

KIRKWOOD COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Meeting of the Board of Trustees
Thursday, February 19, 2026, 4:30 P.M.
B.A. Jensen Board Room

MINUTES

Present: Doug Bannon, Peggy Doerge, Alan Jensen, Tracy Pearson, Keith Stamp, Joel Thys, Lorraine Williams, and Leslie Wright.

Absent: Trustee Steve Caves

Also Present: Kristie Fisher, President; Casey Dunning, Treasurer; Peg Sprengeler, Secretary; Chad Little and Ted Weiland, KFA Representative and Jewels Holladay, KSA Representative.

Chair Pearson called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

No public comments.

Student Perspectives

Seth Vander Tuig, Senior Director of Student Engagement & Campus Life, introduced the students selected to represent Kirkwood at the National Legislative Summit.

- Cory Jones is a Horticulture Science major focused on Turfgrass Management. He is active in leadership groups and employed with Kirkwood Facilities as part of the grounds crew part-time.
- Lama Mohamed is pursuing an Associate of Science degree. As STEM Club president and a Student Services worker, she brings global perspective and plans to continue her education by studying engineering.
- Emily Naughton is completing her Associate of Arts before transferring into Sports Management. A member of the Volleyball Team and Student Athlete Advisory Committee, she is interested in pursuing a career in the sports industry.
- Jonah Salow, though unable to attend, is studying Construction Management and Project Management. Involved in NAHB and working as an estimator, he has already secured a post-graduation position in the construction field.

Trustees Doerge and Williams moved and seconded approval of the February 19, 2026, agenda. Motion carried: 8-0

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Kirkwood Report

Justin Hoehn, Director of Media Relations and Communications, provided the Kirkwood report, which included:

- Isaac Stevens, Journalism student, has been named February Student of the Month.
- Kirkwood's student newspaper, the Communiqué, earned nine awards at this year's Iowa College Media Association convention, highlighting the outstanding work of its student journalists.
- The annual Kirkwood Vocal Jazz Festival will take place February 19–20 on the main campus, bringing talented vocalists and ensembles together for two days of performances and clinics.
- On February 14, Kirkwood hosted its Crowd the Court Campus Visit Day, welcoming high school juniors and seniors for a combined visit experience and basketball event in Johnson Hall.
- Earlier this month, four Kirkwood students and three members of the Board of Trustees participated in the National Legislative Summit in Washington, D.C.

Spring Enrollment

Becky Weininger, Research Analyst, reported on the current enrollment for the Spring 2026 term based on data at census as internally reported, Spring is reported to the state through MIS as part of the academic year during October 2026, so it is after the term has closed.

Spring 2026 enrollment is 11,989 students flat from last year and enrolled in 100,725 credit hours, flat from last year. Regular enrolled students have decreased 2% with credit hours down 1%, while College Credit in High School students and credit hours were both 3% above the prior year.

Kirkwood Spring 2026 students represent 90 counties in Iowa, 30 states, and 40 countries and 81% of our instate students are from the Kirkwood region.

AI at Kirkwood

Jon Neff, Vice President-Technology Services; Matt Gilchrist, Executive Director-Academic Affairs; and Victoria Dabler, Associate Dean-Industrial Technologies provided an overview of Kirkwood's comprehensive approach to AI, including the process used to establish the three key levers of AI adoption: policy, training, and tools. They discussed how collaboration, inclusion, and feedback from employees across Kirkwood helped shape this initiative. The discussion concluded with examples of how AI is being used in the classroom and in academic planning.

Financial Report

Treasurer Dunning provided a high-level review of changes to the FY26 projected revenues for operating Fund 1 at the January 2026 Board meeting for the period of July 2025 through December 2025. Total Revenues are projected to exceed budget revenue by \$1.3M. During the March Board meeting, projections will be updated to include revenue forecasts for credit tuition including updates for Spring enrollment.

Overall expenses for operating Fund 1 are projected to remain within budget for FY26. Overtime wages are expected to exceed budget by \$19k due to higher than normal frequency of snow removal during December. This overage will be offset by savings in other expense categories. Key expense savings include Salaries and Benefits savings of \$2.41M due to savings from unfilled open positions. All operating expense categories are currently projected to end the year within budget.

Fund 3 is projected to end the year in line with budget. A more refined estimate for the enterprise operations will be presented in the Spring when a larger share of operating revenues has been received at the major enterprises.

Cash balances remain strong with the College having 191 days of unrestricted days reserve at the end of January 2026, when compared to a KPI of 90 days.

CONSENT AGENDA

Trustees Wright and Doerge moved and seconded approval of the Consent Agenda. Motion carried: 8-0.

- A. Personnel (as attached to these minutes).
- B. Synopsis of Bills
 1. Kirkwood Community College pages 1 through 54 for a total of \$6,645,091.77
 2. The Hotel at Kirkwood Center pages 1 through 4 for a total of \$274,032.21
- C. Board minutes from January 15, 2026
- D. Approval – Finance Committee minutes from January 15, 2026

NEW BUSINESS AGENDA

Administration

Trustees Jensen and Thys moved and seconded the approval of the Final Industrial New Jobs Training Agreements [260E] with the following:

1. SubZero Group, Cedar Rapids, 169 new jobs

Motion carried: 8-0.

Trustees Bannon and Doerge moved and seconded approval of the resolution directing the publication of a notice of intention to issue not to exceed \$8,000,000.00 aggregate principal amount of industrial new jobs training certificates and calling a public hearing on the proposal to issue said certificates on March 12, 2026 at 4:30 p.m., at Kirkwood Community College – Jones County Regional Center, Room 222. Motion carried: 8-0.

Trustees Stamp and Jensen moved and seconded approval of the amended Career & Technical Education Consultant Shared Personnel Agreement with Grant Wood Area Education Agency for FY26. Motion carried: 8-0.

Trustees Jensen and Wright moved and seconded approval of the Vital 4+1 Transitional Annual Contract with Waukee Community Schools. Motion carried: 8-0.

Board

Trustees Williams and Wright moved and seconded the approval of the first reading of Board Policy 706: AI Integration and Responsible Use. Motion carried: 8-0.

DELEGATIONS, PETITIONS, AND COMMUNICATIONS

President's Report

- An update was provided on current legislative activity post first funnel.
- Kirkwood has been collaborating with SubZero Group across several areas—including credit programs, noncredit programs, and the Foundation— to ensure people are connected with the right areas when needed. Quinn Pettifer has been instrumental in coordinating these conversations.
- Update on Bachelor's degree bill which we do not expect to have significant impact on Kirkwood because of our robust local 4-year partners. We remain focused on continuing our strong partnerships and collaborative work with community and industry leaders.
- A brief update was given on the town hall meeting held earlier today.

Secretary's Report

- Student Legislative Seminar – March 2, 2026
- All Iowa Academic Awards Banquet [Phi Theta Kappa; DSM] - March 2, 2026
- Community College Day on the Hill – March 3, 2026
- Spring County Leadership meetings begin in early April.

Report of Board Members

Trustee Stamp provided an update on Heritage Area Agency on Aging.

There being no further business coming before the Board, Trustees Stamp and Williams moved and seconded the meeting be adjourned at 6:01 p.m. Motion carried: 8-0

Respectfully submitted by:

Peg Sprengeler, Board Secretary

Approved by Board on March 12, 2026:

Tracy Pearson, Chair

**Board of Trustees' Agenda
February 19, 2026**

Replacements/New Positions

Name	Title	Department	Effective Date	Replaces/New
Luke Kniffen	Academic Advisor	Academic Advising	01/20/2026	Carrie Barker
Jamie Mnayer	Instructional Designer	AISD	02/02/2026	Macee Tracy
Bryan Schroeder	Operations Manager	Ag Science	02/02/2026	Travis Allen
Reece Downey	Financial Aid Advisor	Student Services	01/20/2026	Jacob Zirkelbach
Rocio Lopez Riveros*	Senior Student Support Specialist	Accommodation Services	01/26/2026	Krystyna Kaminski
Remsey Roseke	IEC Technician	Iowa Equestrian Center	02/02/2026	Megan Bussan
Maria Taylor**	Program Manager	Continuing Ed	01/16/2026	Amanda Feyerabend
Rochelle Holt	Program Director- Radiological Technology	Health Programs	02/16/2026	Art Khaw
Olivia Pendleton	Student Assistance & Outreach	Dean of Students Office	02/16/2026	Caitlyn Miller

*Internal Transfer

**Internal Promotion

Separation of Employment

Name	Title	Department	Effective Date
Carole Hebl	Program Specialist	Workplace Learning Connection	01/03/2026
Erin Dahlstrom	Registered Veterinary Tech	Ag Science	01/29/2026
Amanda Feyerabend	Program Manager	Continuing Education	01/15/2026
Shawn Feyerabend	Maintenance Tech II	Facilities	01/15/2026
Matthew Rosauer	Custodian	Facilities	01/22/2026
Laura Green	Associate Dean	Health Programs	02/20/2026