

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF ILLINOIS COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT 525
JOLIET JUNIOR COLLEGE

1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Welcome/Pledge of Allegiance

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Joliet Junior College, Illinois Community College District #525, held in the Board Room at Joliet Junior College, 1215 Houbolt Road, Joliet, IL was called to order by Chairman Budzinski at 5:34 p.m. on Wednesday, September 10, 2025.

Trustees Present: Elaine Bottomley, Maureen Broderick, Jim Budzinski, Nancy Garcia Guillen, Diane Harris, Alicia Morales and Student Trustee Brenton Bishop.

Trustee Lee was absent.

Dr. Namuo led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.2 Communications

Kelly Rohder-Tonelli, Executive Director of Strategic Engagement, introduced the members of the Fiestas Patrias Mexican Independence Day Parade planning committee: Cesar Cardenas, Joliet City Council member; Amy Sanchez, planning team; Diana Viveros and Andrea Barron both from the Latino Economic Development Association and Tanya Arias, Will County Clerk's Office. Amy Sanchez said this is a community event and the parade route will be on Collins Street. She welcomed everyone to come to the parade and celebrate the culture.

1.3 Recognition of Retirements

Dr. Amy Gray read the recognitions for Martha Bonne Demuth, Dennis Doyle, Audrey Finkel, Debra Gaskin, and Bob Marcink. Karen Kissel read the recognition for Michelle Eklund. Brandon Campbell read the recognition for Jean Smith. Bob Marcink and Debra Gaskin gave brief remarks thanking the staff.

Trustee Morales moved, seconded by Trustee Harris, for all the recognitions to be approved as submitted. A voice vote was taken. All voted yes. The motion carried.

1.4.1 Board of Trustees Approval of October as National Disability Employment Awareness Month Proclamation

JJC Student Lyan Al Saeedi read the proclamation.

Trustee Morales moved, seconded by Trustee Garcia Guillen, for the proclamation to be approved as submitted. A voice vote was taken. All voted yes. The motion carried.

1.5 Public Comments

Terry D'Arcy, Mayor of Joliet, addressed the Board expressing his support for the intergovernmental agreement between the City of Joliet and Joliet Junior College to explore the creation of a Public Safety Institute. The Mayor said in Joliet, there are 40,000 young people under the age of 18. This institute will give them an opportunity to see everything in action and this will help direct their path into police, fire and emergency services for working adults looking to change careers or gain certifications. This joint project is preparing for the future and setting a gold standard for both education and public safety and will have a meaningful impact.

Jeff Carey, Joliet Fire Chief, addressed the Board regarding the training facility. He said he is a graduate of the JJC 1995 Fire Science program. This training facility will provide first responders with hands on training. He said an opportunity like this, where all first responders can train side by side, just as a real-world crisis would be, will be beneficial not only to the community members, but also to all the first responders in the region. He asked the Board for their support for this initiative.

1.6 Moment of Silence

A moment of silence was observed for members of the college family, students, community leaders, or relatives thereof, who had passed away since the last meeting.

1.7.1 Faculty Union Report

Curt Ward, the Faculty Union President, addressed the Board. He congratulated all the retirees and said JJC had over 1,600 students this summer make the honor roll and gave a shout out to the faculty who were able to accelerate that curriculum and present it to the students in a way that they understand.

1.7.2 Adjunct Faculty Union Report

Dr. Barbara Will-Henn reported that the union negotiations are finished and have been agreed to by their membership and they hope that the Board will also agree to them.

1.7.3 JJC Foundation Report

There was no report.

1.7.4 Building and Grounds Committee Report

Trustee Bottomley said the committee did not meet so there is no report.

1.7.5 Board Policy Committee Report

Trustee Garcia Guillen said at the policy committee meeting, they reviewed the first reads and second reads that are on the agenda. She highlighted the Committees of the Board policy and said this policy really speaks to the Board's commitment and to honor the voice of the Student Trustee who can be counted as part of the quorum of the committees they serve on.

1.7.6 Finance Committee Report

There was no report.

1.7.7 Student Trustee Report

Student Trustee Brenton Bishop gave his report saying Mainstreet 2025 was a success with 38 clubs participating. There were over 600 students who attended Mainstreet. He also reported on the Center of Multicultural Access and Success recent events and highlighted the upcoming campus events.

1.7.8 President's Report

Dr. Namuo gave his report. He thanked Dr. Marcink on his successful career at JJC. He read a statement regarding safety and security at JJC and highlighted the 2025 PACE employee survey results which included 412 employees who responded. He presented a snapshot of the fall 2025 enrollment numbers. Dr. Namuo highlighted the recent campus events including the study abroad program, the student/staff volleyball game and Mainstreet. He congratulated Kristi Mulvey on a successful Night of Stars event. The Crawford Honors College will have a ribbon cutting ceremony in October. He gave a shout out to the Shorewood YMCA. He visited the Jackson Generation Energy Center as they are interested in JJC's technical department. The six JJC unions were the Celebration of Success. The employee spotlight was on the food service employees.

1.8 Closed Session #1

Trustee Garcia Guillen moved, seconded by Trustee Morales, for the Board of Trustees of Joliet Junior College to move to a closed session at 6:35 p.m. for the reasons of 2(c)2, 2(c)5, 2(c)6 and 2(c)8.

AYES: Bottomley, Broderick, Budzinski, Garcia Guillen, Harris and Morales. Student Trustee Bishop favored the motion. The motion carried.

1.9 Return to Public Session

Trustee Morales moved, seconded by Trustee Bottomley, for the Board of Trustees of Joliet Junior College to return to public session at 7:18 p.m.

AYES: Bottomley, Broderick, Budzinski, Garcia Guillen, Harris and Morales. Student Trustee Bishop favored the motion. The motion carried.

1.10.1 Approval of Minutes for the Regular Meeting Held on August 20, 2025

Trustee Morales moved, seconded by Trustee Bottomley, for the minutes of the Board of Trustees Regular Meeting held on August 20, 2025 to be approved as submitted.

AYES: Bottomley, Budzinski, Garcia Guillen, Harris and Morales. NAYS: Broderick. Student Trustee Bishop favored the motion. The motion carried.

1.11 Approval of Agenda

Trustee Garcia Guillen moved, seconded by Trustee Harris, for the agenda to be approved as submitted. A voice vote was taken. All voted yes except Trustee Broderick who voted no. The motion carried.

1.12 Approval of Consent Agenda as Presented

Trustee Garcia Guillen moved, seconded by Trustee Morales, for the items identified on the consent agenda to be approved as presented. Trustee Broderick pulled agenda items 3.1; 4.2.1 and 3.2.5. Trustee Morales pulled agenda items 3.2.1 and 4.2.2.

AYES: Bottomley, Broderick, Budzinski, Garcia Guillen, Harris and Morales. Student Trustee Bishop favored the motion. The motion carried.

- 2.1.1 Recommending Approval of Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Joliet United Adjuncts Coalition, IEA-NEA
- 2.1.2 Recommending Approval of Retirement as Requested by One Faculty Member
- 2.2.1 Classified Staff Report Includes New Hires, Replacements and Separations
- 3.2.2 Scientific Equipment and Supplies for Natural Science
- 3.2.3 Security Cameras and Access Controls
- 3.2.4 Charter Bus Services
- 3.3 Treasurer's Report
- 3.4 Financial Report
- 3.5 Board of Trustees Approval of the Sale of College Personal Property
- 4.2.3 Policy 03.02.02 Out-of-District Residents of Illinois
- 4.2.4 Policy 03.03.03 Partial Tuition Support
- 4.2.5 Policy 12.02.00 Insurance
- 4.2.6 Policy 12.03.00 Emergency Medical/Personal Injury
- 4.2.7 Policy 12.04.00 Bloodborne Pathogens
- 4.3 Intergovernmental Agreement Between the City of Joliet and Illinois Community College District No. 525 for the Exploration of the Development of a Public Safety Institute

3.1 Approval to Pay the Listing of Bills for the Period Ending August 31, 2025 as Presented

Trustee Garcia Guillen moved, seconded by Trustee Harris, for the agenda item to be approved as presented.

AYES: Bottomley, Budzinski, Garcia Guillen, Harris and Morales. NAYS: Broderick. Student Trustee Bishop favored the motion. The motion carried.

3.2.1 Pre-purchase Seats for the Illinois Online Network Professional Development Program

Trustee Harris moved, seconded by Trustee Garcia Guillen, for the agenda item to be approved as presented.

AYES: Bottomley, Broderick, Budzinski, Garcia Guillen, Harris and Morales. Student Trustee Bishop favored the motion. The motion carried.

3.2.5 CampusWorks ERP Project Management and Support

Trustee Bottomley moved, seconded by Trustee Harris, for the agenda item to be approved as presented.

AYES: Bottomley, Broderick, Budzinski, Garcia Guillen, Harris and Morales. Student Trustee Bishop favored the motion. The motion carried.

4.2.1 Policy 01.27.00 - Committees of the Board

Trustee Garcia Guillen moved, seconded by Trustee Bottomley, for the agenda item to be approved as presented.

AYES: Bottomley, Budzinski, Garcia Guillen, Harris and Morales. NAYS: Broderick. Student Trustee Bishop favored the motion. The motion carried.

4.2.2 Policy 02.01.20 - Pay for Performance for Eligible Non-Union Exempt and Non-Exempt Employees

Trustee Garcia Guillen moved, seconded by Trustee Bottomley, for the agenda item to be approved as presented.

AYES: Bottomley, Broderick, Budzinski, Garcia Guillen, Harris and Morales. Student Trustee Bishop favored the motion. The motion carried.

4.1 First Reading of Board Policies

Trustee Garcia Guillen recapped the policies that were on First Read which included:

4.1.1 10.01.05 Incident Response

4.1.2 10.01.07 Account Lifecycle

5.1 Representative to ICCTA/ACCT Report

Trustee Harris did not have a report. The next ICCTA meeting is September 11 & 12.

5.2 Trustee Updates

Trustee Garcia Guillen thanked Student Trustee Bishop for his report highlighting the Mainstreet event. She said even though the Board is focused on education, engagement of our students is critical to make sure that students feel like they belong and that they're part of something bigger and that they have people looking out for them. She said JJC is the first community college in the country and the Board has a responsibility to be trail blazers. She thanked Dr. Namuo for his involvement in the community.

Trustee Bottomley praised the JJC culinary arts restaurants at City Center and said she frequently stops by for lunch. She also said she is excited for the intergovernmental agreement with the City of Joliet for a public safety institute. She said she would support an agenda item for Trustee Broderick to be brought back to good standing but cautioned that you shouldn't ask questions you don't want to hear the answer to.

Trustee Broderick said she wants to see the Trustee travel budget and KGG billing issues discussed again. She also questioned why the Board did not vote on the JD Ross award. She said the ICCTA and ACCT strategic plans are to elevate Trustee engagement and support Trustee education. The ICCTA will be having a seminar on governance leadership in November and the Board needs to work on the president's goal and performance criteria.

Trustee Harris said the partnership with the City of Joliet and JJC will be monumental. She said that if the Board puts the good standing issue with Trustee Broderick on the agenda, the guidelines should be the Laner Muchin report and the Board needs to move forward. She said the Student Trustee is the voice of the students.

Student Trustee Bishop said it is an incredibly unique opportunity and pleasure to represent the voice of the students. He said he appreciates and respects the students who watch and attend the Board meetings and reminded everyone the students are the reason we are all here and the Board should never pull away the voice of the students. He said the Board's role is to support a positive working relationship with other Trustees and the President. He suggested the Model of Good Practice for Trustee Boards document that is included in the front of every Board book as the criteria to evaluate Trustees.

Trustee Morales said that she appreciates the administration and faculty. She encouraged everyone to attend the upcoming Mexican Independence Day parade and said she is excited about the IGA with the City of Joliet for a public safety institute.

5.3 Chair Report

Chairman Budzinski commented that the board does not get paid and he realizes all the staff in this room do more than then they get paid for.

6. Closed Session #2

Trustee Morales moved, seconded by Trustee Bottomley, for the Board of Trustees of Joliet Junior College to move to a closed session at 8:16 p.m. for the reasons of 2(c)1.

AYES: Bottomley, Broderick, Budzinski, Garcia Guillen, Harris and Morales. Student Trustee Bishop favored the motion. The motion carried.

7. Return to Public Session

Trustee Morales moved, seconded by Trustee Garcia Guillen, for the Board of Trustees of Joliet Junior College to return to public session at 8:40 p.m.

AYES: Bottomley, Broderick, Budzinski, Garcia Guillen, Harris and Morales. Student Trustee Bishop favored the motion. The motion carried.

8. Adjournment

Trustee Harris moved, seconded by Trustee Garcia Guillen, for the meeting to adjourn at 8:41 p.m. A voice vote was taken. The motion carried unanimously.