



Monroe Community College
STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

MCC VALUES:
COMMUNITY.
INCLUSIVENESS.
INTEGRITY.
EXCELLENCE.
EMPOWERMENT.
STEWARDSHIP.

Monroe Community College Board of Trustees Minutes

Monday, March 2, 2026
MCC Downtown Campus, High Falls A/B
4:00 PM

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.

Present: Carla M. Palumbo, Esq., Vice Chair and Chair, Personnel and Programs Committee
Gladys Pedraza-Burgos, Secretary
John B. Baynes
Angelica Perez-Delgado
Dale R. Rehkopf II, Chair, Finance and Facilities Committee
Grace S. Tillinghast
Connie O. Walker, Esq., Chair, Risk Management Committee
Parker Werven, Student Trustee

Dr. DeAnna R. Burt-Nanna, President
Linda M. Hall, Executive Assistant, Board of Trustees

Excused: Tashanda Thomas
Allen K. Williams, Chair

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Introduction and Opening Remarks

Carla M. Palumbo, Vice Chair and Chair of the Personnel and Programs Committee, called the meeting to order, and a quorum was established at 4:00 pm.

Consent Agenda

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

Board of Trustees

- Minutes of the January 8 and February 2 Personnel and Programs Committee Meetings; February 2 Board Meeting, and February 23 Risk Management Committee Meeting

Finance & Facilities

- Operating disbursements totaled \$12,642,946.43 for the month of December 2025, subject to final audit. (A detailed listing is available upon request.)
- Accept the Interim Financial Reports as of December 31, 2025
- Purchases of items over \$20,000 as listed for the month of December 2025
- Approves the MCC Foundation's recommendation that the HVAC Fabrication Lab within the Sydor Optics Advanced Technology Center be named as The Davenport-Hatch Foundation HVAC Fabrication Lab as of March 2, 2026

Personnel & Programs

- Approves the following A.A.S. degree, subject to the approval by the State University of New York: Legal Studies
- Approves the reappointment of Non-Contract, Professional Staff, Faculty, and Technical Assistants/Advisors as listed at the ranks and titles indicated for the 2026-2027 academic year or, for 12-month employees, beginning September 1, 2026, and ending August 31, 2027
- Approves the Consent Calendar

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Monroe Community College adopt the consent agenda effective March 2, 2026. (T02-2026)

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

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Finance and Facilities Committee

WHEREAS, Monroe County (the “County”), the Monroe County Water Authority (“MCWA”) and Monroe Community College (the “College”) require a Water Main Extension Agreement for the installation of a water main extension and associated appurtenances to support the MCC Applied Technology Center – S.T.E.M. Addition project at 1048 East Henrietta Road in the Town of Brighton (the “Project”); and

WHEREAS, the Project requires the conveyance of a permanent easement consisting of 0.663 acres to the MCWA for installation and maintenance of the water main extension; and

WHEREAS, the College must execute a Water Main Extension Agreement with the County and the MCWA, and a Private Fire Protection Service Agreement with the MCWA, as permitted under New York State Education Law §6306, in connection with the Project; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution 71 of 2026 of the Monroe County Legislature, the County Executive, or his designee, is authorized to execute a Petition, and any amendments thereto, to establish an extension to the Brighton Consolidated Sanitary Sewer District for the Applied Technology Center site; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Title 8, §604.1 of the New York Codes, Rules, and Regulations, the Board of Trustees has determined the aforementioned actions involving real property serve the exclusive use and purposes of the College; and

WHEREAS, compliance with the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) has been completed, pursuant to Resolution 70 of 2026 of the Monroe County Legislature, prior to the Board undertaking, funding, or approving the actions authorized by this resolution;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the College hereby authorizes the College to enter into a Water Main Extension Agreement with the County and the MCWA, and a Private Fire Protection Service Agreement with the MCWA for the Project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board hereby authorizes the County, as Local Sponsor and Trustee for the College, to convey a permanent easement consisting of 0.663 acre at 1048 East Henrietta Road to the MCWA for the purpose of installing and maintaining the required water main extension for the Project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the College hereby authorizes the County Executive or his designee to submit a Petition to establish an extension to the Brighton Consolidated Sanitary Sewer District for the Applied Technology Center site; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the President of the College, or her designee, is hereby authorized, empowered, and directed to execute any and all documents and to take all actions necessary or appropriate to carry out the intent and purposes of this resolution. (F01-2026)

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

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Student Success

- Student Testimonial by Cricket DeReu
- Student Government Association Update
- Student Trustee Update
- Student Success Dashboard with Key Performance Indicator (KPI) Measurements
 - William Dixon, Chief Data Officer and AVP, Institutional Research and Assessment

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
- Presentation: Workforce Pell: Expanding Access & Opportunity - Status Update & Next Steps
 - Julianna Frisch, Director, Healthcare Programs, Economic & Workforce Development Center
 - Heidi Quinlivan, Program Development/Curriculum Manager, Finger Lakes Workforce Development (FWD) Center
 - Siva Visveswaran, Director, Finger Lakes Workforce Development (FWD) Center
- 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
 - Dr. Michael Jacobs, Provost & Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs
 - Dr. Craig Ross, CFO/Vice President, Administrative Services
 - 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
 - Dr. Craig Ross, 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 – no update
 - CSEA – written update

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Information Items

Finance and Facilities

- CIP Status Report as of February 6, 2026
- Grants Report from January 9 – February 5, 2026

Personnel and Programs

- Conflict of Interest Policy for College Officers and Non-Contract Employees
- Digital Content Accessibility Policy
- Student Attendance Policy
- College Administration Policy

Board of Trustees

- Biographies
- Staff Recognition

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Summary

- Vice Chair Palumbo gaveled in the meeting at 4:00 pm.
- MCC student Cricket DeReu provided his testimonial and, in addition to noting his educational experience and goals, described MCC as welcoming, safe, and supportive for persons who identify as disabled and part of the LGBTQ+ community. The Board of Trustees and President Burt-Nanna thanked Cricket for sharing his story.
- Student Government Association President Jalisia Burno presented on behalf of the Student Government Association (SGA). In recent weeks, the team has promoted the Student Government Association at the Student Life Fair, prepared for the March 4 Middle States Rally, and begun recruitment and outreach for upcoming SGA elections. Campus clubs have also been active: the Travel and Hospitality Club is planning a May trip to Chicago; the Muslim Student Association hosted a well-attended Ramadan kickoff on February 25; and the ASL Club held an engaging Game Night with a Deaf community guest. Overall, student involvement across campus has been strong and steady.
- Student Trustee Parker Werven gave his report. Trustee Werven attended Advocacy Day in Albany on February 4 where he met lawmakers and elevated student voices on issues that matter across New York State. He then attended the American Association of Community College Trustees National Legislative Summit in Washington, D.C., where he met with Congressman Morelle, Senator Gillibrand, and an education staffer for Senator Schumer to discuss ongoing efforts to bring affordability and accessibility back to community colleges. Trustee Werven is continuing to connect with the student body by co-chairing the Student Communication Committee. The main goal of this committee is to identify how students want to receive their news. Trustee Werven also volunteered for the Special Olympics at Bristol Mountain.
- William Dixon, Chief Data Officer and AVP, Institutional Research and Assessment, provided an update on the Student Success Dashboard and Key Performance Indicator Measurements. Highlights from this meeting included an overview of MCC graduates' wages and a breakdown by demographic category.
- Marty Birmingham, Chair, MCC Foundation Board of Directors, gave the MCC Foundation report. The news about the \$1M investment from the local automotive industry and the spaces they have named within the new Sydor Optics Advanced Technology Center was shared at the Rochester Automobile Dealers Association's Auto Show. Thanks to the generosity of ESL, MCC is adding Anatomage tables, life-size 3D digital cadavers, which will transform how our students learn human anatomy. The MCC Foundation's Alice Holloway Young Society honors those who include the Foundation in their estate plans. A matching challenge launched by Dr. Young's son provides a \$5,000 gift for each new documented bequest. So far, six new members and two increased intentions represent about \$3.5 million in future commitments. Planned giving allows supporters to make a lasting impact, and all Society members will be recognized at a June 25 luncheon. Gold Star Gala will take place on April 25 at the County Club of Rochester. Sponsorship opportunities were shared with the Board. The 42nd Annual Scholarship Open golf tournament will take place on June 22 at the Country Club of Rochester. Preliminary results of the Voluntary Support of Education (VSE) survey operated by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) show the MCC Foundation ranked number one among reporting SUNY community colleges in the following categories:
 - #1 for Total Giving

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- #1 for Total Current Ops/Restricted Giving
- #1 for Current Operations
- #1 for Total New Funds Committed
- #1 for Faculty/Staff Giving

The Foundation has been number one in total giving for four consecutive years.

- Faculty Senate President Julie Babulski gave the Faculty Senate report. Over the past month, the Faculty Senate has continued to fulfill its shared governance role by advancing academic policy, supporting institutional planning and collaborating with the Executive Leadership Team. It has reviewed academic program revisions, placement policies, strategic planning initiatives, and key leadership searches, ensuring alignment with MCC's mission and academic standards. Faculty Senate has also contributed to institutional strategic planning by providing faculty perspectives. A major collaborative effort with the Executive Leadership Team is underway to develop a formal policy and procedure framework for noncredit-to-credit bridges. This work focuses on ensuring academic oversight, establishing clear governance pathways, defining faculty roles, and protecting academic integrity while expanding student access and workforce opportunities. Overall, the Faculty Senate remains committed to maintaining academic quality, supporting institutional priorities, and strengthening shared governance to promote student success and institutional excellence.
- Support Staff Planning Council provided a written report.
- A presentation was given on Workforce Pell by Julianna Frisch, Director, Healthcare Programs; Heidi Quinlivan, Program Development/Curriculum Manager; and Siva Visveswaran, Director, Finger Lakes Workforce Development Center.
- Divisional highlights were shared with the Board and delivered by selected members of the President's Executive Leadership Team.
- Trustee Dale Rehkopf and CFO and VP of Administrative Services Craig Ross gave the Joint Finance and Operations Report. Dr. Ross provided a status update on January expenses, noting there were no material changes to the College's overall financial outlook since the February meeting. The biggest expense drivers were benefits and salary increases. The board was solicited for any topics they would like highlighted at the upcoming April Board workshop. VP Roth also highlighted the current status of the budget development process.
- President Burt-Nanna opened with congratulations to several MCC Trustees for recent honors: Trustee Gladys Pedraza Burgos was recognized by WROC TV News 8 as a Remarkable Woman; Trustee Angelica Perez Delgado was named to the Rochester Business Journal (RBJ) 2026 Power100 List and attended the State of the Union at the invitation of Congressman Joe Morelle and Trustee Tashanda Thomas was selected as a 2026 Athena Award finalist. The President also acknowledges MCC employees who received board-approved appointments, promotions, title changes, or retirements, expressing appreciation for their service. Two MCC students are highlighted: Olympic gold medalist Chris Lillis, an MCC alum, celebrated for winning another gold medal in freestyle skiing at the 2026 Winter Olympics, and Stella Cass Adams Johnson, whose poem "little Black girl" was chosen as one of four national 2025 Reynolds Scholars from over 3,200 submissions. Her work will be published, and she will receive a \$500 scholarship. Her poem reflects her personal experiences and aims to uplift young Black girls. MCC will host a Middle States accreditation site visit in three weeks, with final

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accreditation decisions expected in June. Preparations are underway, including scheduling meetings with key stakeholders. The President traveled with Trustees to Washington, D.C. for the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) National Legislative Summit. Congressman Joe Morelle awarded MCC \$850,000 in federal funding to support equipment needs in the Sydor Optics Applied Technology Center (ATC). The College also continues advocating for additional state and county funding and is preparing for the annual Board budget workshop in April. Looking ahead, MCC is beginning work on its next strategic plan, as Vision2027 concludes in August 2027. Co-chairs have been appointed, and a planning timeline has been shared, with a first draft expected in June 2027 for Board review. Broad stakeholder engagement will guide the process. The remarks close by recognizing the Board, Faculty Senate, Support Staff Planning Council, and Student Government Association for their collaborative efforts in sustaining effective shared governance. The President expresses confidence that the Middle States evaluators will affirm MCC's strong governance and thanks all contributors for their service to the College's mission.

- Faculty Association provided a written report.
- CSEA provided a written report.
- Carla Palumbo, Vice Chair and Chair of the Personnel and Programs Committee, expressed her gratitude in recognition of the work being done every day by MCC employees, bringing special attention to those receiving reappointments, promotions, and title changes. There will be two College Forums held in the Spring semester on March 12 and May 13. The Board looks forward to these opportunities to hear from college employees.
- The Board meeting adjourned at 5:53 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Gladys Pedraza-Burgos
Secretary, Board of Trustees