



PFT Staff <union@pft1603.org>

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The Peralta Community College District Board of Trustees meets tonight at seven in the boardroom at 333 E. Eighth St. The meeting follows an unusual morning session, closed to the public, whose only agenda item is interviewing chancellor candidates.

Two are under consideration for the district's top job. The finalists, who visited the district last week, are Regina Stanback Stroud, retired president of Skyline College, and Bryan Reece, former president of Norco College. The new chancellor will take over from Fran White, who resigned her acting role effective Oct. 20.

At this evening's proceedings, trustees will consider appointments for three other managers: Associate Vice Chancellor for Planning and Institutional Research (DO); Director of Research and Planning (CoA); and VPSS (Merritt). The move to fill out the administrative ranks comes as FCMAT decries the district's excessive spending on management, which has ballooned to \$10M a year on some 70 positions—a quarter of the total spent on nearly a thousand faculty members.

Trustees will also mull approving \$375K for external legal services from "Certain Law Firms" (sic), as well as another \$128K for legal services rendered in excess of the \$550K that the district has already paid. Interim VC Leigh Sata will present an obligatory Clery Act Report on campus security. The agenda previews the report's conclusion, a qualified reassurance that "Peralta remains a relatively safe place for students."

Before tonight's public meeting, trustees will get a closed-session primer on "the roles and responsibilities of a governing board" from our colleges' accreditor, the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges.

In other news:

*PFT's Contract Action Team (CAT) will lead faculty back to the boardroom tonight to push for the immediate settlement of a fair contract. As PFT has argued for years, and as FCMAT confirmed recently, Peralta has plenty of money—the DO just manages it poorly and overspends on administration (see, e.g., Paragraph 3, above). Come at seven tonight to let the district and trustees know it's high time to put a real offer on the table.

*Members with student debt should plan to attend PFT's Student Debt Clinic, Mon., Oct. 7, 12:30-2:30 p.m., at union HQ (500 E. Eighth St., Ste. B). The session will cover debt-management and access to loan-forgiveness programs. Register today!

*Save the date: Wed., Oct. 23, 12-1:30 p.m. (place TDB), will mark the start of PFT's 2019-20 unity campaign, an effort to bring together instructors, counselors, librarians, and nurses—full- and part-time alike—to support our shared fight for better wages and working conditions. For more information, contact PFT Diversity Chair Kimberly King at profkimberly@yahoo.com.

*And please bear in mind a recent union resolution: "To help limit the loss of part-time jobs, the PFT Executive Council urges full-time faculty not to request extra-service assignments, including during the summer and intersession. Keeping faculty employed, particularly in tough economic times, is a fundamental concern of our union."

In solidarity,

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