

COLUMBUS STATE

COMMUNITY COLLEGE

MINUTES **BOARD OF TRUSTEES COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

Friday, March 13, 2026 | 8:00 AM
Center for Workforce Development | Room 325

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEMBERS

Sandy Doyle-Ahern, Chair
Rick Ritzler, Vice Chair
John Ammendola, Immediate Past Chair
Corrine M. Burger
James Fowler
Jean M. Halpin
Traci L. Martinez, Esq.
Jerome Revish
Lorina W. Wise, Esq.

CALL TO ORDER

The Columbus State Community College Committee of the Whole was called to order by Chair Doyle-Ahern at 8:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Present:

- Sandy Doyle-Ahern, Chair
- Rick Ritzler, Vice Chair
- John Ammendola, Immediate Past Chair (virtual)
- James Fowler
- Jean M. Halpin (virtual)
- Traci L. Martinez, Esq.
- Lorina W. Wise, Esq.

CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE

President Harrison advised that the record should show that notice of this meeting has been given in accordance with provisions of §121.22(F) of the Ohio Revised Code.

OPENING REMARKS FROM PRESIDENT HARRISON

President Harrison congratulated the bargaining team that recently completed a new agreement between the College and Columbus State Education Association, including CSEA President Adam Keller and Chief Human Resources Officer Kristen Treadway. He noted that the College’s national reputation for collaboration is growing, and that the collective bargaining process is driving continuous improvement at Columbus State.

He also celebrated Jen Gilbride-Brown, who was recently promoted to the position of Vice President, Student Success.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Member Fowler moved, Member Wise seconded, that the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held on Friday, January 16, 2026, be approved as presented.

A vote was taken, which resulted in:

AYES: Doyle-Ahern, Ritzler, Ammendola, Fowler, Halpin, Martinez, Wise.

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT AUDITORS ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

Matthew Stiffler, Vice President of Business Services and Chief Financial Officer, introduced the proposed action item, which recommends that the Board accept the Reports of the Independent Auditors for the College and the Foundation for FY2025.

Keith Martinez and Katie Veldman of Plante & Moran, PLLC shared the details of the audit report. Their report provides an unmodified opinion on the College’s financial statements and federal awards. The auditors identified one significant deficiency in internal control over financial reporting and one significant deficiency in internal control over compliance, but no material weaknesses or questioned costs.

Stiffler reported that the College is implementing the corrective action plan to address the financial reporting issue, which was related to the timing of account reconciliations after the College’s transition to Workday. He said the corrective action plan to address the compliance issue, which involves federal reporting when a Pell-eligible student withdraws from the College, is complete.

After the presentation, the Committee of the Whole agreed to refer this item to the Board of Trustees for approval.

AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES (CY2027)

Mr. Stiffler presented the proposed action item, which recommends approval of the annual tax rates and amounts as certified by the Franklin County Budget Commission for Calendar Year 2027. This action authorizes the Franklin County Auditor to put the tax rates on the tax duplicate for calendar year 2027 collections based on amounts and rates as determined by the Budget Commission. Stiffler noted that the tax rate on the College's bond issues remains at 0.32 mills.

After the presentation, the Committee of the Whole agreed to refer this item to the Board of Trustees for approval.

NAMING OF SPACES ASSOCIATED WITH OHIOHEALTH HALL

Katy Trombitas, Vice President of Advancement, presented the proposed action item, recommending the naming of designated spaces within OhioHealth Hall. The naming opportunities reflect philanthropic contributions to the College's healthcare sector strategy and align with College policy for recognizing philanthropic support.

The proposed named spaces are:

- Respiratory Care & Support Lab In partnership with Nationwide Children's Hospital
- RN Skills Lab In partnership with Nationwide Children's Hospital
- Burger Family Waiting Area
- Leonard E. Scott Phone Room

President Harrison extended gratitude to Trustee Wise for Nationwide Children's support of the College's healthcare education programs.

After the presentation, the Committee of the Whole agreed to refer this item to the Board of Trustees for approval. Chair Doyle-Ahern noted that the Board will consider this item separately from the consent agenda.

EXTERNAL RENAMING OF DELAWARE HALL TO BROWN HALL

Allen Kraus, Vice President of Enrollment Management & Marketing Communications, presented the proposed action item to rename Delaware Hall. The renaming will help address confusion between Delaware Hall, an academic building on the downtown Columbus campus, and the College's campus in Delaware County.

The College is proposing to rename the Delaware Hall in honor of Dr. Harold Brown, a Tuskegee Airman and widely respected College leader whose service to Columbus State left a lasting imprint on the institution. Dr. Brown served as an instructor and department chair at the College before being appointed by President Harold Nestor as vice president of Academic Affairs in 1974. Dr.

Brown retired from the college in 1986. He passed away in 2023.

Member Martinez moved, and Member Wise seconded, that a formal independent vote be taken instead of including this action on the consent agenda.

A vote was taken, which resulted in:

AYES: Doyle-Ahern, Ritzler, Ammendola, Fowler, Halpin, Martinez, Wise

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

MASTER LEASE AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES AGREEMENT: INNOVATION HUB

Zach Woodruff, Chief Real Estate Development Officer, presented the proposed action item recommending approval of a master lease and development services agreement for the Innovation Hub project. Several projects are envisioned for this site, which currently houses a 6.4-acre parking lot bounded by E. Spring Street, N. Washington Avenue, E. Long Street Cleveland Avenue.

The master lease of 164 N. Washington Avenue (parcels 010-033868 and 010-235156) to Columbus State Community Partners (CSCP) will enable the College’s real-estate affiliate to oversee work with its development partners on the overall redevelopment of the site as well as future component projects. The master lease between the College and CSCP will have a term of 50 years, and annual lease payments will be set at \$10.

The College also proposes to enter into a development services agreement that will enable CSCP and its development partners to efficiently coordinate and perform “whole site” tasks that will precede individual projects. These elements include environmental, survey, utility coordination and civil engineering work. The development services agreement has an initial budget of \$1 million. As individual projects move forward on the Innovation Hub site, the College will seek Board approval for development services agreements for each individual project.

After the presentation, the Committee of the Whole agreed to refer this item to the Board of Trustees for approval. Chair Doyle-Ahern noted that the Board will consider this item separately from the consent agenda.

PROJECT OVERVIEW: COLUMBUS STATE YMCA

Mr. Woodruff presented the proposed action item, which includes a project overview of the Columbus State YMCA project and agreements related to the development and operation of the facility. The project will create a new wellness and childcare facility on the downtown campus, supported by a partnership with the YMCA of Central Ohio.

The proposed action sets a \$39 million total project budget for the development of the Columbus State YMCA, using funding from three sources: an upcoming Series 2026 bond issue specifically for the project, existing bond proceeds to support academic components of the project and capital funding from the Columbus State YMCA.

The action item includes a development services agreement with Columbus State Community Partners (CSCP) will enable the College’s real-estate affiliate to secure and execute contracts required for the Columbus State YMCA project.

The action item also would authorize a 30-year Management and Operating Agreement between the College and the YMCA of Central Ohio that sets out terms and conditions once the facility has opened. These include an annual management fee to be paid by the College, accountability processes, and the opportunities for Recreation Fee-paying Columbus State students to access fitness and childcare services through the YMCA.

After the presentation, the Committee of the Whole agreed to refer this item to the Board of Trustees for approval. Chair Doyle-Ahern noted that the Board will consider this item separately from the consent agenda.

CURRICULAR APPROVAL PROCESS AND REVISIONS TO POLICY 5-07, APPROVAL OF DEGREES AND DEGREE PROGRAMS

Rob Messinger, Chief of Staff, presented the proposed action item, which would approve the College’s Curricular Approval Process and adopt revisions to Policy 5-07, Approval of Degrees and Degree Programs.

The action item was prepared to meet the requirements of Ohio Revised Code 3345.457, approved in June 2025. The revised Policy 5-07 formally articulates the Board’s “ultimate authority to establish new academic programs, schools, colleges, institutes, departments, and centers” at Columbus State. The law also mandates that the Board of Trustees adopt a curricular approval process to establish and modify academic programs, curricula, courses, general education requirements, and degree programs.

After the presentation, the Committee of the Whole agreed to refer this item to the Board of Trustees for approval.

APPROVAL OF CURRICULAR ITEMS

Mr. Messinger presented the proposed Board action, which would approve new, discontinued or modified curricular items. These include a new major and two certificates related to the Honda PACT (Professional Automotive Career Training) program, the elimination of the Associate of Applied Science in Sports & Exercise Studies degree and Certificate in Hotel Administration, and numerous other curricular items.

After the presentation, the Committee of the Whole agreed to refer this item to the Board of Trustees for approval.

INFORMATION-ONLY ITEMS

The following items were presented to the Board for information only:

- Capital Project Report
- Financial Statements as of and for the Seven Months Ended January 31, 2026
- Personnel Information Items

CURRENT UPDATES

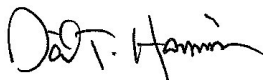
President Harrison said current updates were not needed because topics were being addressed through action items and other presentations.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board did not hold an executive session.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further items to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:14 am.



David T. Harrison, Ph.D. Secretary, Board of Trustees

Office of the President/vp 03.13.26