



SDIC COMMUNITY COLLEGE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL MEETING

September 13, 2024

10:30 am - 12:00 pm

MINUTES

VOTING MEMBERS:

Dr. Javier Ayala, Dean, Career & Technical Education and Workforce Development, Grossmont College
Alex Berry, Assoc. Dean, Career Technical Education (CTE), San Diego Mesa College (*on behalf of Dean Romero*)
George Dowden, Dean, Career Education, Cuyamaca College
Jennifer Lewis, Dean, Applied Technology and Hospitality Management and Workforce Development, Southwestern College
Sasha Knox, Associate Dean, Strong Workforce, San Diego City College (*on behalf of Dean Lopez*)
Andrei Lucas, Dean, Skilled and Technical Trades, San Diego College of Continuing Education
Amertah Perman, Dean, Career Education & Workforce Development, San Diego Community College District (SDCCD) (*servicing as Miramar's Proxy*)
Nichol Roe, Dean of Career Technical and Extended Education, Palomar College
Efrain Silva, Dean of Economic and Workforce Development, Imperial Valley College

NON-VOTING MEMBERS:

Jewyl Alderson, Coordinator, Instructions & Curriculum Integration, College and Career Readiness, San Diego County Office of Education
Erika Arangure Shadman, Career Education (CE) Program Manager, Grossmont College
Molly Ash, Program Manager, SDI Regional Consortium
Vanessa Barron, Employer Relations Liaison, Southwestern College
Delilah Bayona, Communications Coordinator, San Ysidro Health Centers
Heidi Bergener, K12 Pathway Coordinator, Southwestern College District
Lynn Bigsby, Employer Relations Liaison, MiraCosta College
Stephanie Bradley, Program Specialist, SDI Regional Consortium
Danene Brown, Regional Chair, SDI Regional Consortium
Lupita Castro, Director, Student Health Services, Imperial Valley College
Heather Cavazos, Coordinator, K-16 Collaborative
Ruishan Chow, Industry Relations Consultant, Advanced Manufacturing, San Diego & Imperial Counties Community Colleges
Sheila Davis, Special Projects Manager (Acting), San Diego City College
John Edwards, Research Analyst, SDIC Center of Excellence (COE)
Elizabeth Espinoza, Community Affairs Liaison, EnergySource Minerals
Lance Grob, Employer Relations Liaison, San Diego Miramar College
Miguel Gutierrez, Employer Relations Liaison, Imperial Valley College
Christine Jensen, Director, K-16 Collaborative
Roberta Krauss, Dean, Counseling and Career Services, San Diego College of Continuing Education
Jonathan Kropp, Workforce Director, School of Applied Technology & Hospitality Management

Joyce Liou, Program Manager, East Region Adult Education
Priscilla A. Lopez, Director, Imperial County Workforce & Economic Development
Kevin McMackin, Director, Strategic Partnerships, SDI Regional Consortium
Ute Maschke, Director of Continuing Education, Palomar College
April Mazon, Lithium Industry Force Training (LiFT) Program Manager, Imperial Valley College
Jeanette Meliska-Romero, Job Developer, Palomar College
Malena Medrano, Job Placement Case Management Specialist- Cuyamaca College
Maricela Moreno, Interim Internship & Work Experience Coordinator, Imperial Valley College
Erica Olmos, Employer Relations Liaison, San Diego Mesa College
Alex Ortega Jr., Job Placement Coordinator, San Diego Miramar College
Jennifer Preciado, Employer Relations Liaison, Grossmont College
Karen Overklift, Employer Relations Liaison, San Diego City College
Vanessa Robertson, University and Education Outreach Manager, Geothermal Rising
Monica Rosas, Employer Relations Liaison Lead, Cuyamaca College/SDI RC
Eusebio “Travis” Sevilla, K12 SWP Pathway Coordinator, MiraCosta College District
Joseph Stark, Director, Regional Apprenticeship, SDI Regional Consortium
Nicole Thren, K12 SWP Pathway Coordinator, Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District/GUHSD
Angela Tilley-Ruiz, Employer Relations Liaison, Palomar College
Julie Van Houten, MSN, RN, ADN Director, Palomar College
Leslie Wisdom, K14 Technical Assistance Provider (TAP)

D. Brown called the meeting to order at 10:32 am

1. Welcome by D. Brown
2. Program Recommendations from Deans’ Council, J. Lewis: **no programs recommended this month**
3. [Lithium Industry Update](#) by E. Silva
 - Industry Co-Presenters:
 - **Elizabeth Espinoza**, Community Affairs Liaison, EnergySource Minerals
 - **Priscilla Lopez**, Director, Imperial County Workforce Development Board
4. Open Q&A
 - D. Brown: are there any other aspects of economy, environmental, housing, infrastructure, etc. being impacted?
 - P. Lopez: “... county currently working on environmental, workforce and housing studying. In addition, the county has strong support from State and Federal Government...” *For full response to this question, click on [57:43](#) of the recording.*
 - N. Thren: Is the disposal of the lithium/batteries being discussed or is that aspect part of the project as well?
 - E. Silva: “...for this to become a game changer in the county is facing, lithium extraction is the first phase. The lithium ecosystem is being planned out in phases...” *For full response to this question, click on [59:23](#) of the recording.*
 - E. Sevilla: what’s the impact on water for the region?
 - M. Gutierrez: “My understanding is that there is very low impact or need for water use. Due to the extraction process and redepositing the geo thermal brim”
 - E. Espinoza: “they are working with what is currently allocate for industrial water

usage...” For full response to this question, click on [1:00:50](#) of the recording.

Notable Items from Chat Discussion:

- E. Espinoza: <https://www.energy.gov/eere/articles/us-department-energy-analysis-confirms-californias-salton-sea-region-be-rich-domestic>. Thank you everyone for the opportunity to present! Here is our website for ES Minerals - <https://www.esminerals.com> and the website for ILiAD (Integrated Lithium Adsorption Desorption) DLE Technology - <https://www.iliadtech.com>
- J. Edwards: CA Zip Codes with Largest 12-month Increase in Home values

Area	County	12-Month Change
Imperial	Imperial County	19%
Avenal	Kings County	18%
Holtville	Imperial County	18%
Calexico	Imperial County	14%
El Centro	Imperial County	13%
lone	Amador County	13%
Firebaugh	Fresno County	13%
Brawley	Imperial County	12%
Mendota	Fresno County	9%

- V. Robertson: I think this could be replicated in many other areas as well, not just the geothermal sector. Great work from the Imperial Valley.
- R. Chow: Lithium is also plays a crucial role in the semiconductors industry. Not just in the use of batteries but also the protective coatings on semiconductors, conductivity, etc. With the increase in use of AI and need for quantum computing, Li is going to be a critical supply in manufacturing

5. Approval of 08.09.24 Minutes ([view here](#)) by D. Brown

(Agenda item moved to ensure a sufficient quorum of Deans was present)

- Motion to approve by J. Lewis, second by G. Dowden, **unanimously approved**.

6. Roundtable

- J. Alderson: promoted the SDCOE Career Pathway Conference on October 10; focused on K12 Career Pathways if anyone is interested. The deadline to register is September 24. <https://www.sdcoe.net/cte-innovation/learning/careercon>
- V. Robertson: Love to see this whole partnership/process/challenges/successes used as a case study and road map for replicating across the county to help drive workforce development in the geothermal sector.
- J. Edwards: SDIC COE is collaborating with SDWP and Talent Rewire to provide six free action oriented workshops for employers. [PDF Provided](#).
- M. Rosas: East County Economic Development Council (ECEDC) Manufacturing Expo/Career Fair, friendly reminder to attend/colleges with manufacturing/engineer programs table at the fair on Tuesday 10/01 from 11am-2pm at Cuyamaca College <https://eastcountyedc.org/me>

Meeting adjourned at 11:46 am

Archived meeting minutes and handouts (*including meeting recording*) can be found in the [Resources Library](#).

The next WDC meeting will be Friday, October 4, 2024. The topic will be *The Employment Training Panel (ETP) Collaboration Opportunities* presented by Robert Meyer, Director of Economic Development and Rebecca Eusey, Senior Economic Development Analyst from California ETP.