



Budget Development Committee Minutes

February 3, 2026 at 2:00pm

Recorder: Andrea Anderson

LPC Mission Statement	LPC Planning Priorities 2025-2026		
<p>Las Positas College is an inclusive, learning-centered, equity-focused environment that offers educational opportunities and support for completion of students' transfer, degree, and career-technical goals while promoting life-long learning.</p>	<p>Affirm LPC's unwavering commitment to equity by deepening campus-wide engagement, enhancing professional development, embedding equity-minded practices in decision-making, assessment, and accountability processes; and building capacity to resolve inequities.</p>	<p>Increase student success and completion through sustainable college practices, processes, academic support, removal of barriers, and focused professional development.</p>	<p>Establish a knowledge base and appreciation for health and wellness in the workplace; create a sense of urgency about wellness; prioritize wellness in decision-making, assessment and accountability; and build capacity to support wellness.</p>
Chair	LPC Administrative Services Officer	Administrators	Classified Professionals
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sean Brooks (Non-Voting Member)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sui Song (Non-Voting Member)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ken Cooper <input type="checkbox"/> Paula Checchi	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alesia High <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aubrie Ross
Faculty Member	Faculty Member (Appointed by F/A)	SEIU Representative	PBC Members
<input type="checkbox"/> Ashley Young	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> David Powers	<input type="checkbox"/> Jason Maxwell	<input type="checkbox"/> Ashley McHale (Faculty) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rajinder Samra (Administrator) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> David Rodriguez (Classified)
LPCSG Student Representative			
<input type="checkbox"/> Vacant			

Attendance (Quorum = 6)

Agenda Item	Information/Discussion	Action/Assigned To
1.	<p>Call to Order <i>For information</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting called to order by Sean Brooks at 2:05pm 	Sean Brooks
2.	<p>Review & Approve Agenda <i>For action</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Motion to approve Agenda, amending the agenda to have David Powers present the PBC Update in place of Ashley McHale. Agenda Approved by: David Powers and Alesia High 	Motion: David Powers Second: Alesia High
3.	<p>Review & Approve November Minutes <i>For action</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Motion to approve the November Minutes Minutes Approved by: David Powers and Aubrie Ross 	Motion: David Powers Second: Aubrie Ross
4.	<p>Presentations <i>For action</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> P1 Review (Tamica Ward) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Purpose of P1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The P1 report is filed annually with Admissions & Records and measures Full-Time Equivalent Students (FTES). Dean Tamica Ward prepares the report and presented highlights for this year. FTES Targets & Performance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2025–26 FTES target: 7,000 FTES Prior year target: 6,517 FTES Actual prior year FTES: 6,617.94 exceeding the target Current P1 Status (2025–26) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> With annualizers, projected FTES is 6,978.76 placing the college on track to meet or exceed the 7,000 FTES target. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Current actual FTES (without annualizers): 4,147.28 ▪ Winter intersession FTES is not yet included and will be added in the P2 report, which is expected to further strengthen the total. ○ Key Takeaways <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Even without winter intersession numbers, the college is positioned to meet its FTES goal. ▪ The 7,000 FTES target was considered ambitious, making the progress particularly noteworthy. ▪ Meeting this target supports District’s growth trajectory, which may result in a higher FTES target and increased funding in future years. ○ Follow-Up: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dean Ward offered to share the P1 handouts with the committee. ▪ The report is typically shared with VPs and can be distributed more broadly to the Budget Committee if requested. ▪ Overall, the P1 review reflected strong enrollment performance and positive momentum for Las Positas College. 	
5.	<p>Old Business <i>For discussion</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review Budget (Sean Brooks) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Reporting Period <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Budget figures reflect activity through January 31, 2026 representing 7 of 12 months (58%) of the fiscal year. ○ Overall Budget Status <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Total Budget: approximately \$46 million ▪ Expected Expenditures at this point: 58% ▪ Actual Expenditures: 64.5% ▪ College is running 7 percentage points over budget, equating to approximately \$2.9 million above where spending should be at this point. ○ Burn Rate & Projected Deficit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Expected Monthly Spend: \$3.83 million ▪ Actual Monthly Spend: \$4.23 million ▪ Monthly Overage: \$400,000 ▪ At the current burn rate, the college is projected to finish the year with a \$4 to \$5 million deficit, similar to last year. ▪ District-level adjustments and salary savings may reduce the deficit by about \$1 million, 	None

bringing it closer to \$4 million.

- Primary Cost Driver – Part-Time Faculty
 - Part-Time Academic Salaries are significantly over budget.
 - Contributing factors include:
 - Backfilling full-time faculty on sabbatical, reassigned time, CAH, or other leave.
 - Expanded course offerings to meet 7,000 FTES growth targets, which rely heavily on Part-Time Faculty.
 - Structural concern remains about whether available resources align with the size of the schedule being offered.
- Clarifications on Sabbaticals
 - Backfill costs for sabbaticals are funded by the district and built into the budget.
 - These costs still appear within the Part-Time Faculty salary line.
- Funding & Allocation Challenges
 - While additional dollars were received from the District for increased FTES, they were not fully commensurate with the cost of the expanded schedule.
 - Revenue increases are not clearly itemized or directly tied to instructional cost increases.
 - The Budget Allocation Model (BAM) does not adequately account for:
 - Negotiated salary increases
 - Cost-of-living adjustments
 - Enrollment growth beyond targets
- Growth & Structural Issues
 - LPC is in a growth phase, but growth funding (e.g., 1.5% enrollment growth allocation) does not offset rising salary and benefit costs.
 - Operating with recurring multi-million-dollar deficits is not sustainable long-term.
- Next Steps & Outlook
 - The Chancellor is expected to provide budget updates and potential refinements at a March Town Hall Meeting.
 - Further discussions will occur through PBC regarding budget process improvements.
 - Emphasis remains on addressing the deficit structurally, not just through year-end adjustments.
- Categorical Funds Reminder:
 - Approximately \$14 to \$14.5 million in categorical funds exist across the college.
 - Departments are encouraged to use categorical funds first, where allowable, to minimize pressure on the General Fund.
- Overall, the discussion emphasized transparency, ongoing structural imbalance, and the need for long-term budget realignment to support growth in a financially sustainable way.

<p>6.</p>	<p>New Business <i>For discussion</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PBC Agenda Review (David Powers) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ PBC Leadership Coverage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ashley McHale, faculty chair of PBC, is on leave this semester. David Powers will serve as interim faculty chair for the semester. ▪ Vice Chancellor Fletcher-Rowland has left the District; the position is posted and unfilled. ▪ Vice Chancellor Nicholas, Administrative Chair of PBC, is currently on personal leave and will be out for several months. ▪ Chancellor Gerhard will serve as interim Administrative Chair of PBC. ▪ Thomas Dowry is expected to continue as Classified Chair, unless a new Representative is appointed. ○ Upcoming PBC Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Date/Time: Friday, February 6 at 12:30pm ▪ Chair: Chancellor Gerhard ▪ The agenda will be finalized in a meeting immediately following this discussion. ○ Proposed Agenda Topics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Growth Funding Post-Hold Harmless: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request to better understand how enrollment growth translates into additional funding now that LPC is no longer under hold harmless. • Focus on budget mechanics and how increased FTES impacts allocations. • Chancellor is planning a budget walkthrough for DEMC, and it was suggested that a similar presentation be shared with PBC. ○ Categorical Funds & Salary Increases <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Concerns about pending salary increases and their impact on categorical funds, particularly those expiring June 30, 2026. ▪ Key Question: If categorical funds expire, who covers ongoing salary costs in FY 26-27? ▪ Preliminary understanding is that the District may absorb those costs, but confirmation is needed. ▪ Departments have been advised not to adjust FY25-26 Budgets until Position Control is loaded for FY26-27. ○ Apprenticeships & Partnerships: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Chabot is currently ahead in developing Apprenticeship Partnerships. ▪ LPC is interested in expanding similar efforts, pending: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faculty engagement and support 	<p>None</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District alignment and funding clarity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Chancellor has expressed interest in growing apprenticeships and Dual Enrollment as strategic opportunities. ▪ More information and updates to come. ○ Additional Notes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ There is overlap between PBC and DEMC, but not full membership overlap, reinforcing the value of shared presentations. ▪ Overall, the discussion focused on temporary leadership transitions, transparency in budget mechanics, growth funding clarity, and strategic expansion opportunities, with more detailed conversations expected at the upcoming PBC meeting. 	
7.	<p>Updates <i>For information</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governor’s January Budget Forecast for FY 25-26 Information & Discussion Items (Sean Brooks) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Overall State Budget Outlook <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Governor released the FY 2026-27 budget on January 9. ▪ Total state budget is projected at \$348 billion, an 8.7% increase over last year. ▪ Gains are largely driven by stock market performance and higher income tax receipts. ▪ The forecast is more positive than last year, though still cautious. ○ Community College COLA & Growth <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ COLA for community colleges: 2.41% ▪ Because LPC is off Hold Harmless, the college will receive COLA. ▪ COLA applies only to specific categorical programs, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult Education • EOPS • DSPS • CalWORKs • Student Equity & Achievement (SEA) / Block Grant • Apprenticeships • CARE • Child Care Tax Bailout ▪ Enrollment growth funding: 1.5%, modest but an improvement over prior years. ○ One-Time Funding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Includes allocations for: 	None

- Deferred Maintenance
- Student Block Grant
- Credit for Prior Learning
- These funds are helpful but limited—roughly \$1M per college statewide.
- Ongoing concern: one-time funding supports temporary programs, which may disappear after students become reliant on them (e.g., workforce and nursing initiatives).
- Workforce & Nursing Funding:
 - \$60 million over five years allocated statewide for nursing/workforce needs.
 - Supports critical shortages but raises sustainability concerns once funding sunsets.
- Enrollment Trends
 - K–12 enrollment projected to decline by 500,000 students statewide.
 - Community colleges are projected to see enrollment growth, benefiting districts like LPC.
- State Deficit Picture
 - Governor projects a \$2.9 billion deficit for 2026-2027, significantly improved from prior estimates.
 - Legislative Analyst’s Office (LAO) projects a much larger \$18 billion deficit, creating a \$15+ billion gap that will be reconciled over time.
 - Despite discrepancies, the projected deficit is lower than last year’s outlook.
- Macroeconomic Conditions
 - Inflation remains elevated; labor markets are weakening.
 - GDP remains strong, partially driven by AI-related market growth, though sustainability is uncertain.
 - Housing construction remains weak due to high costs and regulatory delays.
 - Labor shortages (including impacts from deportation efforts) are affecting agriculture, construction, and service sectors, contributing to rising food prices.
 - The Federal Reserve is holding interest rates steady while monitoring inflation.
- Local Budget Development Timeline
 - District Budget Priorities Finalized: Early February
 - Position Control Worksheets sent to President, VPs and Deans: February 17
 - Worksheets due back to Administrative Services: March 13
 - Discretionary Budgets Released: March 17
- Key Takeaways for LPC:
 - Positive News: LPC off Hold Harmless, COLA received, enrollment growth continues.
 - LPC is in a stronger position than many Districts, especially compared to K-12 systems experiencing layoffs and closures.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Long-term caution remains due to reliance on one-time funding and broader economic uncertainty. ▪ Overall, the January budget reflects measured optimism, with improved conditions over last year, continued growth opportunities for LPC, and ongoing vigilance needed around sustainability and long-term funding stability. 	
8.	<p>Good of the Order <i>For information</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presidents' Holiday Weekend (February 13-16) • Men's Basketball <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Team Record: 20-2 ○ Ranked: 7-8 in the California • Next BDC Meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tuesday, March 3 at 2:00pm ○ Tuesday, April 7 at 2:00pm ○ May: TBD 	None
9.	<p>Future Agenda Items <i>For discussion</i></p>	

Meeting adjourned at 2:44pm

Next meeting: March 3