Board of Trustees
Proceedings

Regular Meeting
September 22, 2026, at 3:45 pm
Cincinnati State – Clifton Campus
3520 Central Parkway, Cincinnati, Ohio 45223

SUNSHINE LAW COMPLIANCE ANNOUNCEMENT

The Board of Trustees of the Cincinnati State Technical and Community College District, Hamilton County, Ohio, met in regular session, pursuant to the rules, on **September 22, 2026,** at 3:45 pm, Chairperson Jane Garvey presiding. The notification was posted on the College website, www.cincinnatistate.edu, in **Cincinnati State Daily News**, and given to news media outlets – including **The Cincinnati Enquirer, The Cincinnati Herald, The Middletown Journal,** the **Harrison Press, WCPO, WLW-TV, WKRC, WXIX, WVXU,** and **WLW Radio** – in compliance with the requirements of Ohio Revised Code, Section 121.22.

The meeting was convened by Chairperson Garvey at 3:45 p.m.

Mr. Habel read Sunshine Law.

Chairperson Garvey requested a call for attendance, and the meeting quorum was met.

ROLL CALL					
MEMBER	**PRESENT**	**ABSENT**	**MEMBER**	**PRESENT**	**ABSENT**
Mrs. Booth	X		Dr. Minhas	X	
Mr. Chavez		X	Mr. Scherpenberg		X
Ms. Garvey	X		Mr. Silverman	X	
Mr. Habel	X		Mr. Walton	X	
Mr. Howe	X				
			TOTAL	**7**	**2**

26.66 Approval of the Proceedings of the Regular Board Meeting of July 28, 2026.

Chairperson Garvey requested a motion to approve the proceedings of the Regular Board Meeting from July 28, 2026. Mr. Silverman motioned and Mr. Walton seconded the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous voice vote of "aye."

26.67 Consideration of Items for Possible Addition to the Agenda

There were no additions to the meeting agenda offered in response to Chairperson Garvey's request for any additions.

26.68 Recognition of Accomplishments Reflective of the College Mission

President Robbin Hoopes reaffirmed his commitment to building upon the mission of Cincinnati State and the legacy of Dr. Monica Posey, whose leadership advanced student success, strengthened community engagement, secured significant philanthropic support, and elevated the College's public profile.

President Hoopes then invited Elliott Ruther, Chief of Institutional Advancement, to present an overview of Institutional Advancement's work in fundraising, government affairs, public relations, communications, alumni relations, and community partnerships.

Elliott's presentation included: photos and reflections from Dr. Posey's retirement celebrations and highlighted the participation of students, community partners (including the Greater Cincinnati Foundation, Ignite, Millstone, and Knight Philanthropy Government Strategies Group), as well as key political figures such as Governor Mike DeWine, State Senator Catherine Ingram, Senator John Husted, Senator Bernie Moreno and Mayor Aftab Pureval.

Team Accomplishments

Elliott recognized members of the Institutional Advancement team and other key contributors for their outstanding achievements, which included:

- Securing significant philanthropic support, highlighted by a **$100,000 lead gift**.
- Raising funds for the **Student Success Center** in honor of Dr. Posey.
- Supporting the successful **Honors Golf Outing**, which generated approximately **$20,000** for honors-related initiatives.
- Assisting in Cincinnati State's designation as the regional coordinator for the statewide **JobsOhio Earn and Learn Initiative**, creating new opportunities to connect employers with workforce training resources.
- Strengthening relationships and engagement among donors, alumni, educational partners, corporate partners, public officials, retirees, employees, students, and community leaders.

Dr. Posey Retirement Hyatt Luncheon Celebration



Group of bipartisan and bicameral local, state and federal officials came to celebrate (Gov DeWine, Mayor Pureval, State Sen Cathy Ingram, Regional Directors of Sens Moreno/Husted all spoke). Just prior to event, Dr. Posey served on JobsOhio panel with Gov DeWine, Lt Gov Tressel and REDI.





26.69 Consent Agenda for Recurring Items

Chairperson Garvey welcomed Steve Morris to the podium for the Consent Agenda. Steve noted that the Annual Security (Clery) Report and Efficiency Report were added to the Consent Agenda as recurring items. The ***Consent Agenda was approved by a unanimous voice vote of "aye***" (37.51 minutes).

The Board reviewed the consent agenda including:

A. Personnel Reports
B. Facilities Reports
C. Public Safety Monthly Incident Report
D. Annual Security (Clery) Report
E. Efficiency Report

Steve Morris reported on the Annual Security (Clery) Report, Efficiency Report and gave updates on Facilities projects. Steve's report highlighted continued strong campus safety results with no reportable incidents, improving financial indicators despite ongoing expense pressures, positive enrollment growth, and targeted investments in facilities and marketing to support future institutional success.

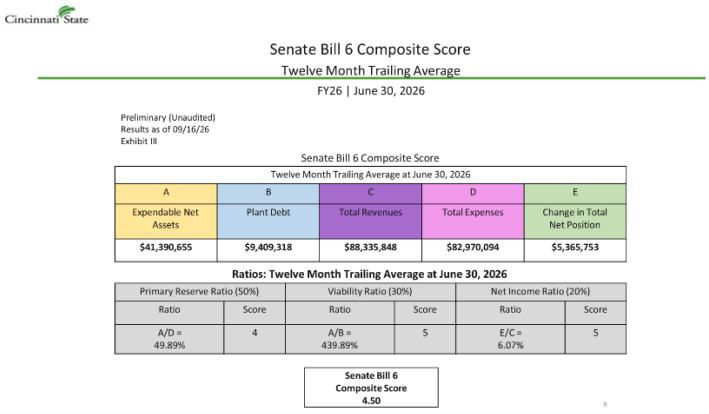
The College's annual Clery Report indicated a continued strong campus safety record, with zero reportable incidents in 2025, matching the zero incidents reported in 2024. While no incidents occurred on campus, the report noted that approximately eight incidents were reported in areas adjacent to the Clifton Campus that fall under the jurisdiction of the Cincinnati Police Department and are required to be included in Clery reporting. Additionally, all other College campuses reported zero incidents both on campus and in surrounding areas, reflecting a consistently safe environment across the institution.

An update was provided on several capital improvement projects across the college. At the West Campus, work continues on the parking expansion and construction staging efforts, along with planning for a future driveway connection to the airport. The Health Professions building curtain wall project is progressing as planned, with a total investment of approximately $1.2 million and a target completion date of mid-October. At the CVG annex, powerplant classes are already underway, and additional enhancements include new signage, an electronics lab, and an additional classroom to support program growth and instructional needs.

The Board received a summary of the FY26 Efficiency Report, highlighting nearly $786,000 in student savings through Inclusive Access, expanded use of Open Educational Resources (OER), and a significant increase in courses requiring no textbook purchases. The report also noted continued cost savings through strategic partnerships, including the Miami University Middletown co-location. Additional efficiency initiatives included the implementation of an AI-supported transcript evaluation platform, expanded student affordability programs such as the Be Great Grant and transportation assistance, enhanced institutional reporting and data dashboards, and continued investments in aviation and advanced manufacturing to support workforce development and student success.

26.70 Financial Reports

The Board received a financial update highlighting preliminary, unaudited year-end results and key financial indicators. As of August 31st, unrestricted cash was down $1.3 million year over year, an improvement from the previous $1.6 million decline due to significant investments in refrigeration and HVAC infrastructure and lower-than-expected health consortium savings. The College reported a favorable all-funds budget variance of $5.1 million, a net income ratio of approximately 6.1% to 6.4%, and a Senate Bill 6 composite score of 4.5, which leadership expects to maintain. The Primary Reserve Ratio was reported at 47.6%, just below the 50% benchmark, while the Net Income Ratio is projected to increase to approximately 10% by year-end as additional state-funded and externally funded capital is recorded. The report also introduced a new Higher Learning Commission (HLC) Composite Financial Index metric that combines College and Foundation financial results, with a projected score near 7.0 pending Foundation results and completion of the audit, which will be reviewed in October. The presentation emphasized the importance of maintaining strong recurring margins, prioritizing capital investments, and strengthening liquidity to support long-term financial stability.



Cincinnati State

Senate Bill 6 Composite Score
Twelve Month Trailing Average
FY26 | June 30, 2026

Preliminary (Unaudited)
Results as of 09/16/26
Exhibit III

Senate Bill 6 Composite Score
Twelve Month Trailing Average at June 30, 2026

A	B	C	D	E
Expendable Net Assets	Plant Debt	Total Revenues	Total Expenses	Change in Total Net Position
$41,390,655	$9,409,318	$88,335,848	$82,970,094	$5,365,753

Ratios: Twelve Month Trailing Average at June 30, 2026

Primary Reserve Ratio (50%)		Viability Ratio (30%)		Net Income Ratio (20%)	
Ratio	Score	Ratio	Score	Ratio	Score
A/D = 49.89%	4	A/B = 439.89%	5	E/C = 6.07%	5

Senate Bill 6 Composite Score 4.50

26.71 Vendor Contract Approvals

Vendor Contract Resolution 26.71 was presented to the Board by Steve Morris, who outlined contracts with CSP, CDWG, and FusionWRX supporting facility improvements, technology infrastructure, and strategic enrollment growth initiatives. Following discussion, the ***Vendor Contract Resolution 26.71 was approved by a unanimous roll call vote.***

The Board reviewed and approved several contracts and financial initiatives focused on campus improvements, technology infrastructure, enrollment growth, and fiscal stewardship. A renovation contract with CSP totaling $118,495 was approved for the CVG campus fit-up project, replacing a previously approved $100,000 expense. The increase was necessary to address code-required bathroom modifications and additional accessibility requirements.
The Board also approved a routine $149,608 contract with CDWG to provide 12 months of network firewall support, ensuring continued security and reliability of the College's technology systems.

In support of future enrollment and revenue growth, the College approved a $110,000 contract with FusionWRX for digital marketing, media buying, audience targeting, and campaign management. College leadership noted that the investment is funded through contingency dollars and is intended to strengthen recruitment efforts following a reported 3% increase in core fall enrollment.

Leadership also emphasized a cautious financial strategy, maintaining a $455,000 operating contingency fund and committing expenditures only as enrollment and financial goals are achieved. Of that amount, approximately $200,000 has been designated for strategic initiatives, with the FusionWRX agreement representing a targeted investment to support near-term enrollment growth and future revenue generation.
Sources

A motion was made by Dr. Minhas and seconded by Mr. Walton to approve Resolution 26.71 regarding vendor contract approvals. A roll call vote was conducted. The motion passed.

Vendor Contracts Resolution - ROLL CALL					
MEMBER	**AYE**	**NAY**	**MEMBER**	**AYE**	**NAY**
Mrs. Booth	X		Dr. Minhas	X	
Mr. Chavez			Mr. Scherpenberg		
Ms. Garvey	X		Mr. Silverman	X	
Mr. Habel	X		Mr. Walton	X	
Mr. Howe	X				
			TOTAL	**7**	

26.72 Academic Quality & Student Learning Updates

Dr. Denise Rohr presented the Board with an update on enrollment trends and key initiatives within the College's academic and culinary programs, highlighting continued enrollment growth, student success efforts, and the expanding impact of the Midwest Culinary Institute (MCI).

Fall enrollment indicators remained positive, with headcount increasing 3.5%, total credit hours rising 4.7%, and core credit hours growing 3% year over year. Leadership emphasized ongoing efforts to remove barriers to student success by reviewing enrollment holds, streamlining academic pathways, expanding access to gateway math and English courses, and strengthening retention and completion strategies. High-demand programs such as Nursing, Diagnostic Medical Sonography, Associate of Arts, and Aviation Maintenance Technology continued to lead enrollment activity.

The Board also received an update on the Midwest Culinary Institute (MCI), which reported significant growth, with Culinary Arts credit hours increasing 22.45% and Pastry Arts credit hours increasing 10% compared to the previous year. Leadership highlighted the continued success of the One Night, 12 Kitchens fundraising event, which generated scholarship support for students through a partnership between MCI and the Foundation. MCI will reinforce its regional reputation by hosting the American Culinary Federation Culinary Salon on November

13-14, bringing together students and culinary professionals for culinary and pastry competitions.

Additional highlights included the return of seasonal MCI Wine Dinners, which will pair MCI students with prominent regional chefs to create exclusive four- to five-course dining experiences featuring curated wine pairings and locally sourced ingredients. Revenue generated from these events will support student competitions, professional development opportunities, and other experiential learning activities while showcasing MCI's programs, facilities, and industry partnerships. College leadership noted that these initiatives continue to strengthen Cincinnati State's position as a regional culinary leader while providing valuable hands-on learning opportunities for students. Trustees were informed that they will receive invitations and event details directly from the President's Office once the dinner dates are finalized.

Greatest Increase in Credit Hours

Program	CH Change	% Change
1. Aviation Maintenance Technology	+457	+18.22%
2. Diagnostic Medical Sonography – General Imaging	+323	+7.00%
3. Associate of Arts	+313	+10.66%
4. Business Management	+291	+12.32%
5. Culinary Arts	+265	+22.45%

26.73 Completion Plan - Resolution

Dr. Denise Rohr presented Completion Plan Resolution 26.73 to the Board, outlining the College's required two-year completion plan focused on improving student persistence, credential attainment, and overall student success. The plan is closely aligned with the College's strategic plan and builds upon progress made through previous completion initiatives. Following the presentation, ***Completion Plan - Resolution 26.73 was approved by a unanimous roll call vote.***

The presentation highlighted significant accomplishments from the College's previous completion plan, including expanded enrollment communications through CRM and text-based outreach, increased College Credit Plus staffing and advising support, and new student orientation participation exceeding pre-pandemic levels. Additional successes included implementation of guided pathways, expanded use of co-requisite courses and multiple-measures placement strategies, and improved student enrollment and success in gateway English and mathematics courses. The College also strengthened completion-focused initiatives through C-State Complete and C-State Accelerate; increased transfer and articulation partnerships, promoted reverse transfer opportunities and "credit when due" practices, expanded Choose Ohio First scholarships, increased nursing and allied health capacity, added short-term credentials, and maintained work-based learning participation above 75% through co-op, internship, and clinical placement opportunities.

Looking ahead, the 2026-2028 Completion Plan focuses on improving fall-to-spring persistence, increasing three-year student success and completion rates, and re-engaging near completers. Key strategies include enhanced use of Starfish for early intervention, coordinated advising and outreach efforts, strengthened onboarding and first-year student support, expanded communication regarding flexible scheduling options for adult learners, increased awareness of health and public safety academic programs, reduction of student no-shows, and streamlined scholarship communications. College leadership emphasized that these efforts are designed to keep students engaged, remove barriers to completion, and ensure more students leave Cincinnati State with a credential that supports their educational and workforce goals.



Cincinnati State

Cincinnati Technical & Community College
Board of Trustees Resolution – 26.73

Approval of Student Success & Campus Completion Plan 2026-2028

WHEREAS, the State of Ohio has set forth a goal for Ohioans to have an industry-recognized credential or degree in order to build the skilled workforce needed by industry; and

WHEREAS, ORC 3345.81 requires each state institution of higher education to a strategic completion plan to help identify and implement strategies to increase the number and percentage of students earning meaningful postsecondary credentials; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of each institution of higher education shall update its plan at least once every two years and provide a copy of their updated plan to the chancellor upon adoption; and

WHEREAS, Cincinnati State Technical and Community College's Student Success and Campus Completion Plan 2026-2028 focuses on aggressive, realistic, and actionable priorities, metrics, and plans all centered-on Student Success; and

WHEREAS, the Student Success and Campus Completion Plan 2026-2028 informs and aligns with institution-wide strategic planning efforts and activities; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of Cincinnati State Technical and Community College adopt the Student Success and Campus Completion Plan 2026-2028 attached and incorporated herein.

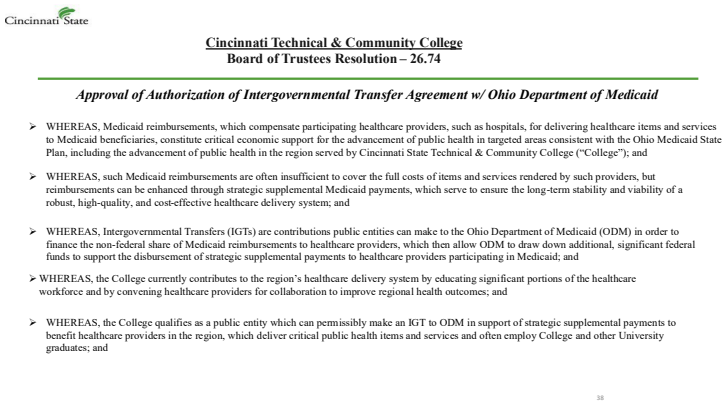
A motion was made by Mr. Habel and seconded by Mr. Walton to approve Resolution 26.73 regarding the Completion Plan. A roll call vote was conducted. The motion passed.

Completion Plan Resolution- ROLL CALL					
MEMBER	**AYE**	**NAY**	**MEMBER**	**AYE**	**NAY**
Mrs. Booth	X		Dr. Minhas	X	
Mr. Chavez			Mr. Scherpenberg		
Ms. Garvey	X		Mr. Silverman	X	
Mr. Habel	X		Mr. Walton	X	
Mr. Howe	X				
			TOTAL	**7**	

26.74 Authorization of Intergovernmental Transfer Agreement with Ohio Department of Medicaid -Resolution

Steve Morris presented information on Intergovernmental Transfers (IGTs), a common Medicaid funding mechanism used by public educational institutions to support affiliated health care systems. He noted that participation is voluntary and that Cincinnati State's involvement aligns

with the College's strategic goals of supporting regional health care partnerships and advancing public health. College leadership highlighted the extensive due diligence conducted with experienced Medicaid counsel and the Ohio Attorney General's Office to ensure compliance with Medicaid requirements. Similar arrangements are in place at several Ohio universities, and administrators cited Cincinnati State's longstanding partnership with Cincinnati Children's as a key factor in pursuing the opportunity***. Intergovernmental Transfer Resolution 26.74 was approved by a unanimous roll call vote.***



Cincinnati State

Cincinnati Technical & Community College
Board of Trustees Resolution – 26.74

Approval of Authorization of Intergovernmental Transfer Agreement w/ Ohio Department of Medicaid

- WHEREAS, Medicaid reimbursements, which compensate participating healthcare providers, such as hospitals, for delivering healthcare items and services to Medicaid beneficiaries, constitute critical economic support for the advancement of public health in targeted areas consistent with the Ohio Medicaid State Plan, including the advancement of public health in the region served by Cincinnati State Technical & Community College ("College"); and
- WHEREAS, such Medicaid reimbursements are often insufficient to cover the full costs of items and services rendered by such providers, but reimbursements can be enhanced through strategic supplemental Medicaid payments, which serve to ensure the long-term stability and viability of a robust, high-quality, and cost-effective healthcare delivery system; and
- WHEREAS, Intergovernmental Transfers (IGTs) are contributions public entities can make to the Ohio Department of Medicaid (ODM) in order to finance the non-federal share of Medicaid reimbursements to healthcare providers, which then allow ODM to draw down additional, significant federal funds to support the disbursement of strategic supplemental payments to healthcare providers participating in Medicaid; and
- WHEREAS, the College currently contributes to the region's healthcare delivery system by educating significant portions of the healthcare workforce and by convening healthcare providers for collaboration to improve regional health outcomes; and
- WHEREAS, the College qualifies as a public entity which can permissibly make an IGT to ODM in support of strategic supplemental payments to benefit healthcare providers in the region, which deliver critical public health items and services and often employ College and other University graduates; and

A motion was made by Mr. Howe and seconded by Mr. Habel to approve Resolution 26.74 regarding the Intergovernmental Transfer Agreement. A roll call vote was conducted. The motion passed.

Intergovernmental Transfer Resolution- ROLL CALL					
MEMBER	**AYE**	**NAY**	**MEMBER**	**AYE**	**NAY**
Mrs. Booth	X		Dr. Minhas	X	
Mr. Chavez			Mr. Scherpenberg		
Ms. Garvey	X		Mr. Silverman	X	
Mr. Habel	X		Mr. Walton	X	
Mr. Howe	X				
			TOTAL	**7**	

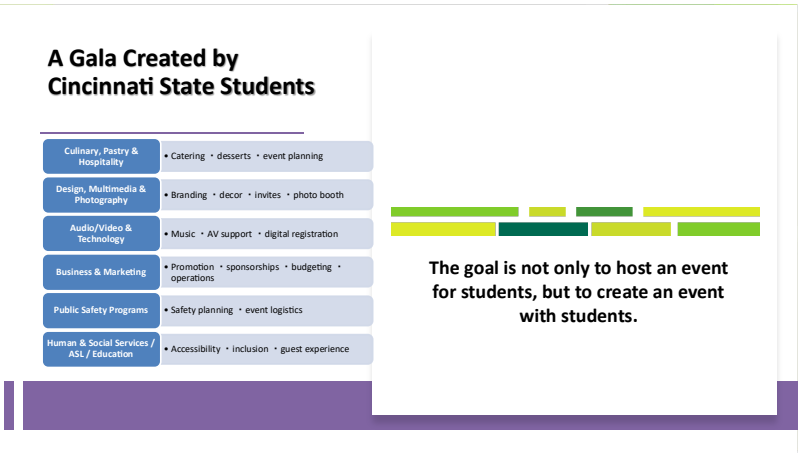
26.75 Student Engagement & Education/ Student Activities Report

Ariel Sanders, Student Government President, presented a concept for a student-led Cincinnati State Gala as a way to increase student engagement while creating a collaborative opportunity among students, faculty and staff, academic programs, and community partners. The proposed event would leverage the College's academic programs, including culinary, hospitality, business,

marketing, multimedia, photography, AV technology, public safety, and human and social services, allowing students to apply classroom knowledge through event planning, promotion, operations, and guest services.

Ariel emphasized that the gala would be created by and for students, providing opportunities to build resumes, gain practical experience, and strengthen campus connections. Early feedback indicated strong student interest and enthusiasm, with many expressing a willingness to attend and volunteer. The event would feature student-developed branding, marketing, entertainment, photography, and registration systems while showcasing talent across a variety of academic programs.

The proposal also highlighted safety, accessibility, and inclusion, with participation from public safety, fire science, American Sign Language, and other programs to help ensure a welcoming and well-organized experience. Overall, the gala was presented as a collaborative initiative designed to enhance student engagement, celebrate student achievement, and showcase the unique strengths of Cincinnati State and its academic programs.



26.76 Shared Governance/ Faculty Senate Report

Milene Donlin, President of Faculty Senate, reported that the Senate has begun its 2026-2027 academic year with newly elected officers, filled committee vacancies, and established six strategic priorities focused on strengthening faculty engagement, shared governance, leadership development, communication, committee effectiveness, and institutional collaboration. Senate

leaders are currently prioritizing these focus areas and developing action plans for the year.

A key initiative highlighted was the creation of a new Artificial Intelligence (AI) Committee, which will serve as a centralized shared governance body for AI-related discussions, research, and collaboration across the College. Faculty appointments have been completed, administrative appointments are underway, and the committee's initial work will focus on establishing its charge and identifying priorities. The report also emphasized ongoing efforts to support shared governance through faculty mentoring, updates to the tenure process, and increased faculty participation in budget planning through the Budget Advisory Team (BAT). Faculty Senate leaders expressed their commitment to continued collaboration with College leadership and the Board of Trustees throughout the academic year.

26.77 President's Report

In his first President's Report, Robbin Hoopes highlighted several institutional priorities and achievements, including Cincinnati State's selection by JobsOhio and READY Greater Cincinnati as the regional concierge for employer-sponsored co-op and apprenticeship funding. This designation positions the College to help employers access financial support for experiential learning opportunities while reinforcing Cincinnati State's leadership in paid co-op and workforce development. He also emphasized the importance of maintaining momentum on the College's strategic plan, with Audrey Woods and Stephanie Stafford serving as co-leads for implementation efforts. Immediate priorities include strengthening the leadership team, conducting campus listening sessions, engaging regional partners, and holding a leadership retreat following to align priorities and planning efforts.

Looking ahead, Hoopes identified several long-term priorities for the College, including maintaining fiscal sustainability, addressing campus infrastructure and deferred maintenance needs, ensuring accreditation compliance, enhancing student experience, preserving Cincinnati State's strong return on investment through affordable, high-quality academic and workforce programs, and continuing to serve as a trusted community partner. He emphasized that student success, workforce preparation, and community engagement remain central to the College's mission and future growth.

Vice President Announcement: Hoopes announced the appointment of Geoffrey Woolf as Vice President of Student Experience, effective October 5. The newly created leadership position will oversee student support, engagement, retention, and success initiatives while serving as the steward of the overall student experience. Hoopes noted that Woolf has successfully led many of the College's student completion and success initiatives over the past seven years and will play a key role in advancing student engagement and institutional outcomes.

26.78 Trustee Chairperson's Report

Chairperson Garvey recognized Cynthia Booth for her five years of service on the Board of Trustees and presented her with a commemorative plaque honoring her contributions and commitment to the College.

Old Business There was none.

New Business There was none.

Adjournment

Ms. Garvey requested a motion to adjourn the public meeting. Mr. Howe moved that the Board meet in Regular Public Session on Tuesday, October 27, 2026, at 3:45 pm, at Cincinnati State Clifton Campus, 3520 Central Parkway, Cincinnati, Ohio 45223, pursuant to provisions of the Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22. Mr. Silverman seconded the motion. The motion was carried with a voice vote of "aye."

The meeting was adjourned at 5:07 pm.

Next Meeting: **October 27, 2026, at 3:45 pm**
Location: Cincinnati State, Clifton Campus
3520 Central Parkway
Cincinnati, Ohio 45223

Respectfully submitted,



Mr. Teddy Scherpenberg
Secretary Board of Trustees