

**SOUTHEASTERN ILLINOIS COLLEGE  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
FEBRUARY 17, 2026; 6:00 PM  
RODNEY J BRENNER BOARD ROOM**

The Southeastern Illinois College Board of Trustees held its regular meeting on Tuesday, February 17, 2026, at 6:00 pm in the Rodney J. Brenner Board Room. On roll call, the following members were present: Mrs. Debbie Hughes, Mr. Frank Barbre, Mr. Jim Ellis, Mrs. Gina Sirach, Mr. David Dennison, Mr. Blake Bradley, and Mr. Avery Henderson.

Also present were: Dr. Karen Weiss, Ms. Lisa Hite, Dr. Tyler Billman, Dr. Chris Barr, Dr. Kyla Burford, Ms. Rachel Parish, and Mrs. Kathy Volkening.

Trustee Hughes welcomed guests and allowed time for comment. She then acknowledged the passing of Trustee Richard Morgan and asked for a moment of silence in his honor.

**Reports:**

ICCTA (Barbre)

Trustee Barbre reported that he, along with Dr. Weiss and Dr. Barr, attended the ACCT Legislative Summit in Washington DC from February 8-11. There were various speakers including the Under Secretaries of the Department of Labor and the Department of Education. Meetings were held with Senators Durbin and Duckworth, and Representative Bost. The February ICCTA Trustees meeting was also held while in Washington DC.

Student Trustee (Avery Henderson)

Mr. Avery Henderson reported:

- Cosmetology held a bake sale on February 17<sup>th</sup>
- Theta Sigma Phi will be holding DramaCon on February 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> for area middle and high school students.
- *Blithe Spirit* will be February 20<sup>th</sup>.
- TRIO will be presenting a Step Show on February 19<sup>th</sup> in honor of Black History Month.

President's Report (Weiss)

Dr. Weiss provided the following updates:

- The 10<sup>th</sup> day enrollment report was presented to the Board.
- Governor Prizker will be giving his address on February 18<sup>th</sup>.
- Mid-terms will be in two weeks. A staff development day will be held the afternoon of March 6<sup>th</sup>.
- Pam Barbie has requested that WIOA be allowed to use an office at the Carmi Center. The Board did not have a problem with this. Dr. Weiss will report back to them when she has more details.

- February is CTE and Black History month. We are spotlighting our CTE programs and a special presentation will be held in the Learning Commons on February 18<sup>th</sup> in honor of Black History month.
- Dr. Billman met with a representative from Illinois Eastern to talk about the possibility of working together on programs at the Williams Career & Training Center.
- Dr. Billman got the approval of funds to purchase lab equipment. Microscopes have already arrived and we have ordered two anatomy tables to be used in place of cadavers.
- Dr. Burford applied and was approved for a homeless grant to help students with housing needs.
- Honors Night will be held April 14<sup>th</sup>.
- *Godspell* will be performed April 24<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> in the VPAC Theatre.
- Lisa Hite’s report showed that all of the closeout documents for Carmi are now complete.
- Dr. Barr has had a busy reporting time. He presented the Campus Climate Survey and said this will be an annual requirement from now on.

**Consent Agenda**

A motion was made by Trustee Ellis and seconded by Trustee Bradley to approve the consent agenda which included the January 20, 2026 regular and closed session minutes, destroying tapes of the July 2024 closed session, the Treasurer’s report, and the approval of bills for January 2026 which totaled \$1,462,448.90 which included \$546,521.59 in Payroll. On roll call the following members voted:

<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>
Mrs. Debbie Hughes	
Dr. Frank Barbre	
Mr. Jim Ellis	
Mrs. Gina Sirach	
Mr. David Dennison	
Mr. Blake Bradley	
Mr. Avery Henderson (Student Trustee)	

All members voted aye. Motion carried.

**Non-Action Items**

- A. Campus Climate Survey – Survey was presented to the Board.

**Action Items**

- A. A motion was made by Trustee Bradley, seconded by Trustee Barbre to approve the revised 26-27 Academic Calendar. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

- B.** A motion was made by Trustee Sirach, seconded by Trustee Dennison to approve the Allied Health & Nursing fee increases. All members voted aye. Motion carried.
- C.** A motion was made by Trustee Barbre, seconded by Trustee Bradley to approve the budget transfers. All members voted aye. Motion carried.
- D.** A motion was made by Trustee Bradley, seconded by Trustee Sirach to approve the Curriculum Committee Report. All members voted aye. Motion carried.
- E.** A motion was made by Trustee Bradley, seconded by Trustee Barbre to approve moving the March Board meeting to Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. All members voted aye. Motion carried.
- F.** A motion was made by Trustee Sirach, seconded by Trustee Bradley to approve the tuition increase for FY27. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

### **New Business, Topics, or Discussion**

- A.** Board Policy 2001.1 – Board Vacancy – This was discussed during closed session.

### **Personnel**

A motion was made by Trustee Bradley, seconded by Trustee Sirach, to approve all items listed in Personnel. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

- A.** Approve Evaluations
  - 1. Tenure-Eligible Faculty
  - 2. Tenure-Track Faculty
- B.** Approve Resolution Regarding Grant-Funded Employees.
- C.** Approve Reduction in Force for Title III Student Success Coach
- D.** Approve Transfer of Part-Time Network AV Tech to Full-time IT Network Tech
- E.** Approve Transfer of Full-Time IT Network Tech to Learning Technology Tech.
- F.** Approve Adjunct Faculty Recommendations.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business to discuss, Trustee Ellis (in honor of Richard Morgan) made the motion to adjourn the meeting seconded by Trustee Barbre. All members voted aye. The meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm.