Pursuant to provisions of the Public Community College Act, as amended, of the State by Illinois, County of Cook, and Executive Order 2020-07 issued by Governor Pritzker on March 16, 2020 and reaffirmed on April 3, 2021 the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Community College District No. 508 was held virtually and livestreamed for simultaneous public viewing on YouTube on April 8, 2021 at 2:00 p.m.

PARTICIPANTS

TRUSTEES
Walter E. Massey, Chair
Elizabeth Swanson, Vice Chair
Peggy A. Davis, Secretary
Karen Kent
Darrell A. Williams
James Thomas Jr., Student Trustee

OFFICERS OF THE DISTRICT
Veronica Herrero – Chief of Strategy and Staff

COLLEGE PRESIDENTS
David Sanders – President, Malcolm X College
Gregory Thomas – President, Kennedy-King College

ASSISTANT BOARD SECRETARY
Ashley Kang

CHANCELLOR
Juan Salgado

PROVOST
Mark Potter

GENERAL COUNSEL
Karla Mitchell Gowen

CHIEF ADVISOR TO THE BOARD
Bonnie Phillips
I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Massey began by calling to order the April 8, 2021 Regular Board Meeting at 2:00 p.m. The Chair noted that Governor Pritzker signed Executive Order 2020-07 on March 16, 2020 (reconfirmed on April 3, 2021) which prohibited gatherings of certain sizes and further suspended certain portions of the Illinois Open Meetings Act, which require in-person attendance by members of a public body, allowing for a virtual board meeting.

II. ROLL CALL

Chair Massey asked the Assistant Board Secretary to call the roll.

The Assistant Board Secretary called roll:

   Elizabeth Swanson                      Present
   Peggy A. Davis                        Present
   Karen Kent                            Present
   Darrell A. Williams                   Present
   James Thomas, Jr.                     Present
   Walter E. Massey                      Present
   Laritza Lopez                        Absent
   Deborah H. Telman                     Absent

III. WELCOME

Chair Massey began by acknowledging the recent racist attacks against Asian Americans in Atlanta as well as the recent gun violence in Boulder. Chair Massey emphasized City College’s mission to prepare its students to be productive members of society and to partake in the healing and re-education of the nation.
The Chair encouraged everyone to look for hope and inspiration in students such as the Jack Kent Cooke semi-finalists and the Class of 2021 valedictorians and salutatorians, noting that students are examples of what American society can achieve when it is at its best.

Chair Massey also took a moment to recognize Student Trustee Thomas, as the Student Trustee’s term would be ending on April 14th. The Chair thanked Student Trustee Thomas for his service and commended the hard work of balancing many commitments, including work on the Board, work with District Student Government Association, as well as academics. Chair Massey also noted that Student Trustee Thomas is the first to serve during a pandemic and commended him on the way in which he navigated this difficult time.

IV. STUDENT TRUSTEE REPORT

Student Trustee Thomas thanked the Chair and noted the great honor it was to serve the his fellow students and the District. Student Trustee Thomas gave brief remarks about District initiatives.

V. CHANCELLOR’S UPDATES

Chancellor Salgado thanked Student Trustee Thomas for his service and praised him for mentoring and lifting other students. The Chancellor commended the Student Trustee for his leadership and service during a very challenging time.

The Chancellor echoed Chair Massey’s words of holding firm to City Colleges’ mission to prepare students to actively engage and contribute to society. Chancellor Salgado stated that racism, hate, xenophobia, and all forms of discrimination have no place in society, and restated City Colleges’ commitment to using its resources to building a safer and stronger environment. The Chancellor noted the equity plans, the Black Excellence and Equity Fund, and other initiatives engaged in equity and anti-violence work.

Chancellor Salgado noted the legislative session happening in Springfield and the work of the Legislative Affairs team under the leadership of Vice Chancellor Mason. The Chancellor also thanked FC4 for their continued work and desire to serve students.

Next, the Chancellor discussed City Colleges’ role in fighting COVID-19. The colleges serve as vaccination sites across the city, and the hope is to start bringing people back on to campuses starting July 6th. Chancellor Salgado thanked the faculty and staff who continue to deliver remote and in-person instruction for students, and praised students for their commitment to their studies in such unprecedented times.

The Chancellor noted that summer and fall registration is coming up, and that the colleges would be hosting virtual open houses in the coming weeks. Chancellor Salgado also discussed the ongoing efforts to raise dollars to help students through
scholarships, such as partnering with PepsiCo, and by creating more options for learning, including in-person, online, and online asynchronous. Chancellor Salgado noted that Malcolm X College would be giving the District Update presentation about the college’s progress and programs.

VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were three (3) request for public participation.

(1) Alyssa Adamson spoke about issues related to adjuncts.
(2) Beth Harris spoke about issues related to adjuncts.
(3) Randy Miller spoke about issues related to adjuncts.

VII. FACULTY COUNCIL REPORT

Professor Keith Sprewer gave the April 2021 Faculty Council Report. The full report can be found online here.

VIII. DISTRICT UPDATES

Next Chair Massey invited President Sanders and the team from Malcolm X to give a presentation on the progress and programs at the college. The Chair noted that the presentation would be posted on the Board’s website, which can be found online here.

President Sanders began by briefly introducing the team and the presentation’s agenda. Vice President (VP) Zalewski discussed Malcolm X’s efforts to leverage strategy to drive quality, equity, and innovation. Some strategies include publishing the college’s 5-year strategic plan and launching a chat bot to assist students. VP Zalewski also noted Malcolm X’s enrollment growth (increasing enrollment 2% from FY20 to FY21) as a result of various strategies including holding FAFSA workshops. VP Zalewski discussed the challenges students are facing, including food insecurity, housing insecurity, and mental health concerns. The VP noted Malcolm X’s commitment to support students by providing services such as the Wellness Center, student housing support, and the college’s food pantry.

Next, Vice President (VP) Webb discussed Malcolm X’s shift from focusing solely on place-based instruction to adapting an “anytime-anywhere, culturally relevant learning” model and looking to support innovation in instruction.

Dean BuShell talked about the focus on providing equitable access and learning opportunities through remote learning labs and supplies. Dean BuShell also discussed efforts to onboard and engage new students through culturally relevant courses, such as African American Studies and Latinx in Chicago. The Dean noted updates to lab spaces to align the physical learning environment and pedagogy that supports engagement and collective learning strategies, as well as the creation of the Social Justice Wing in the
library.

Next, Dean Meschino talked about the major renovations and updates occurring at the West Side Learning Center, Malcolm X’s satellite location.

Dean Scott-Brand discussed the Malcolm X nursing program and the multiple on-and-off ramps in and out of the program through stackable credentials. Dean Scott-Brand also noted that Malcolm X nursing students are consistently performing above state and national rates on the nursing NCLEX exams.

Dean Walker talked about the various credentials in health sciences that Malcolm X offers. Dean Walker also noted the hard work of faculty and staff to create safe re-entry plans to provide students with in-person learning opportunities for lab components during the pandemic. The Dean also shared that Malcolm X is working on becoming a Federal Qualified Health Center, which would provide more clinical education opportunities for students while also providing primary care services to the community. Dean Walker noted the renovations to the sports performance lab and the child development lab.

Secretary Davis commended the Malcolm X team for their work and asked if the culturally relevant onboarding for new students was a Malcolm X innovation or based off of an external model. Dean BuShell answered that it is prescribed pedagogy, noting that it is important to give students of color more engaging material. The Dean also commented that students’ writing and engagement is more robust as a result, which is driving the innovation to provide culturally relevant onboarding to spark creativity.

Chair Massey asked what institutions in the state stand as Malcolm X’s biggest competition in health science related fields. President Sanders replied that Malcolm X is in a unique position, as most institutions have around sixteen health science programs, whereas Malcolm X has twenty-seven. Presidents Sanders went on to note that Malcolm X’s program offering is most similar to Miami Dade College, which has 30 health science programs. The President noted that Malcolm X’s program offering has expanded out of response from the community and the students to meet needs and help provide training for careers.

IX. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 2021 REGULAR BOARD MEETING PACKET

Next, Chair Massey led the board in the approval of the minutes, resolutions, personnel report, resource development report, agreements, purchases, and legal invoices listed in the Consent Agenda. Chair Massey noted that Agreement 4.10 would be pulled from consideration. The Chair asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

<Motion> Trustee Darrell A. Williams
<Second> Secretary Peggy A. Davis

Motion carried.
The Assistant Board Secretary called the roll,

Elizabeth Swanson        Aye
Peggy A. Davis           Aye
Karen Kent               Aye
Darrell A. Williams      Aye
James Thomas, Jr.        Aye (Advisory)
Walter E. Massey         Aye

There were five ayes, zero nays, and no abstentions or recusals.

X. MOTION FOR CLOSED SESSION

Pursuant to the Illinois Open Meetings Act, Chair Massey asked for a roll call vote to hold Closed Session at 3:20 p.m. for the discussion of exception: 2(c)(1) “the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee to determine its validity”. The Chair asked for a motion to go to Closed Session.

<Motion> Secretary Peggy A. Davis
<Second> Trustee Karen Kent

Motion carried.

The Assistant Board Secretary called the roll,

Elizabeth Swanson        Aye
Peggy A. Davis           Aye
Karen Kent               Aye
Darrell A. Williams      Aye
James Thomas, Jr.        Aye (Advisory)
Walter E. Massey         Aye

There were five ayes, zero nays, and no abstentions or recusals.

XI. RETURN FROM CLOSED SESSION

Closed Session ended 4:05 p.m. Upon the Board’s return, the Chair reconvened the April 8, 2021 board meeting and noted that no action was taken by the board during Closed Session that required action in Open Session.

XII. MOTION TO ADJOURN

The Chair noted that any updates regarding board meetings will be available at www.ccc.edu. Upon concluding that there was no further business to come before the
Board, the Chair asked for a motion to adjourn.

<Motion> Secretary Peggy A. Davis
<Second> Student Trustee James Thomas, Jr.

Motion Carried.

The meeting adjourned at 4:07 p.m.

Peggy A. Davis
Secretary
Board of Trustees

Submitted by – Ashley Kang, Assistant Board Secretary