

Board applauds Wagner's first year

Superintendent's performance reviewed



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Wagner

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VICTORVILLE — The Victor Valley College board of trustees voted unanimously on approving the satisfactory performance evaluation of Superintendent Dr. Roger Wagner in the close of his first year at their meeting last week.

“I think the board is extremely pleased with his work so far,” president of the board, Joseph W. Brady, said. “We all appreciate what he’s done.” Former Copper Mountain College president, Wagner was officially sworn into his position at VVC last July, with an annual contract for \$192,000 plus stipends and benefits to run until June 30, 2017, according to previous Daily Press reports. Upon joining VVC, Wagner immediately faced a sanctioned status of accreditation and an imbalanced budget, which he and Brady both attributed mainly to leadership instability. Now, one year later, VVC has earned its full accreditation status with no sanctions, and according to college faculty and the board, has adopted a more balanced budget and improved communications.

“We have accreditation, we have a balanced budget, and we have a board that’s working together,” Brady said. “And he’s (Wagner) working them harder to work together even more.”

In his statement of review of his first year, Wagner said that underneath these accomplishments are “examples of ‘effective’ shared governance,” and that they “still have room to grow.”

Board member John Pinkerton said he’s appreciated that Wagner is “very transparent in all of his operations,” and while they “don’t agree on everything,” Pinkerton doesn’t see this as an issue.

“In the time I’ve been involved on the board, I’ve never seen it more unified than it is right now,” Pinkerton said.

Director of Facilities Steve Garcia also spoke highly of Wagner at the board meeting, stating that the management group applauds his efforts in meeting with their committee and conducting management training sessions.

“We’d like to thank Dr. Wagner for initiating these workshops and look forward to seeing many more,” Garcia said.

The workshops reflect the lessons that Wagner has become known for sharing on “servant leadership.” With several public workshops over the past year and more professional development sessions to come, Wagner, who has a doctorate in education, shares his philosophy that being a leader means being a servant first.

“You can anticipate that I will be finding more ways in the coming year to get training as a priority,” Wagner said.

With their next accreditation review coming up in January, and a budget workshop with the Chancellor’s Office later this month, Wagner and the board’s continued efforts will become increasingly important to maintain the steady improvements made the past year.

“VVC is a big slow turning boat, but I have resolved myself to more change intended to serve students and improve our campus climate over the next year,” Wagner said. “I’m truly proud of the progress that we have made together during the last twelve months and look forward to an even better next year.”

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