

July 28, 2020

In light of the current events and tragedies that are happening in our communities, the nation and across the world, we, the Board of Trustees of Everett Community College, express our mutual concern for the ongoing effects of a polarized society fueled by racial and social injustices. We affirm our long-standing commitment to eliminating inequities for students historically underserved in higher education and stand firmly with Black Lives Matter as an organized movement advocating for non-violent civil disobedience in protest against incidents of police brutality against African-American people.

Everett Community College (EvCC) has had a long history of being a pioneer in educating our students, staff, community, state and parts of the country on social justice and diversity. As stated in EvCC Resolution 2004-03-02, “Community Colleges are the frontline in battling the growth of an *underclass* in our society. If we are to be good leaders in that fight, we must encourage our students to broaden their learning.” This applies today as well, since education is a true impetus for societal change.

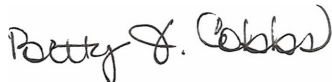
EvCC made a commitment in our Vision, Mission, and Strategic Plan to advance equity and social justice by transforming itself into a diverse, equitable, and inclusive working and learning environment. We are committed to cross-organizational engagement and collaboration in order to create an equity-minded institution that maximizes human and community potential. Through this vision, our 5 Dimensions of Equity™ was created in 2015.

The essence of the 5 Dimensions of Equity™ is social justice, which has now been shared locally and across the country in the ongoing pursuit of educating everyone that equity is non-negotiable and every person’s moral responsibility. This vision is held strongly by EvCC and the Board of Trustees!

As we go forward in these unprecedented times filled with uncertainty and unrest, we are encouraged by the new possibilities and the capacity for growth and expansion on educating and supporting racial diversity on campus, in the local community, and at a statewide level. We will continue to step-in and take the lead by working with local governmental agencies, corporate entities, non-profits, K-12 and higher educational institutions in order to best leverage change.

Thank you to the students and staff at Everett Community College for your ongoing commitment to diversity and equity under the leadership of Dr. Willis. We stand with you and remain committed to advancing social justice for a more equitable society!

EvCC Board of Trustees



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Dr. Betty J. Cobbs  
Board Chair