

**MINUTES OF THE ORANGE COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2026  
GREAT ROOM, KAPLAN HALL  
NEWBURGH CAMPUS  
5:00 pm**

**Present:** Chair Weddell, Peter Bambino, Maria Bruni, Eli Hart, Tom Hunter, Ralph Martucci, YaaYaa Whaley-Williams

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

- A. Pledge of Allegiance
- B. Invocation

**II. CONSENT AGENDA (Items A through D)**

**Note: Consent Agenda items held for discussion will be moved to Item E**

- A. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of January 21, 2026
- B. Approval of Financial Statements for January
- C. Approval of Appointments
- D. Approval of Retirees

**Motion to amend title of “Appointments” document to corrected date of February 2026, Ralph Martucci, seconded by Eli Hart. Passed unanimously.**

**Motion to accept Tom Hunter, seconded by Ralph Martucci. Passed unanimously.**

**III. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:**

- A. Annual Cybersecurity Risk Assessment Report - Leland Hach, Jr.
  - Leland presented on the college’s Annual Risk Assessment Report noting the following:
    - Outstanding Risks:
      - Policy Review
      - Backups
      - Unsupported Software
      - Breach Notification Updates
      - User Recertification
    - Effective Control Improvements
      - Vendor Management
      - Backups
      - Penetration Testing
      - External (Spring)
      - Internal (Fall)
      - Access control
      - Disaster Recover Plan
- B. Auditor’s Report of Financial Statements - Bonadio Group
  - Joe’s audit report summarized the college’s financial savings and audit results, mentioning the issuance of an unmodified opinion with no significant deficiencies, indicating the highest level of assurance in a financial audit.
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**IV. PRESIDENT’S REPORT - Dr. Kristine Young**

- Dr. Young shared that she attended the ACCT National Legislative Summit in Washington, DC along with Chair Weddell, Peter Bambino and Mike Albright where they continued a full schedule of advocacy visits with a number of elected officials.
- One day in DC was spent working with several other SUNY community college presidents and trustees, including Chair Weddell, with the assistance of the Quider Group to build relationships with agencies, federal departments, and think-tanks. The Department of Energy was particularly interested in community colleges and their capabilities.
- While in DC Dr. Young also participated in an invitation only event hosted by AACC called “Seeding America’s Workforce Talent Pipeline.” The keynote speaker was Cecelia Rouce from the Brookings Institution. Who discussed talks about how our traditional model of taxing labor is falling apart, how gen AI may accelerate and cause that to be worse, and through the presentation kept linking solutions to community colleges.
- Dr. Young announced she’s started a preliminary conversation through Orange County Film

and Tourism with Filmbridge about hosting a medium sized movie production on campus over spring break. Filmbridge is cooperation with Choice Studios whom we've partnered with on Below the Line Bootcamp and other projects. It's early days but we might reach an agreement to have several dozen actors and crew on campus using the more historical aspects of our campus to get a European flavor.

- Athletics:
  - Men's Basketball - Freshman Anthony Pacciarelli was named NJCAA Region 15 Athlete of the Month in January and was also the NJCAA Division II Player of the Week for the week of Jan. 15. For the season, he ranks second in the country in scoring at 26.1 points per game. Entering last night's game, he'd posted eight games with 30 or more points, including a 50-point performance against Ulster on Feb. 10. Pacciarelli's 50 points were the second most in a single game in program history, trailing only Steve Schumer, who scored 54 against Westchester during the 1961-62 season.
  - Freshman Keishawn Morris ranks 17th in the nation, averaging 2.5 steals per game. Morris is also averaging 14.0 points per game and sophomore Darren McFarlane is close behind at 13.8 points per game.
  - Women's Basketball - The women's team has won two of its last four games and closes out the regular season Thursday night by hosting Dutchess. In their most recent outing, the Colts put four players in double figures in route to a 56-26 win over Rockland. Adrianna Vazquez leads the team in scoring at 15.5 points per game. Freshman Grace Breheny leads the team in rebounding at 9.1 per game.

**V. STUDENT TRUSTEE REPORT** - Student Trustee, Peter Bambino

- Peter reported that he also attended the ACCT National Legislative Summit where he met a lot of other student trustees and attended sessions where he learned a lot about how student trustees can participate in advocating for community colleges.
- The student session focused on preparing student trustees for meetings with representatives and advocating for issues like making Pell Grants tax-free.
- Peter provides updates on student senate elections and the inter-club council meeting.

**VI. BOARD DISCUSSION I**

- A. Responses to Submitted Reports from Administration, Shared Governance, & Foundation
- B. Updates from ACCT and/or NYCCT - Chair Weddell and/or Trustees at large

**VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS AND/OR RECOMMENDATIONS**

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Chair</u>
Academic and Student Services	Karen Mejia
Audit and Finance	Ralph Martucci
Enrollment and Retention	Maria Bruni
Governance and Nominating	Tom Hunter
Policy	Flo Hannes
Presidents Performance Review and Compensation	Ralph Martucci

Audit & Finance Committee, Ralph Martucci, Chair:

The committee met today with the auditor to review the auditor's report. The audit showed no significant deficiencies.

Enrollment & Retention Committee, Maria Bruni, Chair:

The enrollment report, noted a 7.4% increase over spring 2025 and a significant increase in Hispanic enrollment. The Title V grant is credited for the positive enrollment gains and the institution's embrace of a Hispanic identity. Conversations have been focusing on support services and completion rates for the Hispanic population.

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Motion to Approve: Auditor's Report of Audited Financial Statements

**Motion to approve Eli Hart, seconded by Ralph Martucci. Passed unanimously.**

**IX. OLD BUSINESS**

- A. Aligning Board Time and Attention with Future Priorities
- Dr. Young provided trustees with a draft proposal of the next steps for the board to focus on regarding future oriented work. The three themes for future oriented work that the board has provided are: advocacy, financial acuity and stewardship, and a desire to articulate goals. The proposal suggests a pilot of a small set of board level goals for the remainder of the academic year that the board can look back on and reflect upon a year from now to assess what was accomplished.

**X. CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS**

- Chair Weddell noted really great meetings at the ACCT National Legislative Summit in DC.
- Chair Weddell serves on ACCT's Finance Committee and shared that he found their meeting to be very interesting; reporting that Pell funding was increased.
- NYCCAP was well represented at the ACCT NLS and had three bills that they wanted each assembly member and senator to sign.

**XI. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC - None**

- A. A sign-up sheet will be available at the meeting. Each member of the public wishing to address the Board will be granted 2 minutes to speak, at which time, the Board will ask you to have a seat to allow others to speak.

**XII. BOARD DISCUSSION II - Open Discussion - None**

**XIII. PROPOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION – Motion to enter executive session at 7:06 pm, Ralph Martucci, seconded by Peter Bambino. Passed unanimously. Start time 7:10 pm, ended time 7:25 pm.**

**XIV. BOARD ADJOURNMENT – Motion to adjourn at 7:26 pm, Eli Hart, seconded by Maria Bruni. Passed Unanimously.**

Next Meeting  
Wednesday, March 25, 2026  
Gilman Center, Library  
Middletown Campus