

KIRKWOOD COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Meeting of the Board of Trustees
Thursday, September 10, 2026, 4:30 P.M.
Tippie Business Event Room

MINUTES

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

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

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

Trustees Wright and Doerge moved and seconded approval of the September 10, 2026, agenda.
Motion carried: 9-0

No public comments.

Student Perspectives

Jess Merino, Director-Skills to Employment, introduced student speaker Sadjine Hounsounou, who shared her journey from arriving in the U.S. from Benin, West Africa in 2021 unable to speak English, to becoming a Certified Nurse Aide through Kirkwood's ESL, Continuing Education, and KPACE programs. She credited Kirkwood instructors and mentors with providing not just an education but a support system that helped her pass her state board exams on the first try. Sadjine now works as a CNA and is continuing her studies at Kirkwood to become a Registered Nurse, with the goal of giving back to the community as a hospital RN.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Kirkwood Report

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

- Amanda Behrends, Cyber Security and Compliance student, has been named September Student of the Month.
- Kirkwood welcomed students back for the fall semester with a full schedule of Welcome Week activities during the first week of classes, helping students kick off the new academic year and get connected to campus.
- A new digital sign at the entrance to the main campus is now live, providing another avenue to share important campus information, announcements and updates with students, employees and visitors.
- Kirkwood Eagles volleyball is off to a phenomenal start, earning the No. 1 ranking in the country while remaining undefeated at 9-0 to begin the season.
- The Kirkwood Foundation announced the conclusion of its latest fundraising campaign on September 1, marking the largest fundraising effort in Kirkwood's history.

Industrial Technologies: Meeting Student Demand

Joe Greathouse, Dean of Industrial Technologies, provided an overview of enrollment demand and program capacity across the department's fourteen career and technical programs. Enrollment has grown 33 percent over six academic years, and demand now exceeds available first-year seats, with 198 students waitlisted across eight programs this fall. He reviewed the department's work to serve more students within existing facilities, including competency-based curriculum with A, B, or F grading developed with

industry advisory boards, stackable credentials, open lab hours, and new scheduling software that manages lab access, faculty availability, and equipment. Joe also shared regional workforce data showing strong employment rates and wages for graduates and approximately 1,226 annual job openings in related fields. The presentation concluded with opportunities to serve additional students as open labs expand, new faculty are added, and additional space becomes available.

Gerdin Family Foundation Charitable Gift

Jody Stebral, Director of Advancement, provided an overview of the Russell & Ann Gerdin Charitable Foundation's \$2 million gift to the *Community's College, Community's Future Campaign*. This generous gift will allow Kirkwood Community College to expand and modernize our Health Sciences Lab Facilities in Linn Hall. The support will fund space renovations, updated simulation and lab equipment, an enhanced ambulance instructional unit, and curriculum redesign to align with new technologies and employer-driven standards.

Financial Report

Treasurer Dunning provided an overview of the College's unrestricted cash accounts including the College's general fund, certificate of deposit, and investment accounts. An update was also provided on the College's Certificate of Deposit RFP, which closed earlier in the day. The winning institution, Washington State Bank, has been added to the College's depository resolution.

Treasurer Dunning also provided a high-level review of the cash balance report. Typically, the months of July and August have seen decreases in cash balances due to less revenue being collected during these months, annual payments paid at the beginning of the new fiscal year, and reimbursements from fiscal year end not being received until September. However, due to a change to FY27 State General Aid distribution timing, the decrease has been less than historically expected as funding from the State is now received on a quarterly pre-paid basis. Cash balances remain strong with the College having 147 days of unrestricted days reserve at the end of July 2026, when compared to a KPI of 90 days.

CONSENT AGENDA

Trustees Williams 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 59 for a total of \$12,189,446.15
 - 2. The Hotel at Kirkwood Center pages 1 through 4 for a total of \$314,421.10
- C. Board minutes from August 13, 2026
- D. Kirkwood and Grant Wood AEA Joint Board Meeting Minutes – August 13, 2026
- E. Approval – Board Policy Review
 - 1. Board Policy 216: President Emeritus
- F. Approval – Review of Current Board Policies
 - 1. Board Policy 212: Conduct of Meetings

The administration conducted a review of the current Board policy. As no changes were proposed, the first reading of the policy has been waived. The policies remain unchanged and continue to reflect the Board's commitment to effective governance and institutional integrity.

NEW BUSINESS AGENDA

Administration

Trustees Stamp and Doerge moved and seconded a resolution approving the depository resolution for FY2027 designating 12 financial institutions as official depositories of the College and setting exposure limits for each institution. Washington State Bank was added to the resolution following the College's RFP for its certificate of deposit. Motion carried: 9-0.

Trustees Bannon and Thys moved and seconded authorizing the purchase of approximately 26.27 acres of real estate for a purchase price of \$484,944.20, commonly known as 1025 Kirkwood Pkwy SW, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, {Lot 4 of Prairie Crossing}. Motion carried: 9-0.

Trustees Doerge and Wright moved and seconded consenting to partial Assignment of Industrial New Jobs Training Agreement dated as of February 10, 2022 (Circle Computer Resources, Inc. Project) to CCR Business Services LLC and CCR Media LLC, and to the Joinder and Guaranty of CCR Technologies, LLC. Motion carried: 9-0

Trustees Jensen and Thys moved and seconded consenting to Assignment of Industrial New Jobs Training Agreement dated as of February 15, 2024 (Circle Computer Resources, Inc. Project) to CCR Business Services LLC, ConstructEdge LLC, BeyondReach LLC, and CCR Media LLC, and to the Joinder and Guaranty of CCR Technologies, LLC. Motion carried: 9-0

Board

No new business.

DELEGATIONS, PETITIONS, AND COMMUNICATIONS

President's Report

- Enrollment remains stable overall, with a small student increase and a significant increase in new student engagement.
- The bond referendum is receiving strong community support.
- The team is utilizing space provided by Dream City to offer ELL classes directly to the community.

Secretary's Report

- The 2026 ACCT Leadership Congress will be held in Chicago, Illinois, October 21-24.
- The fall town hall meeting will be held on Thursday, October 1, 2026.
- The Samuel J. Kirkwood Society event will take place on October 6, 2026, at The Hotel at Kirkwood.

Report of Board Members

No report.

There being no further business coming before the Board, Trustees Wright and Williams moved and seconded the meeting be adjourned at 5:44 p.m. Motion carried: 9-0.

Respectfully submitted by:

Peg Sprengeler, Board Secretary

Approved by Board on October 8, 2026:

Tracy Pearson, Chair

**Board of Trustees' Agenda
September 10, 2026**

Replacements/New Positions

Name	Title	Department	Effective Date	Replaces/New
Kylie Hanshaw	Center Coordinator	K-12 Partnerships	08/17/2026	Tressa Burnett
Dennis Kwaka	Instructor, ASP	Secondary Programs	08/17/2026	Jeff Nance
Abigail Bolton**	Department Assistant	Industrial Technology	08/31/2026	Emily Bartels
Maya Dallago	Department Assistant	Health Programs	08/17/2026	Mike Posivio
Brittany West	Assistant Coach	Athletics	08/17/2026	Jen Francescon
Carla Andorf*	Chief of Staff	President's Office	08/31/2026	Jasmine Almoayyed
Audrey Wheeler	Registration Representative	Continuing Ed	08/31/2026	Sadie McBride
Bhavesch Goswami	Compliance Reporting Analyst I	Institutional Effectiveness	09/14/2026	Mark Schmidt

*Internal Promotion

**Internal Transfer

Separation of Employment

Name	Title	Department	Effective Date
George Dorman	Program/Production Director	KCKK	09/11/2026
Rachel Powell	Career Coach	Dean of Students	08/07/2026
Micah Wieditz	Manager II	Finance	08/26/2026

Termination of Continuing Contract

Consideration of termination of continuing contracts, effective date as noted below, for those individuals not requesting private hearings and for those which notices of termination have been served, as required by Chapter 279.15 of Iowa code. The President recommends their termination as follows:

Name	Title	Department	Effective Date
Jen Francescon	Assistant Coach	Athletics	08/13/2026