

# **PRESIDENT'S CABINET MEETING**

**November 1, 2011**

## **MINUTES**

### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Bob Austin, Terry Berg, Lee M. Colaw, Ellen Robertson Green, Russell Lowery-Hart, Danita McAnally, and Paul Matney

### **OTHERS PRESENT:**

Linda Pitner, Brenda Sadler, and Rod Schroder

**Core Values: Integrity + Innovation + Teamwork = SUCCESS**

### **Cabinet Roundtable:**

Matney introduced and welcomed Rod Schroder, Amarillo ISD Superintendent and Linda Pitner, General Manager, KACV. Cabinet members introduced themselves. Pitner began telling about her background; she is from Amarillo and graduated from Caprock High School, where she received the Distinguished Hall of Fame award; she attended Amarillo College and graduated from WTAMU with a degree in political science. Pitner started working in non-profit management; worked at WTAMU on grants and special projects; Panhandle Information Network; worked with Region XVI; Amarillo Area Foundation; and the Bivins Foundation before coming to KACV. She was asked to co-chair a facilities committee for AISD in 2003 and then co-chaired a citizen's committee for the AISD bond issue. Later, she was asked to run for the AISD School Board and is serving in her second term which ends May 2013; currently, she is the only AISD parent with children still in school serving on the board. Schroder was born in Kansas; his father was in the helium business; he grew up on an Indian reservation in New Mexico; spent a year in Hawaii in the Navy; he earned a degree in physics and math from WT; he taught and coached in Fritch; later he taught and coached for AISD. Schroder became superintendent after Bob Moore resigned. He has four children; one is a graduate of the Air Force Academy; one is serving in the Army and is stationed in Afghanistan; one is serving in the Navy; and his daughter is working on her masters in accounting at Texas A&M. Matney spoke of the initiatives of which Amarillo College is currently involved with and how it affects AISD and our partnerships. The No Excuses initiative was introduced at the elementary level, but now ten AISD schools are involved. It is important to make as many high school students "college ready" as possible. "College readiness" includes: not being in developmental coursework; good work ethic; and solving problems and working in groups. The AISD mission is "to graduate every student prepared for success beyond high school." We want AISD students to learn and understand what AC is all about. The partnerships with AC, AISD, and the City of Amarillo are important ventures with our students. Matney discussed the Achieving the Dream goals which include: students being successful in developmental education coursework; succeeding in credit courses; continuing in school fall-to-spring and spring-to-fall; success in gateway courses; success in college level courses; and receiving a degree or certificate from AC or transferring to a senior university. Austin distributed and discussed a handout about Amarillo area high schools. He discussed where the different high school graduates are currently going to college; 150 from Amarillo High are attending AC; 177 from Caprock; 112 from Palo Duro; and 153 from Tascosa; 62% of the 2010 AISD graduates are attending Amarillo College. ACE is making a huge difference at Caprock High School. Matney will be sending letters to the AISD Cluster Directors and possibly the principals. Matney expressed his desire to host a joint Board meeting with AC and AISD.

### **Discussion:**

**DAMEN LOPEZ, NO EXCUSES UNIVERSITY FOUNDER** – Lowery-Hart discussed Damen Lopez's visit the previous week. It was suggested to bring him to Amarillo College for a meeting with faculty and staff; the College Kick-off in January was mentioned. Lowery-Hart will work with Lopez on setting a date.

### **Announcements:**

- Dr. Kathy Wetzel has been named the National Professor of the Year presented by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching; this award will be disclosed November 17; Faculty Senate will host a reception for her on November 28, 2:00 – 3:30.
- Matney distributed a flier regarding the Celebration of the Life of Robert Wylie, former AC chairman and professor of English on Sunday, November 13 from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.; Matney and retiree, Tom Hodges, will present at the celebration; invitations will be sent to retirees who still live in the Amarillo area.
- Matney requested a continuation of the Friday SACS narrative discussions through November.
- Matney and Lowery-Hart will work to set a meeting before Thanksgiving to include Dr. Jud Hicks, president of Frank Phillips and Dr. Phil Shirley, president of Clarendon College, Matney and Lowery-Hart, regarding the MOUs between the three colleges. Green will schedule a press conference to fall between Thanksgiving and Christmas break to announce the MOU between the two colleges and AC.
- Matney suggested beginning budget discussions prior to Christmas break.

Next meeting: November 15, 2011

bs