

ISOTHERMAL

COMMUNITY COLLEGE

ISOTHERMAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES JUNE 02, 2026

The Board of Trustees of Isothermal Community College met on Tuesday, June 02, 2026, at 12:30 p.m. at Isothermal Community College's Polk Campus in Columbus, NC. The following trustees were present: Jordan Barnes, Steve Bedford, Mike Benfield, 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, Jennifer Elliot, Thad Harrill, Madeline Smith, and Robby Walters.

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

Ethics Statement

Mr. Dave Hunt 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. Mike Benfield made a motion to amend the agenda to include the approval of signage for the Bobby F. England Health and Sciences Center. Jackie Godlock made a motion to approve the amended agenda, and Mr. Tony Helton seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Consent Agenda

Chairman Miller presented the Consent Agenda. The Consent Agenda contained the Budget Revisions and Minutes from the March 31, 2026 and April 20, 2026 meeting. Mr. Mike Benfield made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda and Mr. Steve Bedford seconded the motion. After discussion regarding budget revisions, the Consent Agenda was approved.

Chairman Miller made appointments to the Nominating Committee. He appointed himself, Jordan Barnes, Amy Jenkins, and Dave Hunt.

Trustee Items

Mr. Dave Hunt gave the Executive Committee report. He announced that the Committee reviewed the agenda for today's meeting which included a preview of the 2026 Performance Measures.

Mrs. Leeann Cline-Burris presented and updated the Board on the 2026 Performance Measures. She discussed the population included in the performance measure for college level English. It was about 10% of the campus student population. The Board discussed the small population used in the measures. Mrs. Cline – Burris informed the Board that Isothermal tracks all students. In addition, she mentioned that for the College level English and Math, the student cohort was from fall 2022. The data has lagged for about four years and the measures for students in 2024 will be published in 2028. The size of the college is also a factor in the indexed value. Dr. Annunziata discussed that these measures help guide the campus regarding plans for improvement. Mrs. Cline-Burris discussed how the campus is assessing outcomes by demographic population. Recently, the

state added science in the performance measure since not all students are required to take math. She discussed curriculum completion and first year progression with the performance measures. Mrs. Cline-Burris presented data on each of the measures that demonstrate that Isothermal is progressing and is steady with surrounding community colleges. The Board discussed how data incorporating a much larger population shows differently than the cohorts in the performance measures from the state.

On behalf of the Executive Committee, Mr. Hunt made a motion to approve the Bylaw Revisions and Mr. Jordan Barnes seconded the motion. This is the second reading for the Bylaw changes that include updates to committee names, and trustee emails. The motion passed.

Mr. Hunt announced that the renovations to the Library are almost complete and reminded the Board of two naming requirements upon completion of the work.

Nyoka Melton Library and Student Resource Center
William and Martha DeBrule Auditorium

On behalf of the Executive Committee, he made a motion to rename the Library as the Nyoka Melton Library & Learning Commons. Mr. Michael Benfield seconded the motion. The motion passed. The Board discussed the naming policy.

Mr. Hunt reminded the Board of Trustees that the July meeting has been rescheduled to July 15.

Mr. Michael Benfield presented the Board of Trustees with drawings of the signage for the Dr. Bobby F. England Health and Sciences Center. After discussion, he made a motion to approve the signage. Mr. Tony Helton seconded the motion, and the motion passed. In addition to the signage presented, outside of the facility will be an appreciation sign for the funders of the project including the appropriation from the NC General Assembly. Mr. Helton requested looking at other buildings on campus to have similar signage.

Mr. Hunt announced no formal report from the Finance Committee. He informed the Board that Atlanta Consulting Group provided a third quarter update. He announced that the College is in the process of insurance policy bids. A recommendation will be coming back to the Board of Trustees regarding the insurance bid.

Mr. Jordan Barnes announced that the Personnel Committee report will be deferred to the end of the meeting during the closed session.

Mr. Grady Franklin announced no formal report from the Student Success Committee.

Dr. Margaret Annunziata gave the President's report

- America 250 Celebration – A Rutherford County collaboration with one fireworks show. The College is hosting an indoor viewing party of the fireworks for friends of the college and donors of the event. In addition, the American Jet Ski Association will be hosting their summer race on Lake Imogene. The Board of Trustees are invited to the viewing party.
- 2026 Commencement – Dr. Annunziata announced that 693 graduates with 1,030 credentials were honored during the event. It was the first time that the College held two ceremonies. The campus experienced more participation in the afternoon than the morning, but two ceremonies were needed to meet the demand.
- Good Jobs WNC – Dr. Annunziata discussed the efforts to support the western community colleges and currently Isothermal is submitting a funding application to expand programing. Mrs. Jackie Godlock

discussed how Isothermal is at the forefront in discussions regarding Isothermal's work with philanthropy, foundations, and with efforts in economic development. In addition, Dr. Annunziata announced that she will be presenting at the Glaxo Kline Smith Foundation on the work with Good Jobs WNC.

- Compliance Review Final Report FY 2025-26 (A-6) – Dr. Annunziata commended Dr. Thomas, Dr. Queen, and staff for their work and announced no findings in the program compliance audit.
- YTD Budget (A-7) -- Dr. Annunziata shared a copy of the budget year to date.
- Propel NC (A-8) -- Dr. Annunziata shared the PropelNC model from the NC Community College System.

Mr. Dave Hunt made a motion to go into closed session under General Statute 143-318.11.6 of the North Carolina General Statutes. Mr. Tony Helton seconded the motion. The motion passed.

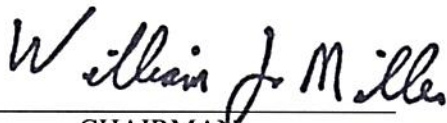
(3) To consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the public body, which privilege is hereby acknowledged. General policy matters may not be discussed in a closed session, and nothing herein shall be construed to permit a public body to close a meeting that otherwise would be open merely because an attorney employed or retained by the public body is a participant. The public body may consider and give instructions to an attorney concerning the handling or settlement of a claim, judicial action, mediation, arbitration, or administrative procedure. If the public body has approved or considered a settlement, other than a malpractice settlement by or on behalf of a hospital, in closed session, the terms of that settlement shall be reported to the public body and entered into its minutes as soon as possible within a reasonable time after the settlement is concluded.

(6) To consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointment, or conditions of initial employment of an individual public officer or employee or prospective public officer or employee; or to hear or investigate a complaint, charge, or grievance by or against an individual public officer or employee. General personnel policy issues may not be considered in a closed session. A public body may not consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, appointment, or removal of a member of the public body or another body and may not consider or fill a vacancy among its own membership except in an open meeting. Final action making an appointment or discharge or removal by a public body having final authority for the appointment or discharge or removal shall be taken in an open meeting.

Mr. Hunt made a motion to return to open session. Mr. Benfield seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Chairman Miller announced that the salary for Dr. Annunziata was amended to include a 4% increase. The Board reviewed the evaluation and the contract for Dr. Annunziata.

Mr. Dave Hunt made a motion to adjourn, and Mr. Jordan Barnes seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned.



CHAIRMAN
MR. BILL MILLER



PRESIDING PARLIAMENTARIAN/SECRETARY
MR. DAVE HUNT