

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Monday, January 12, 2026 at 4:30 p.m.
1500 West Agency Road, West Burlington, Iowa - Board Room

Meeting Minutes

1.0 Routine Items

1.1 Call to Order, Roll Call, and Pledge of Allegiance

Board Chair Lanny Hillyard called the meeting to order at 4:31 p.m. Roll call indicated Trustees Heland, Nabulsi, Fife-LaFrenz, Hillyard, and Howard were present in the room. Also present were President Michael Ash, Treasurer Cory Gall, Secretary Darcy Burdette, and SCC staff members Chuck Chrisman, Michelle Allmendinger, Amanda Estey, Val Giannettino, Laurie Hempen, and Jeff Ebbing.

1.2 Adoption of Formal Agenda

Trustee Howard moved to approve the formal agenda. Trustee Fife-LaFrenz seconded. Motion carried.

1.3 Communications (Limited to Five (5) Minutes per Individual)

1.3.1 Audience

None.

1.3.2 Administration

Executive Director of Institutional Advancement Val Giannettino reported that she is pleased with the results of the year-end appeal.

1.3.3 Board

Trustee Hillyard reported that he received the attorney’s review of the Title IX Policy and shared the report with Trustees for their review and future discussion.

1.4 Community Colleges for Iowa Trustee Board Report

Trustee Hillyard reported that the next IACCT Board meeting will be March 3, 2026. The Student Legislative Seminar, PTK Awards Dinner, and Community College Day on the Hill will also take place March 2 and 3, 2026.

1.5 World Changing – Changing our Thinking (20 minutes)

“Trusteeship in Community Colleges – A Guide for Effective Governance” – focus on Chapter 6

Trustees continued their review of “Trusteeship in Community Colleges: A Guide for Effective Governance.” Trustee Fife-LaFrenz led the discussion, highlighting key points for Board consideration. The review will continue at the February Board meeting with the next chapter.

2.0 Action Items

2.1 Approval of Consent Agenda

1. Approval of Minutes

- **December 16, 2025, Regular Board Meeting Minutes**

2. Presentation of Bills of Account

3. Resignations, Terminations and Mutually Agreed to Contract Adjustments

Name	Title	Date of Hire	Last day of Employment	Reason

Michelle Glass	Head Volleyball Coach	06/18/2018	06/30/2026	Resignation per Release Agreement.
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2. Employment Contracts

Name	Title	Contract Period	Salary
Natalie Soltow (Replacement)	Project Manager Strengthening Community Colleges Grant	01/05/2026 – 06/30/2026	\$29,195.40 (\$60,000.00 annual)

Trustee Fife-LaFrenz moved approval of the Consent Agenda items. Trustee Heland seconded. Motion to approve the Consent Agenda carried on a 5-0 roll call vote.

3.0 Accountability

3.1 President's Report

President Ash referred Trustees to his report in their board materials, which highlighted accomplishments from 2025 and priorities for 2026. He shared plans to develop a formal Board Orientation and reviewed a draft Board Calendar outlining topics for each monthly meeting. Trustees were encouraged to review the calendar and offer any suggestions or adjustments. He also noted that a schedule will be developed to guide the review of existing Board policies. Trustees reviewed and discussed the report and expressed appreciation for the information provided.

3.2 Monthly Financial Report

Vice President Gall directed Trustees to the financial reports included in their board packets. In reviewing the Cash and Investments Report, he noted an increase in cash balance due to the receipt of ERTC funds, as referenced at the December board meeting. He also reported that investments are currently earning interest at a rate of 3.9%, which he anticipates will decline. From the Financial Comparative Data Summary, he shared that General Fund revenue totals \$17,994,772, which is higher than at this time last year. Interest income is lower than in 2024, when interest rates were higher. General Fund expenses for services are currently above last year's levels but are expected to level out once the OEPI payment is received. Plant Fund revenues and expenses remain consistent with the prior year.

3.3 Facilities Update

Vice President Gall shared an update of the progress in the 300 Building project. Restroom partitions are scheduled for installation in late January or early February. He also noted that the Starbucks space is anticipated to be completed by the end of January. The weight room is complete in the Blackhawk Student Center.

3.4 Data Review

Vice President Chuck Chrisman presented the results of the Spring 2025 Student Satisfaction Inventory completed by 223 students. The results show that compared with college students nationally, our students are 75 percent satisfied or very satisfied compared to students nationally and 79 percent of our students say they are likely to enroll again if they had to do it over compared to 78 percent nationally. The top 5 factors to enroll are future career opportunities, cost, financial assistance, distance from campus, and academic reputation. Overall, the findings were positive, with students rating their overall satisfaction with SCC at 5.75 out of 7 compared

to 5.64 in 2020. When compared to the 2020 results, all but three categories showed improvement. The three areas that reflected a decline were parking, financial aid, and adequate access to computers/Wi-Fi. The decrease in financial aid satisfaction is likely related to recent changes in federal regulations. Concerns regarding parking may be more about the availability of close parking spaces rather than a shortage of overall parking. He is continuing to review the computer access concerns and believes the feedback may be partially attributed to limited availability of laptops for checkout. He plans to distribute a follow-up survey to gather additional insight into the computer access issue.

Overall, the survey provided valuable information, and the College is encouraged by the improvements reflected in the results.

6.0 Future Meetings

Board Chair Hillyard reviewed the list of future meetings.

7.0 Adjournment

There was consensus that the meeting be adjourned at 5:57 p.m.

These minutes have been approved by the Board of Trustees and this is certified to be a true copy.



Darcy Burdette, Board Secretary