

# **Purpose and Structure**

### **Purpose**

The Hunt County Board of Advisors (Board) serves as a bridge between Paris Junior College (PJC) and the residents of Hunt County, with the following objectives:

- Provide a platform for community engagement, advice, and input to the Paris Junior College Administration and Board of Regents.
- Foster transparency and collaboration between PJC and Hunt County residents.

#### **Structure**

#### **Composition**

- The Board will have 12-15 members from various community sectors, including but not limited to:
  - Education
  - Business
  - Non-profit organizations
  - o Alumni
  - Students
  - Local government
- Members will serve staggered terms of 2-3 years to maintain continuity.
- The Board of Advisors members shall elect a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson.
- The President of PJC shall serve as the official liaison between the Board of Advisors and the PJC Administration and Board of Regents.

#### **Meetings**

- The Board of Advisors shall meet quarterly, with additional meetings as needed.
- Meetings shall be open to the public, with an agenda posted in advance.
- Meeting minutes will be documented and made available to ensure transparency.
- The President of PJC or designee must be present at all meetings.

### **Committees**

Ad hoc committees may be formed as needed to address specific issues.

# **Membership Selection & Appointment Process**

## **Eligibility Criteria**

- Members must have primary residence in Hunt County.
- Members should have a vested interest in the success of PJC and the Hunt County community.
- Members should represent a broad cross-section of the community.
- Members must be at least 18 years old.

#### **Nomination & Selection Process**

- Interested individuals may apply or be nominated by community members, organizations, or PJC representatives.
- Applications will be reviewed by a selection committee, which may include representatives from the Board of Advisors and PJC Administration.
- Upon recommendation, the final appointments shall be confirmed by the Board of Regents.

## **Appointment Authority**

• Members shall be appointed by the Board of Regents with input from the PJC President.

## **Resignation & Removal**

- Members may resign by submitting a written notice to the Chairperson.
- Members may be removed for:
  - Excessive absences (e.g., missing more than three consecutive meetings without prior notice).
  - Violation of the code of conduct or conflict of interest policy.
  - o Failure to fulfill their duties as a Board of Advisors member.
- The removal process shall require a majority vote of the Board of Advisors.

## **Roles and Responsibilities**

#### **Board of Advisors Members**

- Attend and actively participate in quarterly meetings and other meetings as needed.
- Provide input and feedback on college initiatives and policies.
- Serve as a liaison between the community and the Board of Regents.

#### Chairperson

- Lead meetings
- Work collaboratively with the PJC President to set meeting agendas.
- Represent the Board of Advisors in communications with the PJC Administration and Board of Regents.
- Ensure the Board operates effectively and efficiently.

## **Vice-Chairperson**

- Assist the Chairperson in their duties.
- Act as Chairperson in their absence.

## **President of Paris Junior College (Liaison Role)**

- Facilitate communication between the Board of Advisors and the Board of Regents.
- Assist with setting meeting agendas.
- Provide relevant institutional updates and guidance.
- Ensure the recommendations of the Board of Advisors are conveyed to the Board of Regents.

## **Code of Conduct**

## **Conflict of Interest Policy**

- Members shall annually disclose any personal or professional interests that may conflict with their Board duties.
- Members must recuse themselves from discussions and decisions where a conflict of interest exists.

## **Confidentiality & Transparency**

 The Board shall operate transparently, ensuring public access to meeting minutes and decisions.

## **Professionalism & Respect**

 Members shall engage in respectful discussions and adhere to professional conduct in all interactions.

# **Decision-Making & Voting Procedures**

## Consensus vs. Majority Rule

- Whenever possible, decisions shall be made by consensus.
- If consensus cannot be reached, a simple majority vote shall determine the outcome.

## **Quorum Requirements**

• A quorum, defined as at least 50% of Board members, must be present to conduct official business.

# **Board Member Expectations & Commitments**

#### **Time Commitment**

• Members are expected to dedicate sufficient time to attend meetings, review materials, and participate in discussions.

### **Training & Orientation**

- New members shall receive an orientation covering:
  - o The mission and vision of PJC.
  - o The structure and responsibilities of the Board of Advisors.
  - o Key policies and procedures.
  - Current initiatives and activities of PJC.

# **Board Support & Resources**

## **Administrative Support**

• PJC staff shall provide assistance with meeting logistics, including scheduling, documentation, and distribution of materials.

## **Budget & Funding (if applicable)**

• If allocated, funds shall be used to support activities of the Board of Advisors such as community engagement events, outreach efforts, and training sessions.

# **Communication and Reporting**

- PJC Administration with assist to maintain and publish agendas, minutes, and relevant documentation.
- Provide regular reports to the Board of Regents on Board of Advisors activities and recommendations through the President of PJC.
- Engage the community through forums, surveys, and other outreach tools.

## **Evaluation and Review**

#### **Annual Self-Assessment**

• The Board shall conduct an annual self-assessment to evaluate its effectiveness.

#### **Review of Structure & Processes**

• The Board shall periodically review its structure and processes to ensure alignment with the needs of PJC and the community.

#### **Amendment Process**

 Amendments to this guidance document shall be proposed by Board of Advisory members and require a majority vote for approval.