

## Athens Q&A Meeting Round 2 – 4/11/19

Present: Vickie Geisel, Kristin Spizzirri, Marlo Bitter, Kristen Bennett, David Gram, Diane Milner, Kelley Townsend, Kristen Stovall, David Hopkins, Tara Thompson, Lindsay Simmons, Wendy Elmore, Lonnie Packer, Spencer Wagley, Jan Jennings, Holley Collier, Kandi Jones, September Kirk, Michael Harman, Thomas Booth, Brad Elmore, Jerry King, Kristin Walker, Melinda Berry, Ellery Watson, Jorge, Janene Dotts, David Loper, Michael Felty

1. Dr. King opened the meeting talking about the 105 acres that is being donated in Kaufman off 175 that is worth about 1 million. There are not any limitations on the donation of the land. Other donations such as the Perkins estate and clock tower (47 feet tall). The clock tower is built solely with donated money.
2. Do we have air conditioning in the fitness center? Dr. King stated that yes we have air conditioning. Suggestion was made to put in a work ticket in order to ensure that the ac is working. Dr. King stated that money to refurbish the facility was done by money donated by Cain family. Also discussed many compliments on the walking trail.
3. What about recycling? Can we recycle paper, plastic, etc instead of going to land fields? SGA and science club have looked at this option with Dr. Kinzer. David Gram talked about that we do collect cardboard and computer equipment. Goodwill out of Tyler handles many of our recycling items. David asked the question that part of the problem is that we don't have anyone in Athens that can take the stuff but we could partner with the City of Athens. Jan J spoke about whose responsibility it was to get the items to the main bins. McLemore doesn't think this is in their jurisdiction. SGA students are willing to man the project ongoing and just need to have the bins. Dr. King is going to look into this a bit more.
4. Kristen Stovall talked about the topic of recruiting. Dr. King stated that VP team is looking at recruiting and how we can make changes. The best recruiters especially in workforce are the faculty themselves. Strongly encourage faculty to have strong relationships with local ISD counterparts. Dr. King brought up the fact that we need to strongly encourage faculty especially in the workforce area to encourage in their area by getting to know the area ISD instructors. Also, Dr. Kinzer is looking at ways to improve. If we need to look at options to have faculty have "time away" to recruit, then that needs to be discussed. Dr. King discussed how our enrollment is slightly down due to the lower employment rate. Dr. King discussed how the enrollment has increased due to workforce in the ISD's. Dr. Kinzer is looking at a committee that will focus on recruiting. Dr. Kinzer stated that it takes all of us working together. We technically have 2 ½ recruiters that try to meet with each service district counselor at least once a semester as well as attending college fairs around the state. Dr. Kinzer stated that we need to have a coordinated effort to ensure that we are working together as a unit instead of working against each other. The possibility of hiring students to recruit at the ISD's they attended. Website is still in under construction and we still need to improve our website. Another option is having testimonials from our students after they leave TVCC. We can increase our social media presence. Need to do more videos such as the music department's video.
5. Dr. King stated that he is now sending his weekly updates to all TVCC employees. This is sent out every Monday morning.

6. Melinda asked if Dr. King has ever considered meeting with student services specifically. Dr. King stated that if she will get a group together that he will meet with them. Dr. King stated that he is open to anyone is able to come talk with him directly or send him an email.
7. Dr. King talked about funding which is going to be a bit of a puzzle this year. Dr. King stated that in the past we have been able to give raises and increase in overloads for the past several years.
  - a. He discussed the new positions at THSC. It is a puzzle as to how it will fit into the overall budget. We do not plan to raise tuition and fees and our hope is that we will receive more revenue from tax base revenue primarily in Kaufman County.
  - b. Dr. King discussed that a proposal will be made to the Board of Trustees that we will decrease our out of district fees for Dual Credit students from \$375 to \$180 for a 3 hour course with a loss of revenue about 350,000. A discussion was had that if we do nothing we will continue to lose school districts and a potential of 250,000 loss hit. This hopefully will allow us to keep all of our current dual credit schools and possibly have Forney come back.
  - c. There is the potential tax revenue increase in Kaufman County.
  - d. Dr. King is hoping that we will be able to give a salary increase. 3% raise equals about 750,000.
  - e. We have to start looking at the future for TVCC to continue to be successful, our goal would be to have enough donations in order to offer free tuition for our service area.
8. With the opening of the new THSC facility, we will have about four times as much size which will allow us to expand our nursing and medical programs. There will also be a health science academy in which TVCC will partner with Terrell ISD. There is the potential for five additional employees for this facility. Will be open for the fall semester. The old Kaufman center will be potentially used for workforce programs. A rumor is currently going around that the hospital in Kaufman is closing.
9. State initiative for ISD's to go straight to the universities. Dr. King stated that he had not heard anything about this at this time.
10. Introduction of David Hopkins – New CFO – came from City of Athens and private industry.
11. Enrollment has been pretty much steady the last few years. Unemployment rates are low which equates to lower enrollment. Preservice program at TDCJ has helped us stay steady in contact hours and enrollment. Workforce dual credit embedded classes being available as free has helped us with contact hours. We are trying to be proactive instead of reactive. Online and dual credit is where our growth is currently at. We do try to discourage the students living in dorms to not take fully online schedules.
12. Possibility of increasing programs such as e-sports, soccer (men's and women's) and golf (men and women). Baseball would be very far in the future. Our Hispanic percentage is very low when our local ISD's have a higher Hispanic percentage. If we can increase to 25% in the Hispanic population, we are eligible for additional grants.
  - a. K Bennett state that she met with a person that explained that we need to explain to all the ISD's that the Hispanic population can come to school. She stated that the Hispanic population is afraid that they cannot complete the FAFSA paperwork.
  - b. Hispanic employees to go out and talk with local churches, etc.
  - c. Anyone with ideas should forward them to Dr. King.

13. Tara asked about the area in the LRC that is underneath the stairs that appears to be a planter or something. What was its purpose and what can be done with it? Dr. King stated that he thought it was a garden area. Dr. King referred it to David to follow up on it and Tara will follow up with David on her suggestions. Any issue with facilities should be sent to David Gram and Dr. King especially if it will need to go into the budget. Quite a bit of money is currently being spent on fixing some of the ADA issues and many of these are going to be done this summer.
14. Dr. King talked about the ERP and the amount of time and work that many people have invested in this transition on top of their current jobs.
15. Kristen Bennett talked about the importance of the clock tower to donor and it is in the memory of his wife.
16. Desire to do something on the back wall at the gym. Would like to have September's input on a possible mural.
17. Diane Milner talked about the impact that Marc R and Brett D have on local ISD Ag students.
18. Dr. King closed by talking about how we are still a family environment.
19. V Geisel brought up the issue of having a bowling league with TVCC faculty and staff.
20. Holley brought up the idea of doing a TVCC night at the rodeo.

Closed meeting at 3:52 pm