KIRKWOOD COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Meeting of the Board of Trustees
Thursday, October 8, 2026, 4:30 P.M.
B.A. Jensen Board Room

MINUTES

Present: Doug Bannon, Steve Caves, Peggy Doerge, Alan Jensen, Tracy Pearson, Keith Stamp, Joel Thys, Lorraine Williams [arrived at 4:31 p.m.], and Leslie Wright.

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

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

Trustees Doerge and Wright moved and seconded approval of the October 8, 2026, agenda. Motion carried: 8-0

No public comments.

Student Perspectives

Seth Vander Tuig, Senior Director-Student Engagement & Campus Life, introduced student speaker Ken Green, a Human Services student whose educational journey reflects his commitment to serving others and strengthening his community. A student veteran residing in Coralville, Ken has attended classes at both the Cedar Rapids campus and KRCUI, providing him with a broad perspective on the student experience across Kirkwood locations. He has also utilized TRIO support services throughout his time at Kirkwood.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Kirkwood Report

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

- Rylee Steffen, Paramedic student, has been named October Student of the Month.
- In September, Kirkwood Agriculture students gained hands-on experience working alongside area farmers by servicing equipment as part of the program's combined servicing course.
- Last month, Kirkwood hosted two international groups on campus, further strengthening the college's commitment to global partnerships and cultural exchange.
- On September 17, Kirkwood commemorated Constitution Day with an interactive educational activity designed to engage students and encourage civic awareness.
- This fall, Kirkwood's beloved mascot, Sammy the Eagle, is celebrating a milestone 50th birthday.

Kirkwood Corporate Training-Employer Engagement Update

Fall Enrollment

Becky Weininger, Research Analyst, reported on the current enrollment for the Fall 2026 term based on the state reported compliance data.

Fall 2026 enrollment is 13,448 students, and enrolled in 112,044 credit hours, both were steady from Fall 2025. This is largely due to College Credit in High School students have increased 3%, and 6% increase in credit hours. The Fall 2026 overall student count is still 5% down compared to Fall 2019.

Fall 2026 regular enrolled students saw a 1.7% decline in both students and credit hours.

TRIO Educational Opportunity Center Grant

Nick Kettmann, Director of Admissions, announced that Kirkwood's TRIO Educational Opportunity Center (EOC) was awarded a five-year federal grant of $308,000 annually to serve 1,100 participants each year. EOC primarily serves adults in Linn, Johnson, and Jones counties who are seeking to enter or continue post-secondary education, with a focus on low-income and first-generation individuals. The program provides free support with college access, financial aid, career and program exploration, and navigating the path to postsecondary education.

State Fair

Nick Kettmann, Director of Admissions, provided an overview of Kirkwood's presence at the Iowa State Fair and how the college's booth has evolved over the years. The booth provides opportunities to engage with prospective, incoming, and current students, alumni, families, high school counselors, and community members. Through these interactions, Kirkwood promotes educational opportunities, strengthens relationships, and celebrates the college's impact on students, alumni, and the broader community.

Financial Report

Treasurer Dunning provided a high-level year-end review of Fiscal Year 2026 Operating Budget.

Fund 1 revenue actuals were $104.9M for Fiscal Year 2025 which was approximately $2.95M above the operating revenue budget of $102.0M. Key items impacting FY26 operating revenues included credit tuition revenue actualizing at $1.74M above budget due to credit hour actuals outperforming budgeted levels, contracted training and non-credit tuition finished $348K above budget, and investment income actuals were $1.2M above budget due to higher than forecasted interest rates.

Fund 1 total expenditure actuals were $102.6M for Fiscal Year 2026 which includes a $2.945M call of Hotel related debt that was approved by the Board during the year. Key items impacting FY26 expenses include salaries & benefits actualizing at $2.85M under budget due to open positions and operating expenses of $1.65M under budget.

In total Fund 1 generated a net income of $2.36M in Fiscal Year 2026. Treasurer Dunning discussed plans for how the net income may be used in the future. The $2.0M of net income will be transferred to the College’s reserve account to allow for the funds to be tracked and allocated to strategic priorities approved by Cabinet. Potential projects under review by leadership were briefly discussed.

Fund 3 accounts that maintain their fund balance were reviewed. A detailed overview of which auxiliary operations contributed to or spent from their fund balances was provided.

Cash balances as of September 2026 remain strong with the College having 165 days of cash on hand, when compared to a KPI of 90 days. Treasurer Dunning also reviewed a change to State General Aid distribution from the State of Iowa which will revert to being a monthly allocation after being transitioned to quarterly for Quarter 1 of FY2027.

CONSENT AGENDA

Trustees Doerge and Wright moved and seconded approval of the Consent Agenda. Motion carried: 9-0.

A. Personnel (as attached to these minutes)
B. Synopsis of Bills
    1. Kirkwood Community College pages 1 through 60 for a total of $7,869,409.09
    2. The Hotel at Kirkwood Center pages 1 through 4 for a total of $346,276.54
C. Board minutes from September 10, 2026

NEW BUSINESS AGENDA

Administration

Trustees Stamp and Williams moved and seconded the approval of the 2027 Board Meeting Schedule. Motion carried: 9-0.

Board

No new business.

DELEGATIONS, PETITIONS, AND COMMUNICATIONS

ACCT Leadership Congress

- Details for the upcoming ACCT Leadership Congress will be emailed to the trustees in the coming days.

President's Report

- The Kirkwood bond campaign is moving forward with broad outreach, including a seven-county mailer, guest columns, and numerous presentations.
- The ACCT Legislative Summitt is scheduled for February 7-10, 2027, in Washington, D.C.

Secretary's Report

- Information for the upcoming 2026 ACCT Leadership Congress was provided to the trustees.
- Employee Recognition Ceremony and Collaborative Learning Day are planned for November 17, 2026.

Report of Board Members

No report.

There being no further business coming before the Board, Trustees Stamp and Williams moved and seconded the meeting be adjourned at 6:29 p.m. Motion carried: 9-0.

Respectfully submitted by:

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Peg Sprengeler, Board Secretary

Approved by Board on November 12, 2026:

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Tracy Pearson, Chair

Board of Trustees' Agenda
October 08, 2026

Replacements/New Positions

Name	Title	Department	Effective Date	Replaces/New
Tandi Dausener	Instructor	Industrial Tech	09/28/2026	Chris Caldwell
Ben McFetridge	Environmental Technician	Facilities	09/14/2026	Jack Kelley
Jessica Miller	Department Assistant	BIT	09/21/2026	Abby Bolton
Lisa Serres	Operations Specialist III	Secondary Programs	09/28/2026	Amy Troendle
Tashina Steggall	Academic Advisor	Academic Advising	09/28/2026	Frank Williams
Shaina Grawet	Program Manager	K12 Partnerships	10/26/2026	Lindsey Neuhaus
Zach Culpepper*	Senior Public Safety Officer	Public Safety	09/28/2026	Alex Brown
Murphy Sage*	Senior Accountant	Finance	09/21/2026	Micah Wieditz
Rebecca Weininger*	Director of Institutional Planning	Institutional Effectiveness	10/05/2026	Megan Thole

*Internal Promotion
**Internal Transfer

Separation of Employment

Name	Title	Department	Effective Date
Zoe Harris	EHS Manager	Facilities	09/18/2026
Christopher Carr	Manager	Continuing Ed	09/10/2026
Grace Beaty	Program Advisor, TRIO	Admissions	10/02/2026