

MEETING MINUTES
Arizona Western College
District Governing Board Meeting
Budget Workshop 2:30pm
Yuma Campus and Virtually
April 29, 2026

Board Members Present: Board Chair Dennis Booth and Board Secretary Olivia Zepeda
Board Member present by phone, Zoom: Brad Sale, Maria Chavoya, Dr. Kenneth MacFarland
Board Member Absent:

Others Present within Meeting room: (23)

Dr. Daniel P. Corr, President	W. Ila Peterson, Director of Faculty
Dr. Reetika Dhawan, CEO of Entrepreneurial College	Development/Professor of Mathematics
Czarina Gallegos, Vice President of Finance and	Michelle Sims, Professor of Economics
Administrative Services	Marlie Meza, Professor of Biology
Dr. Emily Kerr, Faculty Senate Representative,	Dr. Joann Chang, Dean of Innovation
Professor of ESL	Dr. Cris Gordon, Dean of Liberal Arts
Cindy Zavala, Director of Student Life	Cinthia Reyes, Executive Director and Dean of CTE
Jennifer Freedman, Executive Administrative Assistant	and Nursing
Johanna Megui, Workforce Specialist	Lori Stofft, Vice President for Advancement and
Kathy Ocampo, Vice President and CHRO	Executive Director for AWC Foundation
Cristina Gonzales, Dean of Advisement and Student	Bryan Doak, EVP of Learning and Student Services
Success	Onyeka Udodi, SGA President
Lorayne Chandler, Faculty Head Volleyball Coach and	Scott Estes, Chief Information Officer
Assistant Director of Athletics	Shayden Aguigui, Student of the Month
Jerry Smith, Director of Athletics	
Scott Gross, Sports Information Director/Assistant	
Athletic Director	

Others Present virtually: (12)

Adriana Perez	Nancy Ney
Arminda Cordero	Patty Jimenez
Dr. Nikki Hage	Renee Macaluso
Karyn Van Why	Sandra Rodriguez
Kenneth Dale	
Kimberly Trujillo	
Noemi Barranza	
Maria Ocheltree	

Community Members Present by Zoom: (3) Jason Ray, Dr. Shadi Kilani, Courtney (Unknown Last Name)
Community Members Present in Room: (0)

Call to Order: Board Chair Dennis Booth called the Budget Workshop Meeting to order at 2:30pm.

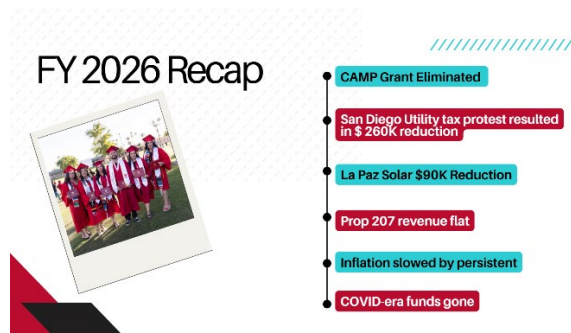
Adoption of Agenda: The agenda for April 29, 2026 Budget Workshop meeting presented for approval.
Motion to approve agenda made by Olivia Zepeda, seconded by Dr. Kenneth MacFarland
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yea: Brad Sale, Dr. Kenneth MacFarland, Maria Chavoya, Olivia Zepeda, and Dennis Booth

Nay: None
Abstain: None

Budget Workshop

1. Drafted Budget Presentation for Fiscal Year 2026-2027, presented by Dr. Daniel P. Corr

Summary: Dr. Corr provided a presentation to give updates on the last year as we wrap up the fiscal year. The preliminary budget presentation was framed by a reaffirmation of the College’s mission to transform lives through education and partnerships, with continued emphasis on delivering an exceptional student-centered experience. Budget development remains aligned with the institution’s strategic plan, which continues to guide priorities and resource allocation.



The current fiscal year was characterized by several financial challenges, including the loss and uncertainty of grant funding, ongoing tax assessment reductions impacting base revenues, stabilization of Proposition 207 revenues, and the expiration of COVID-era federal funding. Despite these headwinds, the College strengthened its financial position through significant enrollment growth and improved operational efficiency. As a result, the College anticipates closing the fiscal year with increased revenues, reduced expenses, and a higher fund balance.

The proposed budget includes key investments in personnel, reflecting the College’s commitment to attracting and retaining employees. A 3% salary increase is proposed for all staff, along with continued increases in adjunct pay as part of a multi-year plan. At the same time, rising healthcare costs remain a concern, with a 14% increase this year following a prior increase, resulting in significant additional expense. The College will absorb these increased healthcare costs for employees in the coming year. Additional cost pressures include rising utility expenses, the transition of some grant-funded positions to institutional funding, and the reintroduction of capital improvement funding after a two-year pause.

FY2027 Budget Highlights- Attract and Retain

- 3% raise for all employees
- Increased adjunct pay
- Professional Development & Recognition
- Total Cost \$1.878 M

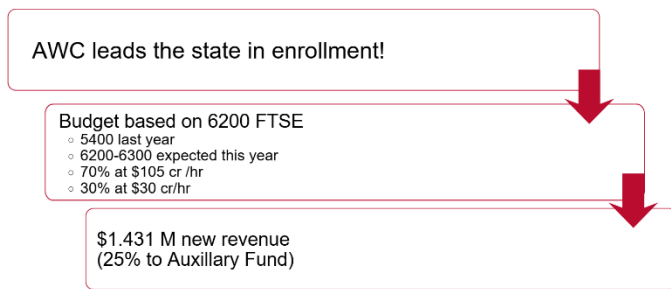
The budget also supports continued implementation of the strategic plan, including investments in innovation and key initiatives such as the AI Center, prison education program, and early college expansion, which has seen substantial growth in both dual and concurrent enrollment. Funding is also allocated for ongoing innovation projects that support student success and institutional improvement.

On the revenue side, the budget is built conservatively, assuming no new state funding and accounting for the potential of modest reductions. The College will continue to rely on local revenue sources, including Proposition 207 funds. Additionally, the College will begin repayment of both principal and interest on revenue bonds that funded major capital projects in prior years.

Overall, Dr. Corr reported that the College remains in a strong fiscal position, with the proposed budget reflecting a balanced approach that addresses rising costs while maintaining investments in strategic priorities and long-term sustainability.

The path to a balanced budget is centered on three primary strategies: growth, efficiency, and partnerships. The College continues to benefit from its location within a rapidly growing region, resulting in significant increases in property tax revenues. While tax rates have remained unchanged, new development across Yuma and La Paz counties has driven substantial growth in assessed valuations. This has produced an approximate \$3 million increase in property tax revenue year over year, which remains the College’s largest single source of funding.

Growth- Tuition Revenue



In addition to local tax revenue, the College continues to experience strong enrollment growth, contributing to increased tuition revenue. Arizona Western College has maintained a leading position in enrollment growth across the state over multiple years. The proposed budget is based on sustaining current enrollment levels of approximately 6,200 full-time student equivalents (FTSE). With a balanced mix of traditional and early college enrollment, this level is expected to generate approximately \$1.4 million in additional

tuition revenue compared to the prior year.

Partnerships also play a critical role in supporting the College’s financial stability and programmatic growth. Collaborations with organizations such as Onvida Health have provided both financial support and equipment to expand healthcare programs. The Entrepreneurial College’s initiatives and continued success in securing grants have further strengthened revenue streams while supporting new and expanded programs. Additionally, the AWC Foundation has contributed to enhancing the student experience through targeted investments, including the purchase of student laptops. Ongoing engagement with state agencies has also resulted in direct funding opportunities, such as support for apprenticeship programs.

Finally, revenues from Proposition 207 have stabilized following several years of rapid growth. The budget maintains a conservative estimate of \$3.6 million in these funds, consistent with the prior year, with no anticipated increases. Overall, the combination of strong local revenue growth, sustained enrollment, and strategic partnerships supports a balanced and forward-looking budget.

The College has continued to prioritize operational efficiency while accommodating significant enrollment growth. Despite a 10% increase in fall enrollment and projected spring growth of approximately 4%, staffing levels have remained essentially flat, with no new full-time positions added. Instructional efficiency has improved notably, as evidenced by an 8% reduction in course sections alongside increased enrollment, reflecting more effective scheduling and resource utilization. Additionally, online class sizes were increased from 20 to 25 students, while student success rates in those courses also improved. Ongoing efforts to streamline business processes, including the use of technology and AI, have further enhanced institutional efficiency and reduced administrative burden.

This focus on efficiency has supported the College’s ability to maintain financial stability without increasing the tax burden on the community. The proposed budget includes no increase to the property tax levy,

continuing a longstanding practice in which the College has avoided tax increases in eight of the past nine years. Over the past decade, the actual net increase in the property tax levy has remained below 3%, significantly outpacing inflationary pressures faced in other sectors. Similarly, tuition increases have been kept below the rate of inflation over the same period, reflecting a commitment to affordability while sustaining institutional growth and performance.

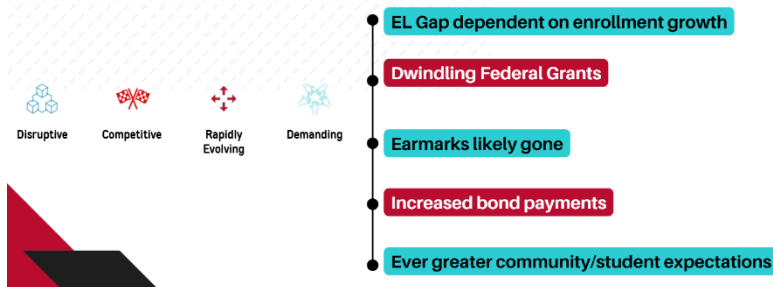
The College’s financial position has strengthened considerably over the past decade. Previously identified fiscal concerns have been addressed, and the institution now holds strong bond ratings, including the highest rating from Moody’s. In addition, the College maintains a significant margin under the state’s expenditure limitation, currently estimated at approximately \$15 million. This positions the College as one of the few institutions in the state with substantial flexibility to allocate resources without seeking voter approval to exceed spending limits.

A Strong Record of Fiscal Stewardship

Source: *Phoenix, AZ Based CPI-US Bureau of Labor Statistics

YEAR	Approved Levy	Adjusted/ Actual Levy	Tuition	Rate	Inflation*	Notes
2017-2018	2.00%	2.00%	+\$2.00	\$83.00	1.80%	HLC Warning
2018-2019	0.00%	0.00%	+\$2.00	\$85.00	2.20%	\$538,720 Appraisal & Adjustments
2019-2020	1.73%	-2.79%	+\$2.00	\$87.00	2.10%	\$900,029 Solar reappraisal \$825,252 Recoverable
2020-2021	0.00%	0.00%	+\$2.00	\$87.00	4.40%	
2021-2022+*	0.63%	0.63%	+\$2.00	\$89.00	1.00%	Recovers \$208,417 (1/3 of solar reappraisal)
2022-2023+	1.23%	1.23%	+\$2.00	\$91.00	10.00%	Recovers \$410,835 (2/3 of solar reappraisal)
2023-2024	1.91%	1.91%	+\$2.00	\$93.00	6.00%	
2024-2025	0.00%	-0.09%	+\$2.00	\$95.00	3.20%	Agua Caliente Solar reappraisal
2025-2026	0.00%	0.00%	+\$3.00	\$97.00	1.80%	
2026-2027	0.00%	0.00%	+\$5.00	\$105.00	1.7%	
TOTAL	7.5%	2.89%	\$24.00	+26.5%	40.68%	

Looking ahead Toward the Future Challenges



Looking ahead, several potential risks and considerations were identified. Continued enrollment growth remains critical to maintaining the current financial position, particularly in relation to the expenditure limitation. Uncertainty in federal funding, including grants and congressional earmarks, may also impact future revenues. Additionally, the College will face ongoing obligations related to bond repayments and increasing expectations from the

community to expand programs and services, which may require additional financial resources.

Overall, the proposed budget reflects a strong financial position and a balanced approach. It includes investments in employees through a 3% salary increase, absorbs rising healthcare costs, supports strategic initiatives and capital improvements, and maintains a commitment to not increasing property taxes. The College also continues to grow its fund balance, positioning the institution for long-term stability while advancing its mission and strategic priorities.

Discussion followed regarding State Equalization Aid, which the College receives as a rural or “isolated” institution. Board members expressed concerns about potential future risks and uncertainties. In response, Dr. Corr provided reassurance, noting several factors that may help mitigate fiscal challenges in the coming year, including the potential for state earmark funding, the availability of a healthy contingency fund, and the less conservative enrollment target to support revenue growth.

Next Meeting: The next regular meeting scheduled will be April 29, 2026, conducted both in-person and via Zoom and at the Yuma Campus.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn by Olivia Zepeda, seconded by Dr. Kenneth MacFarland

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Brad Sale, Dr. Kenneth MacFarland, Maria Chavoya, Olivia Zepeda, and Dennis Booth

Nay: None

Abstain: None

The Board **Approved** the next meeting date and final matters of the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 3:35pm.

Adjourn: The meeting matters were complete.

Respectfully submitted,



Jennifer Freedman, Recording Secretary

Attendance at 2:40pm

Participants (19)

Find a participant

Name	Role	Video	Audio
Noemi Barraza	Co-host	Off	Off
Adriana Perez		Off	Off
BS Brad Sale	Guest	Off	Off
C Courtney	Guest	Off	Off
Dr. Nikki Hage	(She/Her/Hers)	Off	Off
FN Fireflies.ai Notetaker Nancy	Guest	On	Off
Karyn Van Why		Off	Off
Kimberly Trujillo		Off	Off
K Kmacfarland	Guest	Off	Off
K kyd	Guest	Off	Off
Maria Chavoya	Guest	Off	Off
Nancy Ney		Off	Off
Patty Jimenez		Off	Off
RM read.ai meeting notes	Guest	On	Off

Patty Jimenez **Ask to unmute** ...

RM read.ai meeting notes	Guest	On	Off
Renee Macaluso		Off	Off
SR Sandra Rodriguez		Off	Off
SK shadi kilani	Guest	Off	Off

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Professor of ESL	Dr. Cris Gordon, Dean of Liberal Arts
Cindy Zavala, Director of Student Life	Cinthia Reyes, Executive Director and Dean of CTE
Jennifer Freedman, Executive Administrative Assistant	and Nursing
Johanna Megui, Workforce Specialist	Lori Stofft, Vice President for Advancement and
Kathy Ocampo, Vice President and CHRO	Executive Director for AWC Foundation
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Lorayne Chandler, Faculty Head Volleyball Coach and	Scott Estes, Chief Information Officer
Assistant Director of Athletics	Shayden Aguigui, Student of the Month
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Kenneth Dale	
Kimberly Trujillo	
Noemi Barranza	
Maria Ocheltree	
Nancy Ney	

Community Members Present by Zoom: (3) Jason Ray, Dr. Shadi Kilani, Courtney (Unknown Last Name)
Community Members Present in Room: (0)

Call to Order: Board Chair Dennis Booth called the Regular Meeting to order at 3:36pm.

Adoption of Agenda: The agenda for April 29, 2026 meeting presented for approval.
Motion to approve agenda made by Olivia Zepeda, seconded by Maria Chavoya
Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Brad Sale, Dr. Kenneth MacFarland, Maria Chavoya, Olivia Zepeda, and Dennis Booth
Nay: None
Abstain: None

Approval of Minutes: The Meeting Minutes for March 26, 2026, presented for approval.

Motion by Olivia Zepeda seconded by Maria Chavoya

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Brad Sale, Dr. Kenneth MacFarland, Maria Chavoya, Olivia Zepeda, and Dennis Booth

Nay: None

Call to the Audience:

N/A

College Reports

Student Government Association: SGA President Onyeka Udodi shared updates.

Mr. Udodi provided a brief year-end update highlighting a semester focused on student engagement, advocacy, and campus involvement. The SGA President noted that this term marked his final semester in the role and reflected on continued efforts to strengthen communication between students, administration, faculty, and campus organizations.

SGA reported increased student engagement through expanded outreach, improved social media use, and greater collaboration across campus groups. The organization also gathered and presented student feedback that contributed to enhancements in campus events and student life. Additional efforts included supporting and participating in campus activities that promoted school spirit and wellness such as the Sexual Awareness Run, as well as building stronger partnerships with student organizations and staff.

SGA also participated in Innovation Fund proposal sessions. The presentation concluded with appreciation to the Governing Board for its continued support.

Faculty Senate Association: Dr. Emily Kerr, Faculty Senate Representative to the District Governing Board. The report highlighted several academic faculty and student achievement updates across the College. A team from the Business Club earned second place in the Arizona Community College Excellence Case Competition at the University of Arizona Eller School of Business, where students competed in statewide, real-world business problem-solving scenarios. The competition provided valuable applied learning experiences, with multiple AWC teams participating after months of faculty-guided preparation.

Additional recognition included faculty excellence and student engagement across disciplines. Dr. Yolanda Benitez, Professor of Biology, was recognized as Teacher of the Month for outstanding teaching and student impact, with students noting strong engagement, clarity, and connection to real-world practice. In the Arts, Professor Isaac's class completed a student mural project in San Luis, showcasing creative student work and community expression.

In Nursing, the program hosted its first Clinical Liaison Ambassadors for Nursing Education (CLANE) workshop in collaboration with clinical partners, strengthening academic-clinical partnerships. Due to its success, the workshop will transition into an ongoing committee with expanded participation.

The Wellton Manufacturing Training Center also reported record-high enrollment, prompting development of new programming, including mechatronics and expanded electrical training aligned with Industry 4.0.

Faculty accomplishments included Dr. Scott Donnelly's presentation at the Arizona Transfer Summit on innovative approaches to science education using real-world, problem-based learning strategies. In addition, Dr. Rosenbaum contributed to faculty and student professional development focused on the impact of generative AI in higher education. Staff and faculty participation in external conferences and career expos further supported outreach and professional engagement across disciplines.

The update also noted significant community and student engagement activities, including CTE faculty participation in the Yuma Southwest Contractors Association Career and Trades Expo, campus visits and lab tours for high school students, and Student Nurses Association community service projects. The report concluded with leadership transition announcements within Faculty Senate and appreciation for shared governance participation.

Student of the Month: Ila Peterson presented the Student of the Month award to Shayden Aguigui. Shayden Aguigui, a student athlete from the AWC volleyball team, was recognized as Student of the Month, for outstanding academic and athletic achievement. She was noted for successfully balancing the demands of collegiate athletics and academics, consistently demonstrating strong preparation, punctuality, engagement, and responsible communication in her coursework. Her discipline, work ethic, and positive presence were highlighted as exemplary, serving as a strong role model for her peers.

It was also announced that she has been accepted into the Honors Program in recognition of her academic accomplishments and contributions, with anticipation that she will continue to positively impact the program and campus community. Ms. Aguigui expressed her gratitude to the College and her teachers and coaches for their continuous support and recognition and shared her future educational aspirations.

Action Items

Action Item #1 – Consideration to Accept Candidates for Exempt Positions, presented by Katheline Ocampo
Motion by Olivia Zepeda, seconded by Brad Sale

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Brad Sale, Dr. Kenneth MacFarland, Maria Chavoya, Olivia Zepeda, and Dennis Booth

Nay: None

Abstain: None

The **Board Approved** the Action Item as Presented.

Summary –

- **Dustin Fields, Director of Emergency Medical Services**

Ms. Ocampo gave a brief update on the active recruitment for Executive Vice President for the Entrepreneurial College, noting that they had successfully made an offer to a candidate, with an official announcement expected very soon.

Action Item #2 – Consideration to Award a Contract to Educational Services Inc (ESI), presented by Katheline Ocampo

Motion by Olivia Zepeda seconded by Maria Chavoya

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Brad Sale, Dr. Kenneth MacFarland, Maria Chavoya, Olivia Zepeda, and Dennis Booth

Nay: None

Abstain: None

The **Board Approved** the Action Item as Presented.

Summary –

The administration recommends that the district award a contract to Educational Services Inc. (ESI) to provide the services for the below positions:

1. Talent Development Coordinator
2. Professor of Computer Graphics
3. Financial Aid Technician II

The terms for ESI Contracts are for the 2026-2027 Fiscal year.

The total contract amount is no more than \$253,824, which includes the salary, payroll liabilities, ASRS contributions, and the ESI management fee.

Action Item #3 – Consideration to Approve New Curriculum, presented by Dr. Reetika Dhawan
Motion by Olivia Zepeda seconded by Brad Sale

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Brad Sale, Dr. Kenneth MacFarland, Maria Chavoya, Olivia Zepeda, and Dennis Booth

Nay: None

Abstain: None

The **Board Approved** the Action Item as Presented.

- CERT.HVAC1: HVAC Technician Apprenticeship Level 1, 13 credits
- CERT.HVAC2: HVAC Technician Apprenticeship Level 2, 10 credits
- CERT.HVAC3: HVAC Technician Apprenticeship Level 3, 10 credits
- CERT.MAAP1: Medical Assistant Apprenticeship Level 1, 12 credits
- CERT.MAAP2: Medical Assistant Apprenticeship Level 2, 7 credits
- CERT.ASA1 Advanced Supervisor Academy 1, 9 credits
- CERT.ASA2 Advanced Supervisor Academy 2, 4 credits
- CERT.ALA1 Advanced Leadership Academy 1, 7 credits
- CERT.ALA2 Advanced Leadership Academy 2, 9 credits
- CERT.ATA Advanced Tactics Academy, 6 credits

Summary: Dr. Dhawan shared that both apprenticeship programs will be employer-led, benefiting both employer and students. Apprenticeships involve employers hiring students as full-time paid employees to earn while they learn. Employers may qualify to be reimbursed for apprentice salary by DOL up to 1000 hours.

Action Item #4 – Consideration to Approve the 2026-2027 Preliminary Budget, presented by Czarina Gallegos

Motion by Olivia Zepeda seconded by Brad Sale

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Brad Sale, Dr. Kenneth MacFarland, Maria Chavoya, Olivia Zepeda, and Dennis Booth

Nay: None

Abstain: None

The **Board Approved** the Action Item as Presented.

Summary – Ms. Gallegos reviewed the budget timeline for public posting for review and provided a more detailed explanation of the Budget Book, which was presented to each Board Member for review.

Action Item #3 – Consideration to Approve Voucher (February 2026), presented by Czarina Gallegos
 Motion by Olivia Zepeda seconded by Dr. Kenneth MacFarland

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Brad Sale, Dr. Kenneth MacFarland, Maria Chavoya, Olivia Zepeda, and Dennis Booth

Nay: None

Abstain: None

The **Board Approved** the Action Item as Presented.

Summary –

Executive Summary

The District maintains robust financial health, with a monthly operating and investment cash balance of \$66,014,479 as of February 28, 2026, up from \$64,232,961 the previous year. Revenues increased by 11.7% year-over-year, while expenditures decreased by 6.2%. Dual enrollment and total credit hour enrollments have also seen positive gains, positioning the District favorably for continued growth and impact.

Moving more cash allotment into investment to generate more interest income. Operations are moving along as expected. Treasurer’s office account, which is outperforming the market at 3.75%. The funds remain liquid within 48 hours.

Fiscal Overview

Metrics	2025-2026	2024-2025	% Change
Actual Revenues	\$48,245,623	\$43,205,631	+11.7%
Actual Expenditures	\$41,791,863	\$44,553,803	- 6.2 %
Operating Cash Balance	\$8,178,257	\$12,714,349	-35.7%

Enrollment Trends

Enrollment Type	2025-2026	2024-2025	% Change
Total Credit Hours	82,345	71,181	+15.7%
Early College Credit Hours	19,687	15,291	+28.7%
Dual Enrollment Credit Hours	11,745	9,807	+19.8%

Closing Statement

The District’s financial foundation remains solid, driven by rising revenues, responsible expenditures, and increasing student engagement. Strategically investing in infrastructure and student support services to sustain positive growth and continued emphasis on dual enrollment, prudent budgeting, and strategic investments are key to ensure ongoing success in service of the community and student body.

Information Item #1– Informational Review – Purchases over \$50,000– Presented by Czarina Gallegos

Summary –

Since the Purchasing threshold increased from \$50,000 to \$250,000 per Procedure 337.1, the College presents purchases over \$50,000 to the next District Governing Board meeting for information.

Department	Vendor	Cost	Fund Source
Technology Support Services	Sentinel Technologies - Campus-Wide & Dorms Wireless Upgrade	\$146,050.00	Operational
Technology Support Services	Sentinel Technologies - Firewall Purchase to replace the Yuma Campus Palo Alto Device	\$150,705.00	Operational
President Office	Educational Furnishings of AZ LLC - Furniture for Presidents Office & HR Conference room	\$53,944.00	Grant - Prop 301
Conference & Events	Netsian Technologies Group - AV Upgrades to Conference & Events Shoening Conference Center	\$181,282.00	Grant - Prop 301
Automotive	Lane Automotive Inc - Educational Crated Engines for Automotive	\$124,749.00	Perkins

President’s Reports

Transfer Services Updates, Presented by Cristina Gonzales, Dean of Advisement and Student Success

The Transfer Services update highlighted strong student transfer outcomes and continued expansion of support programs designed to improve post-graduation pathways. Nationally and statewide, community college transfer rates have declined; however, Arizona Western College has seen the opposite trend, with transfer rates increasing approximately 13–14% over the past four years, reflecting consistent year-over-year gains.

This progress has been attributed to intentional, coordinated efforts, including the launch of a dedicated Transfer Center, which provides centralized access to advising and university representatives from Arizona’s public universities. The Center offers ongoing workshops, application and scholarship support, and in-person services for students preparing to transfer. Martha Cordova, Director of Transfer Services, was recognized, and the program was noted as a statewide model for transfer support infrastructure.

Additional initiatives include the YES Program, a partnership with Northern Arizona University supported by the Helios Foundation, which provides scholarship and advising support to high school students intending to transfer to NAU. Since its launch, the program has supported more than 400 students and continues to provide wraparound services, including advising and peer mentoring.

The College was also recognized nationally through inclusion in the Aspen Institute’s Transfer Playbook 2.0, selected as one of a small number of institutions nationwide after a competitive multi-stage review process. The College also participated in a year-long Transfer Intensive Cohort focused on strengthening transfer pathways. Current efforts are focused on implementation of a structured four-year transfer planning model in collaboration with NAU, with future expansion plans underway with ASU and the University of Arizona.

Overall, the update emphasized sustained growth in transfer outcomes, expanded institutional partnerships, and continued development of structured, student-centered transfer pathways.

Closing Items:

Good of the Order by Dr. Daniel P. Corr

Dr. Corr congratulated Transfer Services on their continued strong work supporting student success and transfer pathways. He also highlighted Dr. Reetika Dhawan's mention of the "Earn while you Learn" model in Career and Technical Education as a forward-looking approach that prepares students for immediate entry into the workforce, noting that the Entrepreneurial College continues to stay ahead of community and industry needs.

An update was provided that the Executive Vice President candidate for the Entrepreneurial College will be announced soon. Recognition was given to Kathy Ocampo and the Human Resources team for successfully completing two executive-level searches internally, both ahead of schedule and without the use of an external consultant.

Appreciation was expressed to Czarina Gallegos and the Business Office team for their detailed work in developing the budget and producing a highly visual and comprehensive Budget Book.

Dr. Corr concluded by highlighting upcoming institutional celebrations, including commencement on May 15 and a ribbon cutting ceremony on May 6 in Wellton to celebrate the expanded WMTC, with Governor Hobbs in attendance. Additional events include the Celebration of Learners events in La Paz and San Luis, the District Governing Board meeting and La Cosecha on May 14, and commencement on May 15, which will recognize a record number of graduates and serve as the culmination of the year's work.

Next Meeting: The next meeting scheduled will be May 14, 2026, including a Regular Meeting with Executive Session conducted both in-person and via Zoom and at the Yuma Campus.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn by Brad Sale, seconded by Olivia Zepeda

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Brad Sale, Dr. Kenneth MacFarland, Maria Chavoya, Olivia Zepeda, and Dennis Booth

Nay: None

Abstain: None

The Board **Approved** the next meeting date and final matters of the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

Adjourn: The meeting matters were complete.

Respectfully submitted,



Jennifer Freedman, Recording Secretary