

**Minutes  
District Board of Trustees  
Tallahassee State College  
444 Appleyard Drive  
Tallahassee, FL 32304  
Monday, June 16, 2025  
Business Meeting – 2:30 PM**

**CALL TO ORDER**

On Monday, June 16, Chair Karen Moore called the Tallahassee College District Board of Trustees meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

Chair Moore asked everyone to stand for a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Members Present:** Chair Karen Moore, Trustees Monesia Brown, Jonathan Kilpatrick, and Frank Messersmith.

**By Phone:** Trustee Monte Stevens

**Absent:** Vice Chair Eugene Lamb and Trustee Charlie Ward

**Others Present:** President Jim Murdaugh, Trevoris McDaniel, Angela Long, Bobby Jones, Calandra Stringer, Tricia Rizza, Heather Mitchell, Carlecia Collins, Allison Fleischmann, Jennifer Peavy, Kalynda Holton, Katie Bahmann, Bill Spiers, Christen Givens, Barbara Wills, Kendrick Scott, Christy Bailey, Elisa Reino, Sila Lott, Donmetrie Clark, Brendie Hawkins, Shelly L. Bell, Lei Wang, Jason Fowler, Sheri Rowland, Amanda Clements, Heather Marie Mitchell, Riley Landy, Jennifer Carr, Wayne Almy, Amber O'Connell, Cerissa Fondo, Chuck Moore, Frank Mix, Krystal Bowden, Alaijah Brown, Pablo Perez de Alejo, Wendi Davis, and Bertie Culbreath.

**COMMENTS**

i. Chair Remarks:

Chair Moore asked the Trustees to motion for Trustee Stevens to be able to vote by calling in on the phone.

**Motion:** Trustee Messersmith **Second:** Trustee Kilpatrick  
Motion passed unanimously.

Chair Moore expressed her gratitude to President Murdaugh and Dr. Long for their leadership with the recent AI Summit and Library of Future Design-Thinking Session. She shared that she attended Commissioner Diaz's summit in Miami. She praised the strength and dedication of the TSC Board of Trustees, noting it as the best among the 28 state colleges. She thanked her fellow trustees for their support, passion, commitment to student success, and accountability in governance. Additionally, she recognized the College's role in the Talent Strong Capital region event, noting Dr. Murdaugh's long-standing support of the event since its inception.

ii. Trustee Remarks:

- a. Trustee Stevens echoed Chair Moore's sentiments, emphasizing that the strength of the board is a reflection of the dedicated staff, faculty, and most importantly, students.
- b. Trustee Kilpatrick praised the Attorney General's Law Enforcement Officer of the Year ceremony at the Florida Public Safety Institute, describing it as incredibly well done and filled with powerful, inspiring stories.
- c. Trustee Messersmith shared his appreciation for the AI Summit and Library of the Future Design-Thinking Session, both of which he found thought-provoking and informative.
- d. Trustee Brown reflected on the spring commencement ceremony and praised the recent social media feature about one of the spring graduates.

iii. President's Remarks: President Murdaugh began by recognizing Chair Moore as the inaugural recipient of the John A. Pieno Jr. Sterling Leadership Award from the Florida Sterling Council and congratulated her on this prestigious honor. He reminded trustees to submit their Form 1, Financial Disclosure, by the July 1 deadline and noted that VP Barbara Wills would be available to assist with any questions.

President Murdaugh asked Provost Calandra Stringer to give an update on recent personnel changes. She shared the following.

- The vacancy in the Director of the Learning Commons role presented an opportunity to reimagine the structure of academic support services. As a result, a new position was created to oversee the library and Learning Commons, and Anthony Jones was appointed Dean to oversee both areas. In this new role, he will continue to lead the annual Science Festival.

- Dr. Tricia Rizza has been named Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs, transitioning from her prior role as Associate Dean of Faculty Initiatives.
- Kilisha Fain has joined Academic Affairs as Special Projects Coordinator, bringing valuable experience from her role supporting the Chief of Staff in the Office of the President.

President Murdaugh asked Carlecia Collins and VP Heather Mitchell to provide a legislative update.

- Carlecia Collins reported that both the House and Senate chambers were scheduled to convene at 7 p.m. to finalize and adopt the budget and the conforming bills, with a final note expected around 10 p.m., officially concluding the 2025 legislative session.
- VP Mitchell noted that the Florida College System requested a \$200 million increase, of which \$60 million was approved. In addition to advocating for increased operational funding, the FCS also prioritized support for the state health insurance plan. She expressed appreciation to Carlecia Collins and the team at Gray Robinson for their efforts this year. TSC requested \$10 million for the Gadsden County expansion and was awarded \$2.82 million.

President Murdaugh concluded his remarks by reflecting on legislative outcomes, stating that TSC fared well compared to other institutions. He noted that the budget presented to the board at the meeting in August will likely be lean but expressed confidence in the College's ability to navigate fiscal challenges.

1. 2025 May Board Minutes  
Approve minutes as presented.  
**MOTION:** Trustee Messersmith     **SECOND:** Trustee Kilpatrick  
Motion passed unanimously.
2. 2025 Presidential Sub-Committee Meeting Minutes  
Approve minutes as presented.  
**MOTION:** Trustee Brown     **SECOND:** Trustee Messersmith

Motion passed unanimously.

## **INFORMATION AND NEWS ITEMS**

Amanda Clements, Interim Vice President and Director of Communications, provided an overview of recent media coverage for the college.

Highlights included:

- WCTV featured a story on the TSC Talon Market, noting that students still need assistance during the summer months with food insecurity.
- WFSU covered the college's work to address the statewide nursing shortage, which was picked up by Health News Florida.
- Florida Public Safety Institute bloodhound experts were quoted in an Associated Press story about an escaped prisoner in the Ozarks. The story was picked up by U.S. News and World Report, ABC News, and the Toronto Sun.
- The Moore Agency coordinated a high-profile press conference held at the Wakulla Environmental Institute to announce that Point Blank Enterprises, the largest manufacturer of body armor in the US will open a new 100,00-square-foot facility in Wakulla by the end of the year. Governor DeSantis attended the event, which received statewide coverage.
- The Florida College System's workforce efforts were featured in a Workforce Wizards article in Florida Trend.
- Broadcast clips were shown, including a student feature created by the TSC Communications and Marketing team.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

VP Heather Mitchell introduced Brendie Hawkins, who presented a check on behalf of the President's Leadership Institute (PLI) members of the last five years to create the PLI Legacy Scholarship in honor of President Murdaugh and Dr. Angela Long. This scholarship will benefit a student in the 32304 ZIP code.

### ***Approval of Consent Agenda***

The consent agenda format is an organization process for meetings that allows the governing board to focus their time and attention on action items that require more elaboration, information, and/or discussion. The intent of the consent agenda is to support the efficiency and effectiveness of the meeting.

If a trustee has a question or plans to cast a negative vote regarding a specific recommendation, then the trustee/trustees need to acknowledge their intention to the Chair. This action item will be considered in the regular order of business as an individual action item.

Those action items that the trustees plan to approve without further question or discussion will remain on the consent agenda. Upon the final determination of the consent agenda, a motion, second to the motion, and unanimous approval of the Board of Trustees is needed to approve the action items. Upon approval of the consent agenda, the Board of Trustees will proceed with the remainder of the agenda.

3. Human Resource Report
4. Attorney Invoices – Bryant Miller Olive (May 2025)  
Authorize payment of invoices as presented.  
Motion to Approve Consent Agenda  
**MOTION:** Trustee Kilpatrick                      **SECOND:** Trustee Messersmith  
Motion passed unanimously.

### ***TSC Foundation***

5. TSC Foundation Update  
Presented as an information item only.

### ***Academic Affairs***

6. Academic Curriculum Changes  
Approve the proposed academic curriculum changes.  
**MOTION:** Trustee Messersmith    **SECOND:** Trustee Brown  
Motion passed unanimously.
7. Annual, Continuing and Post Award Contract Recommendations  
Approve the recommendations for annual, continuing and post award contracts in the attached list.  
**MOTION:** Trustee Messersmith    **SECOND:** Trustee Kilpatrick  
Motion passed unanimously.
8. Dual Enrollment Articulation Agreements with Private Schools  
Approve the dual enrollment articulation agreements with private school boards.  
**MOTION:** Trustee Kilpatrick                      **SECOND:** Trustee Messersmith  
Motion passed unanimously.
9. Dual Enrollment Articulation Agreements with County School Boards and Public Charter Schools  
Approve the dual enrollment articulation agreements with county school boards and public charter schools.  
**MOTION:** Trustee Kilpatrick                      **SECOND:** Trustee Brown  
Motion passed unanimously.

10. Charter School Application Evaluation and Recommendation  
Approve the Innovation Academy of Excellence charter school application.  
**MOTION:** Trustee Messersmith **SECOND:** Trustee Kilpatrick  
Motion passed unanimously.

Comments:

President Murdaugh shared that Commissioner Diaz initiated discussions with John Hage from Charter Schools USA to explore whether the TSC Board could serve as an authorizer for another public charter school. The application being considered is for a public charter middle school for grades six through eight to be located on the TSC campus. It will be Florida's first AI-integrated middle school, operating in a micro-school format, and would serve as a feeder school for Tallahassee Collegiate Academy. It is expected to serve 100 to 125 students and would open in August. He assured the trustees that there is no plan to authorize additional charter schools at this time. President Murdaugh invited Stacy Chambers to address any questions.

- Trustee Brown asked whether all students who apply will be accepted and, given the technology-driven curriculum, whether appropriate infrastructure and tools will be provided to support student success.
- Trustee Kilpatrick asked for confirmation that the proposed charter school is a separate entity from Tallahassee Collegiate Academy and if its students would need to apply to TCA as any other student would. He also asked if the students will come from the tri-county area. Ms. Chambers affirmed that the middle school is separate from TCA and will serve students from Leon, Gadsden, Wakulla, and Jefferson counties.
- Trustee Stevens sought clarification about the differences in relationships between the College and Charter Schools USA versus TCA. He also asked whether Charter Schools USA would be paying TSC rent for the space on campus. VP Barbara Wills confirmed that TSC would receive an administrative fee from Charter Schools USA for services such as facilities and utilities. These details will be finalized following board approval.

- Trustee Messersmith highlighted the long-term vision of students progressing from middle school to TCA and eventually to TSC. He expressed appreciation to those involved in bringing this vision to fruition.

Ms. Chambers described the project as a collaborative effort among dreamers, planners, schemers, and leaders, emphasizing the innovation and impact. She noted the significance of bringing together the Department of Education, higher education, and a charter school organization to benefit students who may not otherwise have exposure to a college campus. She emphasized the focus on the ethical, curriculum-embedded use of AI in accordance with state statutes. Chambers also noted the team's commitment to transparency with the Board and acknowledged that some aspects would require ongoing negotiation and planning.

President Murdaugh clarified that, as with TCA, the College would serve as the authorizer of the new charter school, similar to how Leon County Schools authorizes other public charter schools. He noted that Dr. Wills and Dr. Stringer would be responsible for the legal documentation to establish the school as a separate legal entity. Like other charter schools, it would be funded through the Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP) based on enrollment.

Chair Moore expressed her enthusiasm for the initiative, reiterating the importance of distinguishing between Tallahassee Collegiate Academy and the Innovation Academy of Excellence. She emphasized the significance of this effort as the first of its kind in the state and highlighted its potential to serve as a model recognized by the Department of Education, the legislature, and community stakeholders. She called it a glimpse into the future of education in Florida.

### ***Administrative Services***

11. Fund Analysis -  
Presented as an information item only.
12. Use of College Personnel and Facilities  
Approve the use of College resources for Foundation DSO activities as presented.

**MOTION:** Trustee Kilpatrick

**SECOND:** Trustee Messersmith

Motion passed unanimously.

13. Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) 2026-27 Through 2028-2029  
Approve the 2026-27 through 2028-29 CIP, as provided on the attached CIP-1 and CIP-2 forms.  
**MOTION:** Trustee Brown                      **SECOND:** Trustee Kilpatrick  
Motion passed unanimously.
14. Facilities & Construction Status Report  
Presented as an information item only.
15. Sponsored Programs – Provider  
Authorize funding for the awards and contracts as presented.  
**MOTION:** Trustee Kilpatrick                      **SECOND:** Trustee Brown  
Motion passed unanimously.
16. Science and Math Building AHU 5 and 6 Replacements Project  
Approve the attached proposal no. 9802343 from SIEMENS as presented.  
**MOTION:** Trustee Messersmith    **SECOND:** Trustee Kilpatrick  
Motion passed unanimously.
17. Tallahassee Collegiate Academy Building AHU's 1- 6 Replacements Project  
Approve the attached proposal no. 9802443 from SIEMENS as presented.  
**MOTION:** Trustee Brown                      **SECOND:** Trustee Kilpatrick  
Motion passed unanimously.  
Chair Moore excused herself from the vote and completed Form 8A.
18. Architect Invoice(s)  
Authorize payment of architectural invoice(s) as presented.  
**MOTION:** Trustee Kilpatrick                      **SECOND:** Trustee Messersmith  
Motion passed unanimously.
19. College Operating Budget for FY 2025-2026  
Approve the College's FY 2025-2026 Operating Budget.  
**MOTION:** Trustee Brown                      **SECOND:** Trustee Messersmith  
Motion passed unanimously.



Comments:

Trustee Kilpatrick asked whether the August meeting would include a new budget or an amendment. Dr. Wills clarified that the proposed budget for the 2025-26 fiscal year must be approved by the board by June 30 to meet submission deadlines for the Florida College System. The proposal is based on enrollment projections and prior-year appropriations. Following final approval of the state budget by the legislature, a budget amendment will be brought to the Board for consideration at the August meeting.

20. Changes to Salary Schedule

Approve updates to the 2025 – 2026 Salary Schedule as presented.

**MOTION:** Trustee Kilpatrick

**SECOND:** Trustee Brown

Motion passed unanimously.

## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

21. 2025 - 2026 Schedule of Business Meetings and Workshops

Approve the schedule as presented.

**MOTION:** Trustee Kilpatrick

**SECOND:** Trustee Brown

Motion passed unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENT-** No Public Comment

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**All upcoming events will be emailed to the Trustees.**

- No DBOT meeting in July.
- Friday, July 4- Campus closed for Independence Day.
- Wednesday, July 9<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM Adult Education Graduation, Workforce Development Ballroom WD105.
- Thursday, July 24, HCP Summer Pinning Ceremony, at 5:30 p.m. in the Lifetime Sports Complex, Dental Assisting (11), EMS (30), and nursing (107-AS,m 10-15, BS).

- Wednesday, July 30, at 6:00 p.m., Workforce Development Ballroom, Summer Pinning Ceremony invitation for Clinical Medical Assistant, Nursing Assistant – Long Term Care, and Phlebotomy programs. The Medical Administrative Specialist will be presented with their Career Certificates.
- Thursday, August 7, Eagle Rise, Noon to 4 p.m.

#### **NEXT MEETING DATE**

August 18, 2025

Location: **Main Campus**

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

**Time: 3:49 p.m.**