

**HILLSBOROUGH COLLEGE
DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2025 – 2:00 P.M.
SOUTHSHORE CAMPUS
551 24TH STREET N. E.
RUSKIN, FL 33570**

MINUTES

1.0 GENERAL FUNCTIONS

1.01 Call to Order

This meeting was also held by Zoom video conferencing. The public was reminded that questions or comments can be submitted to the Trustees' email address at any time.

1.02 Invocation

1.03 Pledge of Allegiance

1.04 Roll Call

The following Trustees were in attendance:

- Mr. Gregory Celestan
- Dr. Michael Garcia
- Mr. Clay Hollis
- Mr. Brian Lametto
- Ms. Nancy Watkins
- Mr. Nicolas Castellanos

1.05 Welcome to Guests, Staff and Faculty.

SouthShore Campus President, Dr. Jennifer China, welcomed the Board to SouthShore Campus. She introduced two dual enrolled students, from Lennard Collegiate Academy. Nathan & Noah Jordan, who are majoring in Nursing. Next, Nadia Kotula, Dean of Academic Affairs came to the podium to present on Dual Enrollment (DE). How it began and where it is now. Dean Kotula recognized her staff that work so hard to keep the DE department running smoothly. She introduced Asia Mingo, a DE student who is a senior at Lennard, as well as Thatcher Wilkerson, DE student who is a junior at Lennard Collegiate Academy. They both shared their experiences as DE students at Lennard Collegiate Academy.

The President added that we have four DE academies throughout the county and an average of over 250 DE students that participate in Hillsborough College's Commencement.

1.06 Foundation Report

Garrett Weddle, Executive Director for the Foundation, provided the Board with a brief update of the Hillsborough College Foundation activities and support.

1.06.01 The Foundation Report was sent to the Board under separate cover and included:

- New gifts and commitments \$1.7M (July - September). 78% increase over last year's YTD total (\$955K).

1.06.02 Highlights:

- Thirteen major gifts received compared to seven in the same time period last fiscal year.
- Scholarship application cycle is now open for Spring 2026 awards.

1.06.03 Events:

- Hillsborough College Golf Tournament, November 24, 2025 @Tampa Palms Golf and Country Club
- BBCB, March 4-7, 2025 @ Tampa Bay Convention Center
- Hawks Day of Giving, March 31, 2026
- Presidential Showcase, April 7, 2026

1.07 Faculty, Staff and Student Recognitions

Kaley Infield, Director of Marketing and Strategic Communications, provided the following faculty, staff and student recognitions:

- 1.07.01 SouthShore Campus student, **Mason Vawter** was nominated for the Florida College System Student Government Association (SGA) Student of the Month for September.
- 1.07.02 Brandon alumni **Maha Balouch, Koji Aoki** (A-OH-KEE) and **Daniel Cardwell** co-authored the poster “The Shaping of Oncological Digital Health Literacy with Use of AI,” presented as the first entry at the 17th Health Literacy Annual Research Conference, showcasing innovative research in health literacy and digital health.
- 1.07.03 **Dr. Niehaus**, Dale Mabry Campus President was invited to participate in the American Association of Community Colleges Leadership Design Lab on November 9-11, 2025 in Washington, DC. Additionally, Dr. Niehaus will be joining the South Tampa Chamber of Commerce board of directors starting in January 2026.
- 1.07.04 **Professor Deb Ghosh**, Brandon Campus faculty had an article published in *Agentic AI* entitled Scaffolding STEM Success.
- 1.07.05 On October 25th, **SouthShore Campus Student Government Association** won the south regional community service project of the year award at the Association of the Promotion of Campus Activities conference in Dallas.
- 1.07.06 **Christina Connor**, Brandon Campus faculty was named the Associate Editor for the scholarly journal *American Gothic Studies* (Penn State UP).
- 1.07.07 **Angela Walters Eveillard**, Executive Director of Marketing and Public Relations, was selected to chair the national Public Relations Society of America.
- 1.07.08 **Hillsborough College** was awarded two prestigious TRIO Student Support Services Program grants from the U.S. Department of Education, totaling more than \$3 million for the 2025–2030 grant cycle.

1.08 The Chair recommended adoption of the agenda, all revisions to the agenda and approval of all agenda items marked “**Consent.**”

Trustee Lametto made a motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Garcia. After due discussion and consideration, approval was given by aye vote of all members present.

The President commented on the Glenn Dickman Event at SouthShore Campus celebrating and recognizing the capital campaign that has begun for the new Workforce Training Building at SouthShore, with a goal of \$5M toward the \$40M building. We have a commitment pledge of \$25M. He thanked the efforts of SouthShore campus.

- 1.09 The President recommended approval of the **September 24, 2025 Board Meeting minutes**.

Trustee Watkins made a motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Lametto. After due discussion and consideration, approval was given by aye vote of all members present.

2.0 HEARING OF STUDENTS

3.0 HEARING OF CITIZENS

4.0 HEARING OF FACULTY AND STAFF

5.0 HUMAN RESOURCES

- 5.01 The President recommended Board approval of individuals for **full-time employment**. These individuals will be compensated in accordance with the Board-approved Salary Schedule.

- 5.02 The President recommended Board approval of **part-time faculty and staff employment** recommendations for Term **25/FA**. Each part-time employee will be compensated in accordance with the Board-approved Salary Schedule.

- 5.03 The President recommended Board acknowledgment of **employment separations**.

6.0 EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS & STUDENT SERVICES

- 6.01 The President recommended Board approval of **course modifications and the program modification to be effective SP/26 and FA/26**, unless otherwise noted.

7.0 INSTITUTIONAL SERVICES

8.0 FINANCIAL SERVICES

- 8.01 The President recommended Board approval of **Budget Amendment No. 3** to decrease the current unrestricted fund balance reserves in Fund 1 by \$5,000,000 to support the implementation of the College's official name change and institutional rebranding initiative.

Trustee Garcia made a motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Lametto. After due discussion and consideration, approval was given by aye vote of all members present.

- 8.02 The President recommended Board approval of **Budget Amendment No. 4 to adjust the 2025-26 fiscal year budget as outlined in the attached documentation**.

Trustee Garcia made a motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Lametto. After due discussion and consideration, approval was given by aye vote of all members present.

- 8.03 The President recommended Board acceptance of the **Fiscal year 2024-2025 Fire Safety, Casualty and Sanitation Inspection Report** for filing and action.

Trustee Lametto made a motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Garcia. After due discussion and consideration, approval was given by aye vote of all members present.

- 8.04 The President recommended Board approval to re-adopt the 2010 Facilities Master Plans for the Dale Mabry, Ybor City, Brandon, Plant City and SouthShore Campuses for a two-year period.

Trustee Garcia made a motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Lametto. After due discussion and consideration, approval was given by aye vote of all members present.

- 8.05 Information Only – **September 2025 Financial Reports**

9.0 ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

- 9.01 The President reviewed the **Board Priorities** that were provided to the Board members as supplemental materials. The President noted that the priorities are the same as those approved last year so a vote was not necessary. The priorities are as follows:

BOARD PRIORITIES October 29, 2025

Priority 1— Engagement with Workforce Community:

- **Initiative 1:** Support implementation of a new A.S. Degree and certificates in Financial Technologies (i.e., FinTech).

Strategic Plan Alignment: College Goal #2 Talent Development, Initiative B to Develop and Implement the Associate of Science degree in Financial Technologies (i.e., FinTech) no later than 2027.

- **Initiative 2:** Support the LEAP College Access Network goal, which is 60% of the county's working-age population will hold a post-secondary credential by 2025.

Strategic Plan Alignment: College Goal #2 Talent Development, Initiative A to attain a postsecondary educational attainment rate in Hillsborough County of 60% by 2025.

Priority 2 — Adapting to a post-pandemic education model:

- **Initiative 1:** Support implementation of the Workday Student module.

Strategic Plan Alignment: College Goal #3 Continuous Improvement, Initiative C to Complete implementation of the Workday ERP (Enterprise Resource Planning Software).

- **Initiative 2:** Support practices for HCC's return to a post-pandemic education environment.

Strategic Plan Alignment: College Goal #2 Talent Development, Initiative E to Implement the Academic Master Plan.

Priority 3 — Promote the advancement of educational achievement for underserved students:

- **Initiative 1:** Support initiatives for improved retention and completion.

Strategic Plan Alignment: College Goal #1 Student Success, Initiatives B-C to increase retention and completion.

- **Initiative 2:** Continue to support the BBCB (Believe. Build. Complete. Become.) Summit.

Strategic Plan Alignment: College Goal #1 Student Success, Initiatives B-G to increase retention, completion, transfer, transfer success, licensure, and job placement.

- 9.02 Mr. Eric Johnson, Director of Community & Government Relations, presented an update of the Legislative Agenda.

10.0 LEGAL REPORT

11.0 HEARING OF BOARD MEMBERS

- 11.01 Student Trustee Castellanos shared the success of the recent ACCT conference. He also updated the board regarding SGA activities across all campuses.
- 11.02 Trustee Hollis thanked Dr. China for his recent tour of the campus. He is looking forward to traveling to Tallahassee with the President, Director Johnson and other Trustees. He also commented on the ACCT Conference and how much he enjoyed it.
- 11.03 Trustee Garcia thanked Dr. China for the campus tour as well as Dr. Baia for his tour of Ybor City Campus and Dr. Clay at Plant City Campus. He is looking forward getting more engaged on the Board.
- 11.04 Trustee Lametto also commented on the successful ACCT conference. He thanked Dr. China for her hospitality hosting the Board.
- 11.05 Trustee Watkins stated that it is always good to represent Hillsborough College at the ACCT conference and how we are recognized positively amongst our colleagues nationwide. She thanked Dr. China for the SouthShore hospitality.
- 11.06 Trustee Celestan addressed the question at the last board meeting regarding pursuing a name change for Hillsborough College. After consideration of the provided process, the Board considers the item closed as we move forward as Hillsborough College. He commented on the ACCT Conference and thanked all involved in the planning. He thanked Dr. China and the students for hosting the Board and the wonderful presentations.

12.0 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:53 p.m.