Campus rebuild part of bond proposal

Joe Rode

NW vice president of student development services Joe Rode retires after working at TCC for 47 years. Rode began his career as an English teacher at Bishop Lynch High School in Dallas, where he taught English. "When I was teaching high school, the students didn’t really respond very well to the book diagramming and reading novels," Rode said. "But, when I told them, ‘If you do your work Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, we could suspend English on Fridays and just talk about our lives,’ that was a big hit.”

This success was a breakthrough for Rode and his students was short-lived after his principal found out.

"[The principal] said, ‘You’re a counselor,’ and I said, ‘No, I’m an English teacher,’ to which he replied ‘Yeah, that’s what I thought, so go back into your classroom meetings. And go get your counseling degree because I would hire you as a counselor, but you don’t really have the credentials to do what you’re doing.’" Rode said. "That really made an impact on me, and the next semester I did enroll in my first counseling class.”

This interaction showed Rode what he enjoyed about working with students, and shortly after was hired at TCC as a counselor and psychology instructor. Rode said he believes this is the best way he has gotten a feel for how to best help students. "I took them [student leaders] to represent all the students, not just themselves," Rode said. "It’s easy to say ‘We need to do this,’ but have you surveyed other student or have you held re- voting sessions?"

During his time at TCC, Rode spent his time teaching at Bishop Lynch High School in Dallas, where he taught English. "When I was teaching high school, the students didn’t really respond very well to the book diagramming and reading novels," Rode said. "But, when I told them, ‘If you do your work Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, we could suspend English on Fridays and just talk about our lives,’ that was a big hit.”

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**Rode (continued from page 1)**

"We really need new facilities. The South Campus is 50 years old." Heede said. "The students deserve new facilities. The South Campus is 50 years old."

"There is a new president on the board," Heede said. "But I only have one vote like everyone else on the board."

But the bond works together in work as efficiently and possible, and Heede is proud of the work that has been done in the last few months, namely with the budget. The budget of approximately $375 million was carefully crafted, but gives the campus $825 million all at once, but rather in two or three quantities, Heede said.

"We don't want to borrow any money that we don't absolutely need," Heede said. "We don't want to borrow any money that we don't absolutely need, and it shows as he reminisced about one vote in the board."

Although the budget is a high-light for Heede, he recognizes the chancellor Eugenia Giannini as the one who has the final say.

"He's our only employee as we have to work through the chancellor," Heede said. "That's his job to work with us, and we support the chancellor as well."

The board works together and Heede says that while they are a team, they do have their own individuality, and that stems from everyone having their own experience. Although he has the title, Heede says that doesn't mean he is more important than anyone else.

"The board president is the spokesman for the board, but we collectively make the decisions," Heede said. "I am board president, but I really only have one vote like everybody else on the board."