

**PRESIDENT'S CABINET EMERGENCY MEETING**  
**August 12, 2020**  
**MINUTES**

**CALLED TO ORDER**

9:05 am

**ADJOURNED**

10:45 am

**MEMBERS PRESENT – VIA GOOGLE MEETS & IN PERSON**

Bob Austin; Kevin Ball; Tamara Clunis; Cara Crowley; Cheryl Jones; Russell Lowery-Hart; Chris Sharp; Joe Bill Sherrod; Denese Skinner; Mark White

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

N/A

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Joy Brenneman; Becky Burton, Shane Hepler, Maria Juarez, Sadie Newsome, Ernesto Olmos, Collin Witherspoon

**DISCUSSION:**

1. FALL 2020 REOPENING	Cabinet
<p>Cabinet met to discuss the low enrollment for fall and the re-opening plan.</p> <p>Dr. Lowery-Hart noted that the college had made some progress in enrollment prior to the de-reg. Normally, these students re-enroll but not this time. We are currently down 20%. The budget that will be approved at the August 25 Board meeting is based on a 10% decrease in enrollment. Online class enrollments are above the 5-year average and there are not enough currently scheduled to meet the demand. Additionally, there are a significant number of face-to-face classes facing closure due to lack of enrollment. AC's enrollments mirror those in the rest of the state with the exception of the Dallas and Lone Star systems who decided early to remain online/tech supported through the fall. El Paso is also online for the fall, but their enrollments are also down.</p> <p>Enrollment of students with dependent children is down 29%, but other students are down 31%. All demographic groups are down, and there isn't a single group that stands out apart from the others, except African American males which are down 42%. Enrollment in the Gen Ed core is actually above last year. Some health science programs have reduced caps due to clinical situations and some have just notified students that they are in the program. These students should now be enrolling. THRIVE enrollments are good with some students enrolling who did not take advantage of it when they were first eligible. If dual credit enrollment is normal, enrollment could rebound some to only about 10% down. Anecdotal surveys indicate that students are taking a wait and see attitude before enrolling.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• WSC down 30%</li><li>• West Campus down 15%</li><li>• East Camps down 6%</li><li>• Moore County Campus down 17%</li><li>• Hereford Campus down 57% (only 100 students enrolled)</li><li>• Distance Learning is up</li></ul> <p>All classrooms should have cameras by the beginning of classes allowing for hybrid and/or tech supported teaching.</p>	

Cabinet discussed the pros and cons of three options for the Fall semester.

1. Stay with the current plan to open with safety measure in place – masks, social distancing, hand washing, etc.
  - a. Pros – employees and students expect to be back on campus; already messaged; promotes a somewhat normal routine; measures are in place to mitigate the spread
  - b. Cons – could become a PR issue; spread of the virus
2. Convert the face-to-face courses in danger of being closed to online, but remain open for the face-to-face classes that have full enrollments.
  - a. Pros – allows college to remain open; some classes already being converted to online; provides more offerings to students
  - b. Cons – may need to transition students and merge some classes; communication to affected students; requires working with individual students
3. Move everything to tech supported or online except technical and health sciences. All other services would remain face-to-face. Or, offer first 8 weeks online/tech supported and move to face-to-face in Fall 2.
  - a. Pros – reduces chances of infection and anxiety; increases flexibility for students; least disruptive to students if moving back to online/tech supported becomes necessary in a few weeks
  - b. Cons – changes course close to the beginning of classes; marketing issues

After much discussion, Cabinet decided to stay the course, but provide additional online/tech supported options as quickly as possible. Late registration will be allowed through Wednesday of the first week of school (only for this fall).

Should the City of Amarillo move back to red at a 15% infection rate and/or AISD moves to remote learning, the college will need to consider moving back to online/tech supported classes. All other services would remain face-to-face.

**Action Items:**

- As above.