

**SOUTHEASTERN ILLINOIS COLLEGE  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
JANUARY 20, 2026; 6:00 PM  
RODNEY J BRENNER BOARD ROOM**

The Southeastern Illinois College Board of Trustees held its regular meeting on Tuesday, January 20, 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, and Mr. Avery Henderson.

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

Mrs. Hughes welcomed guests and allowed time for comment.

**Reports:**

ICCTA (Barbre)

Trustee Barbre reported that he will be attending the ACCT Legislative Summit in Washington DC and that he looks forward to finding out what the plan is for community colleges.

Student Trustee (Avery Henderson)

Mr. Avery Henderson reported:

President's Report (Weiss)

Dr. Weiss provided the following updates:

- Dr. Weiss presented the Spring Term Enrollment Tracker and said that we are due to hit the same numbers as last year.
- Howl at the Moon/Dueling Pianos will be February 14, 2026.
- Governor Pritzker will be giving his budgeting speech on February 18, 2026.
- The SIC App should be ready in fall 2026. Some kinks are being worked out with Android phones.
- Alumni Day will be held on January 24<sup>th</sup> during the SIC Basketball game.
- Dr. Billman, along with help from Dr. Burford, put together Honor Band and Choir Night on January 15<sup>th</sup> that involved five area high school students.
- Adult Ed ICAPS are on target to get 60%.
- SIC Theatre will present Blithe Spirit on February 20<sup>th</sup>.
- SIC will be hosting DramaCon on February 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>.
- The overall fall 2025 GPA across all competitive teams was 3.28.
- The Hise Museum has updated its hours to better accommodate the public.
- Emergency or Lock Down Kits will be provided to each department. AED's will be installed in various areas throughout campus.
- The theatre had new carpeting installed and walls painted over winter break.

- According to the Economic Impact Study, the results show that for every \$1 students spend at SIC, they get a \$7 return on investment.

**Consent Agenda**

A motion was made by Trustee Ellis and seconded by Trustee Barbre to approve the consent agenda which included the December 2, 2025 regular and closed session minutes, destroying tapes of the May 2024 closed session, the Treasurer’s report, and the approval of bills for November 2025 which totaled \$3,354,908.74 which included \$613,513.03 in Payroll and December 2025 which totaled \$1,818,232.65 which included \$617,557.96 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. Avery Henderson (Student Trustee)	

All members voted aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Sirach and seconded by Trustee Dennison to approve the reimbursement of travel, meals, and lodging expenses for Mr. Ellis to attend the ICCTA meeting March 20-21, 2026, in Palos Hills, Illinois. Total estimated expenses are \$900.00.

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

All members voted aye. Motion carried.

**Non-Action Items**

- A. Tuition Increase Proposal for FY27 was presented for the Board’s review. A \$4 per credit hour increase is being proposed, effective July 1, 2026. The Board will vote on this next month.

## **Action Items**

- A.** A motion was made by Trustee Ellis, seconded by Trustee Barbre to approve the annual audit as presented by Kemper CPA Group. All members voted aye. Motion carried.
- B.** A motion was made by Trustee Dennison, seconded by Trustee Sirach to approve the Budget Transfers. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

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

- A.** Board Retreat – Dr. Weiss let the Board know that their retreat would be coming up this spring and asked for any input on what they would like to do. It was decided that the Administrative Team will give in-depth reports on what is going on at SIC and they will get a tour of the renovated SIC Cosmetology Department.
- B.** Self-Assessments – Kathy Volkening let the Board know that she would be sending out their electronic self-assessments in a few weeks.

## **Personnel**

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

- A.** Approve Hiring of Part-time Adult Ed Enrollment Assistant
- B.** Approve Job Description for CTE Recruitment and Retention Specialist
- C.** Approve Hiring of Full-Time TRIO-SSS Project Assistant
- D.** Approve Resignation of FT SICEA CNA Instructor/Coordinator
- E.** Approve Revision of Job Description for Perkins Tutor
- F.** Approve Revision of Job Description for TRIO-SSS Advisor
- G.** Approve Revision of Job Description for TRIO-SSS Director
- H.** Approve New Job Description for TRIO-SSS Project Assistant
- I.** Approve Revision of Job Description for TRIO-SSS Retention Specialist
- J.** Approve Revision of Job Description and Title Change for Media Graphics Technician to Learning Technology Technician
- K.** Approve Spring 2026 Adjunct Faculty Recommendations

## **Adjournment**

There being no further business to discuss, Trustee Barbre made the motion to adjourn the meeting seconded by Trustee Ellis. All members voted aye. The meeting adjourned at 6:57 pm.