

**MONITORING REPORT FOR EL-08 Communication and Support to the Board**

**Board Policy is indicated in bold typeface throughout.**

I present this monitoring report to the Columbia Basin College Board of Trustees that addresses the Board's Executive Limitations Policy: "EL-8 Communication and Support to the Board." I certify that the information contained herein is true and represents compliance, within a reasonable interpretation of the established policy, unless specifically stated otherwise below.

*Rebekah Woods*

Rebekah S. Woods, J.D., Ph.D.  
President, Columbia Basin College

October 5, 2021

Date

**POLICY STATEMENT: The President, with sufficient and relevant support and assistance from the College Leadership team (Vice-Presidents and Deans), shall not fail to proactively communicate, provide information and counsel to the Board in a timely manner. Accordingly, the President shall not:**

- 1. Fail to submit Monitoring and Performance data reports required by the Board in a timely, accurate and understandable format that directly addresses provisions of the Board policies being monitored.**

INTERPRETATION: I interpret "timely, accurate and understandable format that directly addresses provisions of the Board policies being monitored" to mean that Board Monitoring Reports for ENDS and Executive Limitations are submitted in an easy to understand format according to the schedule indicated in the Board's Annual Calendar/Work Plan.

Compliance will be demonstrated when monitoring reports are submitted as scheduled and the Board indicates the report shows clear and sufficient evidence of compliance with fulfilling the ENDS or adhering to the Executive Limitation.

EVIDENCE: A review of the monthly Board agendas for the monitoring report period (October 2020 – September 2021) reflected reports were submitted according to schedule, i.e., the Mission Fulfillment Report was submitted at the October 12, 2020 board meeting.

- 2. Let the Board be unaware of relevant trends, anticipated adverse media coverage, material external and internal changes, and particularly changes in assumptions upon which any Board policy has previously been established.**

INTERPRETATION: I interpret the above-referenced policy to mean “relevant trends, anticipated adverse media coverage, material external and internal changes” are shared with the Board during Weekly Updates or sooner if they are time sensitive.

Compliance will be demonstrated when the President provides Weekly Updates to the Board that include above-mentioned items, as needed. Additional email communications, and/or phone calls are utilized when necessary to inform the Board of any urgent and/or timely matters.

EVIDENCE: Weekly reports were shared with the Board during the monitoring period and additional email communications were utilized in between for more time sensitive issues. The Board Chair was also informed of additional items during monthly phone calls or more often when needed.

- 3. Fail to advise the Board if, in the President’s opinion, the Board is not in compliance with its own policies, and particularly in the case of Board behavior which is detrimental to the work relationship between the Board and President.**

INTERPRETATION: I interpret the above-referenced policy to mean that the President will notify the Board when it believes any Board policies or bylaws are not being followed or other Board behavior that the President believes is detrimental to the work relationship between the Board and the President.

Compliance will be demonstrated when:

- a) The Board is advised via email, verbally reminded at a meeting, or in conversation with the Board Chair, that they are out of compliance, and/or
- b) During the President’s annual evaluation which includes the Board - President relationship.

EVIDENCE: There were no incidents of non-compliance over this monitoring period that the President needed to mention.

- 4. Deprive the Board of as many staff and external points of view, issues and options as needed for fully-informed Board choices and decisions.**

INTERPRETATION: I interpret “as many staff and external points of view, issues and options as needed” to mean the President will present multiple perspectives including information in support of as well as in opposition to Board decisions being made at public Board meetings.

Compliance will be demonstrated when:

- a) The Board provides feedback that they have received sufficient information on which to make Board decisions during monthly meetings, and
- b) The Board includes their feedback during the President’s annual evaluation, specifically the “Board-President Relationship.”

EVIDENCE: Annual evaluations of the President's performance are on file in Human Resources.

**5. Present information in an unnecessarily complex or lengthy format such that it fails to clearly differentiate between monitoring, Board decision preparation and other designated subject matter.**

INTERPRETATION: I interpret the above-referenced policy to mean that Board agenda items will be clearly marked as reports, i.e., information items, Monitoring Reports, Discussion/Action, or Consent agenda items to differentiate the intent of each.

Compliance will be demonstrated when:

- a) Meeting agendas are labeled clearly so the Board knows what items are informational only and what information and items are for decision making and action.
- b) The President inquires about the quality of information presented at meetings.
- c) The President is evaluated annually which includes this element of the Board-President relationship.

EVIDENCE: a) Board meeting agendas reflect clearly labeled sections indicating when there is a requested action. b) Annual evaluations of the President's performance are on file in Human Resources.

**6. Withhold from the Board the support needed for its official functioning and communications.**

INTERPRETATION: I interpret "support needed for its official functioning and communications" to mean administrative support is identified and provided to support the Board in its official function.

Compliance will be demonstrated when an individual is identified to provide administrative support to the board for all requested items including, but not limited to, board meeting preparation, taking of meeting minutes, policy maintenance and storage, and professional development arrangements.

EVIDENCE: The President has assigned the Executive Assistant to the President and Board of Trustees to provide all requested and assigned support for all Board members.

**7. Favor any Board Member or Members above the Board as a whole, except when fulfilling individual Board member requests for information.**

INTERPRETATION: I interpret "Favor any Board Member or Members above the Board as a whole" to mean all Trustees will receive the same information and the same level of support.

Compliance will be demonstrated when the President confirms that she has provided the same information and same level of support to each Trustee and received no indications of concern of any Trustees being favored over another.

EVIDENCE: The President confirms that she has provided the same information and same level of support to each Trustee and has not received any concerns regarding favoritism.

**8. Fail to report in a timely manner an actual or anticipated non-compliance with any Board policy.**

INTERPRETATION: I interpret the above-referenced policy to mean that the President will notify the Board when it believes or anticipates any Board policy or bylaw is not being followed.

Compliance will be demonstrated when:

- a) The Board is advised via email, verbally reminded at a meeting, or in conversation with the Board Chair, that they are or anticipated to be out of compliance, and/or
- b) During the President's annual evaluation which includes the Board - President relationship.

EVIDENCE: There were no actual or anticipated incidents of non-compliance over this monitoring period that the President needed to mention.

**9. Neglect to supply topics and/or issues that may need to be processed in its "required approval agenda." Such topics and issues are those delegated to the President, yet required by law or contract to be Board-approved, along with monitoring assurance pertaining thereto.**

INTERPRETATION: I interpret the above-referenced policy to mean that in accordance with Article II, Section 7 of the Board's By-laws, the President will utilize the Consent Agenda for items that are within the President's prerogative according to the Carver Model of Governance but require Board approval by RCW and/or WAC codes.

Compliance will be demonstrated when items that require approval from the Board per RCW and/or WAC codes appear as a Consent Agenda item on the monthly Board meeting agendas.

EVIDENCE: On the March 8, 2021 Board Meeting agenda, a Consent/Action item was included – Elimination of Distance Learning Course Fee and increase of Instructional Support Fee, because it required Board Approval according to RCW 28B.15.031 but under the Carver Model fell within the President's prerogative.