

KASKASKIA COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES #501
May 18, 2026 Meeting Minutes
Trenton Education Center
520 East Broadway
Trenton, IL 62293

ROLL CALL/ATTENDANCE

Chair Bill Hawley convened a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees (Board) on Monday, May 18, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. in Room TC120/TC121 at the Trenton Education Center.

Trustees present at the meeting in person were Craig Finke, Bill Hawley, Bryan Holthaus, Louis Kalert, and Linda Stover. Trustees Jim Beasley and Laura Wedekemper were 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, Cary Day, Sara Hanks, Laura Huge, Traci Masau, Julie Obermark, Staci Palm, Karol Potter, Shawn Richards, Craig Roper, Josie Spihlmann, Jeff Thomas, Christine Wheeler, Nathan Wilkins, and Kylee Williams.

No media was present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Hawley led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

RECOGNITION

President Evans welcomed everyone in attendance and introduced Hawk Kershaw representing Mid-America Carpenter's Regional Council.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Louis Kalert to accept the Consent Agenda which included the April 30, 2026 regular meeting minutes; financial reports for the period ending April 30, 2026; disbursements and payroll reports for April 2026; and the personnel, Kaskaskia College Foundation, and Administrative Reports for May 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

A Closed Session was not held.

APPROVAL OF MID-AMERICA CARPENTERS REGIONAL COUNCIL COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT 2026-2029

Motion by Linda Stover to approve the collective bargaining agreement between Kaskaskia College and Mid-America Carpenters Regional Council for 2026-2029.

Roll call:

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

Motion was approved.

At this point Hawk Kershaw of Mid-America Carpenters Regional Council came forward to execute the agreement.

RESOLUTION 26-23

RECOMMENDATION TO SEEK BIDS FOR THE PURCHASE OF A NEW BUS FOR ATHLETIC & STUDENT TRANSPORTATION

Motion by Louis Kalert to adopt Resolution 26-23 approving the College proceed with soliciting bids for the purchase of a new 24-passenger bus for athletic and student transportation.

Roll call:

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

Motion was approved.

RESOLUTION 26-24

RESOLUTION NAMING THE PARAMEDICINE SIMULATION LAB

Motion by Linda Stover to adopt Resolution 26-24 to designate the paramedicine simulation lab, located within the Alice Hudders Classroom at the Vandalia Education Center, as the Elaine Bost Froehly Simulation Lab, while the classroom shall continue to be known as the Alice Hudders Classroom; and that this naming serves as a lasting tribute to Elaine Bost Froehly's contributions to healthcare and as an inspiration to Kaskaskia College students pursuing careers in paramedicine and the broader medical field.

Roll call:

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

Motion was approved.

RESOLUTION 26-25

RESOLUTION ON REAPPOINTMENT OF SECOND-YEAR PROBATIONARY FACULTY TO THIRD-YEAR STATUS; THIRD-YEAR PROBATIONARY FACULTY TO TENURE STATUS

Motion by Louis Kalert to adopt Resolution 26-25 to approve the following recommendations of Julie Obermark, Provost & Vice President of Instructional Services, and George Evans, President of Kaskaskia College and to authorize College administration implement such actions:

Second-year probationary faculty members recommended for third-year probationary employment effective with the 2026-27 academic year, which begins August 12, 2026.

- **Arts and Sciences**
 - Nathan Young
- **Career and Technical Education**
 - Darrell Johnson
- **Health Sciences**
 - Tori Lueke

Third-year probationary faculty members are recommended for tenured employment effective with the 2026-27 academic year, which begins August 12, 2026.

- **Arts and Sciences**
 - Cody Paul
- **Health Sciences**
 - Mary Beth Suedmeyer

Roll call:

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

Motion was approved.

RESOLUTION 26-26

APPROVAL OF NON-COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT WAGE ADJUSTMENTS AND INCENTIVE GOALS

Motion by Linda Stover to adopt Resolution 26-26 approving base salary adjustments of 4% for employees for non-collective bargaining employees for the fiscal year July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027; approving the payment of the 2025-2026 \$500 incentive payment, based on College achievement of 65,395 reimbursable credit hours; and approving the enrollment incentive goals for the Academic Years 2026-2027 through 2029-2030 as presented.

Roll call:

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

Motion was approved.

APPROVAL OF RESTRUCTURE OF INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES

Motion by Louis Kalert to approve the Instructional Services position reclassifications as recommended by the Vice President of Instructional Services effective July 1, 2026. The positions included the Math Transition Success Coach, English Transition Success Coach, Paramedicine / EMT Program Manager, Certified Nurse Assistant Program Manager, Nursing and Health Sciences Student Navigator, Healthcare Simulation and AHA Coordinator, Manufacturing and Work-Based Learning Coordinator, and Precision Agriculture Coordinator.

Roll call:

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

Motion was approved.

APPROVAL OF RECLASSIFICATION OF COSMETOLOGY FACILITATOR TO TENURED ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF COSMETOLOGY

Motion by Louis Kalert to approve the reclassification of Cari Butts from Cosmetology Facilitator to tenured Assistant Professor of Cosmetology, effective August 12, 2026, with placement at LTM Level 15 on the annual salary schedule at \$72,110 with eligibility for fringe benefits.

Roll call:

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

Motion was approved.

RECLASSIFICATION OF INDUSTRIAL TRADES AND MANUFACTURING COORDINATOR TO TENURED ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF WELDING

Motion by Linda Stover to approve the reclassification of Eric Howard from Industrial Trades and Manufacturing Coordinator to tenured Assistant Professor of Welding, effective August 12, 2026, with placement at LTM Level 6 on the annual salary schedule at \$59,065 with eligibility for fringe benefits.

Roll call:

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

Motion was approved.

APPROVAL OF ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY AS A TENURED FACULTY MEMBER

Motion by Louis Kalert to approve Kevin Wheeler, Assistant Professor of Automotive Technology, as a tenured faculty member retroactive to January 2025.

Roll call:

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

Motion was approved.

RECOMMENDATION TO RESCIND AND REVISE EMPLOYMENT DATE FOR ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF RESPIRATORY THERAPY

Motion by Louis Kalert to approve the modification of Tara Garner's start date from July 20, 2026 (as previously approved at the March 23, 2026 Board of Trustees meeting) to June 1, 2026.

Roll call:

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

Motion was approved.

APPROVAL OF EMPLOYMENT OF ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF BIOLOGY (REPLACEMENT POSITION)

Motion by Louis Kalert to approve the employment of Lynsey Thoele as Assistant Professor of Biology effective August 12, 2026, at a base salary of \$69,257 (MS, Level 10). This position is eligible for fringe benefits.

Roll call:

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

Motion was approved.

SECOND READING – NEW VIDEO SURVEILLANCE POLICY 2.2010

Motion by Louis Kalert to approve the final reading of the new Video Surveillance Policy 2.2010.

Roll call:

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

Motion was approved.

SECOND READING – REVISIONS TO AND RENAMING OF CAMPUS CLOSURE FOR EMPLOYEES POLICY 4.8100 TO CAMPUS CLOSURE – STAFF POLICY 4.8100

Motion by Louis Kalert to approve the final reading of revisions to and the renaming of Campus Closure for Employees Policy 4.8100 to Campus Closure - Staff Policy 4.8100.

Roll call:

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

Motion was approved.

INFORMATIONAL ONLY - REVISED INITIAL SALARY PLACEMENT FOR NEW FACULTY HIRES

This item is informational only.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- A. Approval of Employment of Assistant Professor Nursing (Newly Approved Position)
- B. Approval of Employment of Assistant Professor of Construction Occupations (Replacement Position)
- C. Recommendation for a One-Year Extension with Relations Insurance Services for Property and Casualty Insurance (June)
- D. Confirmation of Board of Trustees Workshop Date
- E. Institutional Succession Policy and Procedure
- F. Post-Issuance Tax Compliance Reports for Bond Issuances – FY 2026
- G. Resolution Fixing the Fiscal Year and Providing Public Inspection Availability and Public Hearing Notification Regarding the Tentative Budget for Fiscal Year 2027

TRUSTEE AND PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS AND REPORTS

STUDENT TRUSTEE REPORT

- On April 30th thirteen Kaskaskia College (KC) retiring staff members were recognized for their hard work and dedication with a total combined 230 years of service.
- On May 1st the Theatre Guild held KC's first ever talent show which is available for viewing on the KC Facebook page.
- On May 5th the KC Pre-School graduation held its graduation.
- On May 6th the Engineering Department held the annual banquet, which is an event celebrating the achievements of the engineering students and recognizing their hard and diligent work.
- On May 6th KC held the spring music and theatre showcase which can be viewed on KC's Facebook page.
- On May 7th the Adult Education Graduation was held where KC proudly celebrated the hard work and achievements of the students in getting their diplomas.
- May 11th -14th students took their final semester exams.
- May 14th was the combined health sciences pinning ceremony.
- May 15th was the graduation ceremony for Kaskaskia College students graduating in 2026. A total of 316 graduates signed up to walk. The KC community is proud of the graduates and knows that they will do great things.
- May 21st will be the startup for the community band and choir.
- Students can still register for summer and fall classes. Looking ahead, summer classes begin June 1st.

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

- Graduation was held on May 15, 2026. Attendance records for the number of students who walked were set. The College received a lot of compliments at the event and across social media. President Evans commended everyone who contributed both in front of and behind the scenes. The event ran smoothly and it was not evident that this was the inaugural graduation in the new Gymnasium.
- President Evans will be soliciting the Trustees to select a date for a one-day retreat. The retreat will address the College's academic delivery model and alignment with regional needs. An email will be issued soon to finalize the date and secure attendance.
- The Legislative Session is ever changing with a lot of different discussions occurring. It is unknown what will happen in the next thirteen days other than the budget will drop sometime on May 31st. The biggest concern for the College right now is making sure the \$1,000,000 appropriation from the DCEO Plummer grant is reappropriated. Although those funds have not yet been appropriated; Eric Madiar has confirmed the appropriation was in the budget presented by the Governor's office and the budget drafts by both the House and the Senate. The College will not know the outcome until the reconciliation process occurs sometime May 30-31, 2026.

- The ACCT Leadership Congress is coming up in October. The President's Office will send an additional email to the Trustees with the event information.
- The ICCTA Annual Awards Banquet is June 5-6, 2026. Ken Ingersoll will be attending as an ICCTA award winner and Clara Elliott as an ICCTA award nominee. Karol has provided the Trustees with information on this event. Trustees are encouraged to attend to represent the College and support staff members.
- The proposed dual credit rules will be presented to the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) at its June 5, 2026 meeting, after a public posting period of 90 days. Upon approval by the ICCB, the College will initiate communications with K-12 superintendents within the district to discuss the changes. The College regards two outcomes as primary: (1) community colleges will have the first right of refusal for dual credit opportunities, including university participation, and (2) the ICCB will decide denials in the appeals process.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Louis Kalert to adjourn. All members voted yes by voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 7:08 p.m.

Chair, Board of Trustees
Kaskaskia College

Secretary, Board of Trustees
Kaskaskia College