MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF SOUTHWEST WISCONSIN TECHNICAL COLLEGE
MAY 21, 2026

The Southwest Wisconsin Technical College District Board held a regular meeting on May 21, 2026, in room 430 on the District Campus, 1800 Bronson Boulevard, Fennimore, Grant County, Wisconsin. The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m.

The following members were present:

David Blume, Chuck Bolstad, Theresa Braudt, Kent Enright, Jeanne Jordie, Chris Prange, Don Tuescher, Steve Williamson, Jane Wonderling (arrived at 6:07 p.m.)
Absent: N/A

Others present for all, or a portion of the meeting, included:

Caleb White, Interim President and Vice President for Administrative Services, and College Staff: Heath Ahnen, Josh Bedward, Karen Campbell, Holly Clendenen, Dennis Cooley, Katie Glass, Mandy Henkel, Dan Imhoff, Cynde Larsen, Isabelle Manning, Lori Needham, Stacia Stephenson, Krista Weber

Jeremy Pickard, PhD, Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs, Eastern Iowa Community Colleges, and incoming President of SWTC, effective July 1, 2026

Chairperson Prange called the meeting to order. Proof of notice was given as to the time, place, and purpose of the meeting. The following is the official agenda:

DISTRICT BOARD MEETING NOTICE/AGENDA
Thursday, May 21, 2026
1800 Bronson Boulevard, Fennimore, WI 53809
6:00 p.m., Room 430

AGENDA

OPEN MEETING

The following statement will be read: "The Southwest Wisconsin Technical College District Board's May 21, 2026, regular meeting is called to order. This is open to the public and in compliance with State Statutes. Notice has been sent to the press, posted on the College's website at www.swtc.edu/about/board/meetings, and posted on campus, CESA 3, and the Fennimore City Office in an attempt to make the general public aware of the time, place, and agenda."

A. Roll Call
B. Reports/Forum/Public Input

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Agenda
B. Approval of April 23, 2026, Retreat and Regular Board Meeting Minutes
C. Financial Reports
   1. Purchases Greater than $2,500
   2. Treasurer's Cash Balance
   3. Budget Control
D. Contract Revenue
E. Personnel Items

OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING BOARD ACTION

A. Approval of Bid: 1704 Heating and Cooling Addition (2627-01)
B. Approval of Bid: 1600 Flooring (2627-03)
C. Approval of 2026-2027 Compensation Recommendation
D. Approval of Dodgeville Family Chiropractic, S.C. Lease (Dodgeville Outreach Lease)
E. Approval of City of Darlington Lease (Darlington Outreach Lease)
F. Approval of Program Concept Review: Diagnostic Medical Sonography (Program 10-526-2)
G. Approval of 2026-2027 Board Monitoring Schedule/Calendar

BOARD MONITORING OF COLLEGE EFFECTIVENESS

A. 2026-27 Budget Update
B. Wisconsin Tax Incremental Financing (TIF) & Tax Incremental District (TID) Review
C. 2024-2025 Graduate Survey Results
D. Higher Learning Commission Comprehensive Evaluation – Board Preparation
E. Staffing Update
F. SWTC Foundation FY26 3rd Quarter Report
G. SWTC Real Estate Foundation FY26 3rd Quarter Report

INFORMATION AND CORRESPONDENCE

A. FTE Comparison Report and Student Success Scoreboard
   1. FTE Comparison Report (2025-2026)
   2. FTE Comparison Report (2026-2027)
   3. Student Success Scoreboard
B. Chairperson's Report
   1. 2026 WTCS Ambassador Banquet
   2. Presidential Transition Update
C. Interim College President's Report
   1. Review Board Governance Policy 2.1: President's Responsibilities
   2. Review Board Governance Policy 2.2: Delegation to the President
   3. ACCT Leadership Conference – Proposal Submission
   4. DBA Award Nominations
   5. ACCT Award Nominations
   6. College Happenings
D. Other Information Items

ESTABLISH BOARD AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

A. Agenda
   1. 2025-2026 Public Budget Hearing and Approval
B. Time and Place
   6:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 18, 2026, at Southwest Tech, Room 430

ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

A. Consideration of adjourning to a closed session for the purpose of
   1. Discussing the transition of the incoming college president under Wisconsin Statutes Sec. 19.85(1)(c) {Considering employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility.}
   2. Discussing the Interim President's Evaluation under Wisconsin Statutes Sec. 19.85(1)(c) {Considering employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility.}
   3. Discussing a potential legal situation under Wisconsin Statutes Sec. 19.85(1)(g) {Conferring with legal counsel for the governmental body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved.}
B. Approval of April 23, 2026, Closed Session Minutes

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

A. Action, if necessary, on Closed Session Items

ADJOURNMENT

{FACILITIES AT SOUTHWEST TECH ARE ACCESSIBLE TO PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES. FOR ALL ACCOMMODATIONS, CALL 608-822-2632 OR E-MAIL DISABILITYSERVICES@SWTC.EDU.}

Items reviewed under the Consent Agenda, included the May 21, 2026, agenda; the April 23, 2026, meeting minutes; financial reports; nine contracts totaling $25,735 in April 2026; Employment Recommendations for Rachel Preuschl, Child Care Aide; Jacob Johnson, Workforce Development & Employment Engagement Coordinator; Transfer of Natalie Leffler to Testing Specialist; Resignations of Adam Phillips, Foundation Development Officer; Amy Seeboth-Wilson, Director of Grants; Danielle Carlson, Academic Success Coach; Alexa Chiefari, Communication Instructor; and the retirement of Dennis Cooley, Executive Director of Advancement. Mr. Blume moved, seconded by Ms. Jordie, to approve the May 21, 2026, Consent Agenda, as presented. Motion adopted.

Josh Bedward, Director of Facilities, summarized the bidding process and recommendation for the 1704 Heating and Cooling Addition Project. The public opening of the bids was on May 5, 2026, with three vendors submitting proposals. The recommended vendor was determined to be Gronen Restoration of Dubuque, IA. Mr. Tuescher moved, seconded by Mr. Enright, to award the contract for the 1704 Heating and Cooling Addition Project to Gronen Restoration of Dubuque, IA, in the amount of $199,000. Motion carried.

The bidding process and summary of bids for Building 1600's Flooring Replacement were given by Mr. Bedward. The public opening of bids was held on April 21, 2026, with six vendors submitting proposals. The recommended vendor was determined to be Coyle Contract, Madison, WI. Mr. Tuescher moved, seconded by Ms. Braudt, to award the contract for Building 1600's Flooring Replacement to Coyle Contract, Madison, WI, in the amount of $186,305. Motion carried.

Caleb White, Interim President and Vice President for Administrative Services, presented to the Board the 2026-2027 Compensation Recommendation as follows:

- 2.63% base wage increase for all regular benefited employees, plus market/band reclass adjustments reflective on the first payroll in July 2026.
- Increase employee premium share for both the health and dental voluntary benefits to 12% reflective on the first payroll in July 2026.

After discussion, Mr. Enright moved, seconded by Ms. Jordie, to approve the 2026-2027 compensation proposal as recommended: 1) 2.63% base wage increase for all regular benefited employees, plus market/band reclass adjustments reflective on the first payroll in July 2026 and 2)Increase employee premium share for both the health and dental voluntary benefits to 12% reflective on the first payroll in July 2026. Upon roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative to approve the 2026-2027 benefits recommendation as presented: Mr. Blume, Mr. Bolstad, Ms. Braudt, Mr. Enright, Ms. Jordie, Mr. Tuescher, Mr. Williamson, Ms. Wonderling, and Mr. Prange. The motion carried.

A lease agreement and recommendation for the Dodgeville Outreach Site located at 1206 N. Johns Street, Dodgeville, WI., were presented by Dan Imhoff, Executive Director of Facilities, Safety & Security. Mr. Blume moved, seconded by Mr. Tuescher, to approve the lease agreement between Dodgeville Chiropractic and Wellness Center for Southwest Tech to lease 600 square feet of educational space located at 1206 N. Johns Street, Dodgeville, WI, for $820 per month from July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027. Motion adopted.

Mr. Imhoff presented a lease agreement and recommendation for the Darlington Outreach Site located at 627 Main Street, Dodgeville, WI. Mr. Williamson moved, seconded by Mr. Enright, to approve the lease agreement between the City of Darlington for Southwest Tech to lease 840 square feet of educational space located at 627 Main Street, Darlington, WI, from July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027, for a total amount of $1220. Motion carried.

A Concept Review for an Associate Degree of Applied Science Diagnostic Medical Sonography (Program 10-526-2) was presented by Cynde Larsen, Chief Academic Officer and Executive Dean. The proposed 100% face-to-face program will prepare students for abdominal, OB/GYN, vascular ultrasound, and introductory echocardiography. Mr.

Bolstad moved, seconded by Ms. Braudt, to approve a Concept Review for an Associate Degree in Applied Science Diagnostic Medical Sonography (Program 10-526-2). The next step in the process will be review and approval by the Wisconsin Technical College System's District Board.

The Board reviewed a draft of the 2026–2027 Board Monitoring schedule/Calendar at its March and April meetings. Mr. White and Lori Needham, Executive Assistant, provided updates reflecting minor scheduling adjustments, which have since been incorporated. As in prior years, it was noted that modifications may be made throughout the year as needed. Mr. Enright moved, seconded by Mr. Tuescher, to approve the 2026–2027 Board Monitoring Schedule/Calendar as presented. Motion adopted.

Mr. White presented an overview of the FY2027 Budget, including the College's six Fund Accounts: General, Special (Operational and Non-Aidable), Trust, Capital Projects, Debt Service, Enterprise (Auxiliaries), and Internal Service. The final budget numbers will be presented at the public hearing before the June 18, 2026, Board meeting, with the budget on the agenda for final approval.

Karen Campbell, Compliance Officer, reviewed the statutory requirements and local context of incremental tax financing and districts (TIFs and TIDs). The College's participation in Joint Review Boards (which review, approve, and ensure legal compliance) ensures that economic development decisions account for the College's long-term fiscal interests. The Southwest Tech district currently includes 45 active TIDs across 23 municipalities.

Mandy Henkel, Executive Director of College Effectiveness/Accreditation, briefed on the results of the 2024-2025 Graduate Survey. The survey's response rate was 72% and influences the College Health Indicators' #3 Year-to-Year Graduate Wage Growth & #4 Five-Year Wage Growth.

Ms. Henkel brought forth the proposed schedule for the Board's preparation for the November 30 - December 1, 2026, Higher Learning Commission Comprehensive Evaluation Visit. The Board was in favor of the proposal with the preparation/overview before Board meetings, July through November.

The College Staffing Report was given by Krista Weber, Chief Human Resources Officer. Updates on postings and interview processes were summarized.

The Southwest Tech Foundation FY26 3rd quarter report was summarized by Dennis Cooley, Executive Director of Advancement, and Stacia Stephenson, Director of Foundation. Southwest Tech Chargers Day of Giving is planned for September 23, 2026. A variety of fun activities and celebrations will take place throughout the day to showcase Southwest Tech, highlight the incredible impact of donor generosity, and share stories of how philanthropy impacts the lives of our students and strengthens our programs.

Mr. Cooley and Ms. Stephenson summarized the Southwest Tech Real Estate Foundation FY26 3rd quarter report. Highlights include: a lot was purchased in Fennimore for a possible future housing project, a description of the Building Trades Carpentry housing project in Lancaster, and an update on the Dodgeville project on the corner of Highways 18 and 23.

Ms. Glass provided a summary of the FTE Comparison reports. The 2025-2026 report indicates a decrease of .4% FTE and a 1.6% increase in headcount compared to last year at this time. The 2026-2027 report indicates a decrease of 2.8% FTE and 12% increase in headcount compared to last year at this time.

Holly Clendenen, Chief Student Services Officer, highlighted the Student Success Scoreboard, noting this month's data shows 91% of active program students have a student success plan, and 66% of program students have a complete plan.

Items reviewed under the Chairperson's Report:
- A recording of the message delivered by Southwest Tech's State Student Ambassador, Edwin Garmendia, will be emailed to the Board members. The speech was from the WTCS Ambassador Banquet this past April.
- An update of the incoming president's transition included a brief overview of Dr. Pickard's calendar. During his first weeks on campus, he will be engaged with visits to the community, donors, business partners, and staff.

Items reviewed under the Interim College President's Report:
- A review of *Board Governance Policy 2.1: President's Responsibilities and Policy 2.2: Delegation to the President.* There were no suggestions for edits.
- A proposal to present at this fall's ACCT Leadership Conference was recently submitted. The governing board's role in leading student-centered transformational change was the topic of the proposal.
- Recommendations for DBA Award and ACCT Award Nominations were brought forward. The Board showed full support for moving forward with the recommendations.
- A College happening included an update on the current Board appointment process. There is one applicant. The appointment committee's hearing and meeting will be on June 17.
- No other information items were discussed.

Mr. Tuescher moved, seconded by Mr. Enright to adjourn to a closed session to discuss the transition plan for the incoming college president and the interim president's evaluation; per Wis. Stats. 19.85(1)(c) {Considering employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility} and to discuss a potential legal situation per Wisconsin Statutes 19.85(1)(g) {Conferring with legal counsel for the governmental body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved.} Upon roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative to move into the closed session: Mr. Blume, Mr. Bolstad, Ms. Braudt, Mr. Enright, Ms. Jordie, Mr. Tuescher, Mr. Williamson, Ms. Wonderling, and Mr. Prange. The motion carried, and the meeting adjourned to a closed session at 7:30 p.m. The Board reconvened into open session at 8:28 p.m.

Without any further business, Ms. Wonderling moved to adjourn the meeting, with Ms. Jordie seconding the motion. The motion was adopted, and the meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

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Kent Enright, Secretary