CALL TO ORDER  The Board Retreat was called to order in Conference Room, Courtyard Marriott, 17225 El Rancho Way, Salinas at 9:00 a.m. by Board President, Aaron Johnson.

PRESENT  Bill Freeman, Aaron Johnson, John Martinez, Berna Maya, Kari Lee Valdés, and Dr. Phoebe Helm, Interim Superintendent/President and Board of Trustees Secretary.

ABSENT  Brad Rice (a make-up session has been scheduled with Dr. Helm)

FACILITATOR  Stephen P. Collins, M. S., C. P. A.

PUBLIC COMMENTS  There were no public comments.

PURPOSE OF MEETING  The purpose of meeting was to develop the Board’s goals.

PRESENTATIONS  Dr. Helm presented a PowerPoint presentation titled, Who is the District? She stated that Trustees should measure their performance and that of the College by 1) How well they serve the district; and 2) How well they serve the students. Her presentation focused on district and college demographics that included city population by ethnicity, age, household income, educational attainment, dropout rates from major district feeder high schools, college going rates from major feeder high schools. Dr. Helm then proceeded to compare district demographics to college demographics as well as college performance, asking how well does Hartnell serve its students. A question, she believes, trustees should be asking its President each year would be: Is Hartnell a better college this year than last year and what is the evidence? This is the basic – continuous improvement and documentation process – question that is at the heart of accreditation.

Dr. Helm finished her presentation with the assessment, planning, and budgeting processes involved in accreditation.
Facilitated by Stephen Collins, the Board proceeded to discuss the role of the Board and the President with regard to accountability, functions and communication. Dr Helm pointed out that while the President was responsible for the College, and reports directly to the Board, that two other entities report directly to the Board as well. Along with the President, the College’s external auditors and the College’s attorney report directly to the Board. All other employees report to the President. After further discussion it was agreed that the President is the spokesperson for the College and the Chairman is the spokesperson for the Board. After much discussion of these matters, the Board proceeded to develop the following four goals:

1. Accreditation – To meet and exceed accreditation expectations and deadlines.

2. Financial – To achieve a balanced budget and begin building reserves by increased enrollment and decreased expenditures (increase efficiencies).

3. Communication (Governance) – To improve communication within the board; between the board and the college (appropriate structures) and between the board and the community

4. Hire Superintendent/President

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Aaron Johnson  Phoebe K. Helm
Board of Trustees President  Interim Superintendent/President
Board of Trustees Secretary