A. Closed Session

1. Call to Order, Roll Call and Adoption of Agenda

The Board of Trustees of the Marin Community College District met in AC108 on the Kentfield campus, all members having received notice as prescribed by law. Board President Brockbank called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m. All Trustees were present except Trustee Dolan, who arrived at 4:45 p.m. and Trustee Long. Dr. Frances White, Al Harrison, Anita Martinez, and Linda Beam were also in attendance.

M/s (Moore/Treanor) to adopt the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

There was no one present who wished to address the Board on the items listed to be discussed in closed session, and the Board went into closed session.

The closed session recessed at 5:35 p.m.

B. Reconvene to Regular Meeting

1. Reconvene in Open Session

The meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Marin Community College District was reconvened in open session at 5:40 p.m. in AC108 on the Kentfield campus by Board President Brockbank.

2. Report of Closed Session

Board Clerk Treanor reported that the Board had met in closed session earlier that evening on the items listed on the agenda, and that no action was taken.
3. Citizens’ Requests to Address the Board on Non-Agenda Items

Peggy Dodge of COM’s ECE Program expressed concern over not being contacted for input on issues concerning COM’s Children’s Center or being informed of the options being discussed by the Board at this meeting.

Board President Brockbank explained that we met the posting requirements under the Brown Act for this special meeting. President White stated that the meeting was a brainstorming session on the Children’s Center and that decisions would not be made.

Iris Gregoire, a teacher at IVC’s Children’s Center, stated that COM doesn’t need any more negative publicity. She supported the bond and feels that we will be failing her and her fellow voters in the community if the IVC Children’s Center is closed down.

4. Board Study Session

The four options being discussed were shared with the audience:

Option A – Maintain both existing preschool centers
Option B – Close the IVC Preschool Program and maintain only the Kentfield Center
Option C – Close both preschool centers
Option D – Keep both preschool centers open, but change the fee structure

Peggy Dodge offered to send a Plan E.

Al Harrison presented a budget analysis of COM’s Children’s Centers (copy attached). He noted that our revenue is on target but that additional funding from the COM Foundation and the student body did not materialize, and that parents did not raise as much money as anticipated.

Trustees discussed the funding and non-compliance issues involved in the Children’s Center dilemma. We are scheduled for a compliance visit in May, and if we don’t have a Children’s Center Director with proper credentials in place (which we need to maintain centers on both campuses), we are in danger of losing our State Department of Education funding. We have a March 15 deadline to reduce staff if that action becomes necessary.

Several Trustees stated that they did not feel that being out of compliance was an option. The failure of the College of Marin Foundation, the student body, and parents to follow through with funding was cited as a major problem. Board members want to make sure we explore all recruitment possibilities. If action needs to be taken by March 15 and a Director and funding are later found, the action could be rescinded. Other suggestions included checking on outsourcing and making sure the COM Foundation includes in its agendas items in published reports where they are listed as potential sources of funds.
Trustees recognized that this is an emotional issue, that everyone here cares about the children involved, and that we hope to find a solution. We need to let the public know that we still have a commitment to revitalize the IVC campus.

5. **Adjournment**

M/s (Moore/Kranenburg) to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously and Board President Brockbank adjourned the meeting at 6:35 p.m.