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19-067 AUTHORIZATION TO INCREASE STUDENT
TECHNOLOGY FEE FOR FY20/FY21

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REPORT: This Board Resolution relates to increasing the Student
Technology Fee for the next biennial budget cycle in
order to maintain critical student-facing services at
PCC. This request is based on analysis by an internal
staff committee, the "Tech Fee Task Force" and
subsequent review and input from the District Student
Council. It has also been reviewed by Cabinet.

The Tech Fee Task Force was comprised of
administrative staff members from areas funded by the
Student Tech Fee. These included IT, online learning,
library services, disability services and academic
affairs. The history, finance and service aspects of the
Tech Fee were reviewed with a student-focused and
equitable lens. Some key discoveries were:

- o PCC Tech Fee has not been raised in 12 years,
  despite escalating use and cost of technology at
  the college
- o PCC Tech Fee is in the bottom third related to
  other Oregon Community colleges
- o The Tech Fee budget for the current biennium is
  significantly below funding needed to maintain
  basic services across all departments

The Task Force made two recommendations:
- o The Tech Fee should be increased $0.80, from
  $4.50 per credit to $5.30 per credit for the
  upcoming biennium *in order to adequately fund
  currently supported services*

o The Tech Fee Task Force should be reconstituted in 2019 with a broader based college membership including faculty and students *in order to re-evaluate the strategic purpose of the fee*

Task Force findings were reviewed with the District Student Council, who voted to support this proposal in December 2018.

In summary, the Student Tech Fee funds core student-facing services at PCC. These include: classroom support services, classroom computer replacements, online learning platform, open computer lab student support services, accessibility technologies, library checkout laptops, student-facing software, etc. However, the Tech Fee has not kept pace with the increased costs of these services and they are significantly under-funded for even baseline service levels.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Portland Community College Board of Directors authorize the approval of an increase to the Student Technology Fee for the FY20/FY21 biennium of $0.80 per credit hour. This will increase the fee from $4.50 to $5.30.