



MIRACOSTA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

BOARD WORKSHOP

2 P.M. – THURSDAY – JANUARY 15, 2026

**JOHN MACDONALD BOARDROOM – BUILDING 1000 – OCEANSIDE CAMPUS
1 BARNARD DRIVE, OCEANSIDE, CA**

AGENDA

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. FLAG SALUTE / ROLL CALL

III. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS ON AND NOT ON THE AGENDA

ITEMS ON THE AGENDA: Members of the audience may address the Board of Trustees on any item listed on the agenda when that agenda item comes up for discussion and/or action. Comments will be limited to three (3) minutes per agenda item and a total of fifteen (15) minutes of public comment on any one item, unless waived by the board. Non-English speakers utilizing a translator will have six (6) minutes to directly address the board. Consent items are considered routine and customary district business, and are voted on in one vote; however, a board member or a member of the audience may request that an item listed on the consent items be removed and considered individually.

ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA: Members of the audience may address the Board of Trustees on any topic not on the agenda so long as the topic is within the jurisdiction of the district. Under the Brown Act, the board is not permitted to engage in public discussion or take any action on an agenda item not on the agenda, except that members of the board may briefly respond to statements made or questions posed by persons exercising their public testimony rights under Government Code §54954.3. In addition, on their own initiative, or in response to questions posed by the public, a member of the board may ask a question for clarification. A member of the board or the board itself may provide a reference to staff (superintendent/president) or other resources for factual information, request staff (superintendent/president) to report back to the body at a subsequent meeting concerning any matter, or take action to direct staff (superintendent/president) to place a matter of business on a future agenda. Comments from visitors shall not exceed three (3) minutes unless the board waives the time limit. Non-English speakers utilizing a translator will have six (6) minutes to directly address the board. The board may also limit the total amount of time for speakers on a particular topic to fifteen (15) minutes.

DECORUM: Board Policy 2355 requires members of the public to observe order and decorum at board meetings and to conduct themselves in a courteous manner, avoiding profanity, obscenity, other abusive language, and threats of violence. The board president, as presiding officer, has the authority to run the meeting, which includes the authority to issue warnings, call for recesses, or clearing the boardroom in the event of disruptive behavior. Speakers shall speak to the issues and refrain from using defamatory or abusive personal remarks that disturb or impede the meeting or exceed the bounds of civility necessary to the conduct of the business of the district. Government Code section 54954.3(c) establishes that the legislative body of a local agency shall not prohibit public criticism of the policies, procedures, programs, or services of the agency, or of the acts or omissions of the legislative body, and California Penal Code section 403 makes it a misdemeanor for any person to willfully disturb or break up any assembly or meeting with lawful authority.

IV. CHANGES IN AGENDA ORDER

V. ACTION ITEMS

- A. Approve Contract for Search Firm to Conduct Superintendent/President Search for MiraCosta College

VI. CEO SEARCH WORKSHOP

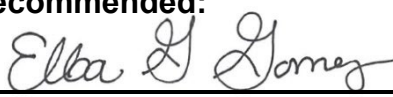

VII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

UPCOMING MEETING
4 p.m. – January 22, 2026
Regular Business Meeting

In compliance with Government Code §54957.5, nonexempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the MiraCosta Community College District Board of Trustees in advance of their meetings may be viewed at the Office of the Superintendent/President, One Barnard Drive, Oceanside, California, or by clicking on the Board of Trustee's website at <http://www.miracosta.edu/OfficeOfThePresident/BoardofTrustees/Agendas.htm>. Such writings will also be available at the board meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact Julie Bollerud, executive assistant to the superintendent/president, at 760.795.6610 or by email at jbollerud@miracosta.edu.

Audio recordings of board meetings are available upon request. Please contact the MiraCosta College Office of the President at 760.795.6610 or at jbollerud@miracosta.edu.

Subject: Approve Contract for Search Firm to Conduct Superintendent/President Search for MiraCosta College	Attachment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreement and Proposal • RFP Bid Documents • Bid Summary
Category: Consent Item	Type of Board Consideration: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> Information ✓ Consent Action </div>
Institutional Goals: mcc_mission_statement.pdf (miracosta.edu)	Institutional Goal Supported: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> Goal 1 Goal 2 ✓ Goal 3 Goal 4 </div>
Recommended:  Elba G. Gomez Assistant Superintendent/Vice President, Administrative Services	Approved for Consideration:  Sunita V. Cooke, Ph.D. Superintendent/President

BACKGROUND

With the announcement of Dr. Sunita V. Cooke's retirement in the summer of 2026, the MiraCosta Community College District's Board of Trustees sought proposals from qualified, full-service executive recruitment firms to conduct a comprehensive executive recruitment search for the position of superintendent/president of the district. The selected firm will be expected to design and manage all phases of the recruitment process, which may include, but are not limited to: collaborating with the board, Human Resources liaison, search committee, and the President's Office liaison, to define the search parameters; developing a comprehensive and inclusive position description; identifying, recruiting, and vetting highly qualified candidates who meet all required and desired qualifications; presenting candidates for consideration; and supporting the district throughout the selection and hiring process.

STATUS

The Purchasing Department issued RFP Number 05-26 for executive recruitment services. The solicitation was publicly advertised in the San Diego Union-Tribune on October 6, 2025, and October 13, 2025. RFP documents were made available through the district's PlanetBids bid management portal and distributed to 266 firms. By October 20, 2025, the proposal due date, six vendors had submitted electronic proposals via PlanetBids. All six proposals were determined to be responsive.

An evaluation committee comprised of three board members, the assistant superintendent/vice president, administrative services, the assistant superintendent/vice president of human resources, and the Purchasing department conducted the evaluation. Following a comprehensive review and ranking of the written proposals, the committee invited three firms for interviews: Academic Search, AGB Search, LLC, and the Association of Community

College Trustees. Each interview was scheduled for 45 minutes, consistent with the RFP requirements.

In accordance with the RFP and district Administrative Procedure 6430 Bids and Contracts, the district recommends to award an agreement to the responsive and responsible firm whose proposal provides the best value and the greatest overall advantage to the district. Best value criteria include demonstrated experience, with emphasis on higher education executive recruitment, technical expertise, proposed cost, and the quality of client references.

Based on the evaluation outcomes, the committee recommends awarding an agreement to AGB Search, LLC in an amount not to exceed \$84,000.

RECOMMENDATION

Approve contract for the search firm as stated above to conduct the superintendent/president search for MiraCosta College for total contract amount not to exceed \$84,000.

Subject: Superintendent/President Search Workshop	Attachment: Search Firm Agenda
Category: Information Items	Type of Board Consideration: <div> <div>✓</div> <div></div> <div></div> </div> Information Consent Action
Institutional Goals: mcc_mission_statement.pdf (miracosta.edu)	Institutional Goal Supported: <div> <div>✓</div> <div>✓</div> <div>✓</div> <div>✓</div> </div> Goal 1 Goal 2 Goal 3 Goal 4
	Approved for Consideration:  <hr/> Sunita V. Cooke, Ph.D. Superintendent/President

BACKGROUND

Superintendent/President Sunita V. Cooke has indicated her intention to resign, effective summer 2026. In alignment with Board Policy 2431 – Superintendent/President Selection, an ad hoc committee of the Board was established to select a search firm that will facilitate the recruitment process.

STATUS

The search firm selected by the ad hoc committee of the Board will meet with the Board of Trustees to prepare for the launch of a presidential search. The workshop is intended to inform the Board about best practices in the executive search process and will focus on the search process, from forming and organizing a search committee, through the appointment and the leadership transition process.

The goal of this workshop is to frame the philosophy, design, and implementation of a successful presidential search, as well as to present tested practices, discuss common pitfalls and how to avoid them, and answer any questions from the Board.

RECOMMENDATION

For information only.

MiraCosta College Board of Trustees Retreat

Thursday, January 15, 2026

2:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Agenda

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Overview of the Presidential Search Process
 - Mission-First Alignment
 - Board Member Check In – Why I am serving on this board
3. Brainstorming Future-Focused Needs for the College: Being a Learning Board
 - Scenario Practice: Navigating Flashpoints
4. Preparing for the Presidential Search – Leadership Agenda
 - Challenges/Priorities, and Opportunities
 - Desired Leadership Attributes
5. Composing the Search for the New President: Proposed Timeline, Leadership of Committee, Expectations, Transition, and Next Steps