

MJC FOOD SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
Friday, September 29, 2006
10:00 a.m. - Noon
YCCD Conference Room D

Present: Wendy Byrd, Rhonda Green, Garry Hayes, Cynthia Schmidt, Teresa Scott (Chair), Raquel Tiscareno, Carrie Sampson (recorder)

Absent: Michael Sundquist, Gary Whitfield, ASMJC representative

Teresa Scott welcomed everyone and asked if there were any questions regarding the history of MJC Food Services. Since there were no questions, Teresa moved to the next agenda item on the present status of MJC Food Services.

Rhonda reported that MJC Food Services has been steadily losing money since the inception of the compressed calendar. She said there has been an increasing decline in sales over the last five years. Last year there was nearly an \$87,000 loss. This was not discovered earlier because Food Services had a very large fund balance, which has slowly been spent by the yearly losses. Sales on West Campus are especially low. Currently, there is not enough student traffic on West Campus to warrant keeping the cafeteria open. The convenience store is open and sells pre-prepared lunch items, including salads and some hot items such as chicken strips. Also, most of the problems associated with opening the Starbuck's coffee cart on West Campus have been resolved. After a final inspection by the Health Department, it is anticipated the cart will be opened by mid-October.

Rhonda reminded everyone that Food Services is self-funded and receives no state money. Sales must cover expenses in order for Food Services to remain open. MJC Food Services staff receive the same COLAs, benefits, and step increases as any other YCCD employee. The greatest expenses in Food Services are salaries and benefits. To keep staffing costs down, they do use as many CalWorks and Financial Aid students as they can afford.

There was discussion as to why Food Services has closed on West Campus and what services will be available there now. In the future, there may be sufficient population on West Campus to keep Food Services open, but for now only the Convenience Store and the Coffee Cart will have limited hours on West Campus. Rhonda said that in November they should know whether or not these strategies have helped the solvency of Food Services. She also mentioned that Starbuck sales have greatly contributed to their revenue.

Teresa was asked to address the question of the declining number of students. She said there are many possible factors including the enrollment fee increase of two years ago, Datatel conversion, and the Golden Handshake retirement incentive. Many faculty retired, and the colleges were unable to find adjunct replacements. Also, it is possible scheduling problems caused by the compressed calendar may be affecting student retention.

Wendy suggested that ASMJC should help promote Food Services by coming up with some kind of incentive. Rhonda said Food Services has already collected more than \$1,000 in tips, which will be donated to ASMJC. In the future, they will also donate some of the tips to the Athletic Department.

Next Meeting/Future Agenda Items

The next meeting will be in the Spring 2007 semester on Friday, February 23, 2007, 10 a.m. – Noon. Anyone having agenda items should contact Carrie Sampson.