

**MINUTES  
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

**May 3, 2023**

The meeting of the Council of Higher Education (Council) was called to order by the Hon. Pedro Rivera, Chairman of the Council, at 11:05 a.m.

**Attending:**

James Agras ( <i>virtual</i> )	Amanda Hetrick	Karen Farmer White
Hon. Carol Aichele	Natalie Imhoof	Lee Williams
Sandra Dungee Glenn ( <i>virtual</i> )	Sarah Jordan	Hon. Lindsey Williams
Reva Gandhi	Jeffrey Keeling	
Pamela Gunter-Smith	Hon. Pedro Rivera	

**OPENING REMARKS**

Chairman Rivera welcomed Dr. Kate Shaw as Governor Shapiro’s newly-appointed Deputy Secretary and Commissioner for Postsecondary and Higher Education. He also announced that this would be the last meeting for Dr. Pamela Gunter-Smith as a member of the Council and of the State Board of Education. Dr. Gunter-Smith is retiring as the president of York College in June and intends to resign her seat on the Board concurrent with her retirement.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the September 14, 2022, meeting of the Council of Higher Education were approved on a **Gunter-Smith/Dungee Glenn** motion.

The minutes of the November 9, 2022, meeting of the Council of Higher Education were approved on an **Agras/Dungee Glenn** motion.

**REPORT OF THE DEPUTY SECRETARY AND COMMISSIONER FOR  
POSTSECONDARY AND HIGHER EDUCATION**

Dr. Kate Shaw, Deputy Secretary and Commissioner for Postsecondary and Higher Education, delivered a report on the postsecondary priorities of the Shapiro Administration that focus on re-envisioning higher education, meeting the needs of our students, and addressing the teacher shortage and strengthening our educator workforce. Dr. Shaw discussed the efforts that will be undertaken by a higher education workgroup comprised of postsecondary leaders from multiple sectors who are charged with collaboratively delivering recommendations for a new vision for higher education in Pennsylvania by the end of 2023. The workgroup held its first meeting on April 13, 2023, and over time it will consider topics including finance systems, affordability, workforce alignment, and postsecondary structure, coordination, and efficiency. Dr. Shaw also noted that Pennsylvania is looking at potential legislation to make the FAFSA mandatory as a high school graduation requirement for the class of 2025. She also discussed and highlighted other work within the Office of Postsecondary and Higher Education, including the PA Hunger-Free Campus designations and grant program, the Parent Pathways Learning

Network, adult education, dual credit legislation, strengthening transfer policies, and multiple initiatives focused on addressing the teacher shortage.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Ms. Natalie Imhoof, the Council's Junior Student Member, said it is crucial for students to consider the long-term benefits of higher education and that students should consider the value provided by private colleges as part of that long-term outlook. She discussed her service on the College Textbook Policies Advisory Committee and reported on her participation in the Committee's last meeting on April 27, 2023. Ms. Imhoof said smaller costs of postsecondary education, like textbooks, sometimes make a difference for students and she expressed appreciation for the conversations the Committee is having around those costs.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further items of business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m. on a **Gunter-Smith/Hetrick** motion.

*Stephanie L. Jones*

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Stephanie L. Jones  
Administrative Assistant