

MINUTES
WAUBONSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Board of Trustees
Regular Board Meeting

February 18, 2026

I. Convene Open Session

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Waubonsee Community College, Community College District 516, Kane, Kendall, DeKalb, LaSalle, and Will Counties, IL, convened at 6:03 p.m. on Wednesday, February 18, 2026, in the Dickson Center Community Board Room, Route 47 at Waubonsee Drive, Sugar Grove, IL.

Roll call found the following board members present: Rick Guzman, Daniel Jaquez, Patrick Kelsey, Rebecca D. Oliver, Stacey Ries, Maria Santillan, Greg Thomas, and Tina Willson; staff members present: Dr. Brian Knetl, John Bryant, Dr. Kimberly Chavis, Dr. Anthony Ramos, Dr. Toya Webb, Divya Ajinth, Dr. Eric Aurand, Mary Baccheschi, Ramiro Cervantes, Emma Donatille, Terence Felton, Dr. Lisa Fozio-Thielk, Sharon Garcia, Mary Greenwood, Jessica Guglielmi, Dr. Danielle Hardesty, Darrin Kader, Abbas AL Khafaji, Dr. Heather LaCost, Dan Larsen, Erik Leal, Kim Livingston, Christian Locke, Laura Meredith, Eamon Newman, J. C. Paez, Dr. Scott Peska, John Popik, Dr. Amy Powers, Jessica Price, Dr. Stacey Randall, Gabriela Rios, Patricia Saccone, Dr. Reshmi Sen, Renee Skrabacz, Dr. Tamekia Smith, Jacqueline Stepherson, Ne'Keisha Stepney, and Dr. Sheela Vemu; and general counsel to the College present: Kenneth Florey of Robbins Schwartz.

II. Waubonsee Voices

A. Faculty Voice – Sabbatical Leave Report

Dr. Kimberly Chavis, Provost and Vice President of Teaching, Learning, and Student Success, introduced Kim Livingston, Professor of English, who shared an overview of her sabbatical leave report, *Redesigning Online Assignments for the Age of AI*.

III. Public Comment

A. General Public Comment

A Waubonsee student, Connor Anderson, addressed the board and the topic was: Waubonsee tuition rate.

IV. Institutional Reports and Presentations

A. Vice Presidents' Reports

1. Vice President of Finance and Administration

a. Executive Summary of Financial Reports

John Bryant provided an executive summary and highlights of the financial reports.

IV. Institutional Reports and Presentations (continued)

b. Approval of Academic Year 2026-2027 Tuition and Student Fee Rates

The board, on a motion by Ms. Willson and seconded by Mr. Kelsey, unanimously approved the increase of the college in-district tuition rate from \$141 to \$146 per credit hour and to maintain the student fee at \$8 per credit hour, effective with the fall 2026 semester; and the increase of the college out-of-district rate, in state, from \$327.13 to \$365 per credit hour; and the out-of-district, out of state, and out-of-district, international, from \$372.44 to \$438 per credit hour.

c. Approval of Purchase of Professional Architect and Engineering Services for Collins Hall Renovation

The board, on a motion by Mr. Kelsey and seconded by Mr. Thomas, unanimously approved to enter into negotiation with Demonica Kemper Architects of Chicago, IL, for professional architect and engineering services for the Collins Hall Renovation.

2. Provost and Vice President of Teaching, Learning, and Student Success

a. Approval of Full-Time Faculty Tenure Recommendations

Dr. Kimberly Chavis recognized and introduced the faculty eligible for tenure effective fall semester 2026.

The board, on a motion by Ms. Ries and seconded by Mr. Guzman, unanimously approved the faculty tenure recommendation to award tenure to: Divya Ajinth, Instructor of Mathematics; Ramiro Cervantes, Instructor of Automotive Collision and Refinishing Technology; Laura Meredith, Instructor of Psychology; Eamon Newman, Instructor of Information Systems; John Popik, Counselor; Gabriela Rios, Bilingual Counselor; and Dr. Reshmi Sen, Instructor of Communications; effective with the fall semester 2026.

b. Approval of Non-Tenured Faculty Reappointments for Academic Year 2026-2027

The board, on a motion by Mr. Guzman and seconded by Mr. Jaquez, unanimously approved the non-tenured faculty reappointments for academic year 2026-2027, as presented.

B. Faculty Council Update

Patricia Saccone, Professor of Health Information Technology and Faculty Council President, commented on her willow tree model of student success and its connection to the role of faculty and the overall student experience.

IV. Institutional Reports and Presentations (continued)

C. Student Trustee Report

Maria Santillan was happy to report that 12 students were honored with inaugural RISE to the Dream Awards at Waubonsee's annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. community event. She shared highlights from a couple conferences, including the ACCT National Legislative Summit where she met with legislators and connected with other Student Trustees, and the USHLI National Conference that included attendance by 22 Waubonsee students. Maria recognized the college's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Department and other staff for their ongoing support in providing opportunities and coordinating events for students. She is also looking forward to sharing the results of her Multicultural Center survey at the March 25, 2026 Board meeting.

D. Board of Trustees Report

1. ACCT National Legislative Summit

Trustees Daniel Jaquez and Tina Willson reported on the National Legislative Summit, held February 9-11, 2026 in Washington, DC. As a member of the ACCT Finance and Audit Committee, Mr. Jaquez also commented on a committee meeting that was held during the summit, and he shared a brief overview from the ACCT Advocacy Leadership Academy.

2. Board Policy Committee Update

Dr. Brian Knetl and Tina Willson, Policy Committee Chair, provided updates from the Policy Committee meeting held prior to the Board meeting. The committee reviewed several policies in the Board Policy Manual, emphasizing the need for consistency throughout the document. In addition, the committee continued their discussion regarding the current Free Speech and Expression Policy as a follow up from feedback received. The college's legal counsel will be updating the policy with language to better reflect the intent and purpose of the policy, for another review by the committee.

E. President's Report

Dr. Brian Knetl reported on several conferences he recently attended including the AGB Foundation Leadership Forum, the National Legislative Summit meetings held with our legislators, and a special session that explored the nation's workforce pipeline. Dr. Knetl also shared that Dr. Lisa Fozio-Thielk, Professor of Psychology, was selected as a finalist for the AACC Awards of Excellence "Faculty Member of the Year" award, and will be traveling to the annual conference where the winner will be announced. For more announcements and details on Dr. Knetl's activity, his monthly [President's Report](#) can be viewed on the college website.

V. Executive Session

The board, on a motion by Mr. Thomas and seconded by Mr. Guzman, unanimously voted to adjourn to executive session at 7:20 p.m. in accordance with Section 2a of the Open Meetings Act where the board discussed items covered under the following exceptions: review of closed session meeting minutes; the hiring, discipline, performance, and compensation of personnel; matters of pending, probable, or imminent litigation; matters of collective bargaining or deliberations concerning salary schedules; and safety and security procedures.

VI. Reconvene to Open Session

The board reconvened in open session at 8:42 p.m. Roll call found the following board members present: Rick Guzman, Daniel Jaquez, Patrick Kelsey, Rebecca D. Oliver, Stacey Ries, Maria Santillan, Greg Thomas, and Tina Willson; staff members present: Dr. Brian Knetl, John Bryant, Dr. Kimberly Chavis, Dr. Anthony Ramos, Dr. Toya Webb, Mary Baccheschi, Abbas AL Khafaji, Terence Felton, Darrin Kader, Dan Larsen, J. C. Paez, Patricia Saccone, and Jacqueline Stepherson; and general counsel to the College present: Kenneth Florey of Robbins Schwartz.

VII. Approval of Consent Agenda

The board, on a motion by Mr. Guzman and seconded by Mr. Kelsey, unanimously approved the Consent Agenda that contains the following items – Meeting Minutes, Personnel Reports, Financial Reports, and Other.

A. Meeting Minutes

1. January 21, 2026 Board Meeting Minutes
2. January 21, 2026 Executive Session Meeting Minutes
3. February 4, 2026 Special Board Meeting Minutes
4. February 4, 2026 Executive Session Special Meeting Minutes
5. Semi-Annual Review of Executive Session Meeting Minutes

Approved the opening of the executive session meeting minutes through December 31, 2025, with the exception of sections regarding personnel items, litigation, potential litigation, collective negotiating matters, and safety and security procedures, as presented.

B. Personnel Reports

1. New Appointments – Administrators and Faculty (none)
2. Other New Appointments – including Full-Time, Part-Time and Temporary

<i>Full-Time</i> Candidate	Position	Salary	Type	Hire Date
Mark Becker	Information Technology Customer Service Coordinator	\$88,000	New Hire	03/02/2026
Adrianna Costello	Administrative Specialist Industry and Technology	\$25.95/hr.	New Hire	03/02/2026
Kelly Johnson	Driver Safety Program Specialist	\$24.50/hr.	New Hire	02/16/2026
Matt Marruffo	Groundskeeper	\$20.00/hr.	Promotion	02/19/2026

VII. Approval of Consent Agenda (continued)

Part-Time and Temporary

<u>Candidate</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Hours/wk.</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Stipend</u>	<u>Hire Date</u>
Hilary Becker	Custodian 2 nd Shift Sugar Grove	25 hrs./wk.	\$19.00/hr.	N/A	02/02/2026
Jenn Sirkin	Chemistry Laboratory Technician	25 hrs./wk.	\$22.70/hr.	N/A	01/19/2026
Abraham Woodcox	Campus Safety Officer	25 hrs./wk.	\$23.50/hr.	N/A	02/16/2026

3. Separations – including Retirements, Resignations, and Termination

<u>Employee</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Separation Date</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Years of Service</u>
Timothy Bizoukas	Director of Employee Development	02/18/2026	Resignation, with Separation Agreement	7 years, 7 months
Dr. Marleigha Evans	Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion	02/09/2026	Resignation	4 years, 11 months
Elizabeth Gaetz	Physics Laboratory Technician (part-time)	01/28/2026	Termination	3 years, 10 months
Dr. Mary Beth Hutches	Director of Nursing	06/30/2026	Retirement	3 years, 3 months
Steven Kish	Head Volleyball Coach (part-time)	02/04/2026	Resignation	1 year, 4 months
Theresa Larson	Purchasing Manager	05/29/2026	Retirement	10 years, 3 months

VII. Approval of Consent Agenda (continued)

C. Financial Reports

1. Payroll Report for Pay Number 1

010100	Education Fund	\$1,572,842.00
010109	Budget Stabilization Fund	7,682.79
020100	Operations and Maintenance Fund	143,077.62
050620	Bookstore	29,433.45
062101	Adult Education-State Basic	8,832.47
062102	Adult Education-Performance	6,035.92
062123	PATH Grant	1,332.32
063101	Adult Education-Federal Basic	2,912.82
063107	Perkins Postsecondary	7,242.30
063132	Federal Work Study	2,076.28
063171	TRIO/Upward Bound East	8,033.48
063172	TRIO/Upward Bound West	6,805.20
063202	Waubonsee Works	9,109.97
063944	SBDC (CY2025)	345.00
063946	SBDC (CY2026)	6,672.84
120100	Liability/Protection and Settlement	<u>64,139.14</u>
	Final Total:	<u>\$1,876,573.60</u>

VII. Approval of Consent Agenda (continued)

2. Payroll Report for Pay Number 2

010100	Education Fund	\$1,522,876.42
010109	Budget Stabilization Fund	8,013.51
020100	Operations and Maintenance Fund	142,657.28
050620	Bookstore	29,036.34
062101	Adult Education-State Basic	14,504.35
062102	Adult Education-Performance	5,487.20
062123	PATH Grant	1,211.20
062609	Nursing Educator Fellow	9,857.00
063101	Adult Education-Federal Basic	7,271.21
063107	Perkins Postsecondary	8,763.34
063132	Federal Work Study	8,020.17
063171	TRIO/Upward Bound East	6,946.78
063172	TRIO/Upward Bound West	6,837.90
063202	Waubensee Works	8,921.32
063946	SBDC	7,190.34
120100	Liability/Protection and Settlement	<u>54,391.62</u>
	Final Total:	<u>\$1,847,985.98</u>

VII. Approval of Consent Agenda (continued)

3. Accounts Payable for the Period Ending January 31, 2026 and Travel Expenses of the Members of the Board of Trustees and of Employees as presented

010100	Education Fund	\$ 834,651.91
010109	Budget Stabilization Fund	1,281.90
010900	Payroll Clearing Fund	39,816.92
020100	Operations and Maintenance Fund	412,306.99
030100	Operations/Maintenance Restricted	36,400.00
030108	OMR Technology/Academic Sub-Fund	445,622.12
030201	Technical Education Center	92,429.02
030207	Restore/Renovate Tennis Courts	153,848.89
030214	DKN Board Room Remodel	55,480.40
030215	Vestibule Flooring Project	31,137.50
050503	Auto Resale	3,210.37
050620	Bookstore	164,215.50
050810	Internal Medical Insurance	1,023,588.33
050811	Retiree Medical Insurance	11,123.93
062101	Adult Education-State Basic	259.97
062125	Rev Electric Vehicle Tech	21,270.28
062129	Scaling and Assessing DERA	1,710.00
063101	Adult Education-Federal Basic	4,483.25
063107	Perkins Postsecondary	455.00
063171	TRIO/Upward Bound East	794.82
063172	TRIO/Upward Bound West	1,057.56
063943	Advanced Technological Ed	816.83
063944	SBDC	35,510.00
100300	Trust and Agency	19,351.44
120100	Liability/Protection and Settlement	<u>54,462.82</u>
	Final Total:	<u>\$3,445,285.75</u>

VII. Approval of Consent Agenda (continued)

4. Treasurer's Report for the Month of January 2026
The Treasurer's Report for the month of January 2026 was accepted by the board and placed on file.
5. Budget Summary Ending January 2026
Comparison of budget to actual for the seven months ending January 31, 2026 was accepted by the board and placed on file.
6. Acceptance of the Single Audit Report and the Illinois Grant Accountability and Transparency Act - Consolidated Year-End Financial Report
Acceptance and filing of the Single Audit Report and the Illinois Grant Accountability and Transparency Act - Consolidated Year-End Financial Report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025.
7. Approval of Proposed Fee Adjustments for the 2026-2027 Academic Year
Approval of the proposed fee adjustments for the 2026-2027 academic year, as presented.
8. Bids/Purchases:
 - a. Renewal of Auditor to Conduct the College's FY2026 Financial Audit
Approval of authorization of the Vice President of Finance and Administration to enter into an agreement with Sikich CPA LLP of Naperville, IL, to conduct the June 30, 2026 fiscal year-end audit for the proposed maximum fees of \$101,400.
 - b. Renewal of Year Two for Legal Consulting Services Agreement
Renewal of year two for legal consulting services agreement with Robbins Schwartz of Chicago, IL, in the annual amount not to exceed \$300,000 for the period of February 6, 2026 through February 5, 2027.
 - c. Renewal of Year Five of the Mechanical Maintenance and Repair Services Agreement
Renewal of year five of the mechanical maintenance and repair services agreement from Air Comfort, LLC of Broadview, IL, in the not to exceed amount of \$150,000 for the coverage period of March 1, 2026 through February 28, 2027.
 - d. Renewal of the Omnilert Emergency Notification System
Renewal of the Omnilert emergency notification system from Omnilert, LLC, of San Diego, CA, in the amount of \$32,690 for the coverage period of February 23, 2026 through February 22, 2027.
 - e. Renewal of the Oracle Software Maintenance and Support Agreement
Renewal of the Oracle software maintenance and support agreement from Mythics Inc. of Virginia Beach, VA, in the amount of \$109,465 for the coverage period of February 28, 2026 through February 27, 2027.
 - f. Three-Year Renewal of the Sophos Endpoint Detection and Response Software Subscription
Three-year renewal of the Sophos Endpoint Detection and Response software subscription from CDW Government LLC of Vernon Hills, IL, in the amount of \$124,810 for the coverage period of March 31, 2026 through March 30, 2029.

VII. Approval of Consent Agenda (continued)

- g. Three-Year Renewal of the Adobe Creative Cloud Complete Enterprise Software Subscription
Three-year renewal of the Adobe Creative Cloud Complete Enterprise software subscription from CDW Government LLC of Vernon Hills, IL, in the amount of \$471,645 for the coverage period of February 28, 2026 through February 27, 2029.
- h. Three-Year Renewal of the Bookstore Point of Sale System
Three-year renewal of the Bookstore Point of Sale system from PrismRBS (Retail Business Solutions) of Lincoln, NE, in the amount of \$132,882 for the coverage period of July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2029.
- i. Purchase of NetIQ Identity Manager Upgrade and Modernization
Purchase of NetIQ Identity Manager upgrade and modernization from Computer Integrated Services of New York City, NY, in the amount of \$100,000.
- j. Purchase of Security Services for Network Penetration and Social Engineering Tests
Purchase of Security Services for Network Penetration and Social Engineering Tests from Red Threat Security, LLC of Yukon, OK, in the amount of \$153,000 for the coverage period of February 25, 2026 through June 30, 2029.
- k. Purchase of Web Accessibility Compliance Professional Services
Purchase of web accessibility compliance professional services from Promet Solutions, Inc. of Chicago, IL, in the amount of \$200,000.

D. Other

- 1. Approval of College Calendar: Academic Calendar for 2027-2028

VIII. Consent Agenda Items Removed for Individual Consideration

No Consent Agenda Items were removed for individual consideration.

IX. Adjournment

The board, on a motion by Mr. Guzman and seconded by Mr. Jaquez, unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m.



Greg Thomas
~~2026-03-26 01:41 UTC~~

Gregory Thomas, Secretary
Waubonsee Community College
Board of Trustees