



**Monroe Community College**

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

**MCC VALUES:**

COMMUNITY.

INCLUSIVENESS.

INTEGRITY.

EXCELLENCE.

EMPOWERMENT.

STEWARDSHIP.

# Monroe Community College Board of Trustees Minutes

Monday, August 4, 2025

MCC Brighton Campus, Monroe B

4:00 PM

- Present: Carla M. Palumbo, Esq., Vice Chair and Chair, Personnel and Programs Committee  
John B. Baynes  
Gladys Pedraza-Burgos  
Angelica Perez-Delgado - remote  
Dale R. Rehkopf II, Chair, Finance and Facilities Committee  
Grace S. Tillinghast  
Parker Werven, Student Trustee
- Dr. DeAnna R. Burt-Nanna, President  
Linda M. Hall, Executive Assistant, Board of Trustees
- Excused: Connie O. Walker, Esq., Chair, Risk Management Committee  
Allen K. Williams, Chair

Monroe Community College  
Board of Trustees Minutes  
August 4, 2025

*Mission: Monroe Community College transforms lives and communities, fostering the success of diverse students through affordable and innovative academic, career, technical, and workforce development programs. Our shared work inspires and champions excellence in higher education and builds global engagement and understanding.*

## Introduction and Opening Remarks

Carla M. Palumbo, Vice Chair, Board of Trustees, called the meeting to order and quorum was established at 4:00 pm.

- Presentation on Audit Planning and Scope:
  - Andrew Kelly, Principal, Bonadio and Co., LLP
  - Randall (Randy) Shepard, Partner, Bonadio and Co., LLP

## Consent Agenda

The following items were proposed to be adopted and approved by consent:

### ***Board of Trustees***

- Minutes of the June 9 Board Meeting and June 17 Personnel and Programs Committee Meeting
- Approves the Monroe Community College Board of Trustees 2026 Meeting Calendar:

Date	Time
Monday, February 2	4:00 pm Board Meeting
Monday, March 2	4:00 pm Board Meeting
Monday, April 13	2:00 pm Budget Workshop, 4:00 pm Board Meeting
Monday, June 1	4:00 pm Board Meeting
Monday, August 3	4:00 pm Board Meeting
Monday, October 5	4:00 pm Board Meeting
Monday, December 7	11:00 am Board Workshop, 4:00 pm Board Meeting

- Elects the Board of Trustees officers nominated to serve until the next annual meeting of the Board of Trustees and/or until their successors have been elected and qualified:
  - Chair: Allen K. Williams
  - Vice Chair: Carla M. Palumbo, Esq.
  - Secretary: Gladys Pedraza-Burgos

Monroe Community College  
Board of Trustees Minutes  
August 4, 2025

***Finance & Facilities***

- Operating disbursements totaled \$7,437,885.55 for the month of May 2025, and \$6,614,868.18 for the month of June 2025, subject to final audit. (A detailed listing is available upon request.)
- Accept the Interim Financial Reports as of May 31, and June 30, 2025.
- Purchases of items over \$20,000 as listed for the months of May and June 2025.

***Personnel & Programs***

- Adopts the “Political Electioneering Activities Policy”
- Approves a 3.0% increase to base for the 2025-2026 fiscal year for Non-Contract Administrators, effective September 1, 2025; the Board further authorizes the College Officers in their discretion to award up to \$750.00 in the form of a one-time lump sum payment not added to base for fiscal year 2025-2026, effective September 1, 2025, in recognition of exceptional individual contributions in furtherance of MCC’s mission and reflective of the College’s core values.
- Approves a 3.0% increase to base and a \$1,000.00 one-time lump sum payment not added to base for fiscal year 2025-2026 for College Officers, effective September 1, 2025.
- Approves a salary increase of 3.0% added to base for the 2025-2026 fiscal year for the President, effective September 1, 2025. The Board authorizes the chair of the Board of Trustees to amend the employment agreement with the President upon such terms as the Board of Trustees and the President mutually agree.
- Reappoints the following College Officers effective September 1, 2025, through August 31, 2026.
  - Robin Cole, Jr, Vice President, Economic & Workforce Development & Career Technical Education
  - Calvin Gantt, Vice President, Diversity, Equity, and Belonging and Executive Director, Downtown Campus
  - Michael Jacobs, Provost and Vice President, Academic and Student Affairs
  - Gretchen Wood, Vice President, Institutional Advancement and Executive Director of the MCC Foundation
- Adopts and ratifies a Separation Agreement to be executed between the College and a particular employee.

Monroe Community College  
Board of Trustees Minutes  
August 4, 2025

***Personnel & Programs*** (continued)

- The Board of Trustees of Monroe Community College express its sincere appreciation for professional services, and in recognition of their years of dedicated service to the College, the following be appointed, at the pleasure of the Board of Trustees, to Emeritus Status:
- **Professor Emeritus**
    - Avery, Jannette - Mathematics
    - Callan, Patrick - English & Philosophy
    - Dorsey, Jacqueline - Nursing
    - Embrey, Brenda - Health Professions
    - Flatley, Anne - Health & Physical Education
    - Gleason, Mary Ellen - Mathematics
    - Hillabush Walker, Tamara - Visual & Performing Arts
    - Long, Suzanne - Biology
    - McKenna, James - Health & Physical Education
    - Morris, Karen - Business Administration
    - Moses, Lori - Visual & Performing Arts
    - Murphy, Susan - Business Administration
    - Nyerges, John - Visual & Performing Arts
    - Rowley, Cristina - World Languages & Cultures
    - Sayles, Penny - Health & Physical Education
    - Striebich, John - Business Administration
    - Vest, Mary Jo – Biology
  - **Associate Professor Emeritus**
    - Drumright, William - Anthropology/History/Political Science/Sociology
    - Shiao, Lena - Education & Human Services
- Approves the Consent Calendar

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Monroe Community College adopt the consent agenda effective August 4, 2025. (T12-2025)

**MOTION** was made and seconded that the above resolution be adopted.  
Motion was carried unanimously.

Monroe Community College  
Board of Trustees Minutes  
August 4, 2025

## Board of Trustees

WHEREAS, Dr. Daniele Lyman-Torres is recognized as a champion for public higher education in New York State, as demonstrated by her commitment to the success of Monroe Community College (MCC) and the Monroe Community College Foundation; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Daniele Lyman-Torres, a distinguished leader in health care and human services, has shared her time, expertise, and insight as a member of the MCC Board of Trustees, serving as Secretary of the Board of Trustees from 2022 – 2025; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of her outstanding leadership and contributions to the community, she was named to the MCC Alumni Hall of Fame in 2016 and honored as a 2024 Woman of Excellence by the Rochester Business Journal; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Daniele Lyman-Torres also demonstrated her commitment and passion for MCC through her service on the Personnel and Programs, Nominating, and Risk Management Committees as well as participating in academic honors convocations, commencements, and other college-related activities; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Daniele Lyman-Torres fully supports MCC's mission to provide affordable education, foster innovation, empower diverse students, strengthen the regional economy, and promote global understanding; and

RESOLVED, that the Monroe Community College Board of Trustees hereby expresses its heartfelt appreciation to Dr. Daniele Lyman-Torres, an unwavering advocate for public higher education and a respected leader, for her dedication to Monroe Community College, its employees, and the diverse students whom we proudly serve; and be it further

RESOLVED, that Dr. Daniele Lyman-Torres has had a significant and admirable impact on the College's continued growth and excellence, strengthening its ability to serve Greater Rochester, Monroe County, and the Finger Lakes Region; may she be hereafter recognized as an Honorary Trustee of Monroe Community College on this, the 4th day of August 2025. (T13-2025)

**MOTION** was made and seconded that the above resolution be adopted.  
Motion was carried unanimously.

Monroe Community College  
Board of Trustees Minutes  
August 4, 2025

## Student Success

- Student Testimonial by Miracle Dixon
- Student Government Association Update
- Student Trustee Update
- Student Success Dashboard with Key Performance Indicator (KPI) Measurements
  - William Dixon, Director, Research

## College Updates

- Monroe Community College Foundation Report
- Shared Governance Updates
  - Linda M. Hall, Executive Assistant to the Board of Trustees, called on the shared governance groups for their updates. The following groups shared an update:
    - Faculty Senate – Julie Babulski
    - Support Staff Planning Council – written report
- Selected Executive Leadership Team Updates
  - Dr. Robin Cole Jr., Economic & Workforce Development & Career Technical Education
  - Dr. Calvin Gantt, Vice President, Diversity, Equity and Belonging and Executive Director, Downtown Campus
  - Darrell Jachim-Moore, Interim CFO/Vice President, Administrative Services
  - Dr. Michael Jacobs, Provost & Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs
  - Gretchen Wood, Vice President, Institutional Advancement and Executive Director, MCC Foundation
- Joint Finance and Operations Report
  - Dale R. Rehkopf II, Chair, Finance and Facilities Committee
  - Darrell Jachim-Moore, Interim CFO/Vice President, Administrative Services
- President's Update
  - Administrative Shared Governance Update
- Union Updates
  - Linda M. Hall, Executive Assistant to the Board of Trustees, called on the union groups for their updates. The following groups shared an update:
    - Faculty Association – Bethany Gizzi
    - CSEA – written report

Monroe Community College  
Board of Trustees Minutes  
August 4, 2025

***Information Items***

Finance and Facilities

- CIP Status Report as of July 11, 2025
- Grants Report from May 16 to July 10, 2025

Personnel and Programs

- None

Board of Trustees

- Biographies
- Staff Recognition

Monroe Community College  
Board of Trustees Minutes  
August 4, 2025

### *Summary*

- Vice Chair Palumbo gaveled in the meeting at 4:00 pm.
- Condolences were given in honor of former Trustee Dr. Joe Carbone who served on the MCC Board from January 2018 to December 2021.
- A presentation was given by Andrew Kelly, Principal, and Randy Shepard, Partner, from the Bonadio Group regarding audit planning and scope.
- Student Miracle Dixon provided her testimonial. The Board of Trustees and President Burt-Nanna thanked Miracle for sharing her story.
- Student Government Association President Jalisia Burno presented on behalf of the Student Government Association (SGA). President Burno is entering her second year at MCC, majoring in Business Administration. The SGA has been preparing for the upcoming year by attending training sessions to assist with the transition into leadership roles. They have learned how to conduct meetings, reviewed Vision2027, and set goals for the 2025-2026 academic year. They have been working on the planning for Constitution Day on September 17 and the 9/11 Memorial ceremony.
- Student Trustee Parker Werven gave his report. Trustee Werven recognized the importance of being a student trustee and the role it plays in vocalizing student voices. Over the summer, Trustee Werven has collaborated with the Student Government members, the President, and select members of the Executive Leadership Team, as well as select fellow trustees.
- William Dixon, Director of Research, provided an update on the Student Success Dashboard and Key Performance Indicator Measurements. Highlighted at this meeting was KPI 4: Median Wages Post-Graduation and the new SUNY reporting system.
- Gretchen Wood, VP of Institutional Advancement and Executive Director of the MCC Foundation, gave the MCC Foundation report. VP Woods announced the establishment of the William E. and Joan J. Moore Endowed Scholarship II with a commitment of \$109,000 which is designed to support students who are facing financial hardship but who possess a strong work ethic and has demonstrated a sincere desire to pursue a career in the fields that fall under the schools of Applied Science and Technology and Health Science. The 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Scholarship Open took place on June 23<sup>rd</sup> and raised \$136,000 in support of student success. The 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Scholarship Open will take place on June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2026. The 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Salute to Excellence will be held on November 19 at the Floreano Convention Center. MCC hosted the Be a Healthy Hero Summer Camp at the Brighton campus, where nearly 800 campers spent five weeks reinforcing literacy and math skills, playing sports, and having fun. The MCC Foundation annual campaign has raised \$683,179 and is at 83% of its goal. The annual campaign is a key source of support for Foundation operations and areas of greatest need.
- Faculty Senate President Julie Babulski introduced herself and looks forward to her role as Faculty Senate President.
- Support Staff Planning Council provided a written report.
- Divisional highlights were shared with the Board and delivered by selected members of the President's Executive Leadership Team.



Monroe Community College  
Board of Trustees Minutes  
August 4, 2025

- Trustee Dale Rehkopf and Interim CFO and VP – Administrative Services Darrell Jachim-Moore gave the Joint Finance and Operations Report. The report focused on financial results through June and, as projected for the fiscal year, along with the SUNY Information Security Plan status and Accessibility Projects update.
- President Burt-Nanna began her report with respect and appreciation to all trustees and welcomed the newest student trustee. Recognition was given to faculty and staff who were approved for emeritus status, promotions, and title changes, and to the College Officers on their reappointments. Other recognitions were provided to College Officers for commission appointments and to Trustees for community and state recognitions. President Burt-Nanna delivered oral testimony before the Monroe County Legislature and, by all indications, is poised for a fifth consecutive year of increased operating aid of \$250K, for a total of \$120.6M, representing an increase of 3% over the prior year budget. Enrollment continues its upward trajectory as summer enrollment exceeds budget, and Fall semester trends toward meeting budget for the fifth consecutive year, reversing over a decade of declining enrollment. The Board was invited to read the draft self-study report in preparation for the preliminary visit from the accreditation team chair, September 29-30. President Burt-Nanna provided an update on Federal Policy impact. SUNY issued a statement to the presidents on August 1 reaffirming no changes to existing guidance in response to the July 29 Department of Justice memo. The President thanked the leadership of Faculty Senate for their invitation to address the College at the end of the prior academic year and extended commendations to the outgoing and incoming shared governance leaders of MCC's Faculty Senate, Support Staff Planning Council, and Student Government Association.
- Faculty Association President Bethany Gizzi reported on behalf of the Faculty Association. The Faculty Association held its annual elections and voted on changes to the constitution and bylaws. With the current changes, there are now 21 leadership positions, each have a term of 2 years. The leadership team members were introduced. President Gizzi was elected to her eighth and final term as FA President. An Executive VP position was created with this succession planning in mind and Amanda Colosimo was elected to the role. Many of the newly elected officers participated in the FA Leadership Pathway Program last year. The program will be continued this year with an emphasis on the union work for Labor-Management and contract negotiations.
- CSEA provided a written report.
- Vice Chair Palumbo expressed her gratitude in recognition of the work being done every day by MCC employees and expressed congratulations to those employees who received non-rank and adjunct promotions and those receiving emeritus status. Vice Chair Palumbo announced there will be two College Forums in the Fall semester – September 17 and October 29. The Board looks forward to these opportunities to hear from college employees.
- The meeting adjourned at 5:54 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Carla M. Palumbo, Esq.  
Vice Chair, Board of Trustees