



PFT Staff &lt;union@pft1603.org&gt;

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**PCCD Board Watch (2.26.19 ed.)**

1 message

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**Jennifer Shanoski** <jshanoski@peralta.edu>  
To: Jennifer Shanoski <jshanoski@peralta.edu>

Thu, Feb 28, 2019 at 1:10 PM

At its Feb. 26 meeting, its first since accepting Chancellor Jowel C. Laguerre's "early retirement and release agreement," the Peralta Community College District Board of Trustees unanimously named [Fran White](#) acting chancellor, effective March 1.

White takes over as Peralta grapples with accreditation threats, declining enrollment, and fast-expiring faculty and staff contracts. Her deep community college experience—which includes, among other Peralta gigs, stints as interim president at BCC and CoA—should serve her well as she tries to get PCCD on course.

And the district needs to find its way soon. Addressing the board during public comment, [PFT Diversity Chair Kimberly King](#) praised trustees for responding to faculty and community concerns and taking action to improve DO leadership. She expressed the union's hope that the BoT would make the chancellor accountable, whoever holds the office, and insist the administration engage in fair and productive negotiations.

The Laney psych prof and Umoja coordinator also pointedly reminded trustees that PFT is a "strong and united union of part-time and full-time faculty—we fight for all of our faculty—and it's not proper for the chancellor or anyone to attempt to divide our union, especially while we're in negotiations."

Laguerre, for his part, ceded his report time to Laney President Tammeil Gilkerson, who addressed the flagship's \$12K/week fire-monitoring tab. The board asked a number of tough questions, with Trustee Cindi Reiss displaying a detailed knowledge of the costs of fireproofing the Fallon St. campus.

PFT President Jennifer Shanoski gave a PowerPoint presentation on dilapidated facilities and hazardous working conditions at the colleges. The union has pressed the district for years to fix its infrastructure, filing untold grievances along the way. [The startling images](#)—rainfall in the CoA gym, Merritt ceilings furry with mold, sloppily caulked water fountains at Laney, etc.—set trustees abuzz and put the Department of General Services in a harsh light.

Trustee Nicky Gonzalez Yuen moved to discuss a proposed \$250K consulting deal with Collaborative Brain Trust, an outfit the outgoing chancellor recommended be hired to help address accreditation-related matters. After some back and forth, the board supported the contract without dissent.

Elsewhere:

\*Join PFT and sisters and brothers from the Oakland Education Association on the picket line, as Oakland teachers continue their historic strike. See this week's [Solidarity Schedule](#) for details, or [sign up for a shift](#).

\*Look for blue-and-orange t-shirts in the halls of BCC March 4-6, as PFT launches its first major membership drive of 2019. And don't miss the BCC chapter meeting, Th., March 7, 12-1:15 p.m., in Room 421. RSVP for lunch!

\*Part-timers are urged to attend the PFT Part-time Faculty Committee meeting, Fri., March 8, 12-2 p.m., at the union offices. [RSVP if you'd like lunch](#).

\*And don't forget: ballots for proposed constitutional changes are due at the PFT offices, 500 E. Eighth St., Suite B, Oakland CA 94606, by Fri., March 1 at 2 p.m.

In solidarity,

Jennifer Shanoski, President

Peralta Federation of Teachers, AFT Local 1603

union@pft1603.org, 510.763.8820

3/1/2019

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