Johnson County Community College Board of Trustees Meeting

October 15, 2026

5 p.m.

Transcript of Meeting

- Good evening and welcome to the October 15th, 2026 Johnson County Community College Board of Trustees board meeting. Please join me in standing for the Pledge of Allegiance.

- [Board Members] I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible with liberty and justice for all.

- By way of roll call at 5:00 PM this evening, we do have just two trustees. So we have Trustee Mitchell and myself, and we will be proceeding through general agenda without conducting any business until we have a full quorum. So we're going to begin the night with our student spotlight and Dr. Miksa, tell us who we have tonight.

- All right, well, I am excited. She got a smile on her face already, because she's got a lot of passion and excitement. I don't want to give away too much about what she does on campus, but I'll just say she's the editor of the Messenger on campus.

- Uh-huh, that wasn't giving away too much, not at all.

- Right, a hard-edge newspaper, but she's great. Looking forward to hearing her on the spotlight. So come on up, Sammie.

- Welcome.

- Thank you. I'm short. I'm like.

- Me too.

- My name is Sammie McGee. I am a sophomore student here at JCCC. I started here last fall as a recent esthetician school dropout and recent homeschool graduate. So I started here feeling pretty inadequate and that very quickly changed when I was invited to apply to work for the Messenger. I worked as a reporter for a year, and now a year later, I am the editor in chief, which has been pretty awesome so far. I love it. As I said, I felt very inadequate, but now I'm very proud to say that, a year later, I have a cumulative 4.0 GPA, and I'm part of the Honors Student Association.

- Yay.

- I am also part of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society and the Film and Photo Club, all things I'm very passionate about. When I started here, I was set on being a journalist. About last semester, I decided that was not for me, changed my major to psychology, and now it's the curse of media. I have changed my major back to journalism. Working for the Messenger, I have had experiences that could not be replicated in a classroom, which I am very thankful for, and that's why The Messenger is so important to so many people. It has also been an incredible resume-builder. Last year at the Kansas Collegiate Media Competition, I won first place in the breaking news category for the No Kings protest coverage. I won second place in the feature category for my Jean-Claude feature, third place in the photo story category for my Japan Fest feature, and I won an honorable mention for my column piece about my toy drive, which I'll get to in a moment, but I guess all-in-all, the Messenger has been an incredible experience that I hope many people after me get to experience. My toy drive, I started that when I was 15 years old following the Robb Elementary School shooting in Uvalde, Texas. Since then, I have supported about a thousand families in Uvalde through annual events, which I'm actually going back in a month for our fourth annual event. Outside of Uvalde, we have supported three families or four families in Kansas City after the Chiefs Parade shooting, after a fatal car accident in Louisburg, Kansas, and after a fatal dog attack in Pleasanton, Kansas. We've also supported the Kerr County families after last year's floods in Texas. We'll be having a big event in Kansas City in July to support families that experience gun violence daily. Outside

of that, I am a Gold Award Girl Scout, and I've been a Girl Scout since kindergarten. The Gold Award is the Eagle Scout equivalent. It takes an 80 hour sustainable, measurable project that addresses a root cause issue, and now I mentor Girl Scouts that are working on their gold award, and I'm a troop leader for Girl Scouts. I earned the Seven Days Ripple of Kindness Award with the Seven Days organization, as well as the scholarship. I'm the youngest person to ever win the Ripple of Kindness Award and the first person to ever win both. I was a Buck O'Neill Legacy Seat honoree at the Kansas City Royals game, as well as an Olivia Bloomfield Legacy Seat award winner at a KC Current game. I'll be transferring to KU in the fall to major in journalism with a concentration in PR, marketing, and advertising, and I hope to one day work for a sports team. While I'm at KU, I'm going to try out to be Baby J and I hope to work for the KU hockey media team. Thank you for your time.

- Thank you. Oh, stay. You don't get to get away that easy. I'm so sorry.

- [Tony] I told her that. No questions.

- I was going to say, I know there's just a few of us, but we always have lots of great questions for our amazing spotlight stars. So I'm going to start with our trustees. Trustee Holton or Mitchell, do you have any questions for Sammie?

- Sure, I love that you have everything all planned out. That's fun,

- Thank you.

- but except the roads that appear to you while you're up there. Have you heard of the agency at the University of Kansas?

- Mm-mm.

- I would recommend looking into that. If you had such a good time here, you might want to look into the agency. It's about a bunch of people coming together to do projects for businesses and things like that at University of Kansas. So I would recommend that.

- Thank you.

- If you need an introduction, you let me know.

- Awesome, thank you so much.

- Yep.

- All right, thank you. Trustee Mitchell, do you--

- I was just going to say when you mentioned that you're going to focus on PR when you're at KU, I was thinking to myself, that makes sense. That's where she's headed. That's what it sounds like to me, but there are paths that will come your way in the future. Who knows how things will wind up, but sounds like you got it kind of figured out.

- It's changed a lot, but I definitely think I'm on the right path. Thank you.

- I think you are too.

- Thank you so much.

- Thank you, Trustee Mitchell. Sammie, for as young as you are, your resume is already quite remarkable. and I would agree with what my other fellow trustees said, which is the paths that reveal themselves to you, take them. I am a 40-something year old, and I am still

figuring out what I want to do when I grow up, and I'm still welcoming those paths that appear before me, and with as much ambition and heart and dedication and hard work as you do, I mean, I only wrote down a few of the things as you were rattling them off. You have the whole world, and you can do anything with that ambition. I'm so glad and we are very lucky to have you here for the small amount of time that you're here, and I'm glad that we've been a great place for you to launch from here. So thank you so much for sharing tonight. We appreciate you, and you have a good evening.

- [Sammie] Thank you. You as well.

- All right, next on the agenda is our campus spotlight. So Dr. Miksa, who do we have this evening?

- We are going to spotlight one of our premier programs. We have a lot of premier programs.

- We do.

- I don't want to say there's only one, but this is one. I know this is one that I talk about a lot out when I'm out talking with people, because it's a great program where students can come in and once they finish this program, have a great career for them. So we're going to have Debra Treabom come on up and talk about our wonderful dental hygiene program.,

- Hey, welcome, Debra.

- Thank you. I'm a little bit taller than Sammie, and thank you for that, President Miksa. It's Debra Trybom.

- Sorry about that.

- That's okay. You didn't know. So thank you for having me here tonight to talk about our wonderful and amazing dental hygiene program here at JCCC. I am proud of the work that

our students, our faculty, and our staff do here every day, both to prepare the next generation of hygienists and just all-around great human beings. The dental hygiene program was first founded in 1972 at JCCC and our first class graduated in 1974, and more than 50 years later, we're still going strong. Our program extends just beyond clinical skills. We're also teaching our students how to be community leaders and advocates for patients who are underserved and have little to no access to care. but first, we'll talk about our student success. So just speaking about the class of 2026, all of our graduates completed the examinations required to become licensed. Just for your context, to be licensed in dental hygiene, you have to pass a nine hour national board exam, and class of 2026 all passed 100% on their first attempt. You also have to take a two-part clinical board exam, and the class of 2026 passed 100% the first time on the written portion of that, and then we did have three students who needed a second pass, a second try, for the clinical part, but within two weeks, they had passed that. So we had 100% pass rate eventually, and all 18 of our 2026 graduates are licensed and working in the dental field. So we're really excited about that success. Not only do they do those several board exams, they also do a state law exam. So there's lots of exams when you become a dental hygienist. So our community impact, like I said, we are teaching them about access to care and community service, and the dental hygiene clinic that we have here on campus provides a huge service to our community. Last year in the 2025-2026 academic year, we completed treatment on 883 patients. We only charge $10 as a service fee for that treatment, start to finish, just one $10 fee, and when we pull the report that shows us how much those services would cost if they were getting it in their own dental office or a different dental office than our clinic, it's about $603,000 worth of services. So we also began tracking patient requests. So patients can go online and request to be seen, and in just the spring semester of 2026, we had over 500 requests to be seen, and we were able to see about 40% of those. So we saw 203, and we screened another 50. So we are not able to see everyone who wants to be in our clinic, but we can track that there's still a great need for these services here, and we do take our service beyond campus. We are one of, I only know of one other dental hygiene program in the nation, that has a Oral-Health-on-Wheels mobile dental truck, and we take this truck to Johnson County Developmental Supports and see adults with special needs and Center of Grace, and we see patients that most of them have English as a second language, they don't have access to dental care, and so we take our students so they get to work with those populations as well, and we are meeting those populations where they are. So we're taking away that barrier for them to come to a clinic. It is National Dental Hygiene Month. So the faculty and I wanted to say happy National Dental Hygiene Month. So I just included last Friday, we all wore purple and dressed up to support National Dental Hygiene Month, because purple is the hygiene color, and I'll just speak for a minute about our program and how we would like it to grow. Obviously, we have great need. Dental hygienists are in

demand. We cannot graduate them fast enough to fill the spots. Unfortunately, we are not going to have room to expand for a little bit, but we are creatively using the current space that we have. We have submitted a request to our accreditation board to increase our enrollment from 20 students to 24 students starting in the fall of 2027, and we will not hear from them on whether that's approved until February, early March, and that's while we're doing the interview process. So we're hoping that we'll be able to increase that, and we're just really excited about our program. So thank you for letting me share.

- Thank you very much. All right, trustees, do we have any questions for Ms. Trebaum? Is that right?

- Trybom

- Yes, yeah.

- Okay.

- Trustee Holton.

- Thank you very much. This is awesome. My question was, in the community, when you say there is demand, how many new openings do you believe there are? I'm assuming that a lot of the students stay in this community?

- Yes.

- Okay, and so how many new openings do you feel like there are each year that we could be--

- For the job?

- Yep.

- This is--

- If you went to 24, there'd be 24. If you went to 40, there's 40?

- If we went to 150, there would be 150.

- Every year?

- Yes, dental hygiene, there's a dental hygiene shortage nationwide, worldwide. I don't know the answer to that other than so much wrong with our healthcare system. We'd have to address that in a whole ‘nother meeting, but yeah, we could expand our program, double it, and it wouldn't be enough to meet the demand.

- Okay, and then follow up question is, so I was going to ask, you have 100% student success, what does growth look like? And the goal for you is to grow this offering so there's more students.

- Yeah, so as much space as you'll give me, I'll grow my program, yes.

- Thank you very much.

- She's in dangerous territory in this room, right? All right, any other trustees?

- I mean it.

- Trustee Carroll.

- Thank you, Madam Chair, and I apologize to everyone for my tardiness.

- No apologies needed.

- Thank you for showing up and giving us this presentation. For some reason, I thought it was a lot more than 20 students. How many students apply each semester to the program?

- We have over a hundred applicants each year and usually about 75 of those are eligible. They meet the requirements, and we interview 40 and accept 20.

- Okay, that was my only question. Geoff asked the other ones. Thank you.

- Trustee Mitchell, do you have any questions?

- Just a follow on to that. So if you've got 70 people that are qualified and you interview 40, that must be a challenging process to figure out who we're going to interview for this, right?

- Yeah, so I took over as director in May. So this will be my first interview year and process other than when I was a student myself. I am an alumni. I did graduate from this program, and the way that they've been doing it in the past, I've spoken with counseling, the top 40 are the ones that are selected for the interview, and while that is not my ideal, I don't know that I know enough now to change it, but more to come.

- Top 40 and that's based on high school GPA?

- Yeah, so it's on GPA, and we do a dental hygiene admission test, which is through ADA, the same program that does the National Board on Dental Hygiene, and so they need to get a 350 general score or a 350 in two other categories, and then so they're ranked based on how high they got in those categories.

- Okay, good, thank you.

- All right. My questions are, so this last group was 18, I believe, but you have 20 slots. Does that mean we had two drop out from the program?

- Yes, so attrition rate is usually about 20%

- [Laura] Okay, I figured that was typical.

- in the Dental hygiene field. So that's pretty typical.

- And how many classes a year do you have in a dental hygiene field?

- We only start one cohort a year.

- Okay, so it is just 20 students for the entire academic year.

- 20 1st year, 20 2nd year. We don't have 20 second years right now. We are down to 15. So right now, we have 35 students.

- Okay, I will just say because I can take the privilege to do so while I'm in this room at this dais, that I applaud you and your team. I think it is one of those programs that's like a well-kept secret in Johnson County, but people that know about it really tout its benefits to our

community, and particularly, I serve in a public school that uses the Center of Grace for extensive things for our families, and it's a lifeblood. I mean, dental care is healthcare, whether this nation recognizes it or not, and it can have a really big effect on your health. So making it affordable and accessible is a really high priority in communities that don't often have another avenue to find dental help, and I want to say that I applaud you all for applying for 24 students, but that seems woefully inadequate for what the need is out there, and so we are building a new health sciences building. There's been debate about this program, because you all are so equipment-heavy, and we've invested a lot of money in the equipment we currently have in the building we currently have, but I know the people around this dais and in this room are incredibly creative and very dedicated, and I would ask that we consider how we can get to doubling the program in the next so many years. I'm not saying next year or two years, but in the next 10 years, why could we not double it to 40 student cohort? Also knowing that attrition is probably, with any healthcare field, a natural part of it, and so you want to have much more seats knowing that that's not maybe who's going to make it across the finish line, but that would serve our community better, in my personal opinion. So I appreciate you being here tonight. I really appreciate you walking us through the things you all do. We applaud you. Thank you so much, and welcome to being director of the program. We look forward to seeing your leadership in years to come. All right?

- Thank you.

- Have a good evening. Thank you so much.

- You too.

- With that, I am going to acknowledge that we do have a quorum of board members here now in attendance. So we do have Trustee Holton and Trustee Carroll, and therefore, we can conduct business and proceed through our agenda as planned. Dr. Miksa, thank you for these fabulous spotlights.

- Awesome.

- They were fantastic. Every month, it's like the lens gets bigger on what we do here. So appreciate it very much. Okay, next, we're going to move to the open forum part of our evening. My understanding is we have no one that signed up for the open forum. The open forum section of the board agenda is a time for members of the community to provide comments to the board. There is one open forum period during each regularly scheduled board meeting. Comments are limited to five minutes, and you are required to sign up 15 minutes before the board meeting in order to come and speak to us, but this evening, we do not have anyone. So we're going to move on to the board reports and begin with our student senate representative, Ashley Calibo.

- Yes.

- Is that right? Okay, welcome Ashley. So glad to have you.

- I got to put this down.

- Yes, you absolutely can. We're just going to go up and down tonight, apparently.

- Yep, all right. Well, good evening. I'm super excited to be here on behalf of Student Senate. My name is Ashley Calibo, and I serve on the interim executive board for JCCC Student Senate. I'm also a Student Life Ambassador for the Center for Student Involvement, where I've had the opportunity to work closely with students and support campus engagement. This is actually my final semester here at JCCC as before I continue my studies in management and leadership at the University of Kansas School of Business next semester, just like Sammie, hopefully being Big Jay or-

- Little Jay, yeah.

- Baby Jay, and as I prepare for that next chapter, I'm grateful for the opportunity to share our progress, our goals, and how we're continuing to make a difference here at JCCC. So as a snapshot of where we are right now, as a reminder, Student Senate began the semester

with an interim executive board following the departure of members at the end of the spring semester. Recognizing the importance of rebuilding and strengthening our presence on campus, we did establish that clear goal, which is to increase student engagement and visibility across campus. So I am super excited to share that we've already seen meaningful progress towards that goal. Our fall student senate elections actually saw a 254% increase in voter participation compared to the spring semester. So super excited for that, and we did also welcome and swear in seven new senators who are very eager to represent their fellow students. While these numbers are exciting, what matters most is what they do represent, which is more students participating, getting involved, and taking an active interest in campus leadership, and then moving forward towards our next goals, as we build on that momentum, our next priority is preparing for our internal executive board elections, which are planned by the end of this month, October. So our goal is to establish a strong leadership team for the spring semester and ensure that the engagement we're seeing now continues well beyond this semester. Beyond our internal goals, Student Senate has been focused on continuing opportunities that bring our campus community together. So for example, we do have an upcoming event next week, which is Trick or Treat for Kids. It's going to take place Thursday, October 22nd from 5:00 to 8:00 PM in the COM building. So I hope to see you there with all your families. If you have any children, please come by, but this is in collaboration with the Center for Student Involvement. We're very excited, like I said, to welcome children and families. It's going to be a fun and safe environment for Halloween experience. We're also accepting candy donations to help make the event possible. So if you will, you can drop them off at the Center for Student Involvement Office, which is in GEB 117. Our biggest focus this semester is JCCC Gives. For those who may be unfamiliar, what JCCC Gives is is our campus-wide holiday assistance program. It supports students, faculty, staff, and their direct dependents who are experiencing any unexpected hardships. So our goal is pretty simple there. It's really to come together as a college community and provide meaningful support to those who may need an extra hand during the holiday season. We did recently kick off our fundraising event as an awareness effort with Launch on the Lawn. We brought people together through volleyball, Cornhole, and Penny Wars competitions. One highlight, looking at Dr. Miksa here. We're seeing participation from across the college. So that included JCCC Police Department, Dr. Miksa, members of the president's office who brought some fierce competition to volleyball that week. Always with this group.

- So that was super exciting to see, especially them going against the students that always play volleyball out there. We are continuing that momentum with the JCCC Gives Market on Wednesday, November 18th from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM in the COM Atrium. This market will

bring our community together through baked goods, handmade items, and any other contributions, which all those proceeds will support JCCC Gives. So that brings me to one final thing I'd like to share, which is an opportunity for everyone here to get involved. Nominations for JCCC Gives are currently open until November 6th. So you have roughly about like three weeks or so, if I have that correct. So again, students, faculty, and staff can nominate eligible individuals in need, including themselves to receive assistance, and there are several ways to support JCCC Gives. So whether that be making any monetary donations, participating in the holiday adoption process, or supporting the upcoming market, and like I said, as well as those nominations are currently open. We are also actively seeking JCCC makers, creators, and community members who'd like to contribute, like I said, any handmade items, baked goods, or even any unique items and experiences that can be up for auction. So to learn more or get involved, I do encourage everyone to visit JCCC's Get Involved platform. There, you will find the JCCC Gives news article for more information about the nominations, the donations, and the adoptions. I also encourage you and everyone here to share this opportunity with your colleagues, your departments, and others throughout our college community. I like this that I wrote down, because sometimes making a difference can be as simple as making it open, making sure that someone knows that support is available. So on behalf of Student Senate, I thank you for your continued support of our students, our initiatives, and the community that we're working to strengthen. Thank you.

- Thank you very much. Ashley, you're a phenomenal Student Senate representative.

- Thank you.

- Trustees, does anyone have questions for Ashley? Trustee Mitchell.

- Just a quick question, so there are elections later on this month. So is this the last time you're going to be presenting to this body or are we going to have a new Student Senate president?

- Yeah, you will not see me. I think this is the last time I will be, yes,

- Well, thank you,

- but you'll see me around.

- keeping us informed of what's going on.

- Absolutely.

- Any other trustees? Okay, Ashley, I was going to ask about the interim status. We've been sort of in flux with Student Senate this year, which I understand, and so you mentioned that you're moving on after December. Is that true for the majority on the interim board or do you anticipate some are staying throughout the year for the whole year?

- Yes, same with myself as well as my colleagues on the interim exec board. We are actually leaving by the end of this semester.

- Oh my goodness, wow.

- Yes, I know. So we're working hard to get things going for the internal election process for next spring.

- Well, thank you for doing that. It is one of the highlights of our meetings is always hearing from students and especially the enthusiasm you all bring, and your perspective is critical to the work we do as I lovingly refer to us as the old fuddy duddies who just make sure that we are keeping the doors open and programs alive for you all, but you all are what make this place special. So we appreciate you serving in the time period that you have. Wish you the best of luck with your next endeavors. You could also be any kind of broadcast newscast anchor. You are excellent at,

- Thank you. I appreciate it.

- A really great, calm presentation, which is not easy for most students. So kudos to you and have a wonderful evening. Thank you so much.

- Thank you. You all too. Thank you so much.

- All right, we're going to move on to our college lobbyist, Dick Carter. Good evening, Mr. Carter. Welcome back.

- Well, we're at that odd time of the year, especially in an election season where everything is focused on the election, and so this report could really be characterized as a what-if report, and so you might hear me say that a few times during the report this evening. I'll hit some of the high points that I usually hit and then talk a little bit about maybe what things might look like. Certainly the November legislative report to the board's going to be a lot different, because we'll have some answers by then, and we'll kind of know the general direction we may be heading in. Revenues continue to surpass expectations in Kansas, and that's always a good story, but what if they don't? That is part of the debate that'll be going on once the budget development process continues, once we have new folks either in the administration or once we have new folks that are leading the legislative charge in the House. 5.8% above last year for the month ending September, 8% above for the first three months of the state's fiscal year. So those are healthy numbers. We continue to believe that the bottom will drop out at some point within the next budget cycle, and that's what all of the budget projectors continue to talk about. Again, that goes into the overall conversation about formulating a budget. The Board of Regents at its September meeting approved the budget request for the two-year sectors. That does include the business and industry money. It includes money for Excel and CTE. It also captures the noted shortfall for the dollars that we get within the current year. So the supplemental request for CTE dollars, those are the dollars that we get paid after we've already delivered the courses, are included in the Board of Regents budget request for the two year sectors, but what will the new administration submit? So these numbers go to the governor's budget office where they develop a budget, but the legislature has, for the past couple of years, continued to develop its own version of the budget, and then they work the two budgets side by side, the two budget recommendations side by side, through the process. We're going to have new

people in all of those positions. So what does that look like as that process continues to take hold at the beginning of the legislative session in January? We also focus a lot this time of year on enrollment numbers. The two year sector is down. However, JCCC is up, and that's good news. We'd like to see all of those numbers up. We'll see what that trend continues to look like, but again, that helps inform a lot of those decisions that go on in Topeka. So let's take a look at the election process and summarize a little bit of what is going on there. We've got some high profile races, the governor's race, a senate race that have really taken command. If you watch TV around the 10 o'clock news hour, about all you're seeing are just ads one

- Seven o'clock,

- after the next one,

- five o'clock, four o'clock.

- and so we're going to see that. I mean, it's almost like we're on the east or west coast. We don't normally experience that type of engagement in Kansas, but a lot of money is being poured into this state and into those races, and so we'll see what happens. In 2024, there was the thought that the super majority in the House would be broken. They ended up picking up a couple more seats that bolstered their efforts. That talk continues. Kansas has a history of the polls showing one thing or at least common conversation showing one thing and then actual results showing quite something different. So again, what the future looks like is going to depend on that election night feedback that we get. Also, part of those questions are going to be property taxes. It's a high profile issue in the governor's race. That's going to play out legislatively. Once again, all those decisions are made at the local level, but there's this continued effort to figure out how to address something at the state level. I think the bigger question then becomes House and Senate leadership. So all 125 House members are up for election. They will be having elections within their own caucus for leadership positions that first week of December. Depending on how the governor's race turns out, we may have new leadership positions in the Senate, which again, will dictate in a significant way what the conversations look like in Topeka as we debate, not only budgets, but policy decisions that could impact higher education throughout the course of the next, the 2027 legislative session. So that kind of gives you a snapshot. I don't think I'm

probably sharing with you a whole lot that would be considered a surprise to you, but that's where we're at. We'll take a snapshot of what things look like in November, and we'll begin soon planning our legislative series that we do here at the college that prepare legislators as they get ready to head back to Topeka, and we'll continue to evaluate whether the morning or afternoon events work well and how we engage, not only those that are still representing Johnson County and Johnson County Community College, but the new folks that will come on board in November. That'll all be part of that process. So I think I would stop there, Madam Chair, and see if there's any questions that I can answer.

- Any questions for trustee?

- I would assume because it's an election year, there is no interim committee activity going on right now.

- There is interim committee. There are reduced numbers of interim committees because it's an election year in the House. The one that we watch the closest is the budget committee and it really hasn't gotten spun up yet as far as the work that they do really kind of takes place in November and towards the end of December when they're putting their budget together, at least from the legislative perspective, but there are some committees that have been meeting. They really probably won't start until the rest of October, November, and December, but far fewer days of interim meetings than in the past.

- [Greg] Okay, makes sense.

- Any other questions for Dick? Okay, Mr. Carter, thank you for your report. I have nothing to add. I always think of this period as the waiting period. There's a Dr. Seuss book called Oh the Places You'll Go, and we're in the waiting place, and we'll have a lot more to talk about next month.

- We certainly will.

- Thank you very much. Have a good evening.

- Thank you.

- All right, we are going to move on to our shared governance report, and I understand that we have Dr. Jim Leiker here this evening with that report. Good to see you, Dr. Leiker.

- Good evening.

- Welcome back.

- Despite my best efforts to stay away from this podium after my stint as FA president, I'm here anyway. I'm speaking tonight as chair of the Academic Branch Council, or as it's popularly known, ABC. My short report is divided into two components, the first dealing with an initiative you've heard about before. While college council is not meeting in October, we have disseminated our proposed revision of the shared governance definition and mission statement. Two town halls are scheduled, one on Tuesday the 27th of this month at 4:00, the other on Wednesday the 28th at 2:30, both in MTC 211. Attend if you can. It's a good opportunity to get feedback from people you ordinarily wouldn't hear from. I've also opened a special public discussion forum on the ABC Canvas page inviting staff and faculty to provide input. So far, and I shared this with President Miksa this morning, I would describe the dialogue around the language as meager. As we anticipated, it's hard to get faculty at least excited about abstract definitions. I expect the more serious conversation will happen when we turn to possibly revising the shared governance bodies, such as the question of whether ABC or staff council should have different structures and bylaws. Of the questions that have been asked so far, the one that appears most commonly is, didn't we just go through this? I've not addressed that publicly up to now. I'm more of a facilitator, not the guy with all the answers, but I can provide some perspective. These bodies and our current definition were established following the last HLC visit in 2018. Since then, a lot of new people have joined us. More than 150 full-time faculty alone have been hired, which is about half the bargaining unit. It's fair to say with those kinds of numbers that shared governance could use a fresh look. However, it's also a common opinion, and it's one that I share, that JCCC has an institutional memory problem. Every

few years, it seems, especially as leadership changes, there's an attempt to reexamine matters that we though were settled. It's understandable and necessary probably, but it does make it difficult to achieve continuity and stop having to relearn all the old lessons or stop repeating the old mistakes. The uphill battle, I think shared governance this time faces as a kind of tired apathy, which says, eh, we've seen this before. Secondly, ABC has had three meetings this fall, all reasonably well-attended. We've had reports from various subcommittees working on pieces of the academic master plan. Librarian Marks Wales has shared updates from the academic integrity task force, and I'm getting frequent requests from staff and administrators wanting to come and talk to us, so all good things. You may have heard that last spring, ABC conducted its own shared governance survey. I can share the data with you individually if you're interested. Basically the findings boil down to two things, that a lot of people don't know what shared governance is or how it's supposed to work and those who do believe it works best at the levels of the department and the divisions. For the most part, academic branch staff and faculty like their chairs and deans. The same sentiment says shared governance is at its worst when decisions are made at the higher levels. That's not really a surprising revelation, and it's one that's consistent with recent employee satisfaction surveys. That relates to some good news I'll share. You all probably remember that I wrote you with concern over the summer when it looked like the faculty department chair model might be replaced. After several years of effort, the instructional chairs committee has voted and approved a chair's release time formula, and with some adjustments, it's been accepted by the deans and CAO. I'm calling it good news, but not everyone shares that view. While some departments gained compensation, others lost. You'll never convince a faculty chair who continues to do the same amount of work for less to see this as a fair outcome, but what we're learning, I think, in shared governance is that it's often less about the outcome and more about the process. In this instance, I can't imagine a more transparent process of discussion, research, encouraging new voices, and ultimately a commitment to accepting a decision once it was made. That group did all those things, and now that it's done, my suggestion is to leave it alone for a while, check that box completed, move on to other stuff, and avoid the confusion and anxiety that usually comes from reopening old arguments. That concludes my report.

- Very good. Thank you, Dr. Leiker. Do we have any questions for Dr. Leiker, none?

- Quite good to know.

- Yes, no? Okay, I need it.

- That's the kind of end of report I like. Thank you.

- Now wait a minute. There's always me. I'm on Dr. Leiker.

- I was almost out.

- I have missed your way of communicating up here at the board. You always give a really unique way to take apart what's going on and help us understand it. Kudos to you for sharing this report at this juncture, and I completely agree with you that I do think we tend to get stuck in these loops here at the college of our historical memory and what we've already done and why we need to reopen things, and I appreciate your words on what might be best in moving forward now that we finally, I think it's been three years, have a great, or at least have a, not great, I don't know what it is, because I didn't vote, and I haven't been privy to it. Let me be clear, but we have an agreed-upon compensation formula, and I agree with you that we just need to sit with it and keep it without any changes for a while. So appreciate your time tonight. Thank you for coming back.

- Thank you madam chair.

- You're always welcome back whether you want to be here or not.

- I teach classes here if you want to hear me talk more.

- I've heard, I know. Maybe with all my spare time, I'll find one I can join. Thank you very much, and tonight for the faculty association presentation, we have Lisa Parrott. Good evening, welcome.

- Thank you.

- Oh, what do we have? We have gifts?

- What are these?

- Wow.

- I though you say a whole bunch of stuff.

- [Laura] What is it, Trustee Holton?

- They'll be fun. There's two sets of them.

- [Laura] Okay, all right. Very good. Well, welcome. Good evening.

- Thank you so Much, Trustee Smith-Everett. Greetings, members of the board, Dr. Miksa, community members, and fellow staff and faculty. I'm Dr. Lisa Parrott, Associate Professor of Business Administration. I didn't know what I wanted to be when I grew up, and teaching is my third and final career path. It combines 10 years of experience in the Marine Corps as a supply officer with 10 years of experience in a variety of organizations, working for small businesses, Amazon, nonprofits, even starting a couple of my own companies. During this time, I also leaned into my strength as a learner and used the GI Bill to complete a master's and a doctorate for fun. Before joining JCCC six years ago, I taught at all levels at a four-year university as well as MBA students. I wanted to share my background with you to be aware of the experience I bring to this role. We talk a lot about the resources JCCC offers our students, which I love, by the way. I want to spend a moment to talk about how we can provide the assistance faculty members need to. It's important to understand the stressors we face on our time and mental health during the semester. Before the start of each semester, I prepare for what I call the marathon sprint. We have 15 weeks to achieve our

teaching goals, and it's a hard deadline that just doesn't bend. During the first half of the semester, I work every day of the week, either planning, teaching, responding to students, or grading. Imagine pushing a rock uphill as you teach students the rules for your classroom, hold them accountable to your expectations, help them develop time management skills, and create a culture where they feel safe to ask questions and engage with each other. Somehow we also have to find time to teach content too. Last spring, probationary faculty approached me with the concerns about a new certification they're being required to complete. The new requirement is stressful because there's already so much to do during the semester, as I mentioned, including unplanned events we can't prepare for but still have to take priority in our day. For this reason, I complete the majority of my training and development activities during the summer. During PLD week, I told Dr. Miksa to be worried about us faculty members because of AI and the struggles we are seeing with students outsourcing their learning. I am thankful for the academic freedom to adjust the schedule when those teaching moments arise as I ran into those challenges with AI in week three of the semester. I had to give a chunk of time teaching content to educate my students on academic integrity. The moment was important as I realized that my students don't understand what it means to cite their sources, and they also don't realize that a simple Google search involves the use of AI, and it was a light bulb moment for all of us. I also panicked about how I would catch up to my timeline as we fell so far behind in the semester already. As I said earlier, that semester, it doesn't bend. Suddenly that rock I was pushing uphill felt twice as large, and it created a lot of anxiety. I struggle with time scarcity. You know the feeling when you have too many tasks on your plate and just not enough time to get through all of them? One thing that I've always had time for is caring for my students. I make the time to hear their stories when they're willing to share. It helps me know how I can best encourage them to keep showing up through their learning journey. This approach to being present has allowed me to have the privilege to provide a safe space, and I've heard so many tragic stories from our students over the past few years. One was diagnosed with late stage kidney cancer at the end of the semester. One became a single parent after they watched their spouse die in the ER, being in there for a week, and then another one had a devastating story where they had to take someone else's life in self-defense and really struggle with debilitating guilt from that. Listening takes mental investment, and I've learned how to balance my commitments throughout the semester to avoid burnout, and yet nothing prepared me to face that same class we just talked about three weeks ago when they learned a fellow peer had taken their own life that past weekend. In that moment, everything changed, including my perception of time. Traumatic events force you to step back. You end up in survival mode and you have to reprioritize what really matters. You suddenly start to ask, is this important and is the cost worth it? It's a good reminder that we don't know what emotional burdens those around us are walking around with. Each

day, I choose to invest my time to be present for my students to build the trust and show that I care about them as an individual, because that's my commitment to them as a faculty member, advocating for them to reach their educational goals. These days, that work goes well beyond teaching content. As inside higher ed sites that 68% of students report mental health impacts their academic performance. Sometimes the best I can do is get them to just come to class. For someone struggling, that may be the most difficult and important step. The students in my class are doing the best they can, as they include one, mourning the loss of their friend, others who have lost people to suicide, and those who have attempted the same in the past. As for my own story, this year is the 10th anniversary of the loss of my brother to suicide. These burdens take an emotional toll on an already stressful marathon sprint. When we think about what it means to support our faculty members, it's important to include compassion and flexibility to adjust each day's content as needed. It is essential to avoid adding more pressure during the semester so that we can continue to create that culture of care for our students. It's important to also realize that faculty need to attend to our mental health too. I am very thankful for my boss, Dean Cox, who immediately jumped into action to help, showed me empathy, and provided the encouragement I needed to take care of my own emotional wellbeing. I am grateful for how the college, especially the counseling department and Kathy Mahern showed up for all of us by calling in mental health professionals from Johnson County Mental Health for my students to speak with and making space to remember and honor those lost to suicide. I am grateful for each one of those students that trust me with their stories and continue to come back each day. If I were a probationary faculty member suddenly required to complete a certification without advanced notice or prior expectation, then I would not be able to be as present for my students in that classroom. Our decisions last forever, and I thank you all for giving me the opportunity to make the decisions that my students need, to be there for them, to make those changes to the order of our lesson plans, to recommend available resources, and to show up when I can as the best professor as possible. Thank you for your time.

- Thank you.

- Thank you.

- Do we have any trustees with questions or comments? Trustee Carroll.

- Thank you, Madam Chair. Thank you, Lisa, for your service, and thank you for being vulnerable and sharing your own personal story, as well as your students' stories with us, and I commend you for being an advocate for mental health, because it is so important. That's all.

- Thank you.

- Thank you.

- Thank you, Trustee Mitchell. Dr. Parrott, is that right?

- Yes, ma'am.

- Thank you for your service to our country, and thank you for telling a story tonight that's important for all of us to know. It affects all communities, and sometimes we don't think it affects us here at the college, and it certainly does. I also want to commend you for telling your personal story as well as professional one and advocate that you take the time you need, especially with this year being an anniversary for you. So thank you very much. Really appreciate your time.

- Thank you.

- Have a good evening.

- Appreciate it. Thank you all.

- Okay, that's going to take us to the Johnson County Education Research Triangle Report tonight, but Trustee Rattan is not in attendance at this time, and so we are going to pass over that, and that's going to take us to the Kansas Association of Community Colleges with

Trustee Cross. I am not aware that anyone else was given the report in his absence. He thought he could be here this evening, but it doesn't appear that he is. So we will skip that report as well, and we're going to jump right to the foundation report with Trustee Mitchell.

- Thank you, Madam Chair. It's time for the foundation report, which we have been referring to as the exciting news report

- That's right, love it.

- for the last several months. The foundation staff team is very grateful for the support from the employee development department for a staff retreat. The team spent the day with an Enneagram facilitator. I may have bastardized that, sorry.

- Enneagram.

- Enneagram, who provided a wonderful team-building experience that helped us better understand communication styles, strengths, and blind spots. The session was a great opportunity to help the team work together more effectively. On September 2nd, JCCC Foundation hosted a Johnson Countian of the year reception to honor Greg Musil at Overland Park Convention Center. Former Johnson Countians of the Year were encouraged to attend, and our celebration will continue at the 40th annual summit chanted evening on November 14th. More than $2.1 million have been raised, which is 152% of goal. JCCC Foundation sponsored tables at the Blue Valley Educational Foundation and the Shawnee Mission Educational Foundation community breakfasts. By the end of the year, the foundation will have supported all Johnson County K through 12 school district community events. In addition, Jamie Cochran has joined the Eudora Education Foundation Board and JCCC Foundation will support their golf tournament this year. In addition, the foundation participated in the Johnson County Mental Health Shine the Light event, the Johnson County Library Let's Let Loose event, and the Tour Day Fork event that supports Boys and Girls Club. JCCC Foundation is pleased to announce that it will continue funding support for students with children enrolled at the Hersteiner Child Development Center following the federal government's decision not to renew the C Campus grant awarded to the college. On October 1st, JCCC Foundation hosted a new event, Foundation Patron Party.

Our highest donors were invited to a special reception at the Wiley Hospitality and Culinary Academy. Special thanks to Chef Adele for helping coordinate visiting chefs who participated in the testing stations.

- Tasting.

- Tasting station-, sorry.

- [Laura] No, that's critical difference.

- Tasting stations, not testing, sorry. JCCC Foundation is partnering with Give Me 20 to offer suicide prevention sessions for student ambassadors and faculty staff on October 22nd. The staff faculty sessions is in the co-lab from 10:00 to 1:30 that afternoon. Trustees are welcome to join us, and that concludes the report of the foundation.

- Thank you very much. Do we have any questions or comments for Trustee Mitchell?

- Nope.

- Do we all have the gala on our calendars with a big red marker circle? Okay, very good. Trustee Mitchell, I just wanted to take a minute to thank the foundation. We find that in these crazy chaotic times with our federal government fluxing its priorities routinely, I've appreciated the multiple times that they've stepped in to fill a gap that was not there a few years ago or even a few months ago and supporting our early childhood center. As we go to national conferences, trustees and board members, community colleges recognize that childcare is a huge obstacle to getting your degree. So I appreciate the foundation's contribution to ensuring that that continues for many people. That's going to roll us right into the management and finance committee, and you'll never believe who's presenting this report tonight.

- Oh yes, I think that'd be me.

- [Laura] The one and only, Trustee Mitchell.

- Thank you, Madam Chair. The Management Finance Committee held their meeting at 8:30 AM on Wednesday, October 7th in this room. Information related to that meeting can be found on pages three through five of the board packet. The Management Finance Committee received the following reports from staff. The first of these was the Information Services Quarterly Report. Rob Caffey, Vice President of Information Services, CIO, and Corey Faldine, Executive Director of IT Security, CISO, presented the quarterly information services report. The information security update detailed the program's scope, current state, and upcoming initiatives. Next, an update on the IT strategic plan was provided, as well as progress report on the migration of the ERP to Ellucian's banner software as a service SAAS platform. The migration is expected to take place over two to three years and will provide a more stable platform, simplified business processes and faster delivery. Then we were briefed on the fiscal year 2027, '28 proposed budget calendar. Megan Casey, Vice President, CFO presented the preliminary budget development calendar for fiscal year 2027 and 2028. No significant changes to the budget timeline or processes are expected. Next, we moved on to the monthly capital acquisitions and improvements progress report. Tom Hall, Associate Vice President, Campus Services and Facilities Planning provided the committee with information on facilities projects from the capital acquisitions and improvements matrix. The matrix summarizes and monitors budget and actual expenses for campus service projects and includes payments through September 30th of 2026. He also reviewed a new report summarizing payments related to the facilities master plan phase one projects. A status update on the various phase one projects will be shared at next month's committee meeting. The Management and Finance Committee has the following recommendations to present this evening, which stem from the procurement reports and recommendations. Jim Fikert, Executive Director of Procurement Services provided the monthly procurement report and recommendations. The first one was on the Hershiser Child Development Center playground replacement, and it is therefore the recommendation of the management finance committee that the board of trustees accept the recommendation of the college administration to approve the proposal from R&R Concrete in the amount of $535,845 with an additional 10% contingency of $53,585 to allow for possible unforeseen costs for a total amount of $589,430, and I so move.

- Okay, do I have a second?

- Second.

- Trustee Mitchell with the motion and trustee Carroll with a second. Any discussion about the playground? Yes.

- A couple of points. It seems like a lot of money, but it actually was the significantly lowest bid that was presented to us, and this project really does more than just replace playground equipment. It's kind of a stormwater management project as well. So there's a lot involved in it. So that's all that I had to say about that.

- [Laura] Thank you. Any other discussion questions?

- During the meeting, one of the things that I did ask about because of the amount of money was, is this money better served growing this facility for more opportunities for people to take advantage of what we have over there? Which all the stuff that Trustee Mitchell said made it feel like what we're doing here is very, very important. We could grow. I think we said there was, I don't know, somewhere between 80 and 100 that we're turning away, but this is something that needs to be done out there. So it was a conversation that we had, but it felt good the way it was explained to me.

- Thank you for exposing or discussing that part of the meeting. I will say that is also the side of campus that we're going to have a significant impact from the new health sciences building, right? No, now it's not. It was originally.

- This will be the public safety work.

- There we go. I was like, there's something major we're going to be doing over there. Yes, so having to work on the groundwater at some point and the flow is going to be really

important to new construction we have coming along the way. So with that, are we ready for a vote? Okay, all in favor say aye.

- Aye.

- Any opposed? Hearing none, motion carries 4-0. All right, please proceed, Trustee Mitchell.

- The next one is about the Midwest Trust Center laundry renovation. Pardon me. It is the recommendation of the management finance committee that the board of trustees accept the recommendation of the college administration to approve the proposal from Lloyd Builders in the amount of $260,600 with an additional 10% contingency of $26,060 to allow for possible unforeseen costs. It brings it to a total amount of $286,660, and I so move.

- Okay, thank you, Trustee Mitchell, with the motion. Do I have a second?

- Second.

- Trustee Carroll with the second. Do we have any discussion about the laundry facilities at the MTC?

- Just a couple things real quick. The laundry facilities are currently in OCB, and so we're relocating them to facilitate some other development over at OCB, and it's an expensive deal to do this. It was also the last qualified and most responsive bid.

- Okay, thank you for that.

- Key words being most responsive there.

- Okay, thank you very much for that. Any further discussion? I will just say, again, every month, I learn something new that we have or that we do at this campus and this is yet another example. So with that, we're going to proceed to a vote. All in favor say yes.

- Yes.

- Any opposed? Hearing none, motion carries 4-0. Trustee Mitchell.

- Thank you, Madam Chair. The next management and finance committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 4th, 2026 at 8:30 AM, and notwithstanding what's happening the evening before, I plan to be here on time, and that concludes my report.

- Thank you very much. Okay, we're going to move on to the Student Success Committee. Trustee Holton.

- Thank you, Madam Chair. The Student Success Committee met at 9:30 AM on Wednesday, October 7th in this room. Justin Stanley, Professor of Communication Studies presented new courses, course modifications, and deactivations and program modifications effective for 2027-2028 and 2028-2029 academic years. Details can be found in the consent agenda portion of the board packet. Modifications for academic calendars, Jim Lane, Dean, Arts and Design, Humanities and Social Sciences presented modifications amending the previously approved '26-'27 commencement date of Friday, May 21, 2027 to Thursday, May 20, 2027. The calendar committee also recommends amending the previously approved 2027-2028 commencement date of Friday, May 19th, 2028 to Thursday, May 18th, 2028. Details can be found in the consent agenda portion of the board packet, and onto the reports. Natalie Byers, Director, Institutional Planning and Research presented turning data into decisions for institutional effectiveness and student success. She showed how IR turns raw data into trustworthy evidence to make evidence-based decisions and presented the key functions of the office, including data and reporting, accreditation, and compliance, planning and assessment and research and decision support. Natalie provided a typical year in the life of IR to highlight due dates for the many reports mandated for state and federal compliance. Farrell Janob, Director of Faculty Development presented, Great Teaching is a Student Success Strategy: Building a

Culture of Teaching and Learning at JCCC. She emphasized that faculty development matters because students experience JCCC through their instructors. The pathway to excellent teaching begins in year one during new faculty orientation, which means orienting to JCCC standards of excellence. Year two leads to involvement with Association of College and University Educators, ACUE, which is a year-long vigorous online program to help educators. All JCCC faculty have access to the ACUE one year program and many have completed the quick study portion. Ferrell highlighted how instrumental the Center for Teaching and Learning, CTL, is. The CTL encourages and creates opportunities for faculty. When faculty grow, students benefit. Vince Miller, Dean of Academic Support provided an update on the division. He said the division's focus is on student preparation, retention, and course completion. The Academic Resource Center houses the math and science resource centers, writing center, and academic achievement center. In '26, 5,983 students made 50,600 visits to the ARC. Billington Library has been creating open educational resource support to help save students thousands of dollars in textbook costs. Vince also shared highlights of the College Success, Global Engagement, and Honors program, Kansas Studies Institute, and EdTech and Distance Learning. He showcased events in the collaboration center, the co-lab, including an AI panel program on leadership and mental health, a presentation from a forensic DNA expert. The video services department is very busy on campus with credit classes, board meetings, athletic events, commencement, and commercials. Madam Chair, that concludes my report.

- Okay, thank you, Trustee Holton. Do we have any questions or comments for Trustee Holton on his Student Success Committee report? Okay, seeing none, well, I will just make a comment. Sorry, I had a comment, and I just missed it. Did you all discuss, when you were talking about the faculty development, this new requirement that was spoken about this evening for new faculty? Did that come up, the Student Success Committee?

- I don't remember that coming up. I know we talked about the ACUE a bunch.

- That is the new--

- That's the new?

- Yeah, that's the new.

- I thought that wasn't--

- I was going to say I think that's--

- That wasn't mandatory, I thought. Is that mandatory? Okay, I thought that was like a awesome thing that we offer.

- Phone a friend.

- Okay, great.

- I'm Gurbhushan Singh, Vice President, Chief Academic Officer here at JCCC.

- Thank you.

- So AQ, it is mandatory. So there are two portions. So the first portion, the 32 weeks, the longest one, it's been going on for about four years. So we started out on volunteer basis. So the first cohort and the second cohort, they were existing faculty or new faculty, but it was on volunteer basis. Then after hearing from the CTL fellows, and we also have the guided pathways project going on at the same time since 2022, which focuses on student success, and it's a campus-wide project and also hearing from the faculty development office. So then we decided that we were going to go ahead and make it mandatory, but then we later learned that there was some miscommunication with that cohort. So the way it works is, so anytime we hire new faculty, we have new faculty orientation that takes place in August and the new faculty orientation is a year-long process. They start meeting in August. So usually around the first meeting or two, they're told that, hey, during your second and third year, you will be obligated to take this year-long or 32-week-long AQ training. So the third cohort, I think we kind of missed that hopefully. I mean, I think there

was some miscommunication. So some of them came back and said, "Well, we didn't know this." So we gave them flexibility saying, "Maybe you don't want to start now. "Maybe you can start next year because now you know." So we kind of then, I say we, the CTL fellows are the ones who run the new faculty orientation. So the CTL fellows and then also Farrell Janob, Dr. Janob's office, then they made sure that, moving forward, we would have the communication in place to make sure all the new faculty coming in would have that. So they knew, so they would have that expectation of the college that they will be part of the AQ 32-week-long training during their second year. So that's kind of what we're doing right now. There are, right now, I know a couple of faculty members who are kind of pushing back or complaining that it is too much work, but the other thing everybody needs to know is that the new faculty, they're usually, for the first three years during probation, are not asked to provide service to the college. So there's a reason for that so, that way, they can be given assignments like this. So once again, the AQ, it is foundational professional development that focuses on teaching and learning, student success, and retention. It is not everything that they need to know. The faculty still gets the professional development funds. So if they want to, based on their own program, if they want to do professional development in their own discipline, they can do that too. and now another piece of AQ are the modules that we just started this year, which is also mandatory. It would take you anywhere from 30 minutes to an hour, depending upon, when I took that, it took me 40 minutes, because there are exercises, assignments, in that module that you have to do. Depending upon how many you answer or how you answer, it could take you an hour or it could take you 30 minutes. Took me 40 minutes, and these--

- Per module?

- For that one module.

- Per module, okay.

- So this was just one module, really. So there's mandatory training that gets assigned to, not just faculty, all of the staff and faculty here at the beginning of a new academic year. So this was part of that, but it was only for faculty and administrators and counselors on the academic side, and it was around critical thinking, and the reason we did that is because we heard from CTL fellows, Farrell Janob's office, and also from the Office of Assessment.

Dr. Michael Brooks came here and talked about that. So based on what's required every year, Dr. Janob's office will work with his office and decide a new module that would become part of the mandatory training, and that would be for all faculty, not just probationary or new faculty. The new faculty piece, that is the 32 week. So let me go back to that. So originally when we first started, it was 32 weeks, and we did not really have any flexibility, because part of that is a third party vendor that provides that training. We didn't have flexibility. So it was 32 weeks. So the first two cohorts actually went through the 32 week long process, and then during the third cohort, we realized that, okay, maybe it is a little too much along with teaching, sometimes four or five classes. So we tried to build some flexibility in there. So it became a year-long. Then some of the faculty asked if we could make it even longer, create some more flexibility. Now they can take 18 months. I mean, that's the longest we have right now from the third party vendor that we have, the AQ training that we can do. I mean, if there was more flexibility we could create, but right now, we don't have that option. It's 18 months. So we went from 32 weeks to 18 months. So that's the training or professional development that gets assigned to probationary faculty, new faculty.

- Okay, couple questions. New full-time faculty or all faculty including adjuncts?

- New full-time faculty is required, but adjuncts can also join now, because we have access to the whole suite.

- Is it a type of thing where if they receive this training at another institution, they can bring this here and then not have to take our required AQ training?

- If they took that training, they can bring it here, but many of the faculty so far, I don't think we had anybody who did that somewhere and then said, okay, I just did it in the last two, three years, can I just use that? But we have had faculty who took it elsewhere many years ago. I think it was an adjunct, and they took it here again as a refresher, and they said it was very beneficial, because it's training that gets updated all the time. So as an institution, we're continuously improving. So I think that's the reason we would like the faculty, even if they took it somewhere else like three, four, five years ago, we would like them to go through it again.

- Okay, are we now saying that upon employment, professors understand that this is a requirement? Because I'm going to be really honest, I'm very sensitive to putting on more expectations to teaching. At this juncture where we are just in society with education, there's a lot put on them, and yet, at the same time, I can also hold true that I agree that we need to continually improve as an institution and that benefits our students directly, but I guess my question is, and it sounds like your answer of expanding it to 18 months might answer my question, but I'm going to ask it anyway. Would it ever be the case and does your department look at if you've got a discipline that's requiring something pressing this semester for all faculty to get updated training on and, at the same time, requiring faculty to do this? Can they put the AQ on the back burner because this semester, let's say dental hygiene or a discipline that has something that's critical to their certification is required by all faculty right now?

- Okay, so if that was the case, they can still complete it within 18 months, because it's not one of those things where you have to meet every day or you have to do it every week.

- Is it online?

- It's an online training, and you can do it on your own pace, yeah.

- Okay, okay. Those are my questions just as a fellow educator, as a K-12 educator, who is sensitive to the requirements we ask and what we pile on educators and have already gotten several communications about this new requirement. I really appreciate you coming to the podium and clarifying some of the broader context for it. I think this is going to be something you'll want to be sure to continually keep us informed about as your department is developing out the policies about it, because I don't think this will make everyone real thrilled and those people often find a way to communicate with us.

- Yes, anytime you all have questions, please ask. We try to do the best we can, because the other thing I would tell you is anytime we have, I'm not just talking about faculty now. Anytime I hear negative things from one person about anything that we do, I also hear four, five different comments that are positive and same thing is happening here too. So I'm

trying to not focus on the negative, just focus on the positive and move forward. That's kind of where I am right now. So I appreciate you.

- Okay, thank you. Yeah, definitely.

- I'd also throw out, today was my normal meetings that I have with ABC. So Gurb, Shelly and myself.

- Sheila.

- Sheila, sorry, and Shelly's back there too. I just saw her. Anyway, so I met with ABC today. We had, I think, a robust conversation around this. Then later in the day, Mickey, Jim, and Irene, we met, and we had a robust conversation. My point is and I think what we talked about is around shared governance and just continued conversations around it to make sure. So there will be some more conversations just to make sure that everybody's on the same page, trying to figure out where we're at.

- Great, and I would appreciate just being folded in on the loop so that we know where you all are as you're developing out this new expectation. So thank you very much. Appreciate it. Okay, with that, we now will move on to our president's recommendations for action beginning with our treasurer's report by the ever-present Trustee Mitchell.

- Thank you, Madam Chair. The board packet includes the treasurer's report for the month that ended August 31st, 2026. Some items of note include, page one includes the general post-secondary technical education funds summary. These are the primary operating funds of the college. State grant payments of 18.2 million were received during the month of August. 13.6 million of these funding funds received was for the fiscal year 2027 state operating grant appropriation and was recorded in the general and post-secondary technical education fund. 4.6 million was received for the career and technical education capital outlay, student success initiatives, and apprenticeship grants. An ad valorem tax distribution of eight million was received from the county treasurer in September and will be reflected in next month's report. Expenditures of the primary operating funds are within

approved budgetary limits, and therefore, Madam Chair, it is a recommendation of the college administration that the board of trustees approve the treasurer's report for the month ended August 31st, 2026, subject to audit, and I so move.

- Second.

- Thank you very much, Trustee Mitchell, and a second from Trustee Cross in the sky. Welcome, Trustee Cross. Thank you for joining us this evening. Any discussion on the treasurer's report? Hearing none, all in favor say yes.

- Yes.

- Any opposed? I'm going to say that motion carries 5-0. Moving on to the monthly report or, sorry, that concludes your report?

- [Greg] That does conclude my report, yes ma'am.

- Thank you. Moving on, we're going to go to the monthly report to the board from the president.

- All right, thank you very much. So a lot of great things happening so far this month and so far this semester. It's been a wonderful semester so far, but for start out with enrollment, enrollment is doing really well. We are up this semester. We continue to stay up. I kind of have said that all along, but 1.1% in head count and 0.7% in credit hours. I think the big thing or the important thing about that, as of right now, we have about 19,127 students on campus here this fall. That equals the highest number since 2016. So that's 10 years. That's great. I said I wanted to have 20,000 full-time students. I guess we're going to get it in the fall here pretty soon. I guess we needed to do 25,000. I don't know. So anyway, but great work, everybody. I can't thank everybody enough. I think the significance behind that is, as we're hearing, a lot of other school, or not other schools, are losing some enrollment, but the enrollment cliff is coming, but we continue to look at different ways to get students on

campus. So we're really excited about that. I think the good news also continues on the non-credit side of the house. As of October 13th, we had 7,340 registrations, which is about 44% towards our goal of 16,500, which I think is great. Yeah, 16,500, which I think is great because overall, last year at this time, we had about 6,055. So we're well ahead of last year, but I do want to keep in mind enrollments are not the same. It's kind of up and down in non-credit, but they're doing a great job keeping them going, and if I'm off, Molly will let me know and get me back on track. A few other fun things that I wanted to shout out about the month, September 18th. Big shout out to Susan Hoffman and everyone who made the employee picnic a huge success. There was face painting. I know that myself, because I got my face painted, and she did a great job and did a little more than what I expected, but that was awesome. Food games and went in legendary bingo, I saw people walking out with some pretty cool prizes, like a weed eater, I think at one point.

- Whoa.

- I didn't expect that. Yeah, that's right, but I'll also throw out, I enjoyed talking with the employees, and also what I think is really great is meeting their families and getting to see them a little bit and having a nice conversation. Earlier in the month, I hosted a couple special guests on campus, Jennifer Bonds-Reiki. Some people call her JBR. She's the new president and CEO of KBOR, continuing to try to build relationships there, and also Dr. Anne Marie Fallon, the new president of St. Mary's University out of Leavenworth. We toured around, and I look forward to continuing relationships and developing relationships that help our students get to those institutions or transfer across the state, whatever we have there. On October 3rd, we had what I think is probably one of the biggest and coolest events on campus, Japanfest. It's truly, like I said, one of the coolest events. You learn about culture. You get to shop, eat, and so much more. I also got to take part. It's always kind of fun. They break the Saki Barrel. Sake, I think I said that right.

- Sake,

- Sake, that's why I wanted to say, Saki barrel. They break it and then you got to drink a little bit out of the wooden cup. It's always kind of like, oh my gosh, is it going to spill on me in front of everybody? But we made that through. That was fun. On October 6th, I had a great time in Michael Humphrey's journalism class. This is the second time I've gone to it. So

obviously, they're teaching journalism. It's pretty cool. I walk in, and it's like a press conference, and I just get up behind the podium, and they start peppering me with questions, and I got to work through that. So that's always fun to do. September 30th, we had Discovery Day, Discovery Day, Find Your Fit. So this is a great opportunity where students got to explore their majors, clubs, and organizations to find their fit on campus. It's one of the things I always try to tout about JCCC. We have a great number of clubs and organizations. Our students are really engaged. It's wonderful to see them out there. It's also one of the days I had one of our guests actually, JBR, on campus and she was like, "Oh my gosh, I cannot believe "how engaged your students are." So I though that was a wonderful thing. Just a couple other statistics I thought was really neat, our student lounge, you know the student lounge that we have in there, I say this because we're going to be talking about building our health professions building. We're going to go make a presentation next week around facilities and how it impacts students. As of October 1st, the lounge recorded 4,125 visits. That's a 57% increase from last fall. A total of 798 unique students have used the space and an increase of 47% with daily visits averaging about 153 compared to 98 last year, so really making a big impact there. The Student Basic Needs Center covered, visits are up about 19% over last year with a total of 543 visits as of October 1st. The pantry has served 230 unique students, a 10% increase from last fall, which is awesome, because we want to make sure we're serving students. It also does say a little something about our students and that we need to be there and be able to serve them and making sure we're taken care of. A couple other great things that are going on, intramurals continue to be strong draw for students on Thursday nights with volleyball, pickleball offered in September and looks like they're going to do volleyball again, but also basketball coming up here in October, and the Center for Student Involvement is wrapping up its annual student club registration. We have about 50 clubs currently re-registered for this year. So we're excited about that, and then lastly, on October 8th, John Clayton, Lisa Turner Hernandez, Tony Tompkins, Megan Kissel, and Daniel C, he's a student... What is he, student?

- Student ambassador.

- Student ambassador. We had a team, that volleyball team, that Ashley talked about us, and we went at it in the volleyball tournament. Unfortunately, we were not that good, not even close to the best. I hate to say it, but Caitlin's team, who she stacked their team. She actually won, and she got first place. So it was great for her on that day. Actually, though, I don't know if you know this, but we do have a little video from the day. If you could just pull

up that video and look really closely at this shot here, if we can get it. It should come up. I think Caitlin is going to try to spike it on somebody and she gets blocked (by Dr. Miksa).

- On somebody.

- Wow.

- Nothing special.

- That was low. That was low, Dr Miksa. That was low.

- But thank you very much. Yes, you can stop it. Oh, I'm sorry. There was a point there at the end. I didn't have it,

- Classic Dr. Miksa point.

- but Caitlin's team, they actually were the best. They actually beat the students.

- [Laura] She's now working on how she's going to get you back and what you've done, right?

- And that is my report. Thank you very much.

- Any questions for Dr. Miksa?

- Yeah, I have a question.

- Okay.

- Just curious how we measure visits to the student lounge.

- I don't know that. I don't know if Shelly can give us any input on that one, if possible.

- [Shelly] We track students by student ID number.

- [Greg] They check in when they go there or something?

- We ask them to scan in.

- Oh, okay.

- Very good. Can you say who you are, please?

- Shelly Allen, Vice President for Student Success and Engagement.

- Thank you very much. Appreciate it. Okay, any other questions? You were ready to chime in.

- That was interesting. I'm like, how would we know that? Okay.

- Yeah, there's a guy who just sits there.

- Yeah, he goes one, two, yeah, he was here yesterday.

- Has a little tally chart.

- Yeah.

- Any other questions or comments for Dr. Miksa? Okay, Dr. Miksa, always a fun adventure to hear about all the places you're going and all the things you're doing. I don't know if you know, but that student lounge and fabulous hallway there was not always there, and so it's a lot more fun, because our students are way more present when we're around, which is a great thing that I love, and kudos to the team for the enrollment. KCTV5 has picked it up. I've seen it multiple places, and as a fellow trustee said, it's reminding the community that we're a very viable and affordable option for students. So I'm glad to see that they're finding that to be true, and they're here. So I think they just heard you were 40, 40, 40 challenge.

- You're right.

- They're like, Look, we got to show up. He's challenged us, and the whole community is rallying. So we'll see.

- Well, I can't say enough about all the work everybody's done to recruit, everything faculty have done with the students in the classroom. It's just a great place.

- Absolutely, okay. Thank you very much. That is going to take us to new business. I am not aware of any new business on the board, which will then take us right into old business, and I am not aware of any old business. So we are going to move on to the consent agenda. Consent agenda is a routine part of our agenda where we bundle several routine items under one motion. Do I have a motion for the consent agenda this evening?

- So moved.

- Trustee Cross with a motion for the consent, do I have a second?

- Second.

- Second with Trustee Mitchell. Any discussion about the consent agenda? Any items you want to pull off for separate discussion? Okay, seeing none, we will proceed with a vote. All in favor say aye.

- Aye.

- Any opposed? Hearing none, the motion carried. What are we up to? We're up to five. Now five, four, and none against. Thank you very much. That is going to take us to our executive session, and I am going to find my script. I don't know what I did with it. Do you know where it is, Caitlin?

- [Caitlin] Should be in the back, but here you go.

- I was going to say it's somewhere. I've seen it. I've got it, I got it. It just took me five seconds. Sorry about that. No panic, no panic. I would like to entertain a motion to go into executive session for consultation with legal counsel regarding contract negotiation, which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship. No action will be taken during this session. The executive session will last for 30 minutes. Do we need to take a small break before we begin? Okay, so we can say 6:35 okay to begin. All right, it will take place from 6:35 to 7:05, at which time, open session will resume at this same location. We would like to invite all trustees present and Dr. Tony Miksa, Christina McGee, and Kelsey Nazar to join us for that executive session. Do I have a motion?

- So moved.

- Mitchell with the motion. Second by Trustee Carroll. Any discussion? All in favor say aye.

- Aye.

- Any opposed? Hearing none, we will now move to executive session in the room next door. Thank you very much. Thank you. It is now 7:05. We have returned from executive session where no action was taken. However, we are going to need to go into another executive session. I would like to entertain a motion to go into executive session for consultation with legal counsel regarding contract negotiation, which would be deemed privilege in the attorney-client relationship. No action will be taken during this session. The executive session will last for approximately 15 minutes, I believe we said, and let's say we're going to begin at 7:06 PM, which then would make a seven, somebody do the math, do the 7:21 PM, at which time, open session will resume at this same location. I would like to invite all trustees and Dr. Tony Miksa, Christina McGee, Kelsey Nazar, and Kelsey Nazar to join this executive session. Do I have a motion for the second executive session?

- Second.

- So moved.

- I need a motion. Who do I have a motion from?

- So moved.

- Trustee Cross and a second from Trustee Rattan. All in favor?

- Aye.

- We're now moving back into executive session. Thank you. Good evening. The time is now 7:23. We've returned from executive session where no action was taken. The next item on our agenda is adjournment. Do I have a motion for adjournment?

- [Greg] Madam Chair, I move to adjourn.

- Do I have a second?

- Second.

- Second from Trustee Holton, and any discussion? Hearing none, all in favor say yes.

- Yes.

- Any opposed? Nay, good evening, everyone. Thank you.

- Nice job.