

President's Report January/February 2022

Strategic Plan

As a way of review, I have included the newly adopted Mission Statement, Beliefs and Ways of Being and Strategic Plan 2021-2026 Goals.

Mission Statement

Southwest Texas Junior College enriches lives and advances growth through the education of our diverse communities.

Beliefs and Ways of Being

- We aspire to achieve **excellence** by purposefully:
 - committing to success
 - inspiring trust, transparency, professionalism and accountability
 - engaging all with empathy and care
- We embrace **inclusivity** by:
 - valuing every individual as unique and whole
 - fostering a culture of acceptance
 - respecting diversity of thought
- We champion **opportunities** for:
 - life-long learning
 - professional, personal, and community growth
 - institutional innovation

Strategic Plan 2021-2026

1. **Start/Enroll:** SWTJC will foster a sense of inclusivity and engagement for all students and stakeholders with empathy, care, and outreach.
 - a. Increase the efficiency and capacity of student enrollment
 - b. Enhance students' sense of connection to SWTJC as identified by pride, ownership, culture, identify and inclusivity
2. **Persist/Succeed:** SWTJC will champion opportunities for student success
 - a. Increase the number and percentage of students achieving 15/30 credits/core complete.
 - b. Increase one-year persistence rate.
3. **Complete/Ascend:** SWTJC will increase personal, professional, and community growth.
 - a. Increase completion rate
 - b. Increase the three-year transfer rate of transfer eligible first-time-in-college student from 23% to 33% by 2026

- c. Develop an institutional framework for mapped student pathways to include identification, monitoring student progress, and placement in a progressive advancement of a job or academic standing
- d. Develop and sustain an organizational structure for strategic innovation and development to include: develop structure for strategic innovation, increase non-traditional revenue, and enhance strategic enrollment management.

Covid-19

The Omicron variant has put a strain on our employees as we begin this semester. Not unlike the spread among our community, we have had multiple employees out because of a positive test or exposure at home. As a result, we decided to begin the Spring semester in a remote setting for two-weeks. Students returned to campus at the beginning of February. It appears that the two-week period was sufficient to curb the spread on campus. We still have cases pop up but not to the level that it is impacting instruction or services.

Covid cases in our community continue to trend downward. We expect community spread to continue to drop and we should be able to relax masking requirements accordingly.

Maintenance

The design elements of replacing the HVAC system in the Witt Building are final. We have them out for bid.

The site work plans for the modular building for law enforcement are also almost final. We have included site work for an additional portable to possibly host our new surgical tech program as well.

Union Pacific has awarded us \$380,000 to fund an expansion of the diesel lab area in Eagle Pass. Architects are working on plans to develop the bid specs for that expansion. This additional space will allow us to install additional equipment funded by a JET grant in the amount of approximately \$300,000. In conjunction with the diesel expansion, we are evaluating the possible enclosure of an existing outside covered area for the welding lab.

I have attached a project review spreadsheet that helps identify the various projects and source of funds, a copy of the Deferred Maintenance Plan approved with the current year budget and the reconciliation of Net Assets to Unrestricted Fund Balance.

We have included the following as agenda items for the board to consider: approve purchase of modular building for Surgery Tech and approve facility expansion for Diesel & Welding at Chittim Center.

Grants

We have received a Skills Development Grant in the amount of \$50,000 for customized training for Micro Star, an employer in Eagle Pass.

We have submitted our Good Jobs Challenge Grant to the Economic Development Administration (U.S. Department of Commerce) of approximately \$19 million. This grant would fund the startup expenses for the following programs:

- Physical Therapy Assistants Program
- Medical Lab Tech Program
- Power Line Tech Program Expansion to Del Rio
- Heavy Equipment Operator Program
- Diesel Tech Expansion to Uvalde
- Aviation General Program Uvalde
- Aviation Power Plant Program Del Rio
- Expand Workforce Training programs throughout our service area
- Sub Grant to Sul Ross for an expansion of Cyber Security Bachelors Program, and Health Information Bachelors Program in our service area
- Sub Grant to Middle Rio Grande to provide additional wrap around services for students

Research Vacancy on Place 5

After reviewing the applicable Board policies and statutes, the Board has two options.

- The Board may appoint an individual to fill the remainder of the term. Appointed individual will serve until the next regular election (May 2024) at which time Place 5 must be listed on the ballot in order to continue serving the remainder of the term to May 2026.
- The Board may order a special election to fill the remainder of the term. Election must be ordered at least 78 days before November General Election (no later than August 22, 2022). Individual elected will serve the remainder of term set to expire May 2026.

Depending on which direction the Board decides to move forward with, we can provide additional information and/or seek specific guidance from our College Counsel.

Upcoming Meeting/Events

1/20	January Board Meeting
1/26	TACC Quarterly Meeting
2/16	TACC Legislative Committee
2/17	February Board Meeting
2/23	Community College Finance Commission Meeting
3/9	TACC Legislative Committee
3/10	CCATT Quarterly Meeting
3/14-18	Spring Break
3/24	March Board Meeting