



BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING

Minutes
June 23, 2026

The Clark State College Board of Trustees met in regular session in the Blondin Administrative Center Board Room (BAC 320) with the majority of guests attending virtually via Zoom on Tuesday, June 23, 2026. Board Chair Sharon Evans presided and called the meeting to order at 6:28 p.m.

Roll Call

Present in Person: David Ball, Kyle Hall, Mitchell Hurst, Mike McDorman, Manuel Lopez Ramirez, Vice Chair Becka Rowland-Buckley, Board Chair Sharon Evans, President Jo Alice Blondin, and President-Elect Dr. Evon Walters

Excused: Ben Vollrath

Others Present in Person: Josekada Auguste, Student; Erika Daggett, Executive Director of Marketing; Dr. Adrienne Forgette, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs; Dr. Matt Franz, Senior Vice President of Enterprise Operations; Dr. Dawayne Kirkman, Senior Vice President of Student Affairs, Enrollment Management, Regional Locations; Taylor Nelson, Executive Assistant to the President; Kerry Pedraza, Vice President, Advancement; Doug Schantz, Executive Vice President for Finance, Facilities and Operations; Mellanie Toles, Chief of Staff and Coordinator of Board Operations; and Nina Wiley, Assistant Vice President, Student Affairs

Others Present Virtually: Dan Ayars, Director of Facilities, Operations, Maintenance; Karen Benton, Assistant Dean of Allied Health and Public Services; Kierre Brown, Assistant Dean of Business and Applied Technologies; Dr. Eric Charlton, Dean, Allied Health and Public Services; Dr. Sterling Coleman, Director of Library Services; Dr. Scott Dolan, Dean, School of Nursing; Garrett Fisher, Assistant Dean, School of Nursing; Heather Holliger, Instructor, Arts and Sciences; Jack Johnson, Student; Natalie Johnson, Associate Dean, Regional Locations; Niya McFadden, Student and Student Senate President; Melinda Mohler, Faculty Senate President/Professor, Arts and Sciences; Kelly Neriani, Staff Senate President/Director of Institutional Research and Planning; Dr. Adam Parrillo, Dean of Business and Applied Technologies; Seth Snyder, Grants Writer, Advancement; Elizabeth Smith, Co-Counsel, Office of Ohio Attorney General Andy Wilson; Elecia Spain, Associate Dean, Access and Retention; Amy Sues, Assistant Vice President of Institutional Effectiveness; Dr. Jamie Teeple, Assistant Dean, Arts and Sciences; Laura Whetstone, Assistant Vice President, Human Resources; Nina Wiley, Assistant Vice President, Student Affairs; and Desiree' Williams, Assistant Dean, Teaching and Learning

Recognition of Guests

Chair Evans welcomed guests and asked members of the media to identify themselves.

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Conflicts of Interest

Trustee Ball noted that he will recuse himself on the general budget vote since his wife, Pam Ball, taught in the Spring semester.

Student Success Story

Nina Wiley, Assistant Vice President, Student Affairs introduced the student speaker, Josekade Auguste. Ms. Auguste shared that she is a current political science major at Clark State, as well as a mother, and that she manages her household, work study position, and her education. She described her academic journey as non-traditional, and that she carries an invisible weight. She was previously afraid of public speaking and math; however, Clark State transformed her perspective.

Ms. Auguste described Clark State as a welcoming environment where she has made friends. She stated that she served as a work study in the Office of Student Support on campus , and it changed her experience. In her Political Science courses, they discuss their views, and in her English courses, she speaks and asks questions. Due to her strong accent, she was afraid that she would not be understood, however, her professors and fellow classmates contribute to making the College a safe space to grow.

Ms. Auguste confirmed that Clark State understands that students are whole human beings, offering many holistic resources so that students do not have to choose between buying groceries or textbooks. She shared that she has utilized the clothing closet, gas cards, and Field Trips, Springfield's transportation service application. She emphasized that she feels seen, heard and supported at the College, and that many of her barriers have been removed. She went on to thank the staff and faculty members at the College who had a hand in supporting her.

The room gave Ms. Auguste a round of applause. Board Chair Evans thanked her for sharing her story, and stated that the student speaker is a very important part of each Board meeting. Board Chair Evans asked Ms. Auguste about her future plans, to which she responded that she plans to return to Haiti, where she is from, to help the Haitian government.

Report of the Board Chair

Board Chair Evans reminded the Trustees about important upcoming events including Family Day and Fall Convocation. She congratulated Dr. Blondin on the successful Presidential transition, noting that she has set up Dr. Walters, the incoming President, for success.

Report of the President

President Blondin deferred to the Senates for updates.

Faculty Senate President Melinda Mohler shared that faculty are off for the summer. She stated that they are working on aligning syllabi for fall semester with Senate Bill 1. She also mentioned that Faculty Senate met with Dr. Walters twice, and that their summer goal is to strengthen communication, aligning with Strategic Plan Goal 4.

Student Senate President Niya McFadden shared that Student Senate is in the process of transitioning leadership, recruiting new members, and working on fall programming. She stated that this work aligns with goals 1 and 2 of the Strategic Plan, and thanked Dr. Blondin for supporting her.

Staff Senate President Seth Snyder shared that he is optimistic and energized about leading the Staff Senate on July 1. He stated that Staff Senate elections would take place soon, and that there is a lot of interest in participation. He noted that Staff Senate is planning to work on a potential parental leave policy.

Dr. Blondin shared that she attended the Engage Element 451 Summit in June in Charlotte, North Carolina. She stated that she attended a great panel, moderated by Sara Custer. She mentioned that she will attend an Ohio Association of Community Colleges (OACC) professional development day, and will be the keynote speaker at Owens Community College in the fall. She stated that she accepted a position as Interim President at The Arkansas Colleges of Health Education.

Dr. Blondin shared that she will be attending an upcoming Association of Governing Boards (AGB) conference. She explained that she read an article that said that the healthiest Boards ask hard questions in private and have the President's back in public. She thanked the Board of Trustees for affirming that sentiment.

Approval of Minutes

Board Chair Evans asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on May 19, 2026. Trustee Ball made a motion to approve the minutes as written; Trustee Hurst seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Board Finance and Facilities Committee Report

The Board Finance and Facilities Committee met on Friday, June 12, 2026, at 8:00 a.m. in the Blondin Administrative Center Board Room 320. Those present included Mitch Hurst, Committee Chair; Trustee members David Ball, Becka Rowland-Buckley and Manuel Lopez Ramirez; Dr. Blondin, President; President-Elect Dr. Evon Walters; Doug Schantz, Executive Vice President for Finance, Facilities and Operations; Dr. Matt Franz, Senior Vice President, Enterprise Operations and Communications; Dr. Dawayne Kirkman, Senior Vice President, Student Affairs, Enrollment Management and Regional Locations; Dr. Adrienne Forgette, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs; Erika Daggett, Executive Director, Marketing; Kerry Pedraza, Vice President, Advancement; Mellanie Toles, Chief of Staff; Kathy Nelson, Controller; and Susan Kelly, Recorder

- Call to Order – Committee Chair Hurst
- Roll Call - Recorder
- Approval of May 8, 2026 Meeting Minutes – ACTION
- Financial Statements through May 2026 – Schantz
- Senate Bill 6 – Institutional Financial Reporting – Schantz
- Capital and Community Projects Update – Schantz
 - Applied Science Center Renovation (Phase I)
 - GISA Expansion (Phase II)
- Legislative Update – Dr. Blondin

- Adoption of FY 2026-2027 General Fund Budget – ACTION
- Adoption of FY 2026-2027 Auxiliary Fund Budgets – ACTION
- Tuition and Fee Schedule 2026-2027 - ACTION
- Open Discussion / Other Business
- Next Meeting – September 8, 2026 – 8:00 a.m., BAC Boardroom 320 / Virtually via Zoom

Financial Report through May 31, 2026

Revenues and Expenses through May 31, 2026 were distributed Trustees prior to the meeting.

State Share of Instruction (SSI) – The FY 2026 budget is based on course completion (50%), success points (25%) and completion milestones (25%).

Student tuition and fees revenue represents Fall, Spring and Summer semester activity. Drops for non-payment and non-attendance for Summer D Term will occur in June.

Workforce Non-Credit Training revenue is currently below budget but actuals are trending higher this time of year when compared to the previous year. The Workforce division is cultivating existing and new relationships to promote training engagements that will positively impact revenue in future years.

Performing Arts Center (PAC) revenue is currently exceeding budget. HBC/PAC Rental revenue is currently below budget.

Overall expenses are tracking below budget in most categories. By function, General Administration and Public Service are trending higher at this time of year. By object code, Benefits, Supplies, Travel and Equipment spending is trending higher. Overall expenses are trending higher than last year.

Bookstore operations are reflecting revenue below budget for the year but reduced expenses help to mitigate that loss. The Commercial Transportation Training Center (CTTC) continues to garner interest in its program with grant support from the State that funds training for qualified students. The program is currently reflecting a deficit and has implemented cost containment measures that will help them to better navigate the fluctuation in enrollment that they experience month-to-month/year-to-year. Parking is running a surplus. In addition to our partnership with Fresh Abilities at the Eagles Nest, food service at Clark State is supplemented by expanded vending options provided by Sheehan Brothers Vending. Any revenue reflected in the Food Service budget is provided by a cooperative commission agreement with Sheehan Brothers Vending.

Performing Arts Center and Hollenbeck Bayley Conference Center Updates

General Manager's Update – Dan Hunt

- The Springfield Symphony Orchestra will have a summer performance in the Kuss Auditorium featuring World-Renowned Violinist Joshua Bell.

- We continue to put on the final touches on the 2026-2027 Performing Arts Center Season, including the Club Kuss Series.
- We finish each season at the PAC with many graduations and three large dance recitals. The auditorium fills with friends and family members of proud graduates and skilled local dancers.
- The new outdoor video sign has been installed on the outside of the HBC facing east and Spring Street. We will be promoting performances in the PAC and Clark State promotions on the large screen.

PAC Ticketed Events - Upcoming Events and Ticket Sales (as of 6/9/2026)

- Springfield Symphony Orchestra, Cirque (5/16) – 707
- Springfield Arts Council - 60th Anniversary Celebration (5/29) – 46
- Gary Geis Dance Concert (5/30) – 625
- Behind the Curtain (6/5 and 6/6) – 689, 1073, and 872
- Miami Valley Dance Company Concerts (6/12 and 6/13) – 725, 23, and 942
- Springfield Symphony Orchestra with Joshua Bell (7/30) - 263

PAC Non-Ticketed Event

- Buckeye Community Schools Graduation (6/1)
- Project Jericho Building the Band (7/27 – 7/31) – Turner Studio Theatre

HBC Venue Rental Events

June 2026

- Rotary on Mondays (6/1, 6/8, 6/15, 6/22, 6/29) – 75 people
- Greater Springfield Partnership: Synergy Summit – cancelled
- Springfield Symphony Orchestra Flavors (6/5 and 6/6) – 80 people
- African American Community Fund (AACF) Gala (6/11) – 200 people
- Cliff Park High School Graduation (6/18) – 475 people

July 2026

- Rotary on Mondays (7/13, 7/20, 7/27) – 75 people
- Project Jericho: Life Book Camp (7/17) – 60 people
- Smokefest 2026 (7/18) – 400 people

Board Human Resources Committee Report

The Board Human Resources Committee met on Friday, June 12, at 9:30 a.m. in the Blondin Administrative Center Boardroom with Committee Chair Kyle Hall; Board Chair Sharon Evans; Committee Member Trustee David Ball; and Committee Member Trustee Ben Vollrath (virtual) in attendance.

The Committee reviewed and discussed Dr. Blondin's 2025-2026 incentive plan and voted to make recommendations to the full Board for the June 2026 Board meeting. The committee also reviewed a draft of the 2026-2027 incentive plan for Dr. Walters' initial year of presidency.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:30 a.m.

Senate Bill 1 Trustee Training Requirement Updates

Senate Bill 1 (SB1), effective June 27, 2025, established a framework for training Trustees at two-year and four-year public institutions in Ohio. The legislation requires the Chancellor to develop and annually deliver educational programs designed to address the role, duties and responsibilities of a member of a board of trustees.

Topics A-Q below are referenced in the legislation, and Trustees must participate in educational programs covering each subject:

- A. Each board member's duty to the state of Ohio;
- B. The committee structure and function of a board of trustees;
- C. The duties of the executive committee of a board of trustees;
- D. Professional accounting and reporting standards;
- E. Methods for meeting the statutory, regulatory, and fiduciary obligations;
- F. The requirements of the public records law;
- G. Institutional ethics and conflicts of interest;
- H. Creating and implementing institution-wide rules and regulations;
- I. Business operations, administration, budgeting, financing, financial reporting, and financial reserves, including a segment on endowment management;
- J. Fixing student general and instructional fees, and other necessary charges, including a review of student debt trends;
- K. Overseeing planning, construction, maintenance, expansion, and renovation projects that impact the state institution's consolidated infrastructure, physical facilities, and natural environment, including its lands, improvements, and capital equipment;
- L. Workforce planning, strategy, and investment;
- M. Institutional advancement, including philanthropic giving, fundraising initiatives, alumni programming, communications and media, government and public relations, and community affairs;
- N. Student welfare issues, including academic studies, curriculum, residence life, student governance and activities, and the general physical and psychological well-being of undergraduate and graduate students;
- O. Current national and state issues in higher education;
- P. Future national and state issues in higher education; and
- Q. State and federal anti-discrimination laws and the obligations of a state institution under sections 3345.0217, 3345.0218, and 3345.88 of the Revised Code.

Recently, the Ohio Department of Higher Education (ODHE) sent a communication to all Trustees reporting that the first online Trustee training module required under SB1 is nearing completion. All Trustees must establish an OHID account to receive credit for the required training, regardless of whether they complete the requirements online, through the annual Ohio Statewide Trustees Conference, or through a combination of both. Trustees are asked to create or verify their OHID account no later than Thursday, June 18. Mellanie Toles will be coordinating the communication of email addresses Trustees used to create their OHID with ODHE to ensure they receive future training information from them.

Standing Committees' Quarterly Updates

Per the recommendations from the Board of Trustees' retreat in November 2023 and in the interest of strengthening shared governance and communication, I am sharing the following updates from the Standing Committees:

Diversity and Accessibility

The Diversity and Accessibility Committee has continued to collaborate with the Faculty and Staff Senates to update its committee bylaws, in addition to its work to promote campus accessibility initiatives such as the Mothers' Rooms and quiet spaces. John Minter has been nominated as Staff Co-Chair for the 2026-2027 academic year.

Employee Engagement

The Employee Engagement Committee is finalizing a survey that will be distributed to evening and nighttime staff and faculty. The survey will help identify ways the College can better support and engage employees who work outside of traditional daytime hours.

Infrastructure, Safety and Technology

- The committee has completed its portion of the Emergency Maps project, which includes a new numbering system for rooms to make identification easier for college personnel and First Responders (lead: Johnny Lemen). The final work is in the hands of the contractor.
- The College's *Responsible Use of AI, Responsible Use of Technology, Identity Theft Prevention, and Information Security* policies/procedure were reviewed during spring 2026, with all documents and feedback returned to Dr. Matt Franz' team and forwarded from the committee to Staff and Faculty Senates (lead: Nathan Walters).
- The following projects will be carried over to fall 2026: finalizing the *Shipment Receiving Procedures* for Shull Hall (lead: Arly Drake) and the development of action items following completion of our *Student Technology Needs Assessment Survey* to the school deans (lead: Avery Davison).

Strategic Alignment and Communication

The Strategic Alignment and Communication Committee has identified incoming staff and faculty co-chairs from among current committee members based on their consistent participation and engagement. For the 2026–2027 academic year, Carol Cummons, Administrative Support Specialist, will serve as staff co-chair, and Elisa Ratliff, Assistant Professor, Arts and Sciences, will serve as faculty co-chair. Their familiarity with the committee's purpose and priorities supports continuity in leadership and sustained progress on existing initiatives. This early selection also provides time for effective onboarding and knowledge transfer, helping ensure a smooth and successful transition in the next academic year.

Student Development

The Student Development Committee is continuing to work on building communication strategies. By coordinating our efforts, we hope to streamline messaging, reduce confusion, and make it easier for students to stay informed about important deadlines, resources, and opportunities that support their success.

Board Advocacy, Student Success, and Programs Committee Report

The committee met virtually on Wednesday, March 27, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. via Zoom. Those present included Committee Chair Manuel Lopez Ramirez; Board Chair Sharon Evans; Trustees Kyle Hall and Ben Vollrath; President Dr. Jo Alice Blondin; Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs Dr. Adrienne Forgette; Senior Vice President of Student Affairs, Enrollment and Regional Locations Dr. Dawayne Kirkman; Statehouse Impact Group Lobbyist Allison Lawlor; Executive Assistant to the President, Taylor Nelson; Vice President of Advancement, Kerry Pedraza; and Chief of Staff and Coordinator of Board Operations, Mellanie Toles

The agenda included the following items:

- 1) Legislative Update – Lisa Dodge/Allison Lawlor, Statehouse Impact Group, and Dr. Blondin
 - Capital Bill
 - Congressional Directed Spending
- 2) Bachelor of Science in Education Update – Dr. Blondin
- 3) Policy Changes for Senate Bill 1 Compliance – Dr. Forgetting
- 4) State Share of Instruction Trends – Drs. Forgetting and Kirkman
- 5) Summer Enrollment Update – Dr. Kirkman
- 6) Strategic Enrollment Management Plan (SEMP) Data Advance – Dr. Kirkman
- 7) Grants Update
- 8) Student Opportunity Fund Update
- 9) Other

Workforce Updates

Workforce revenue as of the end of May was approximately \$318,000, a revenue record. We project that we will end June with approximately \$345,000, which would represent an approximately 13% increase over the previous year.

So far this year, we have granted 387 workforce certificates, a 9% increase over last year and we anticipate exceeding 400 by the end of June, which will be a 12% increase over last year.

Major offerings in May included:

- Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA)
- Basic Electrical Workforce Safety
- Basic Electrical Troubleshooting
- Dental Radiology

Our Healthcare Workforce Development in Logan County attracted a number of health-related employers, including Mary Rutan Hospital. While we expected these employers' needs to focus on more certified nursing assistants and nurses, most of them expressed the need for basic employee soft-skills (e.g., professional communication, timeliness, attitudes and expectations). As this is something we are hearing consistently from an increasing number of employers, we are investigating options regarding how to best meet this need.

In June we will be engaged in strategic planning for Workforce and our One Front Door initiative.

Upcoming trainings include:

- Phlebotomy
- Basic Mitsubishi PLC
- Basic Pneumatics
- Basic Electrical Workforce Safety

- Basic Electrical Troubleshooting

State Share of Instruction (SSI) Trends

Clark State receives approximately half of its funding from its State Share of Instruction (SSI) allocation. We recently received our FY27 numbers:

- A total of \$17,041,193, which includes an increase of \$215,539 over last year, or about 1.3%.
- Our allocation is approximately 3.33% of the community college pool, which tracks with our enrollment.
- The formula now includes two new funding categories—Post-Graduate Employment Outcomes and Technician Aligned Certificates. Clark State will receive \$1,111,647 or about 4.79% of the pool for employment outcomes. This reflects higher than average earnings (compared to other community colleges) for our graduates and a good “return on education” that reflects the cost-effectiveness of our programs. We will also receive \$32,848 for Technician Aligned Certificates.
- SSI related to certificate and degree completion is strong, particularly for bachelor’s degrees. With the success of our Bachelor of Science in Nursing (B.S.N.) program, we can expect this to continue to increase.
- Success points track with enrollment, except for “Math Completion within 30 hours,” which is slightly lower. We expect that our redesign of college-level courses will impact this for the better in the next few years, especially as this number is based on a rolling three-year average.

It is always important to remember that SSI increases depend not just on Clark State’s performance but on the performance of all twenty-two community colleges. If our outcomes improve, but other colleges improve more, Clark State loses share. Only when Clark State outperforms other colleges, including overall improvement, do we gain additional funding on a comparison basis. Of course, all colleges benefit when the dollars in the pool increase.

In the coming year, we will continue to focus on initiatives that improve student outcomes and programs that lead to family-sustaining wages. This aligns with the assumptions and goals of the SSI formula and leads to better outcomes for both students and Clark State.

The SSI Dashboard AY2027 document was distributed to Trustees prior to the meeting. This dashboard will let the Board see changes in SSI and the categories that contribute to our funding. We expect it to be live in the near future.

Discussion ensued regarding the SSI funding formula.

Enrollment and Program Update

Summer Enrollment

Clark State is up 2% in overall students and up 4% in overall credit hours for Summer 2026 compared to Summer 2025 (which was up 15% and 17% from Summer 2024). For budget tracking, we are 131% of term

target. Clark State is up 13% in returning students and 4% in continuing students. College Credit Plus enrollment numbers with high school students are up 15% from last year. New students are down this summer. Overall, Clark State is at 104% of the total credit hours budgeted for FY26.

Fall Enrollment

Looking ahead to Fall 2026, Fall Classes begin on Monday, August 17. Twelve enrollment events are scheduled throughout May, June, July, and August. Telephone call campaigns have started for prospective, new, continuing, and returning students. We mailed more than 3,000 letters to graduating seniors and their families in April, along with an additional 2,000 postcards to students for whom we have contact information in our system. Another postcard mailing is planned for the end of June to promote remaining enrollment events, and we anticipate that distribution will also exceed 3,000 pieces. The Clark State Enrollment Services team continues to work the updated Strategic Enrollment Management Plan (SEMP) (e.g., increase new student enrollment each year by 2% over the three-year average) by improving efficiency with the enrollment process through our new Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system, including a formal plan to assist students regarding the application, financial aid, payment, assessment, and advising process. The SEMP team met for an all-day advance on Friday, May 23, to realign opportunities and key initiatives. Advancing enrollment initiatives remains an ongoing priority across all areas of Student Affairs and the College. In addition, a collaborative team of leaders from Student Affairs and Marketing meet every Monday through the Enrollment Win Strategies group to ensure continued alignment with Clark State College's SEMP.

Program Update for Beaver Creek, Bellefontaine, and Xenia

Beaver Creek: In AY27, this location will continue to offer Nursing (major growth in Practical Nursing and Registered Nursing), Social Services, Networking, and Transfer opportunities. Bellefontaine: This location has focused on exploring pathway development with Ohio Hi-Point Career Center (e.g., Practical Nursing and Firefighter) and continues to offer the Diesel Technology Program, Firefighter I Short-term Technical Certificate and Practical Nursing, as well as Professional Credit opportunities. Xenia: In AY27, Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) pathway courses and College Credit Plus courses will continue to be offered in Xenia, with the addition of the Physical Therapist Assistant program and, eventually, the Occupational Therapy Assistant program.

Enterprise Operations Updates

Technology

- In partnership with the Business Office, the College was able to make several year-end hardware acquisitions that leveraged special pricing and available surplus funds. This investment will provide significant value to teaching and learning environments, with priority placement in classrooms and areas with aging systems that can no longer receive operating system updates. Appreciation is extended to Doug and Kathy for their work in identifying and supporting strategic resource investments that help maintain momentum on this important modernization project.
- We have been working closely with grant managers to identify strategic opportunities to leverage grant funding for eligible technology purchases. Nathan Walters has partnered with multiple areas to evaluate whether grant funds can be used in ways that fully support the purpose of each grant while also creating broader value for related programs, facilities, or infrastructure needs. This thoughtful approach helps maximize the impact of available grant resources while supporting both immediate grant objectives and longer-term institutional technology priorities.
- More than 2,000 applications have been submitted through the College's Customer Relationship Management (CRM) platform, Element451, to date. In addition, one of the enhanced features

Element451 provides over the College's previous CRM solution, Slate, is AI-driven chatbot support and conversational search. Since implementation, students and prospective students have engaged in more than 1,000 distinct chatbot conversations. This 24/7/365 functionality has been well received and provides timely, substantive responses to students, including outside normal business hours. We continue to evaluate and refine our processes to strengthen student service further and maximize the value of Element451.

Safety

- Additional safety training has recently been developed and made available to all employees, with a specific focus on preventing slips, trips, and falls. The training provides best practices, general safety guidance, and relevant compliance and regulatory updates to help ensure employees are well informed. These efforts support a safer campus environment for students, employees, and visitors while also contributing to reduced institutional risk and potential insurance cost savings.
- The College recently took delivery of a self-contained surveillance trailer that was funded through a grant received last year. This mobile unit significantly enhances our security infrastructure by allowing us to rapidly increase camera coverage, visibility, and deterrence in nearly any location across our campuses. The trailer is powered by solar panels and uses cellular connectivity, providing flexible deployment without requiring fixed power or network infrastructure. This capability strengthens our ability to respond to emerging safety needs and improve situational awareness where additional coverage is needed.

Foundation Updates

Foundation

- The Dr. Jo Alice Blondin Student Opportunity Fund has raised over \$1.78M. Due to the generosity of many donors, the Student Opportunity Fund will be able to serve students in the fall of 2026.
- The Clark State Foundation held its annual Board Retreat on Wednesday, June 17, 2026. The five pillars of high-performing Foundations were identified:
 - Board Leadership and Engagement
 - Philanthropic Culture and Fundraising Capacity
 - College/Foundation Partnership
 - Community and Workforce Impact
 - Organizational Sustainability and Infrastructure
- The Clark State Foundation Board welcomed three new board members:
 - Dala DeWitt
 - Cris Lopez
 - Abby O'Connor

Scholarships

- Announcement of fall scholarships will be made on August 7, 2026.

Grants

- Clark State was awarded \$100,000 from the Ohio Department of Higher Education for an AI Integration in Community Colleges Program grant. The grant is a collaboration with Southern State

and Edison State, with Clark State leading the Consortium. All three colleges will work to embed AI Literacy into general education and College Credit Plus courses. Clark State will also develop a basic course in AI literacy that can be offered as workforce training.

The following grants are in process:

- Health Resources and Service Administration Grant - \$750K – Nurse Education, Practice and Quality Retention – Transition to Practice Program
- United States Department of Labor - \$10.8M - Strengthening Community Colleges Training (Led by Columbus State)

Achieving the Dream - \$30K – Sustainable College-Employer Partnerships

Marketing Updates

Year-End Assessment for Future Planning

As the academic year draws to a close, the Marketing Department is compiling annual performance data across advertising, media relations, website, social media, enrollment marketing, direct mail and promotion efforts. Establishing benchmarks and analyzing outcomes is an important function of a strategic marketing operation, allowing the College to evaluate return on investment, identify successful tactics, measure audience engagement and make data-informed decisions for future initiatives. The year-end review also ensures marketing resources remain aligned with institutional priorities, enrollment goals and workforce needs while providing insight into opportunities for continuous improvement.

Print Campaigns

Marketing continues to utilize targeted print and direct mail campaigns as part of a comprehensive enrollment marketing strategy. From July 1, 2025, through May 1, 2026:

- Sixteen targeted academic and enrollment print campaigns have been completed, an increase of 67% over the previous academic year.
- Nine direct mail campaigns have been deployed to targeted audiences, an increase of 12.5% over 2024-2025.
- Eleven additional marketing campaigns were developed to support Performing Arts Center performances/ticket sales.

These efforts support enrollment growth, workforce development initiatives, community awareness and Performing Arts Center attendance while ensuring prospective students receive timely information about educational opportunities and enrollment.

Social Media and Digital Engagement

Social media performance continued to show significant growth during the 2025-2026 academic year. From July 1, 2025, through May 1, 2026:

- More than 602,000 impressions were generated, representing a 52% increase over the previous academic year.
- Reach exceeded 50,400 individuals, a 70% increase over 2024-2025.
- More than 37,800 clicks were driven to the College website from social media channels, an increase of 113%.
- Average YouTube watch time nearly tripled, increasing from 1 minute and 49 seconds to 5 minutes and 7 seconds.

Three strategic changes contributed significantly to this growth:

- A 47% increase in posting frequency across platforms.
- Expanded utilization of LinkedIn as an institutional communication channel. LinkedIn alone generated more than 13,400 engagements while maintaining a 23% engagement rate, helping expand Clark State's visibility among employers, workforce partners, alumni and community leaders.
- The introduction of monthly student testimonial videos that doubled as academic program spotlight videos significantly increased audience engagement and viewing duration, strengthening storytelling efforts and supporting recruitment initiatives.

Media Relations and Website

The new website launched in February, and Marketing is currently establishing baseline analytics and monitoring user engagement trends. Similarly, annual media relation metrics are being finalized. This data will provide insight to help guide future optimization efforts. More detailed reporting will be provided as sufficient data is collected.

Action Items

Personnel Recommendations – Exempt/Non-Exempt Employees

In accordance with established hiring procedures, the following recommendations for exempt and non-exempt employees are being presented to the Board of Trustees for formal approval:

New Hire:

- Aaron Hughes, Specialist, Admissions and Career Services, Enrollment Services, Student Affairs, effective 5/26/26

Retirements/Resignations/Departures:

- Shannon Kollasch, Coordinator, Student Services, Xenia, Student Affairs, effective 6/23/26
- Azelea Nabb, Instructor and Course Coordinator, Aspire Programs, Student Affairs, effective 5/31/26

Personnel Changes:

- Beau Brockett from Specialist, Administrative & Data, Aspire to Coordinator, Proctoring Services, Student Affairs, effective 6/8/26
- Adria Flannery from Officer, Financial Aid, Enrollment Services, Student Affairs to Senior Officer, Financial Aid, Enrollment Services, Student Affairs, effective 7/6/26
- John Minter from Specialist, Student Support, Student Affairs to Specialist, Work-based Learning, Enrollment Services, Student Affairs, effective 5/18/26
- Kerry Pedraza from Executive Director, Foundation, President's Office to Vice President, Advancement, effective 6/1/26
- Delvin Rockhold from Policy Director, Greater Ohio Workforce Board, Inc. to Deputy Director, Greater Ohio Workforce Board, Inc., effective 6/1/26

Open/Advertised Positions:

- Administrative Assistant, Regional Locations
- Director, Counseling Services
- Director, Donor and Alumni Relations
- Professional Development Specialist, Teaching and Learning
- Program Administrator, Certified Nursing Assistant
- Program Coordinator, Occupation Therapy Assistant

Impact on students and/or student learning: All staff positions are vital to students by ensuring the efficient operation of all areas of the College.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: Hiring qualified talent and recognizing promotional opportunities aligns with both the Strategic Plan Mission and Vision by providing high quality educational services and highlighting personal growth, respectively.

Implications for budget, personnel, or other resources: Funding for the above personnel actions is in the 2025-2026 budget.

It was requested that the Board of Trustees approves the personnel recommendations as presented.

Personnel Recommendations for Instructional Faculty

In accordance with established hiring procedures, the following recommendation for instructional faculty is being presented to the Board of Trustees for formal approval:

New Hire:

- Megan Rutan, Instructor, Allied Health and Public Services, Academic Affairs, effective 8/7/26

Open/Advertised Positions:

- Instructional Faculty and Program Coordinator, Medical Imaging
- Instructional Faculty, Accounting
- Instructional Faculty, Emergency Management Services and Multi-Skilled Health Program Coordinator
- Instructional Faculty, Engineering Technology, Laser Material Processing
- Instructional Faculty, Licensed Practical Nursing
- Instructional Faculty, Medical Laboratory Technology
- Instructional Faculty, Registered Nursing

Impact on students and/or student learning: All Instructional positions are vital to students and student learning by providing the necessary instruction and support in the various disciplines.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: Hiring qualified talent and recognizing promotional opportunities aligns with both the Strategic Plan Mission and Vision by providing high quality educational services and highlighting personal growth, respectively.

Implications for budget, personnel, or other resources: Funding for the above personnel actions is in the 2025-2026 budget.

It was requested that the Board of Trustees approves the personnel recommendation as presented.

Trustee Ball made a motion to approve the personnel recommendations as presented for Exempt/Non-Exempt Employees, and the personnel recommendations as presented for Instructional Faculty. Trustee Rowland-Buckley seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Adoption of 2026-2027 General Fund Budget

The FY27 Proposed Budget document was distributed to Trustees prior to the meeting.

Revenue Assumptions:

- State Share of Instruction (SSI)
 - SSI based on 50% access, 25% course completion, 25% success points
 - SSI projection received from ODHE on 05.18.2026 was \$17,041,246.
 - Base SSI projections reflect an increase of \$215,539 from FY2026 final appropriations (after true-up), which is a \$163,317 increase from our FY 2026 budgeted appropriations
 - SSI represents 45.9% of total general fund budget
- Student Fee Revenue
 - Increase 4.0% of FY 2026 enrollment revenue
 - Increase of \$10 increase per credit hour for FY 2027
 - Increase of 500 credit hours for new program growth (\$100,165 budget impact)
 - Total Student Fees are 49.4% of the total General Fund budget
- Other Income
 - Investment interest revenue is expected to decline
 - Lab fees were increased to align with growth in nursing and other fee increases
 - PAC/HBC Revenue was adjusted down to reflect current realistic outcomes (\$125,100 budget impact)
 - Workforce was adjusted down to reflect current realistic outcomes (\$102,996 budget impact)

Expenditure Adjustments:

- Salary and benefits represent 73.4% of total budget
- Faculty, Staff and Adjunct raises of 2% have been added (\$427,500 budget impact)
- Health insurance premium increase of 6.0% is absorbed by the College (\$192,000 budget impact)
- Net increase in other personnel changes and operating adjustments (\$524,999 budget impact)
- Lab fee expense increases aligning with nursing expansion and lab fee increases (\$193,469 budget impact)
- Contingency budgeted at \$1,070,046 or 2.9%

An original budget was presented to the Board Finance and Facilities Committee at its June 12, 2026, meeting.

Impact on students and/or student learning: The General Fund budget supports all instruction, academic and student support services with the exception of those funded by restricted grants and contracts, capital budgets and auxiliary fund activities.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: General fund budgets meet Goal 1 to develop and strengthen quality, innovative academic programs and Goal 2 to improve enrollment, student success, retention and completion.

Implications for budget, personnel, or other resources: The FY 2027 General Fund budget was developed in conjunction with the Budget Advisory Council. The Council developed various assumptions related to revenue and prioritized initiatives to fund using any new funds.

It was requested that the Board of Trustees moves to adopt the FY 2027 General Fund budget, as presented, in the amount of \$37,123,117.

Adoption of 2026-2027 Auxiliary Fund Budget

The Proposed Auxiliary Budget 2027 document was distributed to Trustees prior to the meeting.

An auxiliary enterprise, as defined by the National Association of College and University Business Officers (NACUBO) in the College and University Business Administration manual, is "an entity that exists to furnish a service to students, faculty, or staff, and that charges at a rate directly related, but not necessarily equal, to the cost of the service." Auxiliary enterprises are self-supporting activities which provide non-instructional support in the form of goods and services to students, faculty, and staff upon payment of a specific user charge or fee that is at least equal to the full direct and indirect cost of providing the goods and services. Although the operation of an auxiliary enterprise is supplemental to the primary educational functions of the College, such enterprises are important to the overall operation of the College.

Developed with the assistance of the managers of the auxiliary enterprises, all auxiliary operation budgets are presented as balanced.

Since outsourcing to online bookstore operations through eCampus, it is anticipated that the bookstore will rely upon its aggregate fund balance to maintain a balanced budget for FY26. By outsourcing to eCampus, students are provided with more affordable options (new, used, rentals, ebooks) when securing their textbooks for courses at Clark State. As part of the partnership, the Bookstore receives a nominal commission from all textbook sales and buybacks. In addition to that revenue, the Bookstore maintains retail services on site to assist students with all of their supplemental education-related purchasing needs, including Clark State branded apparel. As the College continues to further adopt Open Educational Resources (OER) in the classroom as a cost-savings measure for students, this will impact the College's revenue but strongly benefit our students.

The landscape of Food Service at Clark State changed in FY 2022. Clark State partnered with Fresh Abilities to meet the food service needs of our students, faculty, and staff at the Eagles Nest while also meeting the workforce development needs of Fresh Abilities. In addition to serving our campus community, they also draw people from the greater Springfield community onto our campus. We still provide all the kitchen/dining space (including utilities) and all of the equipment for their use but the College has saved \$100K a year on expenditures previously incurred to outsource food service through a third-party. In addition to the new partnership at the Eagles Nest, food service at Clark State is supplemented by expanded vending options provided by Sheehan Brothers Vending. All revenue in the Food Service budget is provided by a cooperative commission agreement with Sheehan Brothers Vending.

Parking revenue is generated from a portion of the \$7.50 auxiliary services fee charged to each student each semester. Fifty percent (50%) of the auxiliary services fee is allocated to this budget to pay for the operation and maintenance of our parking lots and roadways. The remaining 50% of the auxiliary services fee is allocated to the general fund to provide financial support to our campus police operation, building security, emergency services, etc.

The Commercial Transportation Training Center (CTTC) has a balanced budget. With added support from the State for students desiring to participate in a transportation training program and the increased partnerships with local municipalities, it is expected that the CTTC program will see a boost in enrollment. FY2027 will be their fifth full year as a testing location, which also has a positive impact on their budget.

This Budget was presented to the Board Finance and Facilities Committee at its June 12, 2026 meeting. The Committee recommends that the Board of Trustees approve the attached Auxiliary Fund Budgets.

Impact on students and/or student learning: Each of these auxiliaries provides support services or direct services to students. Budgets must be sufficient to recruit and retain qualified staff, provide excellent service to students, as well as to procure and maintain state-of-the-art equipment, vehicles, and technology.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: Auxiliary budgets meet Goal 1 to develop and strengthen quality, innovative academic programs and Goal 2 to improve enrollment, student success, retention and completion.

Implications for budget, personnel, or other resources: Auxiliary budgets are presented as balanced.

It was requested that the Board of Trustees moves to adopt the fiscal year 2026-2027 auxiliary fund budgets, as presented, effective July 1, 2026.

Trustee McDorman made a motion to adopt the FY 2027 General Fund budget, as presented, in the amount of \$37,123,117, and to adopt the fiscal year 2026-2027 auxiliary fund budgets, as presented, effective July 1, 2026. Trustee Hall seconded the motion, and it passed 6-0. Trustee Ball recused himself.

Tuition and Fees Schedule 2026-2027

There are many factors that contribute to tuition increases including investments in technology, service improvements, program expansion, the growing cost of health care, and maintaining competitiveness in attracting/retaining talented workforce. Discussions related to setting tuition and fee rates take all of this into consideration along with the availability of federal, state and institutional grants, loans and scholarships.

Legislative leaders adopted the FY 2026/FY 2027 State Biennial Budget last summer. As part of that budgeting process, the state has authorized an increase of \$10.00 per credit hour in FY 2027. We propose adopting this \$10.00 per credit hour increase in the instructional fee for FY 2027. All other general fees will remain the same as listed below.

	CURRENT	RECOMMENDED FY27
Instructional/per credit hour*	\$162.33	\$172.33
General/per credit hour	\$11.00	\$11.00
Technology/per credit hour	\$11.00	\$11.00
Career Advantage Fee/per credit hour	\$6.00	\$6.00
Auxiliary/per semester	\$7.50	\$7.50
Total Annual Amount**	\$5,724.90	\$6,017.40

*Out of State Instructional Fee will be \$344.66 in FY 2027

**30 credit hours per academic year

The above recommendation was discussed by the Board Finance and Facilities Committee at the June 12th meeting. The Board Finance Committee recommends approval to the full Board.

Impact on students and/or student learning: The adoption of this additional fee base will provide the necessary resources for Clark State to achieve its goal of developing, maintaining, and strengthening academic programs while also improving the student experience and positively impacting retention and completion rates.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: Raising tuition rates meet Goal 1 to develop and strengthen quality, innovative academic programs and Goal 2 to improve enrollment, student success, retention and completion.

Implications for budget, personnel, or other resources: The adoption of this additional fee base will allow Clark State to make the necessary investments in its people, its programs, and the infrastructure that supports them and the students that they serve.

It was requested that the Board of Trustees accepts the recommendation to increase the instructional fee by \$10.00 per credit hour for FY 2027 as permitted by the State Biennial Budget.

2026-2027 Laboratory and Special Fees Schedule

The 2026-2027 Laboratory and Special Fees Schedule document was distributed to Trustees prior to the meeting.

The setting of the Laboratory and Special Fees Schedule for each year is part of the planning process for all academic schools. Adjustments are made each year to reflect the rising costs, and in some cases the reduced costs of supplies and fees. The academic schools make every effort to keep such costs at a minimum, while still providing a sound learning experience for our students. The proposed 2026-2027 fee increases and decreases are outlined on the attachment. This approval process became effective July 1, 2019, when the Ohio Legislature gave the Chancellor of the Ohio Department of Higher Education (ODHE) authority to approve all fees, inclusive of fees for new programs. The Business Office submitted the attached fee schedule and was notified that all fee requests have been approved by the Chancellor's office.

Impact on students and/or student learning: Student lab fees cover costs for consumable supplies used as part of lab experiences. These fees also cover other costs, including liability insurance, specialized industry credentials examinations, and specialized high-cost instruction.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: Goal 2: Improve enrollment, student success, retention and completion. This enables us to enhance quality of resources for students.

Implications for budget, personnel, or other resources: The 2026-2027 budget was built based on the Laboratory and Special Fees Schedule as presented.

It was requested that the Board of Trustees approves the 2026-2027 Laboratory and Special Fees changes as presented, effective with Fall 2026 semester.

Trustee Lopez Ramirez made a motion to accept the recommendation to increase the instructional fee by \$10.00 per credit hour for FY 2027 as permitted by the State Biennial Budget, and to approve the 2026-2027 Laboratory and Special Fees changes as presented, effective with Fall 2026 semester. Trustee McDorman seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Statement of Individual Board Member Commitment and Responsibilities Adoption

The Clark State College Individual Board Member Statement of Commitment and Responsibilities document was distributed to Trustees prior to the meeting.

During the Association of Governing Boards' (AGB) National Conference on Trusteeship, it was suggested that college boards adopt a Statement of Individual Board Member Commitment and Responsibilities as a best practice. The document delineates the responsibilities of Board members to ensure that they understand to entirety of the role and requires the signature of each Trustee to indicate their commitment to the role and responsibilities.

The Statement of Individual Board Member Commitment and Responsibilities for the Clark State College Board of Trustees was derived from AGB's book *The Governance Committee*, was edited for Clark State's use, and has been reviewed by the Attorney General's Office. It is being presented to the Board of Trustees for adoption effective immediately. Once adopted, copies of the form will be distributed to each current Trustee for signature, and going forward, it will be presented to future Trustees for their review and signature.

Impact on students and/or student learning: None

Alignment with Strategic Plan: Adoption of this document will support the College's mission and all aspects of the Strategic Plan.

Implications for budget, personnel, or other resources: None

It was requested that the Board of Trustees adopts the Statement of Board Member Commitment and Responsibilities for individual Trustees to acknowledge and sign, effective immediately.

Discussion ensued regarding Board fiduciary duties and responsibilities. Mellanie Toles printed the Statement of Board Member Commitment and Responsibilities for Trustees to sign in-person following the Executive Session.

Trustee Lopez Ramirez made a motion to adopt the Statement of Board Member Commitment and Responsibilities for individual Trustees to acknowledge and sign, effective immediately. Trustee Rowland-Buckley seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Board Members' Open Forum

Trustee Rowland-Buckley extended thanks to Dr. Blondin, followed by the other Trustees, for everything she has accomplished for Clark State College.

Executive Session – President's Evaluation and Compensation

Trustee McDorman made a motion to go into the Executive Session. Trustee Hurst seconded the motion, it passed unanimously and the meeting transitioned to the Executive Session at 7:30 p.m.

Trustee Ball made a motion to exit the Executive Session and return to Regular Session. Trustee Lopez Ramirez seconded the motion, it passed unanimously and the meeting transitioned to the Regular Session at 8:01 p.m.

Presidential Incentive Plans and Deferred Compensation

Trustee Ball made a motion to approve the Incentive Plan for Dr. Blondin as presented by the Human Resources committee. Trustee Rowland-Buckley seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Trustee Ball made a motion to approve the pay out of the Deferred Compensation for Dr. Blondin contingent on verification that at least \$1.00 was contributed to college reserves by Doug Schantz and Dr. Blondin caused no bad press for Clark State by 30 June as verified by Sharon Evans. Trustee Lopez Ramirez seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Trustee Ball made a motion to approve the Incentive Plan for Dr. Walters as presented by Human Resources committee. Trustee McDorman seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Adjournment

Trustee Ball made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Hall seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.