play an extremely important role in the safety of our community.”

Mrs. Pearson questioned why the various academies couldn't be approached to contribute to the accreditation costs. She indicated that the colleges were doing a great job, however, were not promoting what they did in a better fashion so that more people were aware of the wonderful services they offered.

Adjournment of Information Session: The information session adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Jerry D. Walker
Governing Board Secretary