

**MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
NOVEMBER 11, 2025**

The Board of Trustees of Community College District 509, Counties of Kane, Cook, DuPage, McHenry and DeKalb, State of Illinois, convened a regular meeting on Tuesday, November 11, 2025, in Building E, Room E100.01.

**1. Call to Order and Roll Call**

Chair Rakow called the regular meeting to order at 5:36 p.m., indicated that a quorum was present, and asked the recorder to call roll.

*Trustees present:* Ms. Rakow, Mr. Rodriguez, Dr. Redmer, Ms. Arroyo, Mr. Parks, Mr. Allen, Ms. Barbosa-Guzman and Student Trustee Mr. Gidlund.

*Trustees absent:* None

*ECC staff:* Dr. Heinrich, President; Dr. Schopen, VP, Teaching, Learning and Student Development; Dr. Wagner, VP, Business & Finance, Dr. Phil Garber, VP, Planning, Institutional Effectiveness & Technology; Mr. Vazquez, General Counsel; and Ms. Kerruish, Recorder.

**2. Recess to Closed Session**

The Chair asked for a motion to recess immediately to closed session under the following exceptions to the *Illinois Open Meetings Act*:

- A. To discuss minutes of meetings lawfully closed under this Act . . . .
- B. To consider the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the college....
- C. To discuss litigation, when an action...has been filed...or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent....
- D. To consider collective negotiation matters...for one of more classes of employees... all pursuant to Chapter 5 of the *Illinois Compiled Statutes* Sections 120/2 (c) (21, 1, 11 and 2 respectively).

***Motion:*** Trustee Arroyo moved to recess to closed session.

***Second:*** Student Trustee Gidlund seconded the motion.

***Roll-Call Vote:*** Aye, 7: Rakow, Rodriguez, Redmer, Arroyo, Parks, Allen and Barbosa-Guzman; nay, 0; Student Trustee Gidlund, aye; motion carried at 5:37 p.m.

**3. Reconvene Open Session**

The closed-session concluded at 6:29 p.m. The board reconvened in open session at 6:35 p.m. in E125, Seigle Auditorium.

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#### 4. Preliminary Matters

##### A. Roll Call

*Trustees present:* Ms. Rakow, Mr. Rodriguez, Dr. Redmer, Ms. Arroyo, Mr. Parks, Mr. Allen, Ms. Barbosa-Guzman and Student Trustee Mr. Gidlund.

*Trustees absent:* None

*ECC staff:* Dr. Heinrich, President; Dr. Schopen, VP, Teaching, Learning and Student Development; Dr. Wagner, VP, Business & Finance, Dr. Phil Garber, VP, Planning, Institutional Effectiveness & Technology; Mr. Vazquez, General Counsel; and Ms. Kerruish, Recorder; ECC staff and visitors.

Trustee Rakow took a moment to thank the veterans on the Board, in the audience and all those that have served.

##### B. Consideration of and Possible Actions on Any Requests for a Board Member's Electronic Participation in Meeting.

No considerations necessary at this meeting.

##### C. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Trustee Parks.

##### D. Board Purpose

The Board Purpose was recited by Trustee Arroyo.

#### 5. President's Report

- Dr. Heinrich acknowledged Anitra King, President of SSECCA and Kim Tarver, representing ECCFA, in attendance.
- A very successful State Universities of Illinois Transfer Day was held on October 15 in the Jobe Lounge. We had representatives from all 12 state universities here to answer questions, allowing our students a unique opportunity to connect and explore transfer opportunities. Student engagement was strong, with some university representatives saying that they stopped counting after speaking with 50 students, as this was far more engagement than they expected or are used to from similar events on other campuses. 2025 saw the highest attendance rate (potentially ever, but at least since the pandemic), with 771 individuals counted upon entry.
- College Night was also a big success on October 15 in the evening in the Events Center. 154 colleges and universities from across the country attended. 504 students, families and community members registered to attend, and nearly 800 individuals participated.
- We had a successful Higher Learning Commission reaffirmation visit last week. Thank you to all the board members and others across the College who participated and to Dr. Phil Garber and Lisa Wuest for their help organizing our materials and the details of the visit.
- In the world of grants, ECC received a third straight year of the Noncredit Strategies at Work grant from ICCB, totaling \$110,000. Previously, the Workforce Development division used these funds to expand our corporate training and noncredit 1.6 offerings.

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Next year, the College will continue these initiatives while also beginning to develop professional education / CEU programs focused on manufacturing and healthcare.

- ECC's Global Engagement office partnered with Heartland Community College to obtain a \$35,000 federal pass-through grant from the State Department to collaborate on Study Abroad program development in Botswana and Belize.
- ECC's Workforce Development Division has been awarded the 2025 Illinois Council for Continuing Education's Innovation Award for our 7 Day to Career Success, Pre-apprenticeship program. This model bridges noncredit training, workforce development, and employer engagement to create accessible, affordable pathways leading to industry recognized credentials. We offer four unique programs that integrate credential attainment, career exploration, employment skills, and training, culminating in direct interviews with employers offering apprenticeships and entry level jobs. It is offered at no cost and serves diverse groups, including youth under age 18, unemployed adults, and soon individuals preparing for release from jail ensuring equitable access to career opportunities. The program engages multiple college divisions, aligns with the US Department of Labor standards, and has already served over 100 participants this year with a 90% completion rate. We shared this model with 12 local colleges and presented it nationally to help others replicate its success. But most importantly it connects individuals at risk to training credentials and jobs demonstrating how noncredit programs can drive community impact employer partnerships and long-term success.
- Five of our fall sports have completed their respective seasons, and men's and women's basketball have now started their seasons. Our men's soccer team ranked as a top 25 team in the country in eight separate weeks with two earning first team all-conference honors. Women's soccer were conference co-champions and three earned first team all-conference honors. Men's golf had three players earning all-conference honors, including the conference golfer of the year, Nooa Hakala. Volleyball has had their best record since 2016.
- Nine student athletes and two coaches earned Outstanding Achievement Awards and two additional student athletes were scholarship recipients at the Elgin Sports Hall of Fame Banquet on November 2. Two graduates earned scholarships to apply at their current four-year institutions where they are continuing their athletic careers.
- We were pleased to be identified as one of the top 200 colleges by the Aspen Institute's Community College Excellence Program. They expanded from 150 to 200 this year.
- We were delighted to be the recipient of two Elgin Image Awards for 2025 including:
  - Bill Angelo, ECC's Head Baseball Coach and Athletics Coordinator, was selected for an Elgin Image Award in the Professional Rockstar category.
  - Phi Theta Kappa won in the Gamechanger Project category, recognizing the remarkable work they achieved through their award-winning financial literacy and health and wellness academic project last year.
- Todd Haak, Audio/Visual Specialist with IT was spotlighted.

**6. Audience Wishing to Address the Board**

- Kim Tarver shared appreciation for administration for their collaboration and engagement in negotiations.
- Anitra King shared some of SSECCA's 40-year history.

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## **7. Board Reports**

### **A. Committee of the Whole**

Trustee Barbosa-Guzman provided an overview of the Committee of the Whole meeting held Monday, November 11, 2025. The presentation was: FY27 Budgeting Process and FY27 Tuition Recommendation by Dr. Wagner. No questions were raised regarding Board Actions and items on the November 12, 2025 agenda. Minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting will be available on the website once they are approved.

### **B. Illinois Community College Trustee Association (ICCTA)**

Trustee Allen shared a written report on the meetings held November 14-15. The report included more information on the following:

- Legislative Priorities
- Critical Updates
- Information on Lobby Day

The 2026 ACCT Leadership Congress will be in Chicago, October 21-24.

### **C. Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT)**

Trustee Arroyo thanked the Trustees that attended ACCT Leadership Congress in New Orleans. A full report will be shared in December.

### **D. Legislative**

Trustee Rodriguez shared the following:

- In October, President Heinrich continued her involvement with the Illinois Council of Community College Presidents (ICCCP), which has been closely engaged in discussions surrounding immigration-related legislation. The omnibus immigration bill, HB 1312, passed both chambers and now awaits the Governor's signature. The bill includes new requirements for community colleges related to responding to law enforcement access requests. In preparation, the college is finalizing internal procedures to ensure compliance once the bill becomes law.
- Also in October, a group of our Trustees attended the annual Association of Community Colleges Trustees (ACCT) Leadership Congress. Trustee Rodriguez, President Heinrich, Dr. Jamie Pang, and Dr. Antonio Ramirez presented on the College's Center for Civic Engagement.
- In late October, the CELA (Community Engagement and Legislative Affairs) team hosted staff members from our legislators' offices during the fall semester Visiting Chef event.

### **E. ECC Foundation**

Trustee Allen highlighted the following items from the written report:

- The Foundation has awarded \$168,700.50 in scholarships to 122 students this semester.
- The Foundation Board hosted a successful Strategic Planning Retreat on October 10. The Board is energized and focused on strengthening policies and procedures.
- October fundraising totaled \$39,899 as of October 29. Plans are underway for Giving Tuesday with anticipated growth over last year.
- The ECC Retiree Committee met in late October to plan Fall 2025 and 2026 events. The Alumni Association has launched several branded items now available in the ECC bookstore.

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**F. Student Report**

Student Trustee Gidlund highlighted the following events from the written report:

- Blood Drive held on October 7 with 71 attendees.
- Midwest Soaring Harvest Pow Wow held on October 11.
- Student Government Meeting was held on October 15.
- Domestic Violence Awareness events.
- Building Konnections events.
- Volunteer Fair held on October 28.

**8. College Reports**

**Board Action No. 068-A-26, Acceptance of Written College Reports**

- A. Personnel (October)
- B. Treasurer (September)
- C. Student (October-November)

*College Reports Under Separate Cover*

- D. Institutional Advancement and ECC Foundation (October)
- E. Community Engagement and Legislative Affairs (October)
- F. Grant Monitoring Report

Chair Rakow confirmed receipt, either attached or under separate cover, of the afore mentioned written reports.

**Motion:** Trustee Parks moved to accept the college reports.  
**Second:** Trustee Redmer seconded the motion.  
**Roll-Call Vote:** Aye, 7; Rakow, Rodriguez, Redmer, Arroyo, Parks, Allen and Barbosa-Guzman; nay, 0; Student Trustee Gidlund, aye; motion carried

**9. Consent Agenda**

Chair Rakow read the following consent agenda items:

- A. Board Action No. 069-A-26, Minutes of Regular Board Meeting, October 14, 2025**
- B. Board Action No. 070-A-26, Minutes of Closed Session of Board Meeting, October 14, 2025**
- C. Board Action No. 071-A-26, Minutes of Special Board Meeting, November 3, 2025**
- D. Board Action No. 072-A-26, Destruction of Audiotapes of Closed Session Board Meetings, January 23, 2024 & March 12, 2024**
- E. Board Action No. 073-F-26, Ratification of Report of Expenses**
- F. Board Action No. 074-F-26, Ratification of Trustee Travel Expenses**
- G. Board Action No. 075-A-26, Modified Academic Calendars for 2026-2027 and 2027-2028**
- H. Board Action No. 076-A-26, Academic Calendar for 2028-2029**
- I. Board Action No. 077-A-26, 2026 Schedule of Board Meetings, Elgin Community College Regular, Committee of the Whole and Finance Committee**

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- J. Board Action No. 078-A-26, Instructional Fee Recommendations for Fiscal Year 2027**
- K. Board Action No. 079-A-26, Application for Permanent Curriculum Approval: Basic Vocational Specialist Certificate in Pipe Welding**
- L. Board Action No. 080-A-26, Application for Permanent Curriculum Approval: Basic Vocational Specialist Certificate in Quality Control Technician**
- M. Board Action No. 081-F-26, Resolution of Approval to Publish Proposed 2025 Tax Levy**
- N. Board Action No. 082-A-26, Trustees' In-State Attendance at Illinois Community College Trustee Association (ICCTA) Meeting**
- O. Board Action No. 083-A-26, Trustees' Out-of-State Attendance to 2026 ACCT National Legislative Summit**
- P. Purchases**
  - 1. Board Action No. 084-T-26, Audiovisual Equipment Installation – Phase 2,** authorizes the administration to contract for the installation of projectors, document cameras, smartboards and speakers to replace existing audiovisual (AV) equipment in one hundred and forty-eight (148) of the College's classrooms with 22/tones/BIP66, LLC (Ingleside, IL), the lowest responsible bidder, in an amount not to exceed \$128,400
  - 2. Board Action No. 085-S-26, Computer Purchase,** authorizes the administration to purchase Apple computers and related peripherals directly from the manufacturer, Apple Inc. (Austin, TX), in an amount not to exceed \$92,898.
  - 3. Board Action No. 086-T-26, Content Management Software Renewal,** authorizes the administration to contract with Squiz (Boston, MA) for the content management system for a (3) three-year term in an amount not to exceed \$46,335 over the term.
  - 4. Board Action No. 087-A-26, Copier Agreement,** authorizes the administration to enter into a four (4) year lease and maintenance agreement for a Konica Minolta AccurioPress C4080 with Marco Technologies, LLC. (Rockford, IL) in an amount not to exceed \$50,000 annually over the remaining term of the existing lease.
  - 5. Board Action No. 088-A-26, Human Resources Recruitment Services,** authorizes the administration to contract with LinkedIn (Chicago, IL) for Human Resources recruitment services, in an amount not to exceed \$25,965 for a period of one (1) year.
  - 6. Board Action No. 089-A-26, Institutional Customer Relationship Management (CRM) Software Renewal,** authorizes the administration to contract for software renewal services for Recruitment Management software from Carasoft (Reston, VA), in an amount not to exceed \$45,819.06 for a period of one (1) year.
  - 7. Board Action No. 090-T-26, Marketing Cloud Software Renewal,** authorizes the administration to purchase a one (1) year renewal for Marketing Cloud software for marketing automation, email, and text messaging from Carasoft (Reston, VA), in an amount not to exceed \$79,974.35.
  - 8. Board Action No. 091-T-26, Media Monitoring Software Renewal,** authorizes the administration to contract for software renewal services of social media monitoring software for the College from Cision (Chicago, IL), in an amount not to exceed \$31,150 for a period of two (2) years.

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9. **Board Action No. 092-S-26, Monitor Purchase**, authorizes the administration to purchase forty-eight (48) HP 27-inch monitors for the Liberal, Visual, and Performing Arts (LVPA) department from Government Goods, Inc. (Brooklyn, NY), the lowest responsible bidder, in an amount not to exceed \$29,181.60.
10. **Board Action No. 093-S-26, Placement Exams**, authorizes the administration to purchase placement exams from McGraw Hill (Tempe, AZ) for the testing center, in an amount not to exceed \$45,000 annually for a period of three years.
11. **Board Action No. 094-B-26, Purchase and Implementation for Replacing Exterior Digital Displays**, authorizes the administration to contract for the purchase and installation of five (5) exterior digital displays from Vernon and Maz, Inc. (Monee, IL), in amount not to exceed \$149,999.
12. **Board Action No. 095-S-26, System Software Support**, authorizes the administration to purchase Milestone Care Plus software support from Low Voltage Solutions (Lockport, IL), the lowest responsible bidder, in an amount not to exceed \$42,225.50 for a period of three (3) years.
13. **Board Action No. 096-T-26, Uninterrupted Power Supplies (UPS) Purchase**, authorizes the administration to purchase Uninterrupted Power Supplies (UPS) and batteries from Hypertec USA, Inc. (Tempe, AZ), the lowest responsible bidder, in an amount not to exceed \$25,991.58.
14. **Board Action No. 097-S-26, Ratification of Kiln Purchase**, ratifies and authorizes the administration to purchase one (1) Laguna Custom Gas Kiln for the Liberal, Visual, and Performing Arts (LVPA) division from Laguna Clay Company (City of Industry, CA), in an amount not to exceed \$41,740.
15. **Board Action No. 098-T-26, Ratification of Network Software Licensing and Monitoring Services Renewal**, ratifies and authorizes the administration to renew the Sophos Endpoint Security and monitor services for one (1) year from CDW Government (Vernon Hills, IL), in an amount not to exceed \$202,786.

**Q. Personnel**

1. **Board Action No. 099-A-26, Sabbatical Leave for Fall 2026, Ms. Sara Baker**
2. **Board Action No. 100-A-26, Sabbatical Leave for Summer 2026, Dr. Jessica Carpenter**
3. **Board Action No. 101-A-26, Sabbatical Leave for Spring 2027, Dr. Dawn Munson**

**Motion:** Trustee Arroyo moved to accept the consent agenda as presented.  
**Second:** Student Trustee Gidlund seconded the motion.

**Roll-Call Vote:** Aye, 7; Rakow, Rodriguez, Redmer, Arroyo, Parks, Allen and Barbosa-Guzman; nay, 0; Student Trustee Gidlund, aye; motion carried

**10. Old Business**

There was no old business brought forward.

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**11. New Business**

There was no new business brought forward.

**12. Adjournment**

***Motion:*** Trustee Rodriguez moved to adjourn the meeting.

***Second:*** Trustee Barbosa-Guzman seconded the motion.

***Voice Vote:*** Aye, 7; Rakow, Rodriguez, Redmer, Arroyo, Parks, Allen and Barbosa-Guzman; nay, 0; Student Trustee Gidlund, aye: meeting adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

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Patricia Arroyo, Board Secretary

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Diane Kerruish, Board Recorder