



**NOTICE OF MEETING  
REGIONAL COLLEGE & CAREER ACCESS CENTER NETWORK  
SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE METROPOLITAN EDUCATION COMMISSION**

**MINUTES**

Pursuant to A.R.S. 38.431.02, notice is hereby given to the members of the Regional College & Career Access Center Advisory Group Subcommittee of the Metropolitan Education Commission and to the general public that the Regional College & Career Access Center Subcommittee of the Metropolitan Education Commission will hold a meeting open to the public on **Tuesday, December 19, 2023 at 11AM MST, Via Zoom Virtual Meeting Platform**. Agendas will be available to the public at the Metropolitan Education Commission, 1080 S. 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Tucson, Arizona, 85701.

Dated this ENTER DATE

Mark Hanna, Executive Board Chair  
Dr. Daisy Rodriguez Pitel, Interim Executive Director  
Chelsea Forer, RCCAC Program Coordinator  
Metropolitan Education Commission

Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82039162018?pwd=dDIPUXNoMTZjelpHN25ZWtZrK2lGUT09>

Meeting ID: 820 3916 2018

Passcode: 290879

1.0 Call to Order and Welcome Chelsea Forer  
Meeting called to order at 11:07AM.

2.0 Pledge of Allegiance and Land Acknowledgment Mark Hanna and Chelsea Forer

*On behalf of the Metropolitan Education Commission, we honor the tribal nations who have served as caretakers of this land from time immemorial and respectfully acknowledge the ancestral homelands of the Tohono O'odham Nation and the multi-millennial presence of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe within Pima County. Consistent with Pima County's commitment to diversity and inclusion, we strive toward building equal-partner relationships with Arizona's tribal nations.*

3.0 Roll Call Chelsea Forer

1. Ellen Fisher
2. Michael Wang
3. Leila Duncan
4. Cathy Meyer
5. Aaron Ball
6. Mark Hanna
7. Dan Kellish
8. Xvania Esquivel
9. Antonio Silva-Garcia



10. Drisana Ross (& Dawn Bell)
11. Rebecca Carrier
12. Tania Ochoa
13. Karla Gonzalez
14. Robert Breault
15. Sabrina Wilson
16. Aaryn Townsend

#### 4.0 Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Chelsea Forer

- Minutes for April 12, 2023 postponed for approval until Spring 2024 meeting.

#### 5.0 Dr. Manuel Avila, Pueblo High School College & Career Counselor

- Goal: Develop clear goals and expectations and overcome “I didn’t know these resources existed before it was too late.”
- What are the Arizona requirements for a college and career readiness program in our high schools? [AZ Rev Stat 15-707 \(2022\) : College and career readiness program for at-risk students](#)
- Narrow and consistent collaboration and communication with the College & Career Readiness Center (CCRC) as the central hub of these communications
- Clear alignment between student courses and graduation and college requirements
- Working with data is a powerful tool to understand what goals are and are not working. This is facilitated by strong relationships with Arizona Higher Education representatives.
- College Readiness Team (CRT) composed of teachers, counselors, and administrators to support CCRC efforts. Family engagement is a core aspect of the CRT. Clear, **honest**, and transparent informing of the community is how Dr. Avila gets families involved.
- The CCRC facilitates direct collaboration with counselors and social workers because they are direct service providers to students on campus. It is essential to know which students are and are not engaged in order to equitably distribute resources across the student population.
- PHS is engaged in the [Arizona College Application Campaign](#).
- Students deserve to have options, with backup plans for confidence and assurance.
- Dr. Avila participated in a University of California tour to understand the California application process.
- Colleague Shout-Outs & Success Share
  - (Bob Breault) Peer and alumni relationships are powerful, inspiring examples to current students.
  - (Cathy Meyer) Communication with parents is key. Being clear about why the FAFSA is valuable is a beneficial strategy.
  - (Ellen Fisher) Trusted relationships are the best recruitment strategy.

#### 6.0 MEC Updates

Dr. Daisy Rodriguez Pitel and Mark Hanna

- Happy holidays shout outs!
- Permanent Executive Director selection coming soon. Community forum taking place in January; invitation forthcoming.



- 7.0 RCCAC Updates Chelsea Forer
- RCCAC rebranding and website resources
  - 2024-2025 Peer Coach Application opens in February

- 8.0 Roundtable All

HED Institution Announcements

- UA
  - Arizona Assurance and FAFSA priority deadlines pushed to 4/1/24.
  - [Upcoming UA financial aid events](#)
- PCC
  - [PCC Spring FAFSA Events dates](#)
  - Pima Community College scholarships
    - [Pima Merit Tuition Award](#)
    - [Pima Excellence Tuition Award](#)
- CUofT is growing and thriving. CUofT recently added an interdisciplinary studies degree. Accept most transfer credits. Successful internship program with 12+ community partners.

Scholarship Announcements

- Dorrance Scholarship Due 1/31/24
- Arizona Community Foundation scholarships & Community Foundation of Southern AZ General Application available in January
- Marge Christensen Gould Memorial Scholarship open 1/8/24 - \$1,500 gift
- FAFSA opens 12/31/23! *Please let Chelsea know if you have upcoming FAFSA events she can support.*
- All of these and more are going to be available on the RCCAC Scholarship Database coming soon.

- 9.0 Adjournment Chelsea Forer
- Meeting adjourned at 12PM.

Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation, such as a sign language interpreter, by contacting the MEC office at 520-670-0055. Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange accommodation.