



EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Wednesday, May 14, 2025, from 3:00 to 4:30 pm

Alan Thompson Library Room 130

Zoom: <https://lowercolumbia.zoom.us/my/universitycenter>

INTRODUCTIONS

Present

1. Penny Andrews, Director of HR, Longview School District
2. Jill Jurvakeinen, Human Resources, Longview School District
3. Zachary Johnson, Barnes, Paraeducator
4. Brandee Strang, Barnes, LCC Student Candidate
5. Dena Pliler, Barnes, Teacher K/2
6. Michaela Jackson, Director of Education Programs, LCC
7. Ashleigh Kruckenberg, Education Faculty LCC
8. Ashley Cahill, Teacher Education Faculty LCC
9. Jenny Smith, Manager Educational Partnerships LCC
10. Jennie Bergman, Manager of Workforce Education, LCC
11. Vicky Barnes, Woodland School District

I. Agenda Overview

A. Advisory Overview

- i. Session topics, meeting dates and times
- ii. Committee activities
- iii. Requests for recommendations
- iv. Approval of proposed program changes

B. Materials Shared

- i. Advisory Handbook link
- ii. CTE Articulation Menu link
- iii. State Employee Tuition Waiver information link

II. Emerging Trends

A. Para Educator

- i. Recommended preparation for the depth and dependency of student/teacher relationships.
- ii. Seasonal feistiness was noted.
- iii. Burnout was discussed, with participants recognizing that trained paras have more tools to support students experiencing intense emotions, unmet developmental or academic needs, and persistent behavioral challenges.
- iv. Paras reported feeling undervalued and disrespected.

- v. Job insecurity has also been noted

B. Staff and Hiring

- i. Uncertainty around hiring processes; less predictable than in the past
- ii. Budget cuts are resulting in increased competition for positions.
 - 1. Recommendations for applicant success were shared:
 - 1. Review for grammar/spelling/punctuation
 - 2. Indicate supervisors as professional references (not “friends” - even if they are a friend).
 - 3. Soft skills (interpersonal, team collaboration) are increasingly important
 - 4. To the question, “May we contact your current employer?” - a simple “no” may not be sufficient.
- iii. Levy in Clark/Cowlitz County allowed for hiring, but applicant volume was overwhelming (90+)

C. Workplace Culture

- i. Civility work is a request. Teachers need to be taught how to manage adults including team building skills.
- ii. Self-management including emotional self-regulation
- iii. A request to avoid gossip
- iv. Anecdotal evidence was shared of a student who caused property damage, with a request for awareness and support in these types of situations.

D. Other notes: WA state is known for competitive teacher pay

III. LCC Education Program Updates

A. Career and Technical Education (CTE) is a program that allows high school students to get college credit for high school courses that are articulated with their local college.

- i. Education has articulations with Cascadia Technical Academy, but is prepared to articulate with more local high schools.
- ii. EDUC 191, EDUC 205, and CS 110 are able to be articulated, and are requirements for our Education AAS program
- iii. Completion of these courses equates to one quarter of college level coursework
- iv. Industry Recognized Credentials may be available to high school seniors
- v. Teaching Academy is recognized by PESB and OSPI, enhancing employment prospects
- vi. **Additional CTE Fields** include Welding, Medical Assisting, Auto/Diesel, Machine Trades, and more

B. ELL endorsement (combined with ECE or Elementary) are available starting next academic year through Lower Columbia College

- i. Pending demand, LCC is considering ELL as a stand-alone endorsement.

C. Student Progress and challenges

- i. Current trend is that 32% of students completed both field experience courses: Insights were requested
- ii. Enrollment in 2nd-year field experience is lower
- iii. Courses require at least 8 students to run, especially under current budget constraints
- iv. Life circumstances and commitment to field were posed as affecting work-based learning participation
- v. Spring course conflict: Math and EDUC 225 (now retired) possibly impacted enrollment in EDUC 291

D. Recruiting

- i. State tuition waivers (HR) may assist with recruitment
- ii. Incentives for para education? - Not in Longview. Kelso - .50 cents per hour.

- iii. 2+2 flyer could be sent to high school counselors
- E. **Exit interviews recommended**
- F. **Student Work samples were shared. APA formatting is requested and along with structured for bachelor's program**

IV. K12 UPDATES

- A. **Woodland levy passed. Funding is expected in May/June**
- B. **There is a large demand for paras and subs in most places**
- C. **Broadway is closing and the program is moving to St Helens Elementary. 4 TTK will go to CVG and 2 to Mint Valley. Long term goal: every school will have TTK.**

V. UPCOMING PROGRAM OR COMMUNITY EVENTS

- A. **New Mascot reveal - May 19th**
- B. **Commencement-June 20 at 630 p.m. with our first EDUC AAS graduating class**
- C. **Outstanding Student Award night - May 21**
- D. **Groundbreaking for our new Vocational Building - Fall of 2025**
- E. **New programs launching in fall 2025**
- F. **Bachelor of Science in Computer Science**
- G. **Automation and Robotics**
- H. **Staffing and Leadership**
- I. **Stacie is now the Assistant director of Advising and One Stop**
- J. **Ale Sanchez will be the advisor for Education and OLTM**
- K. **26 Teacher Education candidates will be graduating in June.**

VI. Advisory Membership

- A. **Vacancy in Chair position (motion item):**
 - i. Zachary Johnson indicated willingness to chair.
 - ii. Vicky Barnes motioned to approve Zachary Johnson as chair
 - iii. Jill Jurvakainen seconded
 - iv. Motion carries
- B. **Vacancy in Vice or Co-Chair position (motion item):**
 - i. Vicky Barnes motioned to approve Brandee Strang as co-chair
 - ii. Dena Pliler seconded
 - iii. Motion carries

VII. Proposed Program Adjustments (motion items)

- A. **Suds 114 - Suicide Assessment and Prevention. Students indicated this feels like it is healthcare (with senior citizen and substance use clients) rather than student/education focused.**
 - i. Following discussion and clarification, Vicky Barnes motioned that SUDS 114 be removed from the Education program with relevant content addressed in a new course (see B - next).
 - ii. Penny Andrews seconded.
 - iii. Motion carries
- B. **EDUC 255 - Crisis Management and De-Escalation Techniques (3 credits). In order to make suicide risk assessment student and education focused, LCC proposed transferring the**

outcomes from SUDS 114 into EDUC 255 and increasing the credits from 3 to 5. The added outcomes include:

- i. Implement suicide prevention strategies
- ii. Summarize crisis management strategies
- iii. Explain various intervention techniques
- iv. Discuss methods for assessing suicide risk

C. Discussion and approval requested for the above-mentioned changes (B)

- i. Vicky Barnes motioned to add 2 credits and 4 outcomes to EDUC 255 as noted above.
- ii. Brandee Strang seconded.
- iii. Motion carried

VIII. NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, October 15, 2025 from 3 - 4:30 p.m. at LCC's LIB 130

IX. ADJOURNED: 4:40 p.m.

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