KASKASKIA COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES #501
August 24, 2026 Meeting Minutes
27210 College Road
Centralia, IL 62801

ROLL CALL/ATTENDANCE
Chair Bill Hawley convened a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees (Board) on Monday, August 24, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. in Rooms N124/N125 of the Nursing Building on the Kaskaskia College (College) main campus.

Trustees present at the meeting in person were Craig Finke, Bill Hawley, Bryan Holthaus, Louis Kalert, Linda Stover, and Laura Wedekemper. Trustee Jim Beasley was absent. Student Trustee Andolini Gray was present.

Kevin Noll, Legal Counsel from Robbins Schwartz attended the meeting remotely.

College staff members attending in person were President George Evans, Alan Boerngen, Levi Cross, Cary Day, Joy Fitts, Sara Hanks, Kellie Henegar, Chris Holloway, Laura Huge, Traci Masau, Julie Obermark, Staci Palm, Karol Potter, Shawn Richards, Craig Roper, Josie Spihlmann, Jeff Thomas, Nathan Wilkins, Kylee Williams, and Amy Zanton.

Media attending in person was Steven Stilt of WJBD.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
Chairman Hawley led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

RECOGNITION
President Evans welcomed everyone in attendance and introduced the following new employees: Tara Garner, Adam Heimann, Michelle Hill, Amanda Krydynski, Sara Morton, Emeline Rincker, Brennan Stover, and Caleb Willman.

PRESENTATION OF TENTATIVE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027
Sara Hanks presented the tentative budget for Fiscal Year 2026-2027.

PUBLIC COMMENT
None

CONSENT AGENDA
Motion by Bryan Holthaus to accept the Consent Agenda which includes the July 27, 2026 regular meeting minutes and the July 14, 2026; July 29, 2026; and August 6, 2026 community meeting minutes; the financial reports for the period ending July, 2026; disbursements and payroll reports for July 2026; the personnel, Kaskaskia College Foundation, Kaskaskia College Friends of Fine Arts reports, and the Administrative Reports for August 2026.

Roll call:

Craig Finke	yes	Linda Stover	yes
Bill Hawley	yes	Laura Wedekemper	yes
Bryan Holthaus	yes	Andolini Gray	yes
Louis Kalert	yes		

Motion was approved.

OLD UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

CLOSED SESSION
No need for a closed session.

CORRECTION TO RESOLUTION 26-37 APPROVING THE RENEWAL OF THE MICROSOFT CAMPUS LICENSE AGREEMENT (INFORMATIONAL ONLY)
Upon signing Resolution 26-37 for the renewal of the Microsoft Campus License Agreement, approved at the July 27, 2026 Board of Trustees meeting, a typographical error was identified in the amount listed at the bottom of the resolution. The amount approved of $64,838.90 was incorrect. The correct annual maintenance fee is $30,425.49, as stated elsewhere in the resolution and as reflected in the proposed cost table within the resolution.

After discussion, the Board Chair and College President agreed that since the actual amount approved was much higher than the actual amount, a notation and initialing of the correct amount on the resolution should suffice as proper documentation. Follow-up instructions were provided by the President's office to ensure more detailed vetting of Board materials occurs amongst the members of President's Cabinet.

RESOLUTION 26-41
RESOLUTION TO APPROVE PROCEEDING WITH THE VANDALIA EDUCATION CENTER LANDSCAPING AND ARTWORK PROJECT (100% KASKASKIA COLLEGE FOUNDATION FUNDED)
Motion by Bryan Holthaus to approve proceeding with the Vandalia Education Center Landscaping and Artwork Project, utilizing funds provided through the generosity of Mary Albert O'Neill and administered through the Kaskaskia College Foundation, and to authorize College Administration to develop and publish the Request for Statements of Qualifications, establish contracts with selected semi-finalists for design proposal development, conduct the artist selection process, and take all necessary administrative actions required to advance the project consistent with College policies and applicable laws.

Roll call:

Craig Finke	yes	Linda Stover	yes
Bill Hawley	yes	Laura Wedekemper	yes

Bryan Holthaus	yes	Andolini Gray	yes
Louis Kalert	yes		

Motion was approved.

RESOLUTION 26-42
RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF FORKLIFT PERSONAL SIMULATOR (100% WORKFORCE EMPOWERMENT INITIATIVE GRANT FUNDED)

Motion by Louis Kalert to approve the purchase of a SimLog Forklift Personal Simulator from Moss Enterprises, of Johnston, Iowa, in the amount of $31,650 funded through Workforce Empowerment Initiative Grant Funds.

Roll call:

Craig Finke	yes	Linda Stover	yes
Bill Hawley	yes	Laura Wedekemper	yes
Bryan Holthaus	yes	Andolini Gray	yes
Louis Kalert	yes		

Motion was approved.

RESOLUTION 26-43
RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF HVAC LAPTOPS (100% WORKFORCE EMPOWERMENT INITIATIVE GRANT FUNDED)

Motion by Bryan Holthaus to approve the purchase of twenty-six laptops for the HVAC program from Data Center Warehouse, Laguna Hills, CA, at a cost of $27,915.62. This purchase is 100% funded by the Workforce Empowerment Initiative grant funds.

Roll call:

Craig Finke	yes	Linda Stover	yes
Bill Hawley	yes	Laura Wedekemper	yes
Bryan Holthaus	yes	Andolini Gray	yes
Louis Kalert	yes		

Motion was approved.

RESOLUTION 26-44
RESOLUTION FOR DISPOSITION OF COLLEGE PROPERTY

Motion by Bryan Holthaus to declare the equipment listed be declared as “no longer needed for College purposes” and that the College Administration dispose of such equipment in accordance with College Policy #2.6001.

Roll call:

Craig Finke	yes	Linda Stover	yes
Bill Hawley	yes	Laura Wedekemper	yes
Bryan Holthaus	yes	Andolini Gray	yes
Louis Kalert	yes		

Motion was approved.

APPROVAL OF FACULTY RANK PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
Motion by Louis Kalert to approve the recommendation for faculty rank promotion in accordance with Article XV of the Kaskaskia College Federation of Teachers contract as follows:

From Assistant Professor to Associate Professor

Josie Spihlmann

Roll call:

Craig Finke	yes	Linda Stover	yes
Bill Hawley	yes	Laura Wedekemper	yes
Bryan Holthaus	yes	Andolini Gray	yes
Louis Kalert	yes		

Motion was approved.

APPROVAL OF NEW POSITION OF DISCIPLINE COORDINATOR AND TENURE-TRACK FACULTY ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF PRECISION AGRICULTURE
Motion by Bryan Holthaus to approve the transition of the Precision Agriculture Coordinator position to a full-time, tenure tracked faculty position, effective September 1, 2026, with an annual base salary consistent with the KCFT salary scale range of $51,818–$117,210 and eligibility for fringe benefits.

Roll call:

Craig Finke	yes	Linda Stover	yes
Bill Hawley	yes	Laura Wedekemper	yes
Bryan Holthaus	yes	Andolini Gray	yes
Louis Kalert	yes		

Motion was approved.

RECOMMENDATION TO HIRE TRENTON EDUCATION CENTER COORDINATOR (REPLACEMENT POSITION)
Motion by Bryan Holthaus to approve the employment of Adam Heimann as the Trenton Education Center Coordinator at $20.65 an hour with eligibility for fringe benefits and an anticipated start date of September 14, 2026.

Roll call:

Craig Finke	yes	Linda Stover	yes
Bill Hawley	yes	Laura Wedekemper	yes
Bryan Holthaus	yes	Andolini Gray	yes
Louis Kalert	yes		

Motion was approved.

RECOMMENDATION TO HIRE ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT FOR CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION & INDUSTRIAL TRADES DEANS (REPLACEMENT POSITION)

Motion by Bryan Holthaus to approve the employment of Sara Koopman as the Administrative Assistant for the CTE & Industrial Trades Deans at an hourly rate of $25.00 an hour with a start date of Tuesday, September 8, 2026. This position is a full-time position and is eligible for fringe benefits.

Roll call:

Craig Finke	yes	Linda Stover	yes
Bill Hawley	yes	Laura Wedekemper	yes
Bryan Holthaus	yes	Andolini Gray	yes
Louis Kalert	yes		

Motion was approved.

RECOMMENDATION TO HIRE CNA PROGRAM MANAGER (REPLACEMENT POSITION)

Motion by Bryan Holthaus to approve the employment of Molly Green as the CNA Program Manager at a base salary of $61,000 with eligibility for fringe benefits and a start date of October 5, 2026.

Roll call:

Craig Finke	yes	Linda Stover	yes
Bill Hawley	yes	Laura Wedekemper	yes
Bryan Holthaus	yes	Andolini Gray	yes
Louis Kalert	yes		

Motion was approved.

FIRST READING - NEW NEONATAL INTENSIVE CARE UNIT (NICU) POLICY 4.3052

The new Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) Policy 4.3052 was presented for First Reading.

SECOND READING - REMOVAL OF FACULTY MENTORING POLICY 6.0301

Motion by Bryan Holthaus to approve the removal of Faculty Mentoring Policy 6.0301.

Roll call:

Craig Finke	yes	Linda Stover	yes
Bill Hawley	yes	Laura Wedekemper	yes
Bryan Holthaus	yes	Andolini Gray	yes
Louis Kalert	yes		

Motion was approved.

SECOND READING - REVISIONS TO EMPLOYEE ATTENDANCE, ABSENTEEISM, AND UNAUTHORIZED ABSENCE POLICY 4.5400

Motion by Bryan Holthaus to approve the final reading of revisions to Employee Attendance, Absenteeism, and Unauthorized Absence Policy 4.5400.

Roll call:

Craig Finke	yes	Linda Stover	yes
Bill Hawley	yes	Laura Wedekemper	yes
Bryan Holthaus	yes	Andolini Gray	yes
Louis Kalert	yes		

Motion was approved.

SECOND READING - REVISIONS TO ACADEMIC ADVISING POLICY 5.2201

Motion by Bryan Holthaus to approve the final reading of revisions to Academic Advising Policy 5.2201.

Roll call:

Craig Finke	yes	Linda Stover	yes
Bill Hawley	yes	Laura Wedekemper	yes
Bryan Holthaus	yes	Andolini Gray	yes
Louis Kalert	yes		

Motion was approved.

SECOND READING - 2.1010 POLICY - CAMPUS CLOSURE AND CANCELLATION OF CLASSES - (NEW POLICY COMBINING AND REPLACING POLICY 4.8100 & POLICY 6.1001)

Motion by Bryan Holthaus to approve the final reading of the new Campus Closure and Cancellation of Classes Policy 2.1010 combining and replacing both Policy 4.8100 - Campus Closure for Employees and Policy 6.1001 - Campus Cancellation of Classes.

Roll call:

Craig Finke	yes	Linda Stover	yes
Bill Hawley	yes	Laura Wedekemper	yes
Bryan Holthaus	yes	Andolini Gray	yes
Louis Kalert	yes		

Motion was approved.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

A. Institutional Succession Policy and Procedure
B. Approval of Part-Time Coaching Staff Wage Adjustments
C. Approval of FY2027 Strategic Plan Action Items
D. Revisions to Vacation Leave for Grant-Funded Employees Policy 4.3105 (Policy 4.3105 will be further revised and presented for a new First Reading at a later date.)
E. Resolution for Adoption of the Annual Budget for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 (September)
F. Resolution for Transfer of Working Cash Fund Interest for Fiscal Year 2027 (September)

G. Approval of 2028-2029 Academic Calendars (September)
H. Resolution to Approve Protection, Health, and Safety (PHS) Projects for Fiscal Year 2028 (October)
I. Approval of Board of 2027 Board of Trustees Meeting Calendar (October)
J. Resolution on Intent to Levy an Equity Tax Pursuant to Section 3-14.3 of the Illinois Public Community College Act (November)
K. Resolution to Approve the 2026 Tax Levy – Fiscal Year 2028 (November)
L. Resolution to Abate the Tax Levy for Series 2018 General Obligation Refunding Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source) for 2026 Levy, Fiscal Year 2028 (November)
M. Resolution to Approve Commercial Property and Casualty Package, Workers' Compensation, and Excess Earthquake Coverage (100% Liability, Protection and Settlement Funding/Fund 12) (November)
N. Reappointment of Probationary Faculty (December)
O. Lab Fee Changes for 2027-2028 - Informational Only (December)

TRUSTEE AND PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS AND REPORTS

STUDENT TRUSTEE REPORT

Student Trustee Andolini Gray presented an oral report to the Board which summarized by date as follows:

- Cross Country hosted the 9th Annual Blue Classic 5k on August 1, 2026. The overall champions were Caleb Klein and Sarah McKowen.
- Student Trustee Gray attended the Community Engagement Meeting at the Trenton Education Center on August 6, 2026.
- The Kaskaskia College Blue Angels tryouts were held on August 10, 2026.
- Student Orientation was held on August 10, 2026.
- The first day of the Fall semester was August 17, 2026.
- Student Congress hosted the Welcome Back Breakfast and Meet the Clubs events on August 18, 2026.
- The Kaskaskia College Community Music Ensembles began their season on August 20, 2026 and meet every Thursday. The band rehearses from 5:45 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., followed by choir rehearsal from 7:15 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Individuals ages 15 and older are welcome to participate. Ensemble concerts will be held November 20-22, 2026, at 7:00 p.m., with an additional performance on December 3, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.
- The last day for students to drop first 8-week classes was August 21, 2026.
- The Kaskaskia College volleyball team home opener against Lakeland College will be held on August 24, 2026.
- The last day for students to drop 16-week classes will be August 28, 2026.

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

- The final Community Engagement Meeting of the year was held on August 6, 2026, at the Trenton Education Center, with a strong turnout.

- Kaskaskia College was well represented at the Illinois Community College Trustees Association (ICCTA) Executive Committee Retreat held earlier this month. Trustee Laura Wedekemper participated in her capacity as Secretary/Treasurer of the ICCTA Executive Committee, and President Evans attended as President of the Illinois Council of Community College Presidents. The retreat provided valuable insight into trustees' perspectives and the issues affecting community colleges throughout Illinois.
- The Centralia Balloon Fest was held this past weekend. President Evans expressed appreciation to the Kaskaskia College volunteers who contributed to the event's success, particularly the student-athletes, coaches, and entire athletic teams who served as chase crews. The balloons launched from the Kaskaskia College main campus one the mornings. President Evans stated the dedication and participation of Kaskaskia College volunteers are essential to the success of the event.
- President Evans expressed sincere appreciation to Joy Fitts, her team, and all others who represented Kaskaskia College at the Illinois State Fair in Springfield and the Du Quoin State Fair. President Evans also noted that the College received recognition from the Deputy Governor during state-level meetings. The mobile manufacturing lab continues to attract significant interest from state officials and fair attendees. The College's participation, despite the time commitment and challenging heat, contributes meaningfully to institutional name recognition and promotes the community college mission.
- The first day of the Fall semester proceeded smoothly. President Evans expressed appreciation for the organizational efforts and teamwork demonstrated in managing parking during the East Parking Lot closure, noting that availability was greater on Mondays and Wednesdays, while Tuesdays and Thursdays were more limited. Special recognition was given to Director of Public Safety Shawn Richards and his team, as well as employees across the institution who supported students to ensure a successful start to the semester.
- President Evans reminded everyone the rescheduled date for the golf tournament is Friday, August 28, 2026 at Governor's Run in Carlyle, Illinois.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Bryan Holthaus to adjourn. All members voted yes by voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

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Chair, Board of Trustees
Kaskaskia College

Secretary, Board of Trustees
Kaskaskia College

RESOLUTION 26-41

RESOLUTION TO PROCEED WITH THE KASKASKIA COLLEGE VANDALIA EDUCATION CENTER LANDSCAPING AND ARTWORK PROJECT (100% KASKASKIA COLLEGE FOUNDATION FUNDING)

WHEREAS, the Kaskaskia College Foundation Board of Directors approved a resolution on August 3, 2026, authorizing the advancement of the Vandalia Education Center Landscaping and Artwork Project, and committed to receiving periodic updates regarding the progress of the project; and

WHEREAS, through the generosity of Mary Albert O'Neill, funding is available for the Vandalia Education Center Landscaping and Artwork Project, with approximately $1.2 million designated for the purchase, fabrication, installation, and related landscaping associated with the project; and

WHEREAS, the project will include the acquisition and installation of artwork and surrounding landscaping at select locations on the campus of the Vandalia Education Center, creating an inviting environment that reflects the creativity, teaching, learning, and community mission of Kaskaskia College; and

WHEREAS, a Steering Committee has been established to oversee project planning, administration, and implementation, and a Selection Committee has been established to guide the artist selection process; and

WHEREAS, the artist selection process will include the public advertisement of a Request for Statements of Qualifications, review of submissions by the Selection Committee, selection of semi-finalists, development of artist design proposals, and final recommendation of an artist for the project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Kaskaskia College, Community College District #501, hereby approve proceeding with the Vandalia Education Center Landscaping and Artwork Project, utilizing funds provided through the generosity of Mary Albert O'Neill and administered through the Kaskaskia College Foundation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the College Administration is authorized to develop and publish the Request for Statements of Qualifications, establish contracts with selected semi-finalists for design proposal development, conduct the artist selection process, and take all necessary administrative actions required to advance the project consistent with College policies and applicable laws.

Dated this 24th day of August 2026

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Chair, Board of Trustees
Kaskaskia College

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Secretary, Board of Trustees
Kaskaskia College

RESOLUTION 26-42

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF SIMLOG FORKLIFT PERSONAL SIMULATOR (100% WORKFORCE EMPOWERMENT INITIATIVE GRANT FUNDED)

WHEREAS, Kaskaskia College has received funding through the Workforce Empowerment Initiative (WEI) Grant to support workforce training and instructional enhancements; and

WHEREAS, the grant includes funding for the purchase of a forklift personal simulator to be utilized for instructional purposes within the HVAC, Carpentry, Industrial Technology, and Welding programs located at the Harry L. Crisp Manufacturing and Trades Center; and

WHEREAS, the SimLog Forklift Personal Simulator provides a comprehensive training platform that enables students to develop industry-relevant forklift operating skills in a safe and controlled environment while supporting workforce readiness and employer expectations; and

WHEREAS, the simulator incorporates performance-based training modules and objective assessment metrics that support instructional effectiveness, student skill development, and workforce preparation; and

WHEREAS, SimLog has identified Moss Enterprises, of Johnston, Iowa, as its sole authorized provider of the forklift personal simulator within the State of Illinois; and

WHEREAS, Moss Enterprises has submitted a proposal for the purchase, one-year warranty, and delivery of the simulator for a total amount of $31,650; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Illinois Public Community College Act (110 ILCS 805/3-27.1), this purchase is exempt from competitive bidding requirements.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, **that the Board of Trustees of Kaskaskia College District 501** hereby approves the purchase of a SimLog Forklift Personal Simulator from Moss Enterprises, of Johnston, Iowa, in the amount of $31,650.

Dated 24th day of August 2026

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Chair, Board of Trustees

Kaskaskia College

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Secretary, Board of Trustees

Kaskaskia College

RESOLUTION 26-43

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF HVAC LAPTOPS (100% WORKFORCE EMPOWERMENT INITIATIVE GRANT FUNDED)

WHEREAS, the HVAC program utilizes digital instructional resources, assignments, assessments, labs, and examinations delivered through Canvas and other online learning platforms; and

WHEREAS, HVAC students rely on personal mobile devices, which do not provide an optimal learning experience for coursework, technical documentation review, and online assessments; and

WHEREAS, the HVAC program's open lab environment requires durable technology for hands-on instruction, making rugged laptops an appropriate solution; and

WHEREAS, the Crisp Center has one computer lab with insufficient space for expansion, making a mobile laptop solution the most efficient method for expanding student technology access while maximizing existing instructional space; and

WHEREAS, the proposed purchase includes twenty business laptops for classroom instruction and six rugged laptops for use in HVAC open laboratory areas; and

WHEREAS, competitive quotations were obtained from qualified vendors with the following results:

- Xerox IT Solutions (Oak Brook, IL): $29,454.88
- Data Center Warehouse (Laguna Hills, CA): **$27,915.62**
- CDW-G (Chicago, IL): $33,776.90

and Data Center Warehouse submitted the lowest responsible quotation; and

WHEREAS, the total cost of $27,915.62 will be funded entirely through Workforce Empowerment Initiative (WEI) grant funds and will have no impact on the College's operating budget.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Kaskaskia College – Community College District 501, that the Board approve the purchase of twenty-six laptops from Data Center Warehouse of Laguna Hills, CA in an amount of $27,915.62.

Dated this 24th day of August 2026

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Chair, Board of Trustees

Kaskaskia College

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Secretary, Board of Trustees

Kaskaskia College

RESOLUTION 26-44

RESOLUTION FOR DISPOSITION OF COLLEGE PROPERTY

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Illinois Public Community College Act, 110 ILCS 805/3-41, the Board is authorized "to sell at private or public sale any personal or real property not needed for community college purposes"; and

WHEREAS, a written accounting of such personal property is identified in the accompanying list of equipment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Trustees of Kaskaskia College, Community College District #501, that the equipment listed be declared as "no longer needed for College purposes" and that the College Administration dispose of such equipment in accordance with College Policy #2.6001

Dated this 24th day of August 2026

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Chair, Board of Trustees
Kaskaskia College

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Secretary, Board of Trustees
Kaskaskia College

SURPLUS PROPERTY FOR DISPOSAL
August 2026

ITEMS TO BE AUCTIONED

ITEM DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	PROPERTY TAG #	MANUFACTURER	MODEL #	SERIAL #
Kitchen Aid Mixer	1	23200	Kitchen Aid	KSMC505	WP2664413
Kitchen Aid Mixer	1	23239	Kitchen Aid	KSMC505	QP1826597
Kitchen Aid Mixer	1	23199	Kitchen Aid	KM25A	WU1616411
Kitchen Aid Mixer	1	23196	Kitchen Aid	KM25G	WU1616414
Kitchen Aid Mixer	1	23193	Kitchen Aid	KM25G	WU1616415
Kitchen Aid Mixer	1	23191	Kitchen Aid	KSMC50S	WP1579150
Kitchen Aid Mixer	1	23198	Kitchen Aid	KSMC50S	WP2655095
Single Burner Butane Stove	25	No Tag	N/A	N/A	N/A

ITEMS TO BE SALVAGED

ITEM DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	PROPERTY TAG #	MANUFACTURER	MODEL #	SERIAL #
Kitchen Aid Mixer	1	23190	Kitchen Aid	KM25G	WU1616417
Kitchen Aid Mixer	1	23195	Kitchen Aid	KM25G	WU1616425
Kitchen Aid Mixer	1	No tag	Kitchen Aid	N/A	N/A
Kitchen Aid Mixer	1	No tag	Kitchen Aid	N/A	N/A