

**Butte College  
Academic Senate Minutes  
September 2, 2026  
SAS 360**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
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| <b>Members Present:</b><br>Irma Gonzalez Cuadros – President<br>Kim Kirkwood - VP<br>Deb McCabe – Treasurer<br>Jessica Jackson – Secretary<br>Dillon Carroll<br>Tommy Cox<br>Gary Harris<br>Laurel Hartley<br>Craig Kielb |  | Melissa Melendrez<br>Iris Ramirez<br>Stephen Solano<br>Kathy Teagarden<br>Diane Wagster Penne<br>Eduardo Diaz (Student Senate, TGE)<br>Damian Martinez (Student Senate, CTE)<br>Andrea Walters (Classified Senate)                              |
| <b>Members Absent:</b><br>Daniel Burke<br>Casey Fay<br>Tia Germar<br>John Dahlgren (CTE Liaison Rep)                                                                                                                      |  | <b>Visitors:</b><br>Alan Burwell<br>Patrick Christensen<br>Christian Gutierrez<br>Phillip Manning<br>Patrick McDougall<br>Doreen Nguku<br>Stephen Niedbala<br>Melissa Pearson<br>Shyanne Scott<br>Tiffany Trull<br>Kathy Turner<br>Jess Vickery |

I. Call to Order: President Irma Gonzalez Cuadros called the meeting to order at 3:00pm.

II. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved by unanimous consent.

Motion Passed

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 0

III. Approval of Minutes

A. Academic Senate Meeting Minutes, May 20th, 2026

A motion was made by Gary Harris, seconded by Tommy Cox, to approve the minutes

Motion Passed

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: Dillon Carroll, Laurel Hartley, Craig Kielb, Melissa Melendrez,  
Stephen Niedbala, Iris Ramirez, Kathy Teagarden, Diane Wagster Penne

IV. Public Comments:

- A. Gary Harris announced that Placerville, CA. has been selected as one of Hallmark's 25 official Hallmark Christmas towns.
- B. Laurel Hartley relayed a concern from a colleague about artificial intelligence.
- C. Dillon Carroll shared his concern about the availability and efficiency of classroom space in the LRC.
- D. Dillon Carroll commented about student concerns about the add authorization process.
- E. Laurel Hartley shared concerns about the add authorization process.

V. Consent Agenda

- A. Committee Appointments
  - 1. Irma Gonzalez Cuadros described the consent agenda.

A motion was made by Deb McCabe, seconded by Diane Wagster Penne, to approve the consent agenda as a whole.

Motion Passed

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 0

VI. Updates

- A. Current Committee Vacancies
  - 1. Irma Gonzalez Cuadros referenced the screen to assist with review and discussion.
  - 2. Irma Gonzalez Cuadros provided background information.
  - 3. Irma Gonzalez Cuadros provided updates regarding current committee vacancies.
- B. BCEA Bargaining Update
  - 1. Irma Gonzalez Cuadros tabled this item until later in the meeting.
  - 2. Deb McCabe referenced screen to assist with review and discussion.
  - 3. Deb McCabe provided background information.
  - 4. Deb McCabe provided BCEA bargaining updates.

Some senators asked questions.

C. Homecoming

- 1. Irma Gonzalez Cuadros tabled this item for later in the meeting.
- 2. Christian Gutierrez referenced the screen to assist with review and

discussion.

3. Christian Gutierrez provided background information.
4. Christian Gutierrez and Doreen Nguku described the upcoming Homecoming event and the opportunity to help promote programs.

## VII. New Business

### A. Curriculum Committee Charter

1. Patrick McDougall referenced the screen to assist with review and discussion.
2. Patrick McDougall provided background information.
3. Patrick McDougall described the Curriculum Committee charter.

Some senators asked questions and provided comments.

A motion was made by Diane Wagster Penne, seconded by Tommy Cox, to approve the Curriculum Committee Charter and to send them to the College Council as they are written.

Motion Passed

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: Laurel Hartley

### B. Software Approval Taskforce

1. Irma Gonzalez Cuadros referenced the screen to assist with review and discussion.
2. Irma Gonzalez Cuadros provided background information.
3. Irma Gonzalez Cuadros asked the senate for input on any recommendations.

Some senators and representatives asked questions and provided input.

A motion was made by Diane Wagster Penne, seconded by Gary Harris, for the Senate Executive Committee to review the membership and report back to the senate regarding the membership, duty, and timeline for the taskforce.

Some senators asked questions and provided input.

Motion Passed

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 0

### C. AP 4030 Academic Freedom

1. Irma Gonzalez Cuadros referenced the screen to assist with review and discussion.
2. Irma Gonzalez Cuadros provided background information.
3. Irma Gonzalez Cuadros described AP 4030.

4. Deb McCabe provided additional background information.

A motion was made by Gary Harris, seconded by Tommy Cox, to send this out to constituents for feedback.

Some senators provided comments.

Motion Passed

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: Kim Kirkwood, Kathy Teagarden, Andrea White

#### VIII. Unfinished Business

##### A. Strategic Initiatives

1. Irma Gonzalez Cuadros referenced the screen to assist with review and discussion.
2. Irma Gonzalez Cuadros provided background information.
3. Irma Gonzalez Cuadros asked the senate for feedback.
4. Irma Gonzalez Cuadros asked the senate to email her any feedback they received.

##### B. AP 3725 Accessible and Acceptable Use of Information Technologies

1. Irma Gonzalez Cuadros referenced the screen to assist with review and discussion.
2. Irma Gonzalez Cuadros provided background information.
3. Irma Gonzalez Cuadros asked the senate for feedback.

Some senators, and representatives, asked questions and provided feedback.

##### C. AP 5020 Non-Resident Tuition

1. Irma Gonzalez Cuadros referenced the screen to assist with review and discussion.
2. Irma Gonzalez Cuadros provided background information.
3. Irma Gonzalez Cuadros asked the senate for feedback.

Some senators asked questions and provided comments.

##### D. AP 5055 Enrollment Priorities

1. Irma Gonzalez Cuadros referenced the screen to assist with review and discussion.
2. Irma Gonzalez Cuadros provided background information.
3. Irma Gonzalez Cuadros asked the senate for feedback.

Some senators asked questions and provided comments.

A motion was made by Laurel Hartley, seconded by Diane Wagster Penne, to block AP 3725, AP 5020, and AP 5055 together and forward them to the College Council.

Motion Passed

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 0

IX. Reports

A. WeCare@Butte

1. Diane Wagster Penne will continue to provide WeCare reports.
2. Diane Wagster Penne has no WeCare activity to report.

B. Classified Senate

1. Andrea Walters provided Classified Senate updates regarding:
  - a. Classified Senate membership
  - b. Committee appointment updates.
  - c. VP of Student Services job description.
  - d. Administrative Procedures
  - e. Strategic Initiatives
  - f. Spirit Day event.

C. Student Senate

1. Damian Martinez provided Student Senate updates regarding:
  - a. Appointment of new student senators.
  - b. Appointment of new student senate delegates.
2. Eduardo Diaz has nothing to report.

D. Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

1. Iris Ramiriz provided DEI II GSET updates regarding:
  - a. Student success.
  - b. All gender restrooms.
  - c. Safe Ally training.
2. Gary Harris provided DEI I Diversity updates regarding:
  - a. U in Butte Week
  - b. BC speaker series.

E. CTE Liaison

1. Kim Kirkwood is the new CTE Liaison per the consent agenda.
2. Kim Kirkwood has no CTE Liaison updates to report.

A motion was made by Kim Kirkwood, seconded by Deb McCabe, to extend the meeting by three minutes.

Motion Passed

Opposed: Dillon Carroll, Stephen Solano

Abstentions: 0

- F. Vice President – Kim Kirkwood
    - 1. Nothing to report.
  - G. President – Irma Gonzalez Cuadros
    - 1. Irma Gonzalez Cuadros provided an Academic Senate President's report.
  - X. Future Business
    - A. SPA Committee Charter and Bylaws
    - B. Equivalency Committee Charter and Bylaws
    - C. AP 3775 Artificial Intelligence
    - D. SEM Plan
    - E. Safety Committee
    - F. AP 7211 Faculty Service Areas, Minimum Qualifications, and Equivalencies
    - G. NAPGRA
  - XI. Next Meeting
    - A. September 16, 2026, from 3:00 – 4:45 pm in SAS 360
- A motion was made by Gary Harris, seconded by Jessica Jackson, to adjourn the meeting.
- Motion Passed  
Opposed: 0  
Abstentions: 0
- XII. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 4:50pm.