

Noncredit Sub-Committee Meeting

Wednesday, April 22, 2026

3:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Zoom Meeting

Meeting Minutes

Call to Order – 3:02 pm

Attendees: Eric Anthony, Quinton Bemiller, Ashley Etchison, Eric Doucette, Sonia Gonzalez, Mary Legner, Arezoo Marashi, Adam Martin, Adan Navas, Michael Peterson, Thea Quigley, Carla Reible, Star Rivera-Lacey, Mia Timme, Chui Zhi Yao, Lijuan Zhai

I. Approval of April 22, 2026, Agenda

First: Carla Reible, **Second:** Thea Quigley; Approved by consensus.

II. Approval of March 18, 2026, Minutes

First: Carla Reible, **Second:** Mia Timme; Approved by consensus.

III. Innovation and Opportunities

Ashley Etchison updated the committee regarding Norco College's participation in a national noncredit workforce education initiative involving 12 colleges nationwide and supported by Rutgers University. The initiative focuses on researching student participation in noncredit programs, collecting institutional and student survey data, and identifying best practices to support the growth of noncredit education nationwide. Committee members expressed interest in receiving future updates and incorporating survey findings into local program planning, particularly for ESL and workforce development initiatives.

Mia Timme and Thea Quigley presented the Employee Growth Pathway proposal which would leverage existing noncredit curriculum to support professional development and career advancement opportunities for RCCD employees. The proposal highlighted the potential for noncredit courses to serve as accessible, low-cost professional learning opportunities while also increasing awareness and participation in noncredit education across the district. Members discussed the need for district support, collaboration with Human Resources, and coordination with Professional Growth Committees to determine how noncredit coursework could qualify for professional growth credit, compensation advancement, or professional development recognition for classified professionals and other employee groups. Committee members agreed the proposal could serve as a scalable pilot initiative and emphasized the importance of establishing administrative and contractual processes to support implementation.

The committee discussed Strategic Enrollment Management (SEM) Program administered through IEPI and its potential application to districtwide

noncredit planning efforts. Committee members explored whether RCCD should participate as a district team in a future SEM cohort to develop a coordinated enrollment management strategy tied to the district's strategic plan and goals for expanding access through noncredit education. Participants emphasized that noncredit growth aligns with RCCD's long-term strategic priorities, particularly increasing educational access for adult learners and aging populations in the region. Committee members with prior SEM experience described the program as a yearlong planning and implementation process involving coaching, institutes, and institutional collaboration. Discussions highlighted the importance of narrowing the scope to achievable goals, integrating planning with implementation, and ensuring alignment with college and district strategic plans. Committee members also considered alternative support opportunities such as Partnership Resource Teams (PRTs) through IEPI.

The committee additionally discussed the need for broader faculty and institutional awareness of noncredit education through FLEX workshops and professional development activities planned for Fall 2026. Members acknowledged that many faculty and staff remain unfamiliar with noncredit curriculum structures, compensation models, enrollment procedures, and instructional possibilities. The group discussed offering districtwide or college-specific Noncredit 101 sessions during FLEX activities, potentially in partnership with TAP, to introduce faculty to noncredit education models, curriculum options, and statewide examples of successful programs. Members also recognized ongoing barriers to noncredit expansion, including faculty workload concerns, compensation and retirement questions, curriculum restrictions related to AB 1705, and competing institutional priorities such as common course numbering, distance education certification, and enrollment management initiatives. There was suggestion to include Strategic Enrollment Management: Support the Student Journey in the Fall 2026 Noncredit Committee meeting agendas. Michael Peterson introduced the Noncredit Institute conference at San Jose from April 30 to May 1 and encouraged committee members to attend.

IV. Next meeting

- May 20, 2026

V. Adjournment – 3:59 pm