

President's Cabinet Meeting Minutes

March 15, 2021

1. Tennessee Tech/Roane State Partnership: Jamie Stringer reported that Robin Townson and her TTU counterpart are meeting weekly to iron out details for the partnership that TTU wants to start for fall semester. This partnership will offer two tracks. One for the general RSCC student population that offers guaranteed admission to AA/AS graduates of pre-defined transfer tracks, access to Roane State Days events at Tech, and optional access to RSCC-specific new student orientation. The second track will be cohort-based for students in a select group of pilot academic programs. These students will have all of the aforementioned benefits as well as concurrent advising, automatic reverse transfer support if necessary, special events and programming, and a \$1,000 stackable, renewable scholarship. Students must select a track upon enrollment to RSCC.
2. Free Medical Clinic update: Teresa Duncan is working with the clinic to finalize details for the vaccination event for students. Currently plans are for April 14th and April 28 on the Oak Ridge and Roane County campuses. Students who cannot attend this event can go to one of the clinic locations.
3. General Public Vaccination Event: The state health department has selected the Oak Ridge campus as the location to serve the greatest need. Events will be held from 7:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Saturdays through July. (A waiver will likely be needed for Commencement weekend.) Marsha has submitted a budget similar to the one Pellissippi used for their Blount events. Details are still to be worked out, including staffing which will have to be from 6:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Staff may rotate alternate weekends.
4. Access to RSCC facilities from 3rd parties: The Expo Center is now open outdoors for public rides by reservation in two-hour slots. The tennis courts are being used by the high schools. Venues not specifically used for classes, such as the Expo Center and the Princess Theater will open April 1. Any RSCC-sponsored event will be under our current COVID masking safety protocols; 3rd party-sponsored events will be under their own liability although screening will still be required.
5. Fall schedule update: The schedule for summer and fall will go live this Friday. Public Relations will continue to push the "move forward" message. The first publicity regarding "opening" for fall resulted in a 3-4% uptick in applications.
6. Travel: Institutions are being given prerogative regarding in-state and out-of-state travel, justified on a case-by-case basis. Dr. Whaley is checking with TBR to see if this just applies to employees.
7. Use of Restrooms: While there is conflict between state and federal legislation on the matter, employees must be permitted to use the restroom of the gender with which they identify. Federal legislation says students should have the same opportunity, although TN is likely to oppose. In the meantime, we are advised to focus solely on acts of misbehavior/complaints. TBR General Counsel should be consulted regarding incidents or for questions. Lisa Steffensen should be notified of incidents involving students.
8. ATD Data Summit: The summit is scheduled for Friday, March 19 at 10:00 a.m. Our ATD coaches will be on hand to help facilitate.
9. Retirements: The following RSCC employees have announced their retirement this year: Dr. Myra Peavyhouse, Teri Gergen, Sue Sain, Lesha Hill.