



Dental Hygiene Board of California Education Committee Meeting Minutes

Saturday, July 19, 2025

DHBC Headquarters Building
2005 Evergreen Street
1st Floor Hearing Room
Sacramento, CA 95815

Education Committee Members Present:

Chair – Joanne Pacheco, Registered Dental Hygienist (RDH) Educator Member
Committee Member – Michael Long, Registered Dental Hygienist in Alternative Practice (RDHAP)
Committee Member – Dr. Justin Matthews, Public Member

DHBC Staff Present:

Anthony Lum, Executive Officer
Adina A. Pineschi-Petty, Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS), Education, Legislative, and Regulatory Specialist
Crystal Yuyama, Administrative Analyst
Yuping Lin, Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) Legal Counsel
Elizabeth Dietzen-Olsen, DCA Regulatory Legal Counsel

1. EDU Committee Agenda Item 1: Roll Call and Establishment of a Quorum.

Joanne Pacheco, Education Committee Chair, called the Education Committee meeting to order at **9:08 a.m.** A quorum was established with three (3) members present.

2. EDU Committee Agenda Item 2: Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda.

Committee Member comment: None.

Public comment: None.

3. EDU Committee Agenda Item 3: Discussion and Possible Action on the Request for Approval to Transfer Sponsorship of the San Joaquin Valley College (SJVC) - Ontario and SJVC - Visalia Dental Hygiene Educational Programs to Carrington College.

Dr. Adina Petty stated September 14, 2018, Carrington College - San Jose Campus (Carrington-SJ) and Carrington College - Sacramento Campus (Carrington-Sacramento) each submitted a "Report of Program Change" to the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) to inform of the proposed change of ownership and control of Carrington College to the proposed new parent entity, San Joaquin Valley College, Inc. In the transaction, San Joaquin Valley College, Inc. acquired the stock of Carrington College, and did not enact any changes to Carrington College's governance, operational, or corporate structure as a result of the transfer of ownership. The stock purchase transaction did not result in a merger, and Carrington College and San Joaquin Valley College continued to operate as separate and distinct postsecondary institutions with independent boards, governance, and management.

The Dental Hygiene Committee of California (Committee) approved the major change request of San Joaquin Valley College, Inc. to acquire the stock of Carrington College at the Committee's November 16, 2018, Meeting.

San Joaquin Valley College, Inc., the parent organization for both San Joaquin Valley College (SJVC) and Carrington College, recently announced a Strategic Institutional Alignment Plan. This plan will create two specialized institutions: SJVC will focus exclusively on trades, technical and business programs, while Carrington College will concentrate on nursing and allied health education. As part of the realignment, the SJVC - Ontario and SJVC - Visalia dental hygiene educational programs are requesting a transfer sponsorship to Carrington College

On May 1, 2025, San Joaquin Valley College, Inc. requested for the Dental Hygiene Board of California (Board) to place their request on the Board's July 19, 2025, meeting agenda to approve the transfer of sponsorship of the SJVC - Ontario and SJVC - Visalia Dental Hygiene Educational Programs to Carrington College.

Staff recommends for the Education Committee to consider the request from San Joaquin Valley College, Inc., to approve, pending approval of CODA, to transfer sponsorship of the SJVC - Ontario and SJVC - Visalia Dental Hygiene Educational Programs from SJVC to Carrington College.

Dr. Petty stated that three representatives from the San Joaquin Valley College and Carrington were present for the meeting, including Dr. Danielle Mills, Vice Provost from Carrington College, Brenda Serpa, Dental Hygiene Program Director at SJVC-Visalia (San Joaquin Valley College), and Jericho Black, Dental Hygiene Program Director at the SJVC-Ontario.

Motion: Member Long moved for the Education Committee to recommend to the Full Board to approve, pending approval of CODA, to transfer sponsorship of the SJVC - Ontario and SJVC - Visalia Dental Hygiene Educational Programs to from SJVC to Carrington College.

Second: Member Matthews.

Committee Member discussion: Member Long asked the representatives how they plan to manage their existing compliance issues at the Carrington College. Dr. Mills stated that they have put into place processes and procedures to rectify these issues. She stated that it will be a benefit for Carrington joining SJVC to adopt their best practices for maintaining compliance and communication.

Member Matthews asked the representatives what challenges they foresee happening during this changeover if any. Ms. Serpa stated that she is hopeful to building a compliant program, learning best practices, and exchanging resources from their campuses. Ms. Black stated that she looks forward to the collaboration and partnership between the colleges. She stated 16 Section 1105 (j) and 16 CCR 1105.1 (a) references the standards and responsibility of the program director. Dr. Petty asked for the administration to assure that the governance of each program will remain within the sponsoring institution and be guided by the respective program director.

Education Committee Chair Pacheco asked Dr. Mills to expand on the administration of the four programs. Dr. Mills stated that the four programs will be led by their own program director, who will then direct the program and direct the management of the students.

Member Long asked Dr. Petty to state her experience with communicating with each of the schools' program directors. Dr. Petty explained that historically she has had issues communicating directly with the Carrington campuses' program directors.

Public comment: None.

Vote: Motion for the Education Committee to recommend to the Full Board to approve, pending approval of CODA, to transfer sponsorship of the SJVC - Ontario and SJVC - Visalia Dental Hygiene Educational Programs to from SJVC to Carrington College. Passed 2:1:0.

Name	Aye	Nay	Abstain/Absent
Joanne Pacheco, Chair	X		
Michael Long	X		
Justin Matthews		X	

4. EDU Committee Agenda Item 4: Discussion and Possible Action on the Request to Increase the Initial Enrollment at the Proposed California Baptist University Dental Hygiene Educational Program.

Dr. Adina Petty stated on December 5, 2024, California Baptist University (CBU) submitted a letter of intent to request Dental Hygiene Board of California (Board) approval to establish a Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene education program based in Riverside, California to address educational needs as well as increase preventative oral health services and access to care in the communities of Riverside, Ontario, San Bernardino, and the many underserved populations of the Inland Empire region.

On January 9, 2025, CBU submitted a feasibility study to the Board for review and consideration to establish a Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene education program. The Board reviewed the feasibility study at the March 21 – 22, 2025, Full Board Meeting and “provisionally approved” a new Dental Hygiene Educational Program offered by California Baptist University (the provision being an extendable 2-year probation period once the program begins operations).

On June 9, 2025, CBU submitted a request, along with supporting documentation, to increase the initial student enrollment at the proposed CBU Dental Hygiene Educational Program to two (2) cohorts of 24 students each, with one cohort starting in the fall semester of 2028 and an additional cohort starting in the spring semester of 2029. This increase would result in a stepped programmatic capacity of 96 students.

Dr. Petty stated that two representatives from California Baptist University were present at the meeting including Dr. David Pearson, Dean of College of Allied Health Science and Dr. Kelly Donovan, Educational Program Director for the DHEP at CBU.

Motion: Member Matthews moved for the Education Committee to recommend to the Full Board to approve the request to increase the initial student enrollment at the proposed California Baptist University Dental Hygiene Educational Program, with the terms of the Board’s March 2025 initial provisional approval to remain.

Second: Member Long.

Committee Member discussion: The Committee Members engaged in a robust discussion with representatives from CBU to better understand the rationale behind the program’s request to increase enrollment size, especially given that their initial proposal and feasibility study had been thoroughly praised by the Board at a previous meeting.

Committee members raised concerns regarding compliance, funding, and operational oversight. In response, CBU representatives explained that the proposed expansion is intended to address critical oral health needs in the Inland Empire region while also expanding educational opportunities. They emphasized that the program is a traditional four-year curriculum and not an accelerated program. The CBU representatives stated that the university fully supports the initiative and fully recognizes the cost of program.

CBU noted that their request to increase enrollment would allow for more efficient use of the new facility they plan to construct, which is aligned with projected student demand. However, concerns were also raised about the financial implications of scaling up, particularly regarding faculty and staff resources. The program leadership clarified that faculty contracts span both 9-month and 12-month terms, and that summer coverage and oversight remain a priority to ensure program quality and safety for students and faculty.

Board staff expressed concern about maintaining program oversight and the potential strain on resources from increased site visits. They are hesitant to approve the request, noting that CBU has already received approval for two initial cohorts.

Public comment: None.

Vote: Motion for the Education Committee to recommend to the Full Board to approve the request to increase the initial student enrollment at the proposed California Baptist University Dental Hygiene Educational Program, with the terms of the Board’s March 2025 initial provisional approval to remain. Failed 0:3:0.

Name	Aye	Nay	Abstain/Absent
Joanne Pacheco, Chair		X	
Michael Long		X	
Justin Matthews		X	

5. EDU Committee Agenda Item 5: Report from the Dental Hygiene Educational Program Penalty Rubric Taskforce. (Informational Only).

Education Committee Chair and Co-Chair of the Educational Program Penalty Rubric, Joanne Pacheco stated the Board is mandated by the Legislature to approve all California dental hygiene educational programs (DHEPs) for oversight. When the Board started reviewing them, we were aware there might be some concerns as to the level of compliance with California laws, regulations, and Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association (CODA) Standards but was not aware of the extent of the issues that were present until the Board began its site visits and observed what practices were occurring within the DHEPs.

As a result of those observations and non-compliance of the law, the Board’s only recourse of action at the time was to remove Board approval of the DHEP. This penalty doesn’t prohibit a DHEP from teaching dental hygiene; however, it does eliminate the graduating students from qualifying for a CA dental hygiene license as they must graduate from a Board-approved DHEP by law. When the Board was forced to vote to remove approval of a DHEP at one point, it was determined that other intermediary punitive actions were needed to provide an opportunity for a DHEP to comply with the law and CODA Standards. In 2019, the Board obtained legislative approval to implement citation and fines, and probation

as intermediary penalties in lieu of full removal of Board approval alone as a penalty of non-compliance.

Subsequently, in 2023, the Board promulgated regulations regarding “Reviews, Site Visits, Citations and Fines, and Probationary Status for Dental Hygiene Educational Programs” (California Code of Regulations, Title 16, section 1104.3). Within the regulation, subdivision (b)(3) established factors to be considered in the issuance of any citation or fine to a DHEP due to noncompliance of California laws, regulations, and CODA Standards.

Due to the variance of violations, and the desire to ensure penalties are applied evenly among the DHEPs, the Board voted to create a penalty rubric to allow the Board to be fair and consistent to all DHEPs.

At the March 22, 2025, Full Board meeting, the Board appointed Board members Joanne Pacheco and Julie Elginer as co-chairs of the DHEP Penalty Rubric Taskforce. After the meeting, the Taskforce co-chairs received requests from three interested stakeholders who were appointed to the taskforce based on their qualifications. These experts were JoAnn Galliano, Dr. Michelle Hurlbutt, and Lisa Kamibayashi who have extensive DHEP experience and knowledge of the subject to create an appropriate penalty rubric.

The Taskforce conducted their first meeting on June 4, 2025, and began discussions on how to start categorizing the violations with consideration of the factors outlined in 16 CCR section 1104.3 which include:

- Nature and severity of the violation;
- Length of time that has passed since the date of the violation;
- Consequences of the violation, including the potential to harm, or actual patient, harm;
- History of previous violations of a similar nature;
- Evidence that the violation was willful;
- Gravity of the violation; and
- The extent to which the cited DHEP has remediated the deficiencies.

Along with beginning to categorize the aforementioned factors, the Taskforce discussed the frequency of violations discovered at DHEPs along with discussions on timeframes DHEPs shall be given to remediate violations and deficiencies.

There is anticipated to be several future meetings prior to a draft penalty rubric to be presented to the Board for consideration and the next Taskforce meeting is scheduled for July 22, 2025.

Committee Member comment: Member Matthews commented on the usefulness and benefit of having the Taskforce create a rubric allows for greater transparency to enforce regulations for the program and for the public going forward. He expressed gratitude for the creation and development of the Taskforce.

Education Committee Chair Pacheco thanked Dr. Petty for putting these resources together and that she hopes program directors find them helpful.

Public comment: None.

6. EDU Committee Agenda Item 6: Dental Hygiene Educational Program Site Visit Update and Schedule. (Informational Only).

Dr. Adina Petty reported on the current status of the following DHEPs: at Pasadena City College (PCC), Taft College (Taft), Concorde Career College-San Diego (CCC-SD), Cerritos College (Cerritos), Concorde Career College-Garden Grove (CCC-GG), Carrington College-San Jose (Carrington-SJ), Concorde Career College-San Bernardino (CCC-SB), and West Los Angeles College (WLAC).

Dr. Petty also shared the upcoming Dental Hygiene Educational Program (DHEP) site visit schedule.

Committee Member comment: Member Long asked why the deadline scheduled for Concorde Career College's compliance was moved from the July to December. Dr. Petty stated that it was a reasonable request submitted by the schools due to the change in instructional date and was granted by EO Lum.

Public comment: Jennifer Nowotney asked if currently enrolled students would be impacted by a program that is out of compliance. Chair Pacheco and Dr. Petty stated that students would still be recognized graduates of a board approved school. Dr. Petty stated that there is currently no effect on students and that the program will maintain board approval as they are working towards compliance.

7. EDU Committee Agenda Item 7: Future Agenda Items.

Committee Member comment: None.

Public comment: None.

8. EDU Committee Agenda Item 8: Education Committee Adjournment.

Chair Pacheco adjourned the Education Committee at **10:10 a.m.**