

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 19, 2013
Board of Trustees Meeting

The IECC Environmental Scan, a statistical report on the college district, was accepted by the Board of Trustees at the regular meeting, Tuesday, February 19, at Lincoln Trail College, Robinson.

The scan is used by the District to forecast future internal and external needs for both college programs and services. The data assists in developing the Strategic Plan, the Career and Technical Education Plan, and the On-Line Education Plan.

Data of interest in the scan includes the number of high school students that qualify for free or reduced lunches, the median household income and per capita personal income, number of local high school graduates, total financial aid awarded, and the number of financial aid eligible students.

The four college Presidents have developed, in cooperation with the District Administration, a student enrollment management and completion plan to address district wide enrollment and additional criteria specific to the next Higher Learning Commission accreditation visit.

The IECC Student Enrollment and Completion Plan provides a strategic set of goals, objectives, strategies and outcomes aimed at District-wide enrollment growth and the improvement of student completion rates. The three major goals for the plan are increase new student (freshman) enrollment 10%, increase student completion rates, improve post-graduate and alumni services.

A report on employee attitudes was reviewed by the Board. Employees were asked their work location, their classification, whether they were employed full or part-time, and the years of service to the District. The employees were given an opportunity to review health and dental benefits, information availability, personnel changes, website quality, equipment and technology needs, and a variety of other questions concerning the District.

Highest areas of agreement or strong agreement were:

98% would recommend IECC to a prospective student or employee.

91% overall, were satisfied with employment at their college and IECC.

88% have the equipment and technology necessary to do their work.

88% felt the administration is available to staff/faculty within a reasonable time frame.

86% felt IECC's mission and values influence how their department works or how they provide instruction.

86% felt the District does a good job of keeping them informed about changes that affect all employees.

Overall, the survey shows that employees are satisfied with the operation of the District.

The trustees approved a property tax settlement agreement with Ameren Generating Co. (AEG). AEG has closed the electric generation facility at Hutsonville. Property taxes on the facility will drop dramatically and to avoid serious impacts on the affected taxing bodies, a compromise on property taxes to be paid by AEG over the taxing years 2012-2022 has been developed.

AEG currently pays \$150,546 in property taxes annually on the facility. Under the proposal, AEG would pay \$120,000 in property taxes annually in 2013; \$80,000 in 2014; \$40,000 in 2015; \$20,000 in years 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022.

The leaders of all of the taxing bodies have tentatively agreed to the settlement pending actual taxing body action.

Currently, the cost of tuition is waived for all IECC dual credit classes. However, the cost of consumables and class materials necessitates the need for a course fee for career and technical education (CTE) courses held at the college. Therefore, the trustees approved a Dual Credit CTE On-Campus Course Fee of \$25 per course, effective the 2013 Fall Semester.

Statements of Final Construction Compliance for IECC projects were approved by the trustees as required by the ICCB. There were \$594,427 in construction costs for state and locally funded projects completed this past year, as follows: Parking Lot Paving \$202,308, and WFDC Classroom Remodeling \$392,119.

The low bid of \$10,193.58, submitted by Gano Welding Supplies, Charleston, was accepted for a plasma welder for the Welding Technology Program, subject to approval of a grant.

Several bids were accepted for Protection, Health and Safety Phase 10 Compliance projects.

The bid of Merz Heating & Air Conditioning, Effingham, \$389,950, was accepted for HVAC work at LTC, OCC and FCC. The bid of Illini Builders Co., Olney, \$231,688, was accepted for electrical work.

The bid of Grunloh Construction, Inc., Effingham, \$244,000, was accepted for window and flooring replacements at WVC, and accessibility compliance district-wide.

The Faculty Seniority Lists for 2012-2013 were approved for both bargaining unit and non-bargaining unit faculty.

Full-Time faculty members were reemployed for the 2013-2014 academic year, including 70 for continuation of tenure, two for initial tenure, and 17 for non-tenure.

Non-Bargaining Unit faculty members were reemployed for the 2013-2014 academic year, including five for continuation of tenure, one for initial tenure, and eight for non-tenure.

Full-time employment was approved for Steven Berkemeier, Program Director, Emergency Preparedness and Industrial Quality Maintenance at FCC, effective March 18, 2013.

The resignation of Carrie Dagg as Program Director, Emergency Preparedness and Industrial Quality Management, FCC, was accepted, effective January 12.

The resignation of Brenda Halbin as Office Assistant, FCC, was accepted, effective February 15, 2013

The retirement of Sharon Hanson as Office Assistant at LTC, was accepted, effective May 1.

Paul Stouse was honorably discharged from employment because of a reduction in force, effective May 11, 2013.

A memorandum of agreement was approved with the Illinois Eastern Colleges Education Association, IEA-NEA, to allow a faculty member to work from home for part of the Spring 2013 Semester.

Nine affiliation agreements were approved with area institutions for the LTC Medical Assistant program, OCC or FCC Phlebotomy programs or the FCC Emergency Response program.

Next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees will be Tuesday, March 19, at 7 p.m. at Olney Central College.