

**MOHAWK VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
UTICA AND ROME, NEW YORK
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
May 18, 2026 MEETING MINUTES**

1. Call to Order

The meeting of the Mohawk Valley Community College Board of Trustees held in Alumni College Center, Room 116, of Mohawk Valley Community College, Utica, New York was called to order at 4:01 p.m. by Chair Waters on Monday, May 18, 2026.

Members Present

Wendy Waters
Dana Jerrard
David Mathis
William S. Calli
Frank Dubeck
Anthony (Tony) Colón
Anna D'Ambrosio
Minajla Ibrahim, Student Trustee

Members Excused

Camille Kahler
Elaine Falvo

2. Open Forum

The Board heard remarks from Peter Abbe regarding the potential deactivation of the Airframe & Powerplant program.

3. Call for Conflicts of Interest

Trustee Frank Dubeck disclosed his conflict with discussion item 11o. Renewal of Probationary Appointments – Professional Association and will not participate in that discussion or any action taken as a result. Trustee Tony Colón disclosed his conflict with discussion item 11j. Nomination of Anthony “Tony” J. Colón for the NYCCT Anne M. Bushnell Memorial Award for Special Achievement and will not participate in that discussion or any action taken as a result.

4. Chair’s Report

Chair Waters recognized Dr. George Searles for his 50 years of service to the College and thanked him for his many years of service.

Chair Waters then asked for the Treasurer’s Report.

5. Treasurer’s Report

Interim Vice President Parry reported on the College’s financial position as of April 30, 2026, noting that the College remained in sound financial condition. Overall, revenues exceeded expenses by \$12.5M.

Parry reviewed revenue and expense activity, reporting that fall tuition revenue exceeded

projections while spring tuition trended slightly below budget. Chargeback and out-of-state tuition revenues were below budget due to enrollment trends and a reduction in the per-student chargeback rate. Expenses were higher than the prior year consistent with more students and expanded operations, with certain increases offset by corresponding non-credit program revenues.

6. Student Trustee Report

Chair Waters acknowledged the Student Congress re-election of Student Trustee Minajla Ibrahim to another term. Student Trustee Minajla Ibrahim reported on recent Student Congress activities and student engagement initiatives across the College. She noted that the Executive Team has been working with AmeriCorps to sponsor a new Secretary position so it can be a paid officer position. She then went on to review the Student Congress election results that designated a President, VP Utica, VP Rome, Treasurer, Program Board Director, and Student Trustee. She concluded that in accordance with the Student Congress constitution and bylaws, the Executive Committee worked collaboratively with student engagement and auxiliary services controller to create the proposed student activity fee budget for 2026 - 2027. The budget unanimously passed at the April 30 Student Congress meeting with no increase in the student activity fee.

7. Committees and Affiliations

Student Success Committee

Chair Waters noted the June meeting is in process of being rescheduled.

Audit and Finance Committee

Vice Chair Jerrard reported that the Audit and Finance Committee met on May 12 to review the draft audit and financial statements with D’Arcangelo. Vice Jerrard introduced Tricia Lucas and Courtney Pearsall of D’Arcangelo & Company to present the final audit and financial statements. Ms. Pearsall reviewed the audit summary and reported that the audit resulted in a clean, unmodified opinion for the College. Matters involving internal control structure and operation were recommended and addressed in a management response letter but not considered to be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses.

Trustee Frank Dubeck made a motion to accept and approve the audit. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Dana Jerrard and unanimously approved.

Governance and Personnel Committee

Chair Waters reported that the Governance and Personnel Committee met on April 29. The Committee reviewed the committee charter and the two policies on the agenda as a first reading.

Auxiliary Services Corporation (ASC)

President VanWagoner reported that the Auxiliary Services Corporation Board of Directors met on May 8. The Board received an American Dining update and reviewed and approved the 2026-2027 ASC budget and board meeting dates.

Dormitory Corporation (DC)

DC Chair Anna D’Ambrosio reported that the Dormitory Corporation Board of Directors will meet on May 21.

Foundation

Executive Director Ferro-Aurience reported that the Foundation secured the funding for the theater lighting replacement project through the incredible generosity of Student Congress and their \$200,000 gift, coupled with funds raised during Week of Giving, the \$250,000 has been secured. In recognition of the support received from Student Congress, you will see on the consent agenda a resolution to formally name the stage within the Dr. Michael I Shafer Theater the “MVCC Student Congress Stage.”

The MVCC Foundation Golf Tournament will be held Friday, June 26. Participation and sponsorship support is very strong and the Foundation is approaching a near sellout.

A total of 285 scholarships were awarded to 159 students, and the number will continue to grow as Wilcox Presidential Scholarships are finalized for returning and new incoming students. While a final dollar amount will not be determined until after the start of the semester, once financial aid packages are finalized, the total scholarship support for the upcoming academic year will exceed \$240,000.

The Foundation’s financial portfolio remains strong and focused on a long-term, diversified approach despite ongoing volatility with a balance of \$12,696,182.

ACCT/NYCCT

Trustee Colon reported on recent ACCT activities, highlighting the successful recognition of Community College Month and ongoing national advocacy efforts promoting the value of community colleges in access, workforce development, and economic mobility. He noted strong bipartisan support for Pell Grant funding and increased FAFSA completion rates, underscoring continued emphasis on college affordability and student access. Updates also included federal priorities related to workforce development, short-term training, and emerging areas such as artificial intelligence, as well as significant federal investments and grant opportunities benefiting community colleges. Trustee Colon shared that ACCT continues to monitor potential federal accountability measures tied to workforce outcomes. He concluded by encouraging trustee participation in the upcoming ACCT Leadership Congress and noting the potential value of ACCT Connect as a communication tool for trustees.

NYCCT Board Chair-Elect Wendy Waters noted that the NYCCT Board Chair Update was included in the Board’s materials. She expressed appreciation to President VanWagoner for his presentation at the Spring Convening and congratulated Vice Chair Jerrard on his election to the NYCCT Educational Foundation Board, noting that he brings valuable experience and insight to the role. She concluded by reminding the Board that the NYCCT Annual Conference and Awards Reception will be held in September.

SUNY/NYCCAP

President VanWagoner reported that we are still awaiting the State budget. The State of the University Address will be held Tuesday, June 3 and President VanWagoner plans to be in attendance.

8. President’s Report

The President reviewed the May Key Performance Indicator (KPI), derived from the College’s Mission Statement, “MVCC is committed to student success through personal enrichment,” and

discussed related data demonstrating student engagement and participation. While results from the current SUNY Student Opinion Survey are not yet available, the President noted that in the most recent survey cycle, MVCC was ranked number one among SUNY community colleges in both student life and community service, including service both within and beyond the classroom.

President VanWagoner also reported on the work of the Center for Corporate and Community Education (CCED), highlighting its significant impact and continued growth. Enrollment in CCED programming experienced substantial increases in the previous year, and current-year enrollment trends indicate similar growth. Additional participation is anticipated with the upcoming opening of registration for the summer youth camp programs.

College Senate

There was no Senate Report for May.

9. Vice President Reports

There were no questions from the Board regarding the written reports submitted by the Vice Presidents. The Vice President Spotlight was presented by Chief Bryan Coromato, Executive Director of Public Safety and Emergency Management. Chief Coromato provided an overview of the body-worn cameras recently approved through the College's governance process, including unanimous approval by the Student Congress. He reviewed Public Safety's policies and procedures governing the use of body cameras and conducted a live demonstration illustrating their functionality and representative footage.

10. Discussion Items

College's 80th Anniversary

Planning concepts for the 80th Anniversary were further reviewed. The Board discussed highlighting events to incorporate the 80th anniversary including Veteran's Day and future Foundation campaigns. The Board would also like to do an on-campus recognition that Marketing will further take lead on.

First Reading of Board Policy Revision: 2015. Employee Sexual Harassment Prevention

The Board reviewed the proposed policy revisions. There were no questions or discussion around the revisions and this will move to the June Consent Agenda for formal adoption.

First Reading Board Policy Revision: 3015. Title IX Grievance (Sexual Violence)

The Board reviewed the proposed policy revisions. There were no questions or discussion around the revisions and this will move to the June Consent Agenda for formal adoption.

2026-27 Diversity Plan

President VanWagoner provided an overview of the Diversity Plan. The plan is a result of the work of the IDEA (Inclusivity, Diversity, Equity and Access) workgroup.

2026-27 Strategic Framework and Annual Plan

President VanWagoner reported on the evolution of the College's Strategic Framework. Through the work of Executive Director of Equity and Inclusion, Dr. Todd Marshall, and the IDEA workgroup, the group determined that diversity, equity and inclusion principles are fully embedded across all areas of the College's operations and strategic priorities. As a

result, DEI is no longer presented as a stand-alone pillar but instead integrated through each of the remaining pillars. Based on this recommendation, the Strategic Framework has been refined from five pillars to four.

The development of the 2026–27 Strategic Framework and Annual Plan reflects a comprehensive and inclusive planning process conducted over the past year. This process engaged a broad range of institutional stakeholders and focused on aligning the College’s Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) with the Strategic Framework pillars. These KPIs are intended to serve as the primary measures of progress and success within each pillar and to guide the implementation of the Annual Plan.

The proposed 2026–27 Annual Plan represents a significant advancement in institutional planning by consolidating and integrating multiple internal and external planning efforts into a unified framework. This approach ensures that the College’s strategic priorities, performance metrics, and equity-focused initiatives are aligned and mutually reinforcing. The resulting plan reflects the collective work of the institution and provides a comprehensive roadmap for achieving the College’s strategic goals.

2026-27 Operating Budget

The proposed 2026–27 operating budget reflects a balanced approach to maintaining fiscal stability while supporting institutional priorities. The budget includes a 2% increase in tuition, along with adjustments to the Student Technology Fee and Student Support Fee—both of which have not been increased in six years. Revenue assumptions include a 2% increase in County sponsorship, no increase in State aid, and a modest 1% increase in credit enrollment.

The budget also anticipates the use of approximately \$1.5 million in fund balance, resulting in an estimated fund balance of 6.4%.

2026-27 Tuition and Fee Schedule

The proposed tuition and fee schedule notes the following new fees and fee revisions: addition of Dental Hygiene fees, Surgical Tech Skills Lab fee, and Police Heart Monitor fee; fee revisions to increases fees for academic advantage pack aka book bundle per course, computer technology, student support, and health records platform. All library fees have been removed except for periodical damage fee and replacement cost.

11. Consent Agenda

Attachment a. Minutes of April 20, 2026 Board of Trustees Meeting

Attachment b. Treasurer’s Report (Grants Update)

Attachment c. 2026-27 Operating Budget

Attachment d. 2026-27 Tuition and Fee Schedule

Attachment e. Strategic Framework

Attachment f. 2026-27 Annual Plan

Attachment g. 2026-27 Diversity Plan

Attachment h. Foundation Donation: Naming of the Stage in the Dr. Michael I. Schafer Theater in Wilcox Hall on the Utica Campus: MVCC Student Congress Stage

Attachment i. Nomination of Greg Evans for the NYCCT Distinguished Alumni Award

Attachment j. Nomination of Anthony “Tony” J. Colón for the NYCCT Anne M. Bushnell Memorial Award for Special Achievement

- Attachment k.* Non-Teaching Professional Promotion: Kshaw Paw
Attachment l. Renewal of Grant-Funded Appointments – Association of Mohawk Valley Administrators
Attachment m. Renewal of Grand-Funded Appointments – Professional Association
Attachment n. Renewal of Probationary Appointments – Association of Mohawk Valley Administrators
Attachment o. Renewal of Probationary Appointments – Professional Association
Attachment p. Benjamin Luhrs, Assistant Registrar
Attachment q. Brianna Sprole, Assistant Registrar

Motion to pull off Consent Agenda Items 11e, 11f, 11j, 11o for further discussion made by Trustee David Mathis and seconded by Trustee Tony Colón. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion: Consent Agenda Item 11e. and 11f. to revise language as follows:

11e. Strategic Framework revise Pillar 4. Improve Operational Effectiveness to Improve Operational Excellence.

11f. Annual Plan revise 1. Increase Student Success to Increase Student Completion and 4. Improve Operational Effectiveness to Improve Operational Excellence.

Motion to revise language in the Strategic Framework and Annual Plan as discussed to reflect Improve Operational Excellence in the Framework and Annual Plan and Increase Student Completion in Annual Plan made by Trustee Frank Dubeck and seconded by Trustee Anna D'Ambrosio. Motion was unanimously approved.

Discussion: Consent Agenda Item 11j. Nomination of Anthony “Tony” J. Colón for the NYCCT Anne M. Bushnell Memorial Award for Special Achievement. Trustee Tony Colón noted his personal conflict of interest for this resolution and that he will be abstaining from the vote. Motion to approve Consent Agenda Item 11j was made by Trustee Anna D'Ambrosio and seconded by Trustee David Mathis. Motion passed 7-0 with 1 abstention.

Discussion: Consent Agenda Item 11o. Renewal of Probationary Appointments – Professional Association. Trustee Frank Dubeck noted his personal conflict of interest for this resolution and that he will be abstaining from the vote.

Motion to approve Consent Agenda Item 11o was made by Trustee William S. Calli and seconded by Trustee Tony Colón. Motion passed 7-0 with 1 abstention.

A motion to approve remaining Consent Agenda Items 11a-d, g-i, k-q was made by Trustee William S. Calli and seconded by Trustee Anna D'Ambrosio. The motion was unanimously approved.

12. Adjournment

Motion was made by Trustee William S. Calli and seconded by Trustee Frank Dubeck to adjourn the meeting at 5:35 p.m. Unanimously approved.