

3/19/24

**WORKSHOP OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
HEARTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE - PONTIAC
211 E. Madison, Pontiac, IL – Room 214
March 19, 2024
5:00 pm – Board Workshop & Dinner**

MINUTES

Members Present: Becky Ropp, Janet Hood, Josh Crockett, Tom Whitt, Mary Campbell, Andria Merkle; Cecelia Long joined 5:11 pm

Members Absent: Jeff Flessner

Others Present: Keith Cornille, Nora Dukowitz, April Fornero, Sarah Diel-Hunt

Chair Becky Ropp called the meeting to order at approximately 5:09 pm. Roll call was taken. There was no public comment.

April Fornero, Director of the Pontiac location, gave an overview of the campus, including activities that take place there and enrollment statistics. She shared that high school graduation rates and the number of students graduating and going onto college at all are both dropping in the Pontiac area dramatically. Heartland is trying to find ways to help the area high schools get students through to completion of high school and on to college or a workforce training program.

Ms. Fornero discussed Continuing Education offerings at the Pontiac campus, including available programs and headcount. She also discussed the Adult Education program. The Pontiac campus has the Hometown Hawks program, which consists of academic advising, success coaching, financial aid services, student counseling, testing services, and tutoring. The campus also now has a relaxation room for students.

Service Day is upcoming on April 26 and there are a few Pontiac area locations at which volunteer opportunities are available. The Heartland Foundation and Caterpillar Golf outing will take place again this year, along with area parades.

Looking to the future, the campus has plans to expand its SEM plan, connect with more community organizations and opportunities, and further student engagement. The lease at the Pontiac site is up at the end of this calendar year, so other options are being explored to house the campus if necessary.

Discussion and questions ensued.

At approximately 5:51 pm, Trustee Janet Hood made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Trustee Mary Campbell. The motion passed unanimously.


Ms. Becky Ropp, Chair


Mr. Josh Crockett, Secretary