



Blackhawk Technical College

District Board Meeting Minutes

Date and Time: May 20, 2026, from 5:00–7:00 p.m.

Location: Beloit-Janesville Campus, 2607A, 6004 S County Rd G, Janesville WI 53546

Attendance

District Board Members Present: Eric Thornton (Chairperson); Barbara Barrington-Tillman (Vice-Chairperson); Rich Deprez (Secretary); Rachel Andres; Rob Henderickson (left at 5:25 p.m.); Suzann Holland (Treasurer); Kathy Sukus. **District Board Members Absent:** Mark Holzman and Dave Marshick.

Staff: Julie Barreau; Elisa Colson; Cassie Hartje; Dr. Katie Lange; Jim Nemeth; Dr. Tracy Pierner; Dr. Karen Schmitt; Dr. Jon Tysse.

Student Representative: LaFonda Richardson.

Guest(s): None.

Call to Order

Chairperson Thornton called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m. and called for public comments. There were none.

Special Reports

Chairperson Thornton called for Special Reports.

1. LaFonda Richardson provided a student activity report.
2. Chairperson Thornton recognized retiree Mark Olson for their service at the College.
3. Dr. Karen Schmitt provided a brief overview of the Green County 3-Year Plan and Budget to the District Board members.

Consent Agenda

Chairperson Thornton called for approval of the Consent Agenda items 1–4.

A motion to approve items 1–4 was made by Ms. Barrington-Tillman and seconded by Mr. Deprez. **Ayes: 7; Opposed: 0. The motion carried.**

1. Draft April 15, 2026, District Board Regular Meeting Minutes.
2. Current Bills for April 30, 2026, include starting check #00309525 and ending check #00309790, totaling \$3,851,006.95 for the month.
3. Training Contracts for May: The number served is 119, estimated FTEs 0.12, for an actual contract amount of \$30,533.
4. Confirmation of Annual Contract Issued to Jennifer Tillou, Culinary Arts and Hospitality Instructor.

Committee Reports

Chairperson Thornton called for Committee Reports.

1. The April 29, 2026, Personnel Committee minutes were provided for information.
2. The Personnel Committee did meet on May 20, 2026. Chairperson Rich Deprez provided a brief overview of the Personnel Committee meeting.

Action Items

Chairperson Thornton called for Action Items.

1. It was moved by Ms. Holland and seconded by Ms. Barrington-Tillman to approve the Adoption of the Fiscal Year 26-27 Budget for Presentation at a Public Hearing; Setting a Date for the Public Hearing for June 17, 2026, at 4:30 p.m. **Ayes: 6; Opposed: 0. The motion carried.**



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2. It was moved by Mr. Deprez and seconded by Ms. Barrington-Tillman to approve the Remission of Out-of-State Tuition for Needy and Worthy Students for 2026-27. **Ayes: 6; Opposed: 0. The motion carried.**
3. It was moved by Ms. Barrington-Tillman and seconded by Mr. Deprez to approve the Sale of the VF-3 Mill and Tooling Machine. **Ayes: 6; Opposed: 0. The motion carried.**
4. It was moved by Mr. Deprez and seconded by Ms. Barrington-Tillman to approve the Beloit College Peet Hall Leasing Agreement; Five (5) year term with a five (5) renewal option with a base rent initial term of \$109,520; 3% increase, compounded annually. **Ayes: 6; Opposed: 0. The motion carried.**

Policy Review

Chairperson Thornton called for Policy Review.

1. Dr. Tracy Pierner reviewed policy A-300 – Mission, Vision, and Values with the District Board members. It was moved by Ms. Barrington-Tillman and seconded by Mr. Deprez to approve policy A-300 – Mission, Vision, and Values. **Ayes: 6; Opposed: 0. The motion carried.**
2. Dr. Katie Lange reviewed policy J-800 – Student Organizations with the District Board members. It was moved by Mr. Deprez and seconded by Ms. Barrington-Tillman to approve policy J-800 – Student Organizations. **Ayes: 6; Opposed: 0. The motion carried.**

Information / Discussion

Chairperson Thornton called for Information/Discussion items.

1. Jim Nemeth reviewed the April Financial Statement with the District Board members.
2. Dr. Tracy Pierner provided District Board members with information about District Board Committees, Open Meeting Laws, and Public Comment.
3. Dr. Tracy Pierner presented his monthly report to the District Board members.
4. Staff changes, including new hires, new positions, resignations, and retirements, were reviewed.

WTCS Consortium Updates

Chairperson Thornton called for WTCS Consortium updates; there were none.

Future Agenda Items

Chairperson Thornton called for Future Agenda items; none were provided.

Adjournment

Chairperson Thornton called for the adjournment of the May 20, 2026, District Board meeting.

Mr. Deprez moved and was seconded by Ms. Barrington-Tillman to adjourn the meeting at 6:20 p.m. **Ayes: 6 Opposed: 0. The motion was carried.**

Rich Deprez,



Secretary