

Minutes for Professional Development Committee Meeting February 2, 2026

***The Last Class* film**

We could ask how many people are interested in seeing the film and if there aren't many, invite Berkeley High faculty.

We need to find out if we are able to invite others outside of Peralta to view the film, as we don't know the terms of the license we obtained.

Scott: people can view the class modules for Robert Reich's last class at UC Berkeley. We might use the content in classes to address wealth and inequality. Also, a class in job preparation and labor studies would be useful for students. Maybe this could tie into Workforce Development.

First Aid Training

Best day would be a Friday. Six hours and about 25 people maximum, which we have as people signed up on Flex Day. Ask Greg Nelson if both faculty and classified can attend.

Flex Day Ideas

The committee reviewed the draft for Flex Day, which includes a session on AI, presentations of a few Changing Approaches projects, a showing of *The Last Class*, a Classified session on support for family caregivers (which faculty can attend), and a BCC chapter of PFT meeting. We may have workshops on SLO assessments and the critical thinking ILO.

Ilona suggested a talk about Workforce Development and how regional meetings apply to BCC, for a future Flex Day. What is the role of the community college in Workforce Development and Career Education?

She also raised the idea of hosting a book reading and discussion at BCC in conjunction with Berkeley High faculty, similar to Javier Zamora's book talk a few years ago, which was well-attended and successful. At that event, books were given out, so maybe students could read the book.

Emily brought up the idea of bringing Alex Chang to BCC for a session on retirement benefits.

People have asked for more information on the restructuring of Peralta. Committees make recommendations but we don't get much information. This affects all of us so we should be informed. The Chancellor may speak at the March Flex Day and will hopefully address this.

AI

The State Chancellor's Office is in the process of acquiring Gemini for the colleges. How will we learn how to use it? Will experts train us? What should we expect? Katie will check on this and try to contact Stacy Shears, who is now at the State Chancellor's Office.