

MINUTES
WAUBONSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Board of Trustees
Regular Board Meeting

September 16, 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 6:05 p.m. on Wednesday, September 16, 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, Greg Thomas, and Tina Willson; board member absent: Daniela Alfano; staff members present: Dr. Brian Knetl, John Bryant, Dr. Kimberly Chavis, Clayton Muhammad, Dr. Anthony Ramos, Dr. Toya Webb, Mary Baccheschi, Spencer Brayton, Maribeth Brown, Lisa Cicci, Gary Clark, Robert Cofield, Marc Dale, Emma Donatille, Andrea Egle, Sharon Garcia, Dr. Rosianna Gray, Mary Greenwood, Daniel Hernandez, Emily Hinton, Dennis Hood, Erika Iniguez, Megan Jones, Darrin Kader, Abbas AL Khafaji, Jenni Lara, Dan Larsen, Faith LaShure, Dr. Aaron Lawler, Erik Leal, Michelle Lindquist, Christian Locke, Cristian Lopez, Shellee McCullum, Dr. Jeanine McMillen, Jessica Moreno, Melissa Morgan, J. C. Paez, Dr. Scott Peska, Dan Portincaso, Dr. Amy Powers, Dr. Stacey Randall, Dr. Lisa Richardson, Edith Rojas, Dr. Chassie Sherretz, Renee Skrabacz, Dr. Tamekia Smith, Jacqueline Stepherson, Ne'Keisha Stepney, Jo Lynn Theobald, Demetri Trakas, and Steven Zusman; featured student: Sierrah "CC" Anderson; guest presenter: Dominick Demonica; and general counsel to the College: Kenneth Florey of Robbins Schwartz.

II. Financial Reports

A. Public Hearing on the FY2027 College Budget

The public hearing on the FY2027 college budget was held at 6:05 p.m. No comments were presented on the budget. The board, on a motion by Ms. Oliver and seconded by Mr. Guzman, unanimously approved the closing of the public hearing at 6:06 p.m.

III. Introduction of New Faculty Members

- A.** Dr. Kimberly Chavis, Provost and Vice President of Teaching, Learning, and Student Success, introduced our new faculty members: Cristian Lopez and Demetri Trakas, Instructors of Automotive Technology.

IV. Waubonsee Voices

A. Faculty Voices

1. Sabbatical Leave Reports

Dr. Chavis introduced the faculty members who shared an overview of their sabbatical leave reports:

- a. Dan Portincaso, Associate Professor of English, presented: *Writing, Marketing Plan, and Network*.
- b. Dr. Aaron Lawler, Associate Professor of Humanities, and Steven Zusman, Associate Professor of Philosophy, presented: *Achieving Our Dream: Learning Communities for All*.

B. Student Voices

1. Lisa Cicci, Access Center Coordinator, introduced Waubonsee student, Sierrah “CC” Anderson. Ms. Cicci shared CC’s journey, from floral design to pursuing a career in welding, after overcoming significant personal and health challenges. She highlighted the support she received, her passion for welding, and her desire to encourage more women to enter the skilled trades. CC expressed gratitude to her family, the Waubonsee community, and her “dream team” for helping her achieve her educational and career goals.

V. Public Comment

A. General Public Comment

1. Simon Rodriguez, City of Aurora – topic: Youth Climate Action Fund Grant

VII. Institutional Reports and Presentations

A. Vice Presidents’ Reports

1. Vice President of Finance and Administration

a. Executive Summary of Financial Reports

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

b. Adoption of the FY2027 College Budget and Resolution No. 27-01

The board, on a motion by Mr. Thomas and seconded by Mr. Jaquez, unanimously adopted the FY2027 college budget and Resolution No. 27-01, as presented.

VI. Institutional Reports and Presentations (continued)

c. Bookstore/Foodservice Relocation Project Update

Dan Larsen, Executive Director of Campus Safety and Operations, and Dominick Demonica, Principal of Demonica Kemper Architects, presented the proposed project plans, project timeline, and preliminary cost projections for the Bookstore/Foodservice Relocation Project. Project bid recommendations are expected to be presented to the Board at the October meeting for approval.

2. Executive Vice President and Chief of Staff

a. RISE 2030 Quarterly Update – Enrich the Employee Experience

Dr. Toya Webb led the final quarterly update presentation of the year with an overview of the progress made to date for the priorities outlined in the RISE 2030 Strategic Plan. Priority Lead Edith Rojas, Workforce Education Coordinator; Goal Champion Christian Locke, Counselor/Assistant Professor; and Shellee McCullum, Institutional Effectiveness RISE 2030 Project Manager, highlighted the goals and key takeaways, tracked progress, and shared opportunities that support the “Enrich the Employee Experience” priority.

3. Vice President of Talent and Culture and Chief Diversity Officer

a. Insurance Update

Dr. Anthony Ramos commented that the College’s insurance broker will be providing renewal information soon, which will inform a recommendation for approval by the Board at the October meeting.

B. Faculty Council Update

Patricia Saccone, Professor of Health Information Technology and Faculty Council President, proudly recognized the faculty who earned academic rank: Maribeth Brown, Professor of Mathematics & Mathematics Developmental Education; Michelle Lindquist, Professor of English Developmental Education; Melissa Morgan, Associate Professor of Mathematics Developmental Education; and Jo Lynn Theobald, Professor of Mathematics Developmental Education.

C. Student Trustee Report

No report this month.

D. Board of Trustees Report

1. Waubonsee Foundation Annual and Quarterly Board Meetings Update

Dr. Brian Knetl reported on the Foundation Annual and Quarterly Board meetings that were held on September 15, 2026.

VI. Institutional Reports and Presentations (continued)

2. Board Policy Committee Update

Dr. Knetl plans to share an updated version of the Board of Trustees section of the Policy Manual with the full Board for their review. The proposed revisions reflect discussions held during the recent Board Retreat and are targeted for Board approval at the October meeting.

a. Appointment of Updated Committee

The board, on a motion by Mr. Guzman and seconded by Ms. Ries, unanimously approved the appointment of Trustee Rebecca Oliver to serve as a member of the Policy Committee, in place of Daniel Jaquez, Secretary Pro Tempore; with current Trustees Rick Guzman, Stacey Ries, and Tina Willson, who serves as Chair of the Policy Committee; and staff members Dr. Brian Knetl, Dr. Toya Webb, and John Bryant.

E. President's Report

Dr. Knetl began his report by acknowledging the strong and consistent turnout in the audience at our monthly Board meetings and expressed appreciation for everyone's support of one another and our students. He highlighted several recent, successful events including: Waubonsee's 60th Anniversary Celebration, The GROVE's ribbon cutting ceremony, and local Artist Dr. Charles Smith's exhibit in the Arrowhead Gallery. He also reported on Faculty Development Day; Crisis Communications Training held for several staff, administrators, and the Marketing and Communications team; and the Hispanic Pioneers Breakfast, hosted by Aurora Alderwoman Juany Garza. Dr. Knetl commented on the events planned for Latinx Heritage Month, and his meeting with Speaker Welch and Dr. Toya Webb. Upcoming events include: the Foundation Golf Outing on September 28; the All-College Picnic on October 2; Staff Professional Development Day on October 9; and the October 14 Board of Trustees meeting that will be held at the Aurora Downtown Campus. In addition, the Higher Learning Commission Comprehensive Accreditation Visit will be held on November 9-11. Dr. Knetl concluded with a comment about a new Talking Points document that will be shared monthly. For more announcements and details on Dr. Knetl's activity, his monthly [President's Report](#) can be viewed on the college website.

VII. Executive Session

The board, on a motion by Mr. Jaquez and seconded by Mr. Thomas, unanimously voted to adjourn to executive session at 8:15 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.

VIII. Reconvene to Open Session

The board reconvened in open session at 9:36 p.m. Roll call found the following board members present: Rick Guzman, Daniel Jaquez, Patrick Kelsey, Rebecca D. Oliver, Stacey Ries, Greg Thomas, and Tina Willson; board member absent: Daniela Alfano; and staff members present: Dr. Brian Knetl, Mary Baccheschi, Abbas AL Khafaji, J. C. Paez, and Dr. Anthony Ramos.

IX. Approval of Consent Agenda

The board, on a motion by Ms. Ries and seconded by Ms. Willson, unanimously approved the Consent Agenda that contains the following items – Meeting Minutes, Personnel Reports, and Financial Reports.

A. Meeting Minutes

1. August 19, 2026 Board Retreat Meeting Minutes
2. August 19, 2026 Board Retreat Executive Session Meeting Minutes
3. August 19, 2026 Board Meeting Minutes
4. August 19, 2026 Board Meeting Executive Session Meeting Minutes

B. Personnel Reports

1. New Appointments – Administrators (none) and Faculty (none)

Administrators

<u>Candidate</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Hire Date</u>
Timothy Betustak	Director of Athletics	\$103,000	Promotion	09/28/2026

2. Other New Appointments – including Full-Time, Part-Time and Temporary

Full-Time

<u>Candidate</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Hire Date</u>
Denelle Banez	Lead Custodian 2nd Shift-Sugar Grove	\$23.50/hr.	Promotion	08/04/2026
Jason Branom	Custodian 2nd Shift-Sugar Grove	\$19.25/hr.	New Hire	09/14/2026
Andrew Cristopoulos	Custodian 2nd Shift-Sugar Grove	\$23.00/hr.	New Hire	09/14/2026
Dino Divizio	Custodian 2nd Shift-Sugar Grove	\$20.28/hr.	New Hire	09/14/2026
Carolina Esquivel	Custodian 2nd Shift-Sugar Grove	\$22.35/hr.	PT to FT	08/19/2026
Kayla Galauner	Case Advisor (Adult WIOA)	\$28.50/hr.	New Hire	09/21/2026
Maria Rivera	Campus Operations Event Specialist	\$23.50/hr.	PT to FT	08/19/2026
Sherri Wick	Adult Education Career and Workforce Advisor	\$29.25/hr.	New Hire	08/31/2026

Part-Time and Temporary

<u>Candidate</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Hours/wk.</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Stipend</u>	<u>Hire Date</u>
CC Anderson	Student Worker Industry and Technology	25 hrs./wk.	\$16.43/hr.	N/A	08/24/2026
† Heather Chmielewski	Administrative Coordinator Buildings and Grounds		\$27.55/hr.	Temporary Rate Increase	08/24/2026

IX. Approval of Consent Agenda (continued)

<i>Part-Time and Temporary (continued)</i>					
<u>Candidate</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Hours/wk.</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Stipend</u>	<u>Hire Date</u>
Dr. David Deeds	Interim Dean for Mathematics and Science		\$1735.00	Monthly Stipend	07/13/2026
Ryan (RJ) Dodd, Jr.	Student Worker Adult Education Waubonsee Works	25 hrs./wk.	\$17.00/hr.	N/A	08/31/2026
Arianna Failor	Student Services Peer Navigator	25 hrs./wk.	\$16.17/hr.	N/A	08/24/2026
Diana Garcia-Padilla	Federal Work Study	25 hrs./wk.	\$16.17 hr.	N/A	08/18/2026
Lincoln Hubble	Student Worker Adult Education Waubonsee Works	25 hrs./wk.	\$17.00/hr.	N/A	08/31/2026
Angel Huerta	Federal Work Study	25 hrs./wk.	\$16.17/hr.	N/A	08/31/2026
† Erika Iniguez	Latinx Engagement Coordinator		\$40.75/hr.	Temporary Rate Increase	10/01/2026
Natalie Keivel	Federal Work Study	25 hrs./wk.	\$16.17 hr.	N/A	09/08/2026
Eric Meuer	Peer Tutor Academic Support	25 hrs./wk.	\$16.69/hr.	N/A	08/24/2026
* Elisa Mercado Galan	Federal Work Study	25 hrs./wk.	\$16.69/hr.	N/A	08/24/2026
Nicole Munoz	Student Worker Mental Health	25 hrs./wk.	\$16.69/hr.	N/A	08/24/2026
Monsalve	Peer Support Leaders				
† Araceli Munoz Salazar	Latinx Engagement Coordinator		\$35.50/hr.	Temporary Rate Increase	10/01/2026
Rebecah Palazzola	Interim Organizational Development and Effectiveness Manager		\$500.00	Monthly Stipend	09/16/2026
Noe Parra	Student Ambassador	25 hrs./wk.	\$16.17/hr.	N/A	08/31/2026
Erik Perez	Assistant Volleyball Coach		\$6,083	Coach	08/17/2026
Austin Preuss	Student Worker Athletics	25 hrs./wk.	\$16.17/hr.	N/A	08/24/2026
Mimi Roark	Student Worker Library	25 hrs./wk.	\$16.17/hr.	N/A	08/24/2026
Rodolfo Rosales-Lumbreras, Jr.	Federal Work Study	25 hrs./wk.	\$16.43/hr.	N/A	08/19/2026
Melissa Schlau	Student Services Peer Navigator	25 hrs./wk.	\$16.17/hr.	N/A	08/24/2026
Adan Silva	Student Worker Athletics	25 hrs./wk.	\$16.17/hr.	N/A	09/08/2026
Ian Stanley	Student Worker Student Life	25 hrs./wk.	\$16.17 hr.	N/A	09/08/2026
* Jamie Stone	Federal Work Study	25 hrs./wk.	\$16.69/hr.	N/A	08/31/2026
Trenton (Trent) Thiem	Student Worker Athletics	25 hrs./wk.	\$16.17/hr.	N/A	08/17/2026
Nathaniel Yakushina	Student Worker Arts and Humanities	25 hrs./wk.	\$16.17/hr.	N/A	09/08/2026

* *Federal Work Study Peer Support Leaders earn a higher rate*

† *Temporarily assuming additional duties to support leadership roles during leaves and vacancies*

3. Separations – including Resignations

<u>Employee</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Separation Date</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Years of Service</u>
Dr. Eric Auran	Dean for Mathematics and Science	09/02/2026	Resignation	1 year, 7 months
Emanuel (Manny) Chavez	Instructor of Welding Technology	09/18/2026	Resignation	1 year, 1 month
Terence Felton	Chief Information Officer	08/27/2026	Resignation	15 years
Jesus Macias Jimenez	Student Retention Analyst	08/20/2026	Resignation	2 years, 6 months

4. Approval of a “Separation Agreement and Release”

IX. Approval of Consent Agenda (continued)

C. Financial Reports

1. Payroll Report for Pay Number 15

010100	Education Fund	\$1,848,410.10
020100	Operations and Maintenance Fund	147,937.52
050620	Bookstore	30,844.36
062101	Adult Education-State Basic	7,808.72
062102	Adult Education-Performance	4,892.80
062420	Small Business Development Center-Sate	3,921.75
063101	Adult Education-Federal Basic	4,029.08
063107	Perkins Postsecondary	8,032.56
063132	Federal Work Study	4,288.35
063171	TRIO/Upward Bound East	7,004.20
063172	TRIO/Upward Bound West	7,206.40
063202	Waubonsee Works	5,270.18
063235	Waubonsee Works-Adult	3,345.56
063946	SBDC	4,099.60
120100	Liability/Protection and Settlement	<u>65,514.23</u>
	Final Total:	<u><u>\$2,152,605.40</u></u>

IX. Approval of Consent Agenda (continued)

2. Payroll Report for Pay Number 16

010100	Education Fund	\$1,642,358.41
020100	Operations and Maintenance Fund	150,581.34
050620	Bookstore	32,219.34
062101	Adult Education-State Basic	7,772.85
062102	Adult Education-Performance	4,892.80
062420	SBDC-State	3,921.75
063101	Adult Education-Federal Basic	4,162.69
063102	Adult Education-EL/Civics	39.99
063107	Perkins Postsecondary	8,046.84
063132	Federal Work Study	3,660.08
063171	TRIO/Upward Bound East	7,326.58
063172	TRIO/Upward Bound West	7,386.73
063202	Waubonsee Works	5,436.68
063235	Waubonsee Works-Adult	3,345.56
063946	SBDC-Federal	4,063.20
120100	Liability/Protection and Settlement	<u>64,486.04</u>
	Final Total:	<u>\$1,949,700.88</u>

IX. Approval of Consent Agenda (continued)

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

010100	Education Fund	\$ 1,881,337.44
010109	Budget Stabilization Fund	18,723.00
010900	Payroll Clearing Fund	80,439.50
020100	Operations and Maintenance Fund	429,430.43
030100	Operations and Maintenance Restricted	47,200.00
030201	Technical Education Center (TEC)	89,034.25
030217	Gym Floor	34,250.00
050503	Auto Resale	3,814.14
050620	Bookstore	202,553.48
050810	Internal Medical Insurance	884,805.54
050811	Retiree Medical Insurance	5,831.83
062118	Innovative Bridge Transitions	1,619.80
062123	PATH Grant	1,745.00
063107	Perkins Postsecondary	883.20
063171	TRIO/Upward Bound East	16,254.76
063172	TRIO/Upward Bound West	368.83
063202	Waubonsee Works	15.05
063946	SBDC-Federal	4,660.00
064114	SBDC Other Sources	158.12
100300	Trust and Agency	5,411.08
110100	Audit Fund	20,000.00
120100	Liability/Protection and Settlement	<u>18,008.36</u>
	Final Total:	<u>\$3,746,543.81</u>

IX. Approval of Consent Agenda (continued)

4. Treasurer's Report for the Month of August 2026

The Treasurer's Report for the month of August 2026 was accepted by the board and placed on file.

5. Approval of the FY2026 Year-End Transfers

Approval of the FY2026 year-end transfers, as presented.

6. Bids/Purchases:

a. Approval of Contract Award for Electrical Vehicle Charging Stations and Directional Boring

Approval of contract award for the electrical vehicle charging stations and directional boring with Volt Electric, Inc. of Big Rock, IL, in the amount of \$217,469.

b. Purchase of Eight Dell PowerEdge R470 Servers

Purchase of eight Dell PowerEdge R470 servers from Dell Technologies of Round Rock, TX, in the amount of \$486,267 for the period of January 2027 through January 2034.

c. Renewal of Hardware and Software Support for the Juniper Network Switches

Renewal of hardware and software support for the Juniper Network Switches from Xerox IT Solutions of Chicago, IL, in the amount of \$26,937 for the period of October 20, 2026 through October 19, 2027.

X. Consent Agenda Items Removed for Individual Consideration

No Consent Agenda Items were removed for individual consideration.

XI. Adjournment

The board, on a motion by Mr. Guzman and seconded by Mr. Jaquez, unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 9:37 p.m.



Daniel Jaquez, CISA, CDPSE, CRISC
2026-10-15 00:59 UTC

Daniel Jaquez, CISA, CDPSE, CRISC
Secretary Pro Tempore
Waubonsee Community College
Board of Trustees