

The Board of Trustees of the Howard County Junior College District met for a special meeting in the West Texas Training Center at Howard College in San Angelo on Wednesday, December 4, 2024.

The following members of the Board and District Administration were present:

Dr. John Freeman, Chairman  
Maxwell Barr, Vice-Chairman  
Dr. Marisha Beck  
Ben Zeichick

Dr. Cheryl T. Sparks, Ed.D., President  
Dr. Amy Burchett, Ed.D., Executive Vice-President  
Jeff Anderson, Provost, SWCD  
Pam Callan, Provost, San Angelo  
Eric Hansen, Chief Technology Systems/Data Security Officer  
Brad Keller, Chief Institutional Research Officer  
Laurie Kincannon, Chief Human Resources Officer  
Dr. Brenda Madore, Ed.D., Chief of Staff/Institutional Advancement Officer - recorder  
Cindy Smith, Chief Student Success/Public Information Officer  
Steve Smith, Chief Business Officer/Internal Auditor

Others present were:

Joe Alford, Plumbing Instructor  
Stephanie Bissonnette, Interpreter  
Maggie Blair, Student Life, Marketing and Outreach Assistant  
Jenny Boyd, San Angelo Business Office/Accounting Specialist  
Kaitlyn Brosh, San Angelo Campus Director of Student Life, Marketing & Outreach  
Davin Darnell, San Angelo Campus LEADS Coordinator/Dual Credit Advisor/EAB Liaison  
Ashley Harper, San Angelo Campus Teacher Education Pathways Coordinator  
Mike Hemmeter, San Angelo Campus Dean of Support and Student Services  
Neomi Hernandez, Financial Aid Advisor  
Teresa Herrera, Associate Registrar  
Kleo Hidalgo, District Dean of Libraries  
Lanna Hubbard, San Angelo Campus Dean of Instruction  
Rene Maldonado, District Technical Support Services and San Angelo Networking System Administrator  
Melissa Mendez, San Angelo Coordinator for Administrative Services  
Terri Nix, San Angelo Division Director CTE  
Renee Porter, Interpreter  
Jessica Rich, Financial Aid Advisor  
Homer Stewart, Division Director, San Angelo Campus  
Shannon Stuteville, Executive Assistant to the President  
Shane Taiclet, District Director of Administrative Services  
Mary Wallace, San Angelo Administrative Assistant to Provost/HR Specialist

Special guests present:

Steve Ahlenius, President and CEO, San Angelo Chamber of Commerce  
Rick Bacon, Precinct 3 Commissioner  
Jeremy Bartz, Vice President of Destination Marketing, San Angelo Chamber of Commerce  
Mike Berry, Howard College San Angelo Foundation Board and the San Angelo Chamber of Commerce  
Pam Bradshaw, Vice-President, Howard College San Angelo Foundation Board  
Bryan Benson, Owner, Clearview Custom Homes  
Lane Carter, Tom Green County Judge  
Chad Decker, President, HBA Board and owner of Decker Custom Homes  
Austin Davis, San Angelo Lowe's Store Manager  
Luci Gonzalez, City Council District 4  
Brenda Gunter, Mayor of San Angelo  
Cerys Humphreys, Analyst, Lowe's Foundation  
Patrick Killingsworth, District Service Manager, Lowe's  
Kathy Keane, District Director, U.S. Representative August Pfluger's office  
Jarrett Krehbiel, Howard College San Angelo student

Stanley Mayfield, Howard College San Angelo Foundation Board  
Dr. Christopher Moran, Superintendent SAISD  
Enyeto-Angel Mystic, Howard College San Angelo student  
Dr. Ernie Nabors, President, Howard College San Angelo Foundation Board  
Shawn Nanny, Precinct 4 Commissioner  
Lauren Norman, Manager, Lowe's Foundation  
Kristen Oliver, Howard College San Angelo Foundation Board and the San Angelo Home Builders Association  
Maggie Speed, Assistant Superintendent, TLCA  
Harry Thomas, City Council District 3  
Hailey Valenzuela, San Angelo Lowe's Store Manager  
Lori Wilson, District Director, Representative Drew Darby's office

Prior to the meeting trustees, administration, and special guests participated in a ribbon cutting for the new Plumbing and Electrical Program building. During the ribbon cutting Dr. Sparks revealed that the name of the new building is the Lowe's Foundation and Home Builders Association of San Angelo Workshop. In addition, the classroom in the building was named after Bryan Benson; Bryan and his team were instrumental in the completion of the project. The ribbon cutting was well attended by community leaders, Howard College industry partners, and others.

After a short break for a reception, trustees convened for the special meeting.

Chairman Dr. John Freeman called the meeting to order at 9:58 a.m. The meeting was open to the public in the West Texas Training Center. Due to technical difficulties, the meeting was not recorded. Minutes will be available on the website. Mr. Barr led the invocation.

Next, Dr. Freeman opened the floor to any communication to the Board. There were no comments.

Next, Dr. Sparks noted that trustees had been introduced at the ribbon cutting. She also welcomed local dignitaries and Howard College faculty and staff members.

Next, Dr. Sparks provided an overview of the focused meeting's purpose, referencing the self-evaluation completed by the Board in strategic planning in 2023. During that planning they determined to increase Board presence at each of the four campuses in the district. Dr. Sparks explained that the meeting held today would provide a focus on the San Angelo campus, students, and operations. However, since the San Angelo campus is not located within the taxing district, the board would not conduct any regular business.

Trustees moved to New Business, President's Report.

Dr. Sparks began her report by sharing several special recognitions from the San Angelo campus.

#### *20 Under 40 Leadership Awards*

Dr. Sparks highlighted the prestigious 20 Under 40 award, which recognizes young leaders shaping the future of the San Angelo community. This year, Ashley Harper, Teacher Coordinator, was selected as one of the recipients. Dr. Sparks also acknowledged other former honorees present in the room: Kaitlyn Brosh, Lanna Hubbard, Miah Pullen, Jackie Dowell, and Carah Dunagan. Congratulations to all who were named to this outstanding group of leaders!

#### *Leadership San Angelo Program*

Dr. Sparks also spoke about the Leadership San Angelo program, organized by the Chamber of Commerce. This competitive program provides participants with behind-the-scenes insights into the community while preparing them for future leadership roles. This year, Davin Darnell was selected as one of the 30 participants. Dr. Sparks noted that previous program alumni include Mike Hemmeter, Kaitlyn Brosh, Lanna Hubbard, and Terri Nix. She congratulated Davin and all those contributing to this program's ongoing success.

#### *Partnership with Goodfellow Air Force Base (GAFB)*

Dr. Sparks emphasized the importance of Howard College's strong partnership with Goodfellow Air Force Base, reflecting the college's deep ties to the military community. Goodfellow's Honorary Commander Program is an incredible opportunity, and this year, Pam Callan was selected to participate in the 2023-24 cohort. Dr. Sparks also shared that Shane Taiclet will represent Howard College in the 2024-25 program.

Dr. Sparks spoke about HC's long-standing connection with the military, which began when the Big Spring campus was established during the era of the Bombardier School. After HC was established, Webb Air Force Base further strengthened this partnership.

Special recognition also went to Pam for being named a distinguished student within this program and to Mike Hemmeter, who was a previous honorary commander. These achievements highlight the college's continued commitment to supporting and celebrating the military community.

Dr. Sparks led the room in a round of applause to honor all the recipients and participants for their outstanding accomplishments.

Next, Pam Callan, campus Provost, delivered the State of the San Angelo campus address. The address began with a business development video created by the San Angelo Chamber of Commerce emphasizing Howard College San Angelo's (HCSA) integral role as an asset to the community. She then highlighted several key developments from the past year:

#### *Plumbing and Electrical Programs*

The first class of plumbing students began last fall, and the new electrical/plumbing building is now complete.

#### *Upcoming Aviation Maintenance Program*

- The Airframe and Powerplant Mechanic program is set to launch in Fall 2025 in partnership with Skyline Aviation, which will provide instructors, equipment, and facilities.
- A ribbon-cutting event is planned for next summer, including a tour of the new program facilities.
- Work is underway to secure accreditation from SACSCOC and FAA approval.
- The program will hire a full-time Program Chair in spring 2025, funded by a generous two-year donation, and efforts are ongoing to secure scholarship funding for this high-cost program. Special recognition was given to Lanna Hubbard, Dean of Instruction, for her work on curriculum development and adjunct hiring.

#### *Collaboration with San Angelo Police Department (SAPD)*

- Discussions are underway with the San Angelo Police Department to relocate the SAPD Police Academy to the West Texas Training Center (W TTC). The move could occur as early as the spring semester.

#### *Health Professions Relocation*

- Plans are in motion to relocate all Health Professions programs to the W TTC. This move will enhance student access to resources like the library, tutoring, and student services.
- Initial project costs of \$3.1 million have been reduced to \$2.2 million by streamlining the scope, including in-house floor removal and painting. While the goal is to raise \$3 million, the college remains flexible. Tours of the future Health Professions areas were offered following the meeting.
- Pam acknowledged the efforts of architect Phil Furqueron, Lanna Hubbard, and the Health Professions faculty in this initiative.

#### *Generous Scholarship Growth*

The campus has been blessed with additional scholarship funding this year:

- A donor increased the corpus of an endowment already established through the Area Foundation, now providing \$25,000 each for the fall and spring semesters.
- New scholarships were established by the Mathis Law Firm, the Crisp family (in memory of former nursing student Michael Crisp), and the Texas Trust Foundation, benefiting students in electrical and education programs.

These scholarships, along with previous ones, greatly support HCSA students in achieving their academic goals.

#### *Student Success Stories*

Pam shared inspiring stories of two students who exemplify the transformative power of education at HCSA. Enyeto-Angel Mystic is a 2024 graduate with an Associate of Science in Criminal Justice and Jarrett Krehbiel graduated in May 2024 with a certificate and is now on track to graduate in May 2025 from the HVAC program. Both young men have been very active on campus and are both members of Phi Theta Kappa.

*Celebrating HC's Mission*

The address concluded with the showing of a brief commercial celebrating Howard College's impact and dedication to student success.

Next, continuing with the San Angelo campus focus and in alignment with Board strategic priorities, Dr. Sparks reviewed the most recent San Angelo Student Roundtable results. She gave Trustees background information on student roundtable procedures and the care that is taken to respond in a timely way to student comments and concerns. She then discussed specific comments brought up by students at the San Angelo campus. Several of the comments from students centered on requests for upgrades to the facility. Dr. Sparks reiterated that, because the San Angelo campus is not located in the taxing district and that state funding cannot be used for facilities, options are limited. She told the audience that is why it is important to begin considering a maintenance tax so that students in Tom Green County have the facilities and resources they need to help the community grow.

Next, Dr. Sparks gave an update on the 2024 Facilities Master Plan and shared specific activities already underway related to the San Angelo campus. She began with a brief overview of the development of the Master Plan and the history of its use. She then discussed the phases of the 20-year plan and the particular goals that had been set for the San Angelo campus.

There being no other business, Trustees adjourned at 10:58 a.m.



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Dr. John Freeman, Chairman



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Adrian Calvio, Secretary  
By Brenda Madore