

ISOTHERMAL

COMMUNITY COLLEGE

ISOTHERMAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AUGUST 26, 2025

The Board of Trustees of Isothermal Community College met on Tuesday, August 26, 2025, at 12:30 p.m. at Isothermal Community College's Rutherford Campus in Spindale, NC. The following trustees were present: Jordan Barnes, Steve Bedford, Mike Benfield, Seema Daigle, Grady Franklin, Jackie Godlock, Tony Helton, Dave Hunt, James Hutchins, Amy Jenkins, Bill Miller, Marche Pittman, Bryson Smith, and Danna Stansbury. The following personnel were present from the College: President Margaret Annunziata, DeeDee Barnard, Leeann Cline-Burris, Mike Gavin, Thad Harrill, Scott Queen, Madeline Smith, Greg Thomas, and Robby Walters.

Oath of Office

Mrs. DeeDee Barnard administered the oath of office to Ms. Danna Stansbury.

Chairman Bill Miller called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

Ethics Statement

Dr. Seema Daigle asked Board members if they knew of any actual conflict of interest or the appearance of a conflict of interest which exists concerning any matter coming before the Board of Trustees. No conflicts were noted.

Agenda Confirmation

Chairman Miller presented the agenda. Mr. Dave Hunt made a motion to approve the agenda and Mr. Marche seconded. The agenda was approved.

Consent Agenda

Chairman Miller presented the Consent Agenda. The Consent Agenda contained the Budget Revisions and Minutes from the July 08, 2025 meeting. Mr. Grady Franklin requested clarification in the minutes regarding the use of Powers Scholarship funds for short-term workforce development tuition only. The minutes will be amended to clarify tuition only. Mr. James Hutchins questioned the minutes and a motion that was omitted requiring the President to report short term scholarships annually. After discussion, Chairman Miller tabled the minutes from July 08, 2025 and requested a motion to approve only the Budget Revisions. Mr. Dave Hunt made a motion to approve the Budget Revisions and Mr. Mike Benfield seconded the motion. The Consent Agenda with the Budget Revisions only were approved.

Committee Discussion & Assignments

Chairman Miller opened a discussion on the committee structure and announced a combination of facilities and finance and combining student success with personnel. In addition, he presented having Committees meet on the day of full Board meetings. He added that the Executive Committee would meet on an as-needed schedule. He discussed this committee structure focusing on the two main purposes of the Board of financing facilities and teaching and learning. The Board discussed this structure and requested more information in writing.

Trustee Items

Mr. Dave Hunt gave the Executive Committee report. On behalf of the Executive Committee, he made a motion to approve the emeritus status nomination for Mr. John Condrey. Mr. Steve Bedford seconded the motion. Discussion occurred on the emeritus status and the recognition of emeritus status. The motion approved.

Mr. Dave Hunt made a motion to approve policy 05.04.03 Student Records as presented for immediate adoption due to changes in law. Mr. Dean Shatley reviewed Leon's Law that applies to minors and the federal law of Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). Prior to the recent changes in law, Community Colleges had discretion in applying FERPA law regarding release of student records.. The new changes allow for colleges to act on the releasing of student records to parents and secondary schools in a uniformed manner. The Board discussed the definition of a minor and issues with custody arrangements with parents. Mr. Shatley reiterated that those issues will be remedied when students sign the waiver. The motion to approve policy 05.04.03 Student Records was approved.

Mr. Mike Benfield gave the Facilities Committee report. He presented the amended 3-1 form for the Bobby F. England Health & Sciences Center. Dr. Annunziata reviewed the amendment of the 3-1 due to some additions of funding for the facility and to align with state regulations with changes in funding. Mr. Tony Helton made a motion to approve the amended form, and Dave Hunt seconded the motion. After discussion of the investment from Rutherford County on future reoccurring costs to maintain the facility, the motion was approved.

Mr. Dave Hunt announced that copies of the final statements from Atlanta Consulting Group for year end 2025 were available. He mentioned that it may be time to review finance companies for investments and insurance bids.

Mr. Jordan Barnes announced no formal report from the Personnel Committee. The next meeting is scheduled on October 21, 2025.

Mr. Grady Franklin announced no report from the Student Success Committee formerly Programs Committee. The Board discussed the change in the Committee's name to focus on students success and meeting students' needs and their programs. The Bylaws will be updated to reflect the change in name when the next revision is proposed.

President's Report

Dr. Annunziata gave the president's report. She gave an enrollment update and noted that faculty and staff across campus are doing great work in supporting students. She announced an increase in headcount and full-time equivalent (FTE). She announced an increase of 4.2 % in FTE and 5.5% in headcount compared to the fall of 2024. She announced that there was a 2,000 unduplicated student population not including continuing education which has a rolling enrollment process. She discussed that census date and dropouts may impact the overall number. The Board discussed using the data dashboards on the NC Community College website to track enrollment compared to similar size colleges.

Dr. Annunziata announced that the state has not passed a full state budget, and the NC Community State Board will approve the mini budgets from the state and develop a budget for colleges. This budget will not include salary increases and will be considered in mid-September by the State Board. Following notification of a budget to Community Colleges, the Board of Trustees will review Isothermal's budget.

Dr. Annunziata announced that the strategic planning process is underway again and the campus is ready to work together to set the next set of goals. She informed the Trustees that faculty and staff voted at Convocation and approved Elevate 2030: Empowering Success and Opportunity as the next focus and title of the plan.

Dr. Annunziata announced the SACSCOC reaffirmation visit in October and the requirement of the Quality Enhancement Plan. She discussed Patriot Pathways as Isothermal Community College's focus and continued improvement for supporting students beginning at entry through their exit and continued support through the years after leaving.

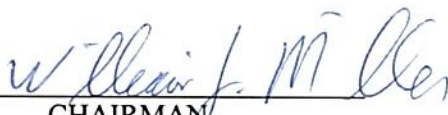
Dr. Annunziata presented the Equipment Audit where a medical piece had not been located at an original cost of \$1,944.04. This piece was not located in last audits and for reporting purposes, was added to the equipment audit this year and will be removed from inventory. Due to the age of the equipment, it no longer held any value.

Dr. Annunziata reminded the Board of the upcoming Earl Scruggs Music Festival over the Labor Day Weekend. She announced that this was year four of the festival and ticket sales were increasing from last year. The Board discussed Trustee representation on the Earl Scruggs Board and that John Condrey currently holds that seat until December 31, 2025. At that time, another Trustee member will be added to the Board for the festival.

Mr. Bryson Smith shared his gratitude to the Board and staff for the opportunities that Isothermal Community College offers and his excitement to serve as a Trustee.

Dr. Annunziata introduced Dr. Scott Queen as the new vice president of workforce development and the excitement surrounding his addition to the Isothermal team.

The meeting adjourned.



CHAIRMAN
MR. BILL MILLER

PARLIAMENTARIAN/SECRETARY
DR. SEEMA DAIGLE

