

**PRESIDENT'S CABINET MEETING**  
**August 30, 2022**  
**MINUTES**

**CALLED TO ORDER**

9:13 am

**ADJOURNED**

11:00 am

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

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

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Mark White

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Toni Van Dyke; Collin Witherspoon

**DISCUSSION:**

<b>1. Top 10 Comparisons</b>	<b>Witherspoon</b>
<p>Collin Witherspoon compared data on the top ten Aspen schools. The performance variables include first-year college students, full-time eight-year completion outcome, three-year graduate rate, credentials awarded, and part-time eight-year completion. Mr. Witherspoon shared the current ranking for each variable of the top ten Aspen Colleges. The top ten colleges are Amarillo College, Broward College, CUNY Hostos Community College, CUNY Kingsborough Community College, Imperial Valley College, Moorpark College, Northwest Iowa Community College, San Jacinto Community College, South Puget Sound Community College, and Southwest Wisconsin Technical College.</p> <p><u>Amarillo College's current ranking is:</u> FTIC 8-year completion – 9<sup>th</sup> FTIC 3-year graduation rate – 6<sup>th</sup> Credentials awarded for 100 full-time students - Part-time eight-year completion – 7<sup>th</sup> Equity graduation rate – 3<sup>rd</sup> Graduation rate of Pell recipients – 8<sup>th</sup> Median Family Income of Area – 8<sup>th</sup></p> <p>The Strategic Plan dashboard shows the majority of our graduates are Hispanic.</p>	
<p><b>Action Items:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mr. Collin Witherspoon will send the Data to Dr. Lowery-Hart</li></ul>	

<b>2. Thrive Scholarship Update</b>	<b>Austin</b>
<p>Bob Austin reported the Thrive Scholarship program finished its fourth year this month. Thrive was established in Fall 2018 to provide scholarships for Amarillo Independent School District graduates to attend college for free. The funding partners included Amarillo Area Foundation, Amarillo College, Amarillo Economic Development Corporation, and Amarillo Independent School District.</p>	

Amarillo Independent School District notified Amarillo College of High School graduates eligible for the scholarship. Amarillo Colleges distributes the scholarships and tracks which students attend. The cost of Thrive for year one was the lowest due to getting information out and getting students into the program. Each year after the cost increased due to more students becoming eligible. The graduation rate for Thrive students is 35%, and the transfer rate is 20%. Thrive students do not have to attend full-time. A majority of Thrive students transfer to West Texas A&M University after Amarillo College. Additional Thrive data can be found at <https://dair.actx.edu/Thrive-1.0/>

**Action Items:**

- Change Thrive dashboard to show year-by-year data by cohort.

**3. Raises in Budget Proposal**

**Jones,  
Sharp**

Dr. Lowery-Hart shared the college will propose raising the minimum wage to \$15.00 per hour at the August 31, 2022, Board Agenda. If the proposal passes, it will cause the next budget cycle to start negative. Retention and enrollment will need to increase to maintain the wage increase. Additionally, the Board Finance Committee recommends the minimum rate increase as well.

**Action Items:**

- Mr. Bob Austin and his team will work with Dr. Clunis and her team on the prison expansion.

**4. General Assembly**

**Lowery-Hart**

Dr. Lowery-Hart shared General Assembly is on September 9, 2022, in the Grand Plaza. The four big ideas from the love x learnings retreat will be presented at General Assembly. The four big ideals and who will present them are:

- Transfer – Becky Easton; Ernesto Olmos; Jaime Perez
- Retention (QEP) – Amy Pifer
- Earn & Learn – Frank Sobey; Barbara Wahi
- Anti-Racism – Will Ratliff; Micah Smith

Mr. Witherspoon will present data on the four big ideas in retention, transfer, and Maria.

**Action Items:**

- Cabinet will fine-tune the presentations with their teams.

**5. Love X Learning**

**Lowery-Hart**

Dr. Lowery-Hart scheduled a Love X Learning meeting for September 2, 2022, to follow up with the leadership group from the Love X Learning Retreat. Each group will provide updates on their topics and discuss moving forward.

**Action Items:**

- None

<b>6. Other Discussion</b>	<b>Cabinet</b>
<b>Action Items:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>	