

Johnson County Community College Board of Trustees Meeting

February 17th, 2022

5 p.m.

Transcript of Meeting

- Good evening, welcome to the February 17th, 2022 Johnson County Community College Board of Trustees meeting. I am Lee Cross, and tonight I'm gonna start the meeting by going through the roll. It appears that we have everyone. It appears we have everyone, is that right? All trustees are present. And then we're gonna move into awards and recognitions. Mr. President, I think Mr. Hayes, Caleb Hayes, is he present here tonight? No, he's not.

- No, he's not. However, I have had the opportunity to spend some time with Caleb and with all of the changes that have happened today, he is not able to be with us. However, if you'll give me just a moment here to share my screen, he's a fine young man, and I would love to, give me a second here, there we go. So this is Caleb Hayes, and Caleb is a student originally from Independence, Kansas, and he's thrilled to be a student here. He graduated with honors from high school and with a number of college credits from Independence Community College. And as he thought about his degree path and his career interests, he thought that his best school of choice was Johnson County Community College. He plans to, after being with us, transferring to UMKC after he graduates, to earn a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration with a focus on Health Administration. And when we, when he told us, hey, couldn't be here tonight, last minute changes. You know, he had some things he wanted to share, but maybe a couple other things about him. He's incredibly active on campus. He loves soccer. He loves theater, Quiz Bowl. He's the Volleyball Club president, a member of our Quiz Bowl team and participates in the Gender Sexuality Alliance. And he's just such a neat young man and just was a pleasure to get to know him a little bit. And I'm sorry he couldn't be here tonight. Here's what he wanted to say specifically, Bill. He wanted to thank Anne Turney for giving her the opportunity to be here with you tonight, even though now he's not here with us. Appreciates the fact that the meeting is going on regardless of the inclement weather, and that we're able to have the technology and the ability to participate virtually. It is a college that is known for its ability to make successful contingency plans. And I'll embellish it here a little bit, go with the flow, if I were to paraphrase what he's saying. It's one of the best institutions, Johnson County Community College, one of the best institutions across the nation. And he believes that that shows through our faculty, our staff, our students, and the multitude of resources that we have available to support students, students of all backgrounds. Coming from a small town in Southeast Kansas, he was looking for a school that would give him new perspective while also not being too far or too big for comfort. And JCCC makes an effort to provide a safe, inclusive, and effective environment in order to mold its students into success and to create that opportunity for success in the next steps of life. Again, he says, thank you for all of this opportunity. If there's ever an opportunity that comes about for him, for you all to meet in person, he looks forward to that day. Ladies and gentlemen, trustees. This is a bit about Caleb Hayes. All right.

- Thank you, Mr. President, and thank you Caleb, for coming to school here at Johnson County Community College and all of our students, we appreciate. Next item on our agenda is 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 will be one open forum period during each regularly scheduled board meeting. Comments are limited up to five minutes unless a significant number of people plan to speak. In that instance, the chair may limit a person's comments to less than five minutes. In order to be recognized, individuals must register at the door at each board meeting prior to the open forum agenda. When addressing the board, registered speakers are asked to remain at the podium and should be respectful and civil and are encouraged to address individual personnel and student matters directly with the appropriate college department. As a practice, the college does not respond in this setting when the matter concerns personnel or student issues or matters that are being addressed through our established grievance or suggestion process or are otherwise the subject of the review by the college or board. And I also believe the Zoom registration for each meeting is 5:00 pm the night before. Is that right, Mr. President?

- That is correct for the Zoom option. And it's 15 minutes before the start of the meeting when in person.

- Yes, sir, and so we've had a Zoom component to my memory since at least the beginning of the pandemic. And so 5:00 pm the day before has always been the Zoom registration deadline, and we are observing that here now. To my knowledge, there are no registered speakers for the open forum section for tonight's board agenda. And we will now move into board reports beginning with the Student Center Report by Shelby Winter.

- Awesome, currently, Student Senate is working through details for elections for executive board positions next year, and senators. We're utilizing technology to track attendance, and we have multiple programming events for the semester. Here's some specific updates. The Student Senate will combine the first meeting of every month with Inter-Club to expand the visibility of senators to clubs, organizations, and student leaders. The majority of general assembly, GA meetings are in MTC 107, but twice over the semester, it will be held in MTC 234. The first combined meeting was held on February 4th with over 20 clubs in attendance. And at last Friday's GA, Dr. Weber, Mr. Neal, and Miss Lierz presented tuition updates. During the GA held this past Friday as well. We approved a club called URGE led by Andrea Basalo. URGE stands for Unite for Reproductive & Gender Equity. So I'm excited about that. And then we did have one funding request that was approved a hundred percent for Model UN, for their New York conference. As for upcoming events, next Wednesday, February 23rd, BSU will be hosting a Black-Owned Business Expo in the COM Atrium from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. And Tressie Raton will be a keynote speaker at the event. On Monday, February 28th, Luna and BSU will be hosting a Redlining tour of Kansas City. And then on Thursday, March 3rd, at 2 pm in the CoLab, Student Senate is

partnering with the Advanced Video Production Course on an event focusing on mental health awareness and resources on campus.

- When is that event again for the mental health awareness?

- The mental health awareness event will be happening Thursday, March 3rd, at 2:00 pm in the CoLab, sorry, are there any questions?

- Shelby, I'm sorry, yes, I didn't realize you were completed. Are there any questions for Shelby? I see Trustee Koesten, if I missed anybody, I apologize, but Trustee Koesten.

- Thanks Chair. Shelby, thank you so much for your report. Do you have a sense of what is pressing for the student population right now, as we get ready to enter into the, you know, getting close to spring break, finishing this year. What's really on the mind of our students right now? Do you have a sense of that?

- I'm not entirely sure, I can get back to you on that, but we're just.

- I'm just curious if students are talking about one particular issue more than others, are they engaged in ways that make you think that there are any issues that we need to be concerned with? What's your sense of how satisfied or dissatisfied students are with the way things are going?

- Nothing in particular, but, you know, there are always like little things that can be improved. I think we're trying to vie for more library hours currently, you know, provide like longer hours of safe study spaces for students, especially during finals week. But, you know, we're very excited for the spring semester and I know it'll go by so quickly.

- Very good, thank you so much for your report.

- Any other questions? Trustee, Former Chair Musil.

- Thank you, Chair Cross. Shelby, yesterday, College Council, we heard from ASTA about the presentation you referenced and your remarks were, I think Rachel Lierz and Randy Weber and someone else I forgot

presented to the Student Senate about, at least the executive committee, about the proposed tuition increases that we're going to talk about later in the meeting. I just wondered if there was a sense from your students, from you and your other students, as to an understanding of why those might be necessary or what students were thinking from the Student Senate leadership position, thank you.

- Yeah, I do recall the presentation from Dr. Weber, Mr. Neal and Miss Lierz. They basically just went over, you know, certain data and like statistics from proceeding years and just explained very like in a very clear manner on tuition updates and their proposed changes on that. So any questions that came from students and stuff were answered and, yeah.

- Thank you.

- Thank you, Mr. Trustee Musil. Shelby, and any other questions for Shelby? I'm looking, I do not see anything. Shelby, thank you very much for being present again. And thank you as always. The next item on our.

- Thank you, Shelby.

- Go ahead, sorry.

- I just said thank you, Shelby.

- Oh, you're welcome. The next item on our agenda is by some guy named Dick Carter, our College Lobbyist.

- Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Things are a little crazy right now, so much so that in an effort to even get updates out to the Board of Trustees, I realized when I pulled my report this afternoon to make a few notes, that you got double report, because you got a portion of the report from last month, as well as this month. So the second part's for free, and you can just use that to line the birdcage or whatever you may do with it. Even now, right now, I've got three streaming hearings up on the monitor to my left. As legislative committees continue to work into the evening and produce bills from their committees for what we anticipate will be a busy turnaround week next week. Each session has its own flavor. And this one is definitely one for the history books. Over the past couple of weeks, we've seen a congressional map vetoed, a congressional map overridden, a couple of lawsuits filed on said congressional map. hearings mandating requirements for public schools under the auspices of transparency that are already

in place. Secretary of State badgered over alleged voter fraud, but no proof of fraud, hearings to limit or destroy renewable energy efforts, votes on bills to allow off-label prescriptions and hold harmless any provider that might write such a scrip committee assignments and leadership posts for multiple senators pulled or juggled in ways that I've not seen in the 30 years that I've been participating in government affairs. We had another legislative member get pulled over for a DUI, an additional review of Board of Regents appointees. I've left out many of the other items for the sake of brevity. And you probably are smiling on the inside, but that's what we're dealing with right now in Topeka. And I wanted you to have a sense of what the environment looks like over here, because it really does impact everything else that goes on. And it just lets you know how folks that you send over to Topeka are using their time in the Capitol. On January 27th, KACCT held a breakfast in the Capitol, Dr. Bowne, Kate Allen, Trustees Ingram and Rattan all traveled to Topeka for that event. And then we used some of that time a little bit later in the day to visit with some legislators. The highly visible APEX Bill, which is an economic development and Senate bill passed both the House and Senate. It was reworked considerably in the House. The Senate adopted the changes that the House made, the governor signed it. And we'll see what happens from this point on. Kansas is one of two states now vying for this major economic development project. And certainly would probably have an impact for us on the JCCC campus. Let's take a look at where some of the higher education bills are right now. Senate Bill 215 is the Motorcycle Training Driver Education Truck Driver Training Bill. JCCC testified on this bill on January 27th, Jimmy Bowie, who heads up these programs for the college really did an excellent job as a representative for the college. And we requested an amendment in that hearing, one that would allow us to draw down available dollars from the Highway Transportation Safety Fund, but presently KSDE, the Department of Education has our driver education program classified as a commercial program, making us not eligible to do so. And so we've requested an amendment that has been included in the bill, but the bill has not been worked as of yet. We anticipate that the Senate Education Committee will work that bill tomorrow. Senate Bill 340 is the Kansas Promise Act Trailer Bill. It's the cleanup bill that I've talked about in the past. That bill was worked very quickly when the legislature got together earlier in January. That bill has been sitting on general orders and remains on the calendar. And we anticipate that it will be worked when the legislature begins to tackle all of the bills on their list to move them from one house of the origin to the other. Senate Bill 453 is a bill to address nursing shortages as well as additional issues at adult home care facilities. The college had a voice in the development of the bill. Most visibly the bill would allow courses such as CNA programs to be taught by LPNs where currently an RN is required to teach those courses. That bill had a hearing in the Senate Public Health and Welfare on Tuesday of this week. It awaits action by the committee. And so we'll see if that happens tomorrow or Monday or Tuesday of next week, committees are still meeting. This has been Higher Education Budget Week, KACCT delivered the budget presentations like they do annually in the respective Senate and House Budget Committees, that happened today actually. The total request for the community college system is around 203 million, which includes governor's budget enhancements of about 24.5 million for fiscal year '23. The system is also requesting access to the 195 million in Challenge Grants overseen at the Kansas Department of Commerce. Currently state universities can participate in applying for those grants, but community colleges, technical schools, colleges cannot. And so we're seeking a proviso that would allow the system institutions to be able to access those brands as well. Finally, the Senate Tax Committee today moved a package of tax cuts that play in the overall role of the state's economy. And so that's why I wanted to talk about them. They don't really impact the community college system per se, but when you start talking about what that looks like in the overall grand scheme of things, it all plays a role in the bigger

picture. One bill would eliminate the 1.5 mils of property tax to fund maintenance at state universities, we call that the Educational Building Fund, or EBF fund, that fund has been around for quite a while, generates multiple million dollars that is divided out on worse-case scenario needed projects at state universities. So a bill was passed out of the Tax Committee that would eliminate that fund. Another bill would raise the property tax exemption from the current first 20,000 value of residential property to 100,000 for public education. And then there was a bill that's been talked about for a number of sessions that was also passed out of the Senate Tax Committee this morning, that would create a sales tax holiday for back-to-school purchases. So the total cost of all three of those bills to the state revenue stream would be about 221 million. With the types of surpluses that we have on hand right now, and the way those are being looked at by the budget committees, probably not a large number, but when you start talking about how we impact property tax and the mil calculation rate, again, that all plays into the bigger picture down the road for what we might be looking at as far as how we continue to abide by Senate Bill 13, which was passed last year, which creates zero or revenue-neutral budgets for local governing bodies. Next week begins the process for turnaround week. That means committees, actually committees will meet Monday and Tuesday, but committees then don't meet for the remainder of the week and legislators will be on their respective floor. So on the Senate or in the House, working to move bills out of the house of origin by the February 24th deadline. Mr. Chair, that was a lot, it was fast, but that's kind of what's going on in Topeka right now. And it's a lot to handle.

- Yeah, thank you, Mr. Carter, we're glad you're there. Thank you for allowing my humor. Are there any questions for Mr. Carter? I can't, I don't see any, I have.

- I see two, I see Trustee Smith-Everett and Trustee Musil so far.

- I will go with Trustee Musil first.

- Oh, Laura beat me, but I couldn't find, I couldn't find my mute button. My mouse was jumping around. Dick on the, I read with some interest, the effort to raise the floor before the 20 mil, 20 mils of state levy applies to properties to fund K-12 education. And I think it's a, you can confirm for me what the exemption is now. Is it 20,000?

- It is 20,000, it's the first, it's the first 20,000.

- So you pay no property taxes to K-12 education to the state for the first \$20,000 in your assessed value.

- Correct.

- And they would raise that to a hundred thousand in the name of property tax relief. I wonder if anybody did an analysis of how much that shifts the burden to Johnson County taxpayers from the rest of the state. And I think our obvious effort, I think Johnson County has always supported K-12 public funding, and I do too, but this seems to me another way where that burden is shifted more so to Johnson County taxpayers than the rest of the state, because a hundred thousand dollars in assessed value on a home eliminates 90% of the homes, I would guess, in the rest of Kansas, including a bunch in Johnson County. But was there any discussion about that impact and the shift in the tax burden?

- Trustee Musil, I don't recall any specific conversation regarding that shift. We do know that the overall amount for changing from the first 20,000 to the first 100,000 is about 147 million. So again, you can take a look at home values across different areas of the state and probably get a pretty good idea of what that looks like. You certainly are gonna exempt quite a few homes in Johnson County that are a part of that \$147 million cost to the state revenue stream.

- Let me make sure I'm clear, in that you note, is it a hundred thousand in appraised value or a hundred thousand in assessed value? Because a home that's worth \$100,000 is assessed that 11 1/2%. And you can get back to me on that later.

- Yeah, I'll have to get back to you on that, just so I'm sure.

- A big difference, but I think when we talk about property tax burdens in Johnson County, that may end up not being the savior that some folks think it is as far as reducing property tax burden. Thank you.

- Good questions, I too would be interested in the answer that Mr. Carter, thank you, Trustee Musil. Trustee Smith-Everett.

- Thank you to Mr. Chairman. Dick, I just wanted to thank you again for being there and for making sense out of the madness, I feel like I'm probably more plugged in than the average Joe, and even I can't make as much sense out of it as you do each month, particularly in these really intense months. So I appreciate your reports being as succinct and clear as possible, both when you're presenting to us, but also your written reports were, which often I flag and go back and review after hearing you sort of give the anecdotal things that fill in the pieces. So thank you so much. As we've mentioned multiple times an election year, and some of the crazy things that can happen in election year seem to be coming true, so hang in there and we appreciate you.

- Thank you.

- Trustee, thank you, Trustee Smith-Everett. Trustee Ingram, Vice-Chair Ingram.

- Now two years ago, I did not know how to raise my hand on this. So I just want you all to know how much I have improved my skills.

- Thank you for that.

- And that's serious, I'm really serious. You mentioned the \$100,000 appraised versus assessed. I know Greg wanted that information and then Chair Cross just indicated that he would like it as well, but I'm assuming that all of us will receive that 'cause that's really important information. And I appreciate, as was mentioned, not only your expertise but your ability to convey it to us. So ditto, ditto, ditto, thanks so much, Dick.

- [Dick] Thank you.

- Any other questions, I have a few things for Mr. Carter, but any other questions from the trustees? Seeing none, Mr. Carter, Carl Ice, he's President and former President of BNSF. He passed with a recommendation, correct?

- So the recommendations that came out of the Senate Education Committee are a vote for approval of Regent Ice and a vote of no recommendation, but forwarding the names onto the Senate for confirmation of Regents Lane and Winter.

- So have they been approved?

- They are on the list. There is no time limit, I believe, on how the Senate can take up approval of governor's appointees. My understanding from just some of the hall talk and listening to those that kinda know where things are at, I think that everyone will be confirmed. It may not be 40 to zero votes on all of the appointees, but I'm getting the sense that they will pass the Senate test overall once they come up for a vote.

- Winter was my State Senator growing up in Lawrence and he'd love to argue with my mother. And I think he's a fair man, and I just, I was kinda stunned at that. Were there any reasons why they gave to not recommend, any reason why they didn't recommend?

- You know, that's difficult for me to say, I do know that the Senate Confirmation Committee met, the confirmation oversight committee met over the summer and all three of those appointees had gone through that process and were on the Senate calendar. It has happened before where conferees, especially as it relates to the Board of Tax Appeals, those conferees were vetted multiple times, sometimes by different committees. So it's not an uncommon process. I don't know what the overall reasoning was.

- No, thank you. Next on, I think your second page here, Secretary of State Scott Schwab, that's, he used to be in the State House from Johnson County. That's Scott Schwab?

- He was the Speaker Pro Tem from Olathe. I think he actually lives in Overland Park now.

- Yes, I mean, he's a frankly a conservative Republican, right?

- He is.

- Yeah, I just wanted to make sure we're talking about the same. The governor has these surpluses, my final question. She's gonna eliminate the sales tax on food and the \$4 fee on vehicle registration renewals. Do we have any plan for revenue enhancements since we're eliminating those sources?

- So those are proposed items for legislative consideration, that doesn't mean that they'll actually take place. She also included \$250 rebate to every tax filer. So the food sales tax has about a \$450 million price tag. The rebate to tax filers has about a \$400 million price tag. There's a number of items, Mr. Chair, that are included in the governor's budget with regard to using some of the surplus budget items. One of them will be some KPERS Investment. And the other one will be using several hundred million dollars to buy down some bonded indebtedness that ends up saving the state a few hundred million in interest payments. So it just depends on how all those pieces parse out in the budget process. Again, the House and the Senate are both going through their overall agency budgeting process right now. And so it's hard to say, it's hard to give you a really good answer or direction on where we think those things are ultimately going. Early in the session, before the session, food sales tax was like, that was the topic to talk about. Right now, it's kind of on the back burner.

- Well, we certainly thank you for your work and the time it takes to pay attention over there. So thank you, Mr. Carter, any other questions for Mr. Carter? Seeing none, our next, thank you, Mr. Carter. Our next presenter will be President of the Faculty Association, Dr. James Leiker, Jim?

- Good evening and happy snow day. Well, tonight I have two bits of good news followed by few items of minor concern. First, a happy story. Many years ago, one of our math professors, Christopher Imm did a good deed for a friend in graduate school. That friend has since gone on to establish a successful company. And recently reached out to ask about ways to return the favor. Instead of suggesting a lake house in New Hampshire, which is what I would've done, Chris recommended a \$100,000 donation to the JCCC Foundation. That amount will fund the Chris Imm STEM Scholarship. Name was decided by the donor, which will distribute five \$1,000 scholarships every year in perpetuity. It will be awarded to students declaring a STEM major enrolled in 12 or more credit hours with a GPA of 3.0 or higher with preference to math majors and secondary preference to veterans. If you know Chris at all, you know there are two things about him. One is that he doesn't like to talk about anything other than math and two, he doesn't like to draw attention to himself. He's the very picture of humility. So it's not surprising none of us knew anything about this until it was announced at the Foundation Board a couple of weeks ago. With his permission, I am outing him here. So thank you, Professor Imm, both to you and to your benefactor. Second, you heard at the last Committee of the Whole, about the college's efforts to address mental health. More and more students are reporting overwhelming anxiety. Some of which is evident by our early alerts going up 47% since 2019. As these rates climb, professors increasingly find themselves escorting students in crisis to our Counseling Center, where because of demand, they sometimes have to wait before seeing someone. Jessica Garcia and her colleagues in counseling have set up a waiting room, a calming room, really, which should be open when the college reopens tomorrow, I believe. This was done with the help and advice of students themselves from Professor Darla Green's Interior Design Classes. This is an example of faculty working across disciplines and across branches for the greater good. If you as a board, want to understand this problem in a way that gets beyond the data, I encourage you to talk directly with our counseling faculty. It's in their offices where the real picture emerges, even more so than in classroom, in the classrooms of instructional faculty like myself. Excuse me. Well, two weeks ago on February 2nd, the college had a snow day. The first of at least two this month, hopefully no more than two. I remember seeing Dr. Bowne in the food court the day before we chatted about the weather. And I offered him sympathy in advance because I knew no matter what decision was made regarding campus closure, someone was going to be unhappy. And that prediction was accurate. Faculty leadership received a flurry of messages during the closure day, asking why virtual instruction was expected to stop when we've been teaching from home during a pandemic for the last two years. Faculty who teach synchronized hybrid classes, which were scheduled to meet online that Wednesday wondered why the entire semester needed to be reworked. And in one case, a guest lecture was even canceled for the benefit of students who enrolled in classes with no intention of coming to campus anyway. When the closure was announced, some of the messages sent by deans were interpreted to mean that even asynchronous online classes could not meet, which we've learned since was not true. This begs the question of what being closed actually means. Instruction is never closed. Most of us grade, answer emails, hold meetings, and work in Canvas no matter what's happening with campus facilities, even if we're off contract or at three in the morning. These concerns were raised, and I think addressed effectively by Dr. McCloud at Monday's meeting of the Academic Branch Council.

Between that and the ABC summation, which Dr. Tai Edwards sent afterwards, we should be in better shape going forward. Today for instance, there was no repetition of that earlier confusion of two weeks ago. Honestly, I think confusion is inevitable if you don't have careful and proactive communication. We do that well externally, not always internally. Whenever a blanket policy is issued that affects instructor's own policies as laid out in their syllabi, there's going to be a quick scramble for clarity. I'm sure there's a good reason for the closed means closed policy changing as it did, yet it speaks to a need for improved shared governance when faculty don't know what that reason is. And if we don't know, then students don't either because typically we're the ones explaining it to them. Moving on, the Faculty Association and its affiliate, the KNEA, are gearing up for two statewide conferences, one to be held in Topeka in April, and another next month, specifically for higher ed. Now like Mr. Carter, we're following conversations in the legislature rather closely, or at least as close as we can. Those conversations primarily concern K-12, however, one particular item, House Bill 2662 has caught the FA's attention. This is the Parent's Bill of Rights and Transparency Act. As I read it, the bill attempts to expand the authority of parents regarding their children's education, children being defined as anyone below age 18. Without wading into the arguments my K-12 partners are making in defense of their practices, this might affect colleges like JCCC due to our high proportion of College Now students. I have fielded questions the last few days, if this would collide with FERPA, the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, or with basic expectations of classroom autonomy on which we depend. If a high school student, for instance, were to enroll in a class where human sexuality is the topic, or in one of our history classes where the sexual revolution's relevance for LGBTQ rights is being studied, where do state laws regarding parental rights and federal laws regarding student privacy intersect? Where does one stop and the other begin? I know this is all speculative until the session is over, but like with campus closures, we're going to need some guidance as the landscape changes. We're going to need support too. This board historically has embraced local control. I encourage you to continue that tradition because what you call local control, we call academic freedom. FA and KNEA take seriously any attack upon it. Finally, like every public institution, I'm sure JCCC is assessing its mandatory mask policy. Last month, Trustee Cross asked if I could provide a list of faculty's COVID stories. Sorry, Lee, I really can't because there are way too many to account for. I could talk about the professor who in spring 2020 had lousy internet service at her home and drove to the campus parking lot to teach classes from her car. I could talk about how we've all become quasi-experts on FERPA and its application for hybrid classes, which includes telling students that there are things they can't do in a Zoom class just because they're at home, like be intoxicated or be undressed. And as I've already talked about repeatedly, the effects of the pandemic on testing and academic integrity are considerable. And we discussed some of this yesterday at the College Council. Despite all of that, COVID has forced us to be more flexible, and basically I think more efficient in terms of instruction and counseling. Overall, I speak for many colleagues who believe college policies have done a superior job of keeping us safe. My advice, don't blow that by going mask-optional too early. We're all eager to declare an end to this, but we lose more than we gain if it happens prematurely. And Chair Cross, that concludes my update.

- Thank you, Mr. President, any questions for Professor Leiker? I think Trustee Ingram, and then Trustee Smith-Everett.

- Trustee Ingram, you didn't want to speak?

- No, my misunderstanding, Laura.

- That's okay, she waved right as you asked her. Again, no comments per se. I just wanna thank Jim for his report. I especially appreciate you bringing up how the Parent's Bill of Rights could affect JCCC. I, of course, in my professional life have been paying close attention to that. And I had not thought about the implications for our dual-enrolled students and appreciate your perspective on that, thank you.

- Jim, thank you so much. While serving in a political capacity and having a penchant for anecdotal evidence, I just was curious to have stories and to be able to share what our faculty have gone through during this time. And so I appreciate you, and I didn't mean to overwhelm you, but thank you.

- It's been an overwhelming time, you can't help it, and so.

- Thank you for your report. Any other questions for Professor Leiker? Seeing none, next we have.

- I think Nancy has a hand up now, Lee, sorry.

- Excuse me, there it is.

- No, and I do, and I apologize for the hand up hand down. I wasn't really sure when I wanted to ask the question because it's not totally directed at Professor Leiker, for which I apologize, but you did bring up the College Council. And I don't necessarily see the College Council on our agenda and board reports. Will that be something that we will have in the future? Okay, I mean, I realize you just met, but I just thought, I just wondered.

- Yeah, I think that's all part of, Trustee Ingram, what we're talking about is how do we report out on shared governance?

- Okay.

- You know, will we have each of the shared governance structures report out, will we figure out how to do it into one report and so forth, so we're working through that.

- Okay, I apologize, I just thought ah, and it was just.

- No, it's a great question, great question.

- All right, thank you, thank you.

- And if there's no other questions, thank you again, Professor Leiker, the next item we have is Johnson County Education Research Triangle by Former Chair, Trustee Musil.

- Thank you, Chair Cross. We have not had a meeting and I'm not yet listed on the website, Lee, you still up there. So we're working on the transition, but the next meeting is April 27th at the K-State, Olathe Campus. I'll just remind everybody that this is the result of a 2008 election by the voters of Johnson County that agreed to tax themselves one eighth of a cent in sales taxes to be split between the KU Cancer Center, KU Edwards Campus and K-State Olathe. The website if you wanna learn more about it is www.jocotriangle.org, I think it's dot org. I just, I wrote dot com, and I think it's dot org, so.

- I think it's dot org.

- I will have a report in the May meeting, and I do not have the numbers from last month's sales tax receipts.

- Yeah, that may be my fault, I'm sorry, Mr. Trustee. I know revenues have been consistently up and I apologize for not sending that to you.

- [Greg] Thank you.

- Thank you for your report. The next item we have is from the Johnson County Community College Foundation. Trustee Dawn Rattan.

- Mr. Chair?

- [Lee] Yes.

- I believe I was next on there with Kansas Association of Community College Trustees. Do you want me to go ahead and give that report?

- I apologize, yes, I'm blind in one eye and I missed that.

- Nope, you were just fine. Just thought I would bring that to your attention. Thank you very much. Our next meeting is April 1st and it will be following the PTK Luncheon, which is going to be held in Junction City this year. I believe the invitation was provided to all the trustees and we have a couple of people who will be attending that day. And I was going to talk a little bit about the welcome, the mention that Dick Carter gave regarding the event that we had on January 27th at the State House where a number of Trustees and Presidents, I think there were 14 presidents from across the state who attended that morning, and we welcomed our legislators with coffee and donuts. It was the first time we'd ever done that. It has been deemed very successful, so we do plan to do that again next year, but it just gave everyone the opportunity to visit a little bit. We also had a welcome from the Lieutenant Governor, which was kind of a surprise to everyone, but we were able to be in the same room with him. And people had an opportunity to visit very briefly with him as well. I would also like to report a few of our Presidents and Trustees from across the state attended the Legislative Summit, which was held the first week of February. And we've had some good feedback from that. Let me see here. And let me go back, I apologize because I want to recognize, and I think Dick did this as well, but in Topeka, the morning of the 27th, we had Dawn Rattan, we had Kate Allen, Dick Carter, and Dr. Bowne. So Trustee Rattan, we were really glad that you were able to attend that day. So thank you for being there. Last Friday, our Executive Director of KACCT, Heather had a Zoom meeting with Chair Cross, myself, Joy Koesten in her new role as the liaison to KACCT. She reviewed a number of items along with Dr. Bowne that was telling us she just brought us up to speed on what was going on, particularly with the state budget and how those affect the Kansas Community Colleges. She also referenced specific bills similar to what Dick Carter shared earlier this evening with us, that she is involved in as the session continues, but Dick gave a great assessment. I talk to Heather on a pretty routine basis and she continues to have constant updates throughout the session. So I wanna reiterate what Dick Carter had to say about that. I think that truly does conclude my report, but we were a little busier than usual with KACCT obligations. So it's been a good month for us.

- Thank you, Trustee, Vice-Chair Ingram. I apologize for missing you, in my nervousness, I crossed off E and I should have called on E.

- It is not a problem whatsoever.

- I see Trustee Musil has a question.

- I think it would simply be worthwhile to note that three of us, along with Dr. Bowne and Kate Allen were able to attend the ACCT Legislative Summit in Washington last week, a little over a week ago. And I think importantly, Dawn and Joy attended the New Trustee Orientation, which is a sacrifice of an all day Sunday to kind of get up to speed on things from a National Association level. And then we were able to meet with personally with our two US Senators and by Zoom with Congresswoman Sharice Davids to talk about community college issues. And so that's all I wanted to say was note that we did that, appreciate Kate setting that up and Dr. Bowne being with us, but then would love to hear from Dawn and enjoy about that experience because they put in a lot of time.

- That's a good idea, thank you, Mr. Musil. Trustee Rattan.

- Yes, I will say that I've spent a lot of time with the ACCT, either on the National Legislative level or in Kansas, so it's been a key part of my onboarding over the last month. As I told Dr. Bowne and Chairman Musil, or Trustee Musil, this orientation that the college has set up for us has been very, very good. When we went to the New Trustee Orientation, all they really did was reinforce what the college has taught us about our roles on a local level. So kudos to all those who have been involved from the staff and have come to see us during orientation to get us up to speed, it's been very, very good, and we really appreciate it as new trustees. I'll continue on with the Foundation report. We had a couple of recent meetings. We had the Investment Committee Meeting, that was on January the 25th, this is a quarterly meeting in which the Foundation's Investment Committee reviews the Foundation's investment portfolio performance from the previous quarter. And then the Board of Directors had their Winter Board Meeting on Wednesday, January the 26th. Our upcoming meetings and events are a Foundation Member Social. That's at 4:30 pm on Thursday, January the 24th. It's gonna be in JCCC's new Academic Resource Center located in the first floor of the library. Foundation members will have the opportunity to hear from leaders of this area, as well as students who've benefited from the great resources available in this new Student Center Space. And then the Executive Committee will meet next Tuesday. We'll meet next on Tuesday, March 22nd. Here's a spotlight on a community partnership. One of our goals is to collaborate with community partners to help ensure that our students have the financial support they need to be successful at the college. The Foundation is excited to highlight a recent community partnership. So on February the 26th, the Foundation will host a free benefit concert in the Midwest Trust Center's Polsky Theater. This is gonna benefit a new scholarship for our student veterans. In the fall of 2021, the Foundation began working with members of the local Korean American community. Multiple generous individual gifts were made to the Foundation in honor of Korean War Veterans to establish a new scholarship at JCCC. These discussions involved the idea of a benefit concert featuring multiple local classical musicians with proceeds benefiting this new scholarship. We invite everyone to join us. Again, it's on Saturday, February the 26th at 3:00 pm for the honoring Korean War

Veterans Scholarship Benefit Concert. For more details, you can go to the Midwest Trust Center website and click on upcoming events tab. And then the Foundation is proud to help facilitate this important community collaboration as well as others like it, creating new opportunities for our students. Thank you.

- Thank you, Trustee Rattan. And thank you for your service there on the Foundation. Trustee Koesten, I think I skipped you about if you wanted to add anything about the trip to DC with ACCT?

- Thanks, thanks a lot Chair Cross, and thank you everyone for their reports. I thought the Conference trip was really a marvelous way for us to spend some time together, getting to know each other a little bit better, but also roaming around Washington DC, learning about some of the issues that really are impacting community colleges at a national level. So it was really wonderful. We had a lot of great presentations and speakers, but I think probably the most interesting part for me was visiting our representatives in the State Capitol. So I was very pleased that both senators were gracious and thoughtful about how they listened to our concerns and our hopes for the colleges. And also our Congresswoman was also very receptive to our meetings. So it was just really a very positive experience all around. And I wanna thank Dr. Bowne and the college for helping us get there.

- Thank you Trustee Koesten. Trustee Smith-Everett, did you have a, did you want to say something?

- Yes, thank you. I wanted to comment about the Foundation report, but I will jump back about the ACCT Legislative Summit. I just want to say I have very fond memories of that. That was my first event to go to as a new trustee. It is such a great way to immerse yourself in the world of trustees and community college boards, and really understand, like you both said the national perspective on issues. I just want to say how very jealous I am that you had a keynote speaker, the First Lady of the United States, we did not have such a great keynote speaker. And then we also did not have either Senator available the day we went. So I just want to put in the bid right now. I've committed to going every other year. So I will go back next year and I need one of you lucky charms to come back so that I can also meet our senators. We were greeted by our gracious Representative, but not our Senator. So I'm looking to get those stamps on my DC postcard. I don't know, I'm just saying. If I could just jump back from the Foundation report for just a minute?

- [Lee] Of course.

- As the other member, thank you. I just wanted to say that our Foundation president it's president, right, do I have the title right? I don't want to mess up the title.

- You talking about Rob?

- [Laura] Yes.

- Executive director.

- Thank you, I knew it wasn't president, okay. Executive Director will be leaving us this next month. And I just wanted to thank him for his commitment. And he was instrumental in onboarding me as a new trustee to the Foundation and the work that you all do. They're incredible and really important asset. I wish him the best as he heads back to Olathe Health, I believe, or whatever he's doing. And we just want to thank him so much for his commitment to our Foundation, our students, and our community college, it has been an immeasurable resource and leadership that we appreciate. So that concludes my comments. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

- You're welcome, thank you Trustee Smith-Everett. Let me disaggregate this and go back. Any other questions for Trustee Ingram at the KACCT Report? Seeing none for Trustee Ingram at KACCT. And any questions for Trustee Rattan and her report on the foundation? Any other questions? I see none, so now I'm gonna move onto our next item. The committee reports and recommendations. The Collegial Steering did not meet. Is that right, Trustee Ingram?

- Correct.

- Okay, and so that leads us to the Committee of the Whole report. I was gonna have Trustee Hamill give the Committee of the Whole report. I'm just kidding, I'll do it. The Committee of the Whole met on January 31st, 2022, the Committee of the Whole was held by Zoom webinar format at 8:30 am on Monday the 31st. Dr. Bowne, myself, Trustees Ingram, Smith-Everett, Greg Musil, Joy Koesten, and Dawn Rattan all attended the meeting. Trustee Hamill was absent. We had a presentation provided by Randy Weber and Mickey McCloud, Dr. Randy Weber and Mickey McCloud on Strategic Planning and Student Success. It was an update regarding the Strategic Planning goal. One, support learners in achieving their educational goals. Trustees were provided a link to the spring PLD Session detailing team's work on the goal during the fall semester and Randy and Mickey provided the baseline metrics for the goal and shared how the work will impact outcomes. We had a student mental health update provided by Alex Wells Anne Turney and David Krug presented about mental health at JCCC. Statistics for the state and county, excuse me, the college were given to show the level of need for mental health services at the college. Current Student Support Services were discussed, counselors, Student Assistant Program, calming room and partnership with the Johnson County Mental Health. Thanks in part to Trustee Ingram were for a licensed clinician on campus that were discussed as support services for students. Student life and student wellness programming was presented as both active and passive

approaches for student mental health wellness along with the examples of programs in the past year. A brief overview of what other schools have for mental health and wellness programs along with systems they have in place were provided. This was followed as to requests to create a Mental Health and Wellness Advisory Board, create student wellness advocates, and investigate, create, hire a coordinator for mental health initiatives across our campus. Questions in discussion included further data analysis, establishing a baseline for mental health currently on campus, utilizing current departments for mental health and furthering the development of these recommendations. We do have a few recommendations for action. And I think if I may, Mr. President, I'm going to for the moment pass on the FY 23 tuition and fee presentation and discussion and go through first, the academic planning software and the Microsoft reseller and support services just to get those out of the way, if we can, as a matter of course in business, and then come back to something, I think that'll probably take the bulk of our time. So we do have an RFP request to establish a contract for academic planning software. The software technology will allow students and faculty and staff to work together to dynamically create educational plans that allow students to graduate on time or transfer into four year, to a four year institution as seamlessly as possible. And so these recommendations are in your board packets at pages three and four, I guess I'll ask, do we have any questions on those two recommendations for actions? Seeing none, and Trustee Musil or somebody could tell me if I'm doing this inappropriately, but I thought it best just to do it this way and in turn. So it is the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole that the Board of Trustees accept the recommendation of the college administration to approve the proposal from Stellic, for the academic planning software, for a base of \$120,000 and a total estimated expenditure of \$517,746, including all renewal options through 2027. Do I have a motion for this recommendation, please?

- I would move for that.

- [Laura] Second.

- Okay, having a motion and a second. Is there any discussion on this proposal? Seeing none, all the, are the, sorry, you touched your hair Trustee Koesten.

- I was scratching.

- Okay. All those in favor, please say aye.

- [All] Aye.

- [Dawn] Aye.

- All those opposed, please say no. The motion carries unanimously. The next item for recommendation we have is another RFP to establish a contract for an authorized Microsoft reseller, for order fulfillment of Microsoft products, the support services will include advising the college of Microsoft licensing and product information, assist with maximizing JCCC's return on the investment, that's ROI, for the college's Microsoft environment, order fulfillment, pricing strategies, Microsoft licensing, knowledge, transfer, assistance, et cetera, to benefit the college and our transactions with Microsoft. Justification and other details again are in your packet there. And so it is fellow Trustees, the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole, that the Board of Trustees accept this recommendation of the college administration to approve the proposal from Crayon Software, for the Microsoft reseller and support services for an estimated base year of \$517,789.26. And a total estimated expenditure of \$3,995,059.99, including the renewal options through 2028. And may I have a motion please for that?

- So moved.

- [Nancy] Seconded.

- It has been moved by Trustee Koesten and seconded by.

- Ingram.

- Trustee Ingram, and then I have Terri Schlicht in my ear saying who moved for the first one? I believe it was Trustee Musil, seconded by Trustee Koesten.

- Smith-Everett.

- Trustee Smith-Everett.

- That's what I have.

- Okay, thank you. So with respect to the Microsoft RFP, any discussion? Seeing none, all those in favor, please signify by saying aye.

- Yes.

- [All] Aye.

- All those opposed, please say no. And hearing none, the recommendation passes unanimously. Now that moves us to another item for recommendation that we discussed at length, I believe in both December and in January in our Committee of the Whole. And it is with respect to the academic year 2022-23 tuition and fee rates. It was a report of the Committee of the Whole, that the packet includes the analysis prepared by the college administration of tuition and fees for the 2022-2023 academic year. And the administration's recommendations is as follows that tuition and fees be raised to \$97 per credit hour for Johnson County residents, that'd be raised to \$116 per credit hour for other Kansas county residents, \$143 per credit hour for our Metro rate for our Missouri neighbors, and \$228 per credit hour for out of state, and international students. It is of course, the recommendation of the College Committee of the Whole that the Board of Trustees accept the recommendation of the college administration to adopt the tuition rates listed above for the 2022-2023 academic year. And do I have a motion for this recommendation?

- I would like to discuss.

- Right, I think procedurally.

- [Laura] Point of order.

- Yes.

- You need a motion.

- [Laura] You need a motion and a second and then we can have a discussion.

- I appreciate your request, but we need a motion first. And then I believe I ask for discussion at that point.

- Appreciate it.

- I will move for the recommendation of the administration as set forth in the packet.

- Second.

- Okay, having a motion by Trustee Musil and a second, I believe by Trustee Smith-Everett, is there any discussion now? And I think Trustee Hamill spoke first. So Mr. Trustee.

- Sure, thank you. So I talked to Andy a little bit about this here earlier, and I asked kind of approximately how much revenue are we trying to raise with this. After a little quick calculation, he came up with about 1.1 million. Does that sound right, still? Okay, it does seem like pretty much every month we're spending something around there or more than that regularly. And I think we could figure out another place to come up with the 1.1 million difference. Another thing being that the way this is broken out, the largest portion of our revenue comes from the Johnson County taxpayers through their property taxes and through rents being paid, even when you go through businesses and they're doing your shopping at these businesses, you're paying through it that way. So again, the, I believe that the Johnson County residents and students are definitely paying enough. I do not want to raise their taxes every year as we normally do. And then on top of it, go ahead and raise their tuition. I am open to raising tuition for the other rates, but I am not personally open at this point in time to raising our rates for our residents that are already paying the largest fees to our college.

- I was muted, sorry. Thank you, Trustee Hamill, any other discussion, or Trustee Hamill you would need and you and I discussed this actually briefly a couple days ago.

- Yeah, briefly.

- We would need an amended motion or some other course of action with a second. And I see that.

- Okay.

- Trustee Musil has his hand up. Mr. Trustee Musil.

- Thank you, Chair Cross. I don't disagree with Trustee Hamill that larger increases for out of county and out of district students wouldn't be something we should consider. One of the things that I heard and I

liked at the Committee of the Whole, was that an effort through retreat or otherwise to develop a tuition policy, which we've never really had with respect to, you know, what portion of our general fund should tuition constitute? How should we be positioning ourselves with respect to other community colleges in Kansas, our peer institutions, our area institutions, whether it's Kansas City Kansas Community College, or Metropolitan Community College, I would love to see us develop that type of a policy. I think at this point, given where we are in needing to get this established for the fall 2022 semester, I don't think we have much leeway to change the recommendation that's been made. It's no secret, I've been supportive of an increase in our tuition rates for several years now, partially for what Mark has recognized. Looking back to, this will be my 12th, my 11th fiscal year, that I've been part of the budgeting process, which includes setting tuition. My first year, it was \$81, it's now \$94, but it's been \$93 for Johnson County residents since 2017. So in five years we have raised tuition \$1. That hasn't come anywhere near to keeping up with inflation, and it doesn't reflect anything close to the amount of property tax dollars that have increased in that same period of time. In that same period of time, if my numbers are correct, we've increased the amount of ad valorem property taxes we've collected from 95 million to 118 million. So \$23,000,000, about a 26 or 7% increase in the property tax burden. So I think important that we are affordable and accessible. I think we easily meet those tests right now. One of the benefits of a conference like in Washington is to set up lunch with community college trustees from two Chicago area community colleges, one from Yakima, Washington, and one from Lenore, North Carolina, the president of that college, we talked about tuition rates. The lowest of any of them was \$147 a credit hour. We're at 94. So I don't think number one, I've said for a long time, I don't think it's tuition rates that are affecting our enrollment. I think it's other areas of life, whether it's single parenting, it's multiple jobs, it's transportation issues. There are increasing and still eligible resources from the federal government through Pell Grants and otherwise for our neediest students. We had the Kansas Promise Act and we've increased our private contributions from Johnson Countians to the point where we're now giving over a million and a half dollars a year in private scholarships. It was under a million dollars in 2017 when we were at \$93 a credit hour. We'll still be the lowest in the state, we'll still be the lowest in the area. I agree with Mark, I think the point is important that students pay property taxes and we get to the budget and the mil levy. I think we wanna recognize that and we'll discuss it. Who should pay is always a balancing and a judgment act. But in the time I've been on the board, the percentage of our general fund paid for by tuition has gone from 25% to 17%. It will remain at 17%. Our property tax percentage has gone from 56% to 67% and it's gonna stay at 67%. So all in all, I think this is, it's timely. I think if anybody has problems with affordability, we have ways to make that available to them, but we can't simply continue to shift the burden to the property tax payers, especially in, this is a sore point for all of us, 'cause we all want to do better. In fiscal year 2012, we were teaching 369,000 credit hours. In fiscal year 2022, we're estimating to teach 291,000 credit hours. So I think all of those things combined require us at this point to move in the direction far after all of our competitors have done to raise tuition to a still reasonable level. And then I hope in the next year we can establish a policy so we know so this and that students have some predictability in what they might pay in their second, third, or fourth year. Since we know it takes our students more than two years generally to get their degree, thank you very much.

- Thank you Mr. Musil, Trustee Musil. I think Dawn, Trustee Dawn Rattan is next.

- It's definitely very important to me that our college remains affordable and therefore accessible and that I look forward to developing a tuition policy in the near future. I did have some hesitancy in considering raising the tuition rate. As I said in our Committee of the Whole, I'd rather this be something that we staircase over two years, that we take whatever this amount is, whether it's \$3, and do it one and a half dollar, this school year and one and a half dollar for the next school year, just to soften the blow, so to speak, to our students. However, I will acknowledge that we were presented with a very compelling bar chart that showed our tuition versus other institutions and we are by far the lowest. And so I always want to be data based and that chart for me was definitely compelling. And as I spoke with Dr. Andy and spoke about my concerns about what effect this has on our already declining enrollment, he talked about his experience where enrollment does not decline as a direct result of tuition increases. And so that made me feel a little bit better along with the increases and improvements in Pell, the promise, as well as the Foundation, increased Foundation money that we have. So, you know, I can support this, but again, if I had my way, this would be done over two school years.

- Thank you, Trustee Rattan. Trustee Smith-Everett, then Trustee Hamill.

- Thank you Mr. Chairman. My comments are similar to others in that this is a tough vote to take. I am voting favor of it this time for all the reasons mentioned, I do want to say that I think Trustee Musil has now stepped in as the Trustee Cook Representative giving us the long look back historically and numbers to remind us of where we've been and where we are now. One of the things that has become apparent over the two years that I've been serving and approving each budget, is that the pie chart of how we get, how we fund our institution has really become warped over time. What its original intention was, was that the taxpayers would pay a third of the college, and that our tuition would pay the other third and that the state and federal would pay that last third. The state has not done their part, frankly, over the last about 10 years, and that's affecting us. And so then we are stuck making the hard decisions. I will reiterate what I said at Committee of the Whole, which is I am very much in favor of a tuition policy that is predictable and allows us to have this discussion regardless of election years and regardless of local political issues happening so that we don't get caught in the crosswinds of this. However, as Trustee Musil mentioned, I think that the data that is leading me towards a vote of yes on this is that our other higher ed peers raised their rates considerably over the time that we've raised it \$1. And so we are not, what we're doing is not out of sync with our partners. In fact, it is very, very conservative in comparison. And that, I also think we've got, to even out that pie chart again, when you go through the budget process as new trustees, you'll get a lot of pie charts, but one of them really is important on how we get our funding so that we even it back out to our intentions. I'll tell you there is a great book on the history of JCCC that I'm happy to pass on. But when you read that, the first couple chapters, they talk about the intention of the original trustees in funding this and how they believed that this community college would be supported over time. And it's important for me to keep up that legacy and make sure that we are well funded, not by one major group and then two secondary groups, but really evenly by all the parts that need to fund higher education. I want to just say a little more strongly than I did at the Committee of the Whole I'm going to vote in favor of this, but I will not vote in favor of another tuition raise without a policy in place for an tuition policy developed by us. So this will be my only time to vote in favor of this if we do not develop a tuition policy, which as I talked to Dr. Bowne about seemed like

something very doable that we can do. And I have faith that our staff can help us craft that so that this is a dependable, ongoing regular conversation for us. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. That concludes my comments.

- Thank you, Trustee Smith-Everett. Trustee Hamill.

- Sure, thank you. I do appreciate a lot of the comments being made and there's obviously great, great information, great facts, added to this, but I will say that we have lower tuition, and I'm very proud of that. I want to be the best, I want to offer the best at the best price we possibly can. And I believe that's been our history, and I'm pretty sure, and please correct me if I'm wrong, 'cause I was trying to find the information, I couldn't find it. But I believe back in like 2000, we were only charging \$43 a credit hour. Does anybody know if that's correct?

- Yeah, I don't know.

- Okay, so with that, I mean, we're looking at we've more than doubled our tuition over the last 20 years, if that is correct. And again, just because somebody else is doing something, isn't a great reason to change our policy because of somebody else's. If I would be willing to bet, and I haven't looked at your schools that you're referencing, but they probably don't bring in the tax revenue that Johnson County receives to balance out that that cost and tuition difference. And again, I love the way we're doing things, I want to keep it that way. And the other thing that one of the, another thing I wanna bring up is we may have lower tuition, but we're still big spenders. And the amount of money we spend per person per credit hour is just as high or higher than many of the other institutions in Kansas. And so I would like to be back where we used to be. So again, another thing we're doing, we're keep raising our taxes. We raise our tuition, even though we haven't raised our tuition that much our revenue's going up and we are doing less credit hours per year. You know, when it's being brought up and everybody agrees, we do not have a, we do not have a tuition policy. I'm looking forward to having that discussion and coming up with a plan that we can all move forward on. But we can't just say we haven't done this in the past, we're gonna kick the can and take the easy road right now because we don't have that policy in place. So I'll leave my comments at that. And thank you for my time.

- You're welcome, thank you, Trustee Hamill. And look, I, my jokes were meant for no other reason than you hadn't been speaking tonight. And I.

- Yes.

- But I was recognizing that, so there was no other intent there than that.

- You're good Lee, I appreciate it. I knew what you were getting at, I could tell some things I feel-

- You're welcome.

- Very passionate about and I just wanted to.

- No, you're good.

- Couldn't wait to get to this one to an extent.

- And this is the forum for that, so thank you for the civil manner in which you've addressed it. And we appreciate you. Trustee Ingram, then Trustee Koesten.

- Yes, and as the conversation continues, it just becomes richer and richer. And I appreciate everyone's thoughts. So I don't have a lot to contribute at this point, but I will say that part of it does go back to the conversation earlier where the intent initially was a third, a third, a third, and we are far from that today. And that's one of the things that I think a tuition policy would allow for planning. And I just want to keep that in mind too, that that's gonna be a big part of it. So it would allow not only the trustees and our fellow colleagues throughout the campus to have a plan, but also for the students and our community. So I would just add that little piece as a reminder as well, so, but I will plan to vote for the recommendation. Don't have the history at this point and probably never will of Trustee Musil, but that was one of the most difficult votes a couple of years ago when we did raise tuition. So it takes thoughtful leadership to do something like this, but I think at this point it's still a vote that I would make and support all of my other colleagues in doing so as well. So thank you.

- You're welcome, thank you, Trustee Ingram. Trustee Joy Koesten.

- Thank you, Mr. Chair. I too, I wanna make sure that I chime in a little bit on this issue there. This is never are easy to think about charging more for something that we all value and we value it for all people. We wanna make sure, we wanna make sure that everyone who comes through our doors can afford the education that they need to be successful. And I think that what boils down to for me is making sure we have a balanced approach. When I look at the data that was presented at the Committee of the Whole, it was very clear that we are lagging behind in making sure that people who do decide to come through our doors as a student, pay a competitive price for the goods that they're

receiving, it is an exchange in that respect. But I do want to think about that the putting together policies that will make this a more cohesive plan going forward and making sure that we are always thinking about how we make sure that we have other avenues that students can access to make sure that they have the funds that they need to attend our school. So I too will be supporting this recommendation.

- Thank you, Trustee Dr. Koesten. Mr. Hamill, again, Trustee Hamill, then Trustee Musil.

- I would like to offer a compromise that may or may not work, but I wanted to offer anyways, and I don't know how to offer the proposal necessarily, but I would like to propose that we accept the tuition increases for everything but the County, except that now take time to look at our taxes next month or tax rates, and then figure out the policy before we raise that tuition this year. Could I get a second?

- Is there a second for what I believe is Trustee Hamill's amended motion or substitute motion? Hearing none, Trustee Hamill, thank you for making the amendment to the motion.

- [Mark] Thank you.

- I share your concern. I have a list of things I'm gonna say, but in the tradition of the chair, including that as conducted by Trustee Musil, I'm gonna wait till the end here, but Trustee Musil.

- You're muted.

- Apologize, I am now unmuted. I'll just tell you, I, my data as the Old Man in the Sea, thank you, Trustee Smith-Everett only goes back to fiscal year '09, and our tuition and fees, and this is tuition and fees together, it was \$65. So I don't go all the way back to 2000, Mark the earliest I have is '09, the 08-09 school year at \$65.

- Then I do feel confident it was 43 in 2000 then, so.

- I wouldn't be.

- Sounds about right, frankly.

- I wouldn't be surprised. And I think the problem with your amendment, Mark, that for me is simply the timing aspect. We can't wait to get, because I learned yesterday at College Council that Fall enrollment will open on March 15th. And when the catalog is put online so people can sign up, they have to know what we're doing, so.

- No, my amendment is to do it the following year if we want to look at it, but for the next year, leave it the same one more whole year. That's what I'm proposing, sorry.

- Yeah, I just, I don't think we have, I don't think we should wait on that given the amount of time we've kept Johnson Countians protected just like we've really done for the other folks. So I think I like that the fact that I hear everybody saying that we'll put together some kind of a policy and there are lots of ways to do that. And lots of things to discuss in that retreat or otherwise, but I think we should move forward tonight on the administration's recommendation, thank you.

- Trustee Musil, a few things that they all offer here. And I appreciate Trustee Hamill and what he's attempting to do. I will frankly take some responsibility for tuition being as low as it is, and not being raised because it was something that bothered me, Trustee Hamill, for years. I think your numbers are right. I've only a few times looked at it that far back, but I know when I came on in July of '13, tuition and fees was at \$84 and moving it to 97 right now keeps it below, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics and its inflation calculator, \$84 in July of '13 would be \$101 now. So we're still below inflation for the dollar, the real dollar amount, when I came onto the board. So I too appreciate your advocacy to keep tuition and fees low, especially for County residents. I do thank Trustee Musil and the others for their recounting of everything that happened at the Board of the Committee of the Whole. I do think we need a policy, that would be useful. I think in my time, this has always been an issue with thorns, but frankly, due to our situation with Moody's, where they would like to see us diversify our revenue pool, the tax burden on our commercial and residential property holders is real. I'm not ignoring that. I do think we need a policy to better help guide us and know when we need to do this, and not have it be a political football, but I think, you know, governing is prioritizing, governing is choosing. And so at this point, we need to raise the money and we need to make this movement here as recommended by the administration. Frankly, if anything, I think it should be higher just to match inflation. I think that would be justifiable. I think as Trustee Musil has done and now many of us have done, when you sit at a table and there's fellow trustees across the country with significantly higher tuition and fee rates, it's hard to justify keeping ours so low and especially with credit hours down to less than 300,000. So I'll support this, and unless there's any other comments or questions I'm gonna call the vote and ask all those in favor to please say aye.

- [All] Aye.

- Aye.

- Aye.

- Yes, thank you. And I was the master of not always voting. So thank you for unmuting yourselves, all those opposed, please say no.

- No.

- By my tally, that is a seven to one, six to one vote. And the motion passes. The next item on our.

- Mr. Chair?

- [Lee] Yes, sir.

- If I may just ask, I wanna seek some clarification from the board around the policy that there's consistent interest in seeing developed. I've heard it mentioned, a tuition policy, but I've also heard it also be described in a broader sense around our revenue mix. Can you help me understand that please?

- Yeah, let me do this, Mr. President, perhaps just open the forum to questions, responding to President Dr. Bowne's request. I may pick on Trustee Smith-Everett, if I may. I have some ideas, I'm not trying to go to you first or catch you off guard, but what suggestions would you have, Trustee Smith-Everett?

- Yeah, thank you, Mr. Chair. I think it's important to make a tuition-specific policy. When we go through our budget process, everything that we get from the fabulous Rachel Lierz' office, and the way that they, that fabulous department gives us all the spreadsheets, all the pie charts, really walks us through it. I don't think we need to have that conversation at a separate time because we already do it in our budget process, which our three new trustees will become involved with very shortly, but haven't gone through themselves. So I think what's important that it needs to be separated out is just tuition on a regular, and I would argue every two year basis. I could hear other arguments on that and go multiple ways so that we can come to rely on having a discussion of tuition as a separate item, as it relates to our revenue, our need, our budgetary needs, and taking into account our other peers that we've discussed and has come up around when we go through the budget process, but probably should be taken separately in

conjunction with the conversation about tuition. So that was my thought or request there. And I'm happy to hear others on that.

- I have some thought, Trustee Musil, yes, sorry.

- Thank you, Chair Cross. I just think there are lots of ways to do this and it can't be separated from the rest, the overall budget of how we pay for things at this college and who pays for them. So when you're looking at the pie chart, we're gonna focus on tuition as part of that, but I just think there are a lot of questions about how you could do it in the overall budget mix, the revenue mix, how you look at your peers, what inflation is doing, what is the cost as Mark put it for credit hour per student? And I think, I really think this is a good retreat topic where we could explore all of those and see if we can come up with something where there's some consensus. But I think all of us just want to know two years from now, this is the framework in which we're going to look at tuition and it's gotta be part of the budget process because I don't think you completely separate it. And I don't know if that helps you Dr. Bowne at all, but that's kind of what I would look for.

- Thank you, Trustee Musil.

- That is helpful, and also so you know, and so we should pull it out as a reference. We do have Policy 212.02, that is a cost per credit hour policy. So we have that existing. I will shoot that out to you all in my weekly update the link to that, but we should probably start there as a starting point. And I do think this is an appropriate retreat topic.

- I agree, Trustee Musil, Mr. President, my thoughts on it very briefly would be, quite candidly. I don't know how you take the political issue out of it with respect to the mil and the monies we receive from Topeka, but at the same time, I think knowing, I think we have done this from time to time Trustee Musil, we've gone through and looked at what's the ratio that tuition should be to other revenues. And I think that would be helpful to know. And, you know, some of this is just the art of running the community college. So I know that you're in a difficult position Dr. Bowne, and I appreciate that. So I think, you know, just having some better parameters or metrics to know what's out there and when we should do it, because I think it's real and we need to raise it. And I hope that's helpful.

- Just wanted some initial clarity.

- Mr. Chair?

- Yes, Trustee Smith-Everett.

- Thank you, just to go back just a minute. Back to Trustee Musil's point. I agree that of course it's gonna be part of our budget process because it's part of the entire package of how we are funded and what we need to be able to operate. I guess what I would like to do is have it set aside at a time before we're in that budget process so that we know we get to have that discussion as a separate item and a predictable item so that when it comes back into the budget process, we have hashed out that component and then we can work on the rest, because the budget quite frankly, is quite complicated. And there's a lot to consider and a lot of discussions that kind of head us down different rabbit holes at various times. And I would like it to be, you know, a predictable time of year as well, that when we review it, we're reviewing at the same time of year, my personal preference would be before our budget cycle is in full swing, which our budget cycle's most of the year. So I understand that that's difficult.

- Thank you Trustee Smith-Everett, Trustee Hamill.

- Yeah so I, Laura Smith-Everett, I do agree with that. I would like to get this thing done quicker, you know, again, I just got on the board, but didn't feel like we thoroughly had enough time to fully discuss this and go through everything that I would like, and maybe others feel the same way. I think this policy could help. And I think adopting this policy, kind of towards Greg's point, I think you gotta look at the whole scope, the whole budget as a whole, where the dollars go to make that policy decision so that when you get to a decision on one item, you already have the policy set. The policy itself needs to be our entire budget as a whole we'll meet when we set that policy.

- Thank you, Trustee Hamill, with no other comments. A few other items here from the Committee of the Whole, we had a report regarding audit reports and the Ethics Hotline report. The Advisory Services Department did not make its planned presentation on the biannual travel and expense review, the Ethics Point report and on current audit projects, as there was a time constraint. Trustees were invited to review the reports, which were included in their packets and assured that the department would be available to provide any additional information required. Trustee Musil stated that the audit of the trustee travel expenses concluded that the expenses were compliant and with college policy. So that happened, other informational items. No questions were raised regarding the informational items provided in the Committee of the Whole packet. That's an interesting point to raise, but thank you, Dr. Bowne for that. The working agenda of the Committee of the Whole was also presented, and it's in the board packet. Just to give us an overview of that, the committee structure we now employ. That concludes my report from the Committee of the Whole. I have invited Trustee Ingram to give the Committee of the Whole report next time, so that I'm not talking this entire meeting. And this leads us to our next item, which is President's recommendations for actions and the Treasurer's Report, Trustee Smith-Everett. Did I skip something?

- No, sorry, I was confused by President's part I'm with you now. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, the Treasurer's Report can be found on pages 8 through 19 of your board packet. The board packet includes the Treasurer's Report for the month ended December 31st, 2021. Some items of note include Page 1 is the general Post-Secondary Technical Education Fund summary. December is the sixth month of the college's 21-22 fiscal year. The college's federal fund, sorry, General Fund, unencumbered cash balance was 74.3 million as of December 31st, 2021, and expenditures and the primary operating funds are within approved budgetary limits. It is a recommendation of the college administration that the Board of Trustees approve the Treasurer's Report for the month ended December 31st, 2021 subject to audit. And I will move to make that motion.

- I'll second.

- Trustee Smith-Everett moves, Trustee Ingram seconds. The motion has been moved and seconded. Any discussion, any discussion? Okay, all those in favor, please say aye.

- [All] Aye.

- All those opposed, hearing none, the motion passes unanimously. Does that conclude your report Trustee Smith-Everett?

- It does, thank you, Mr. Chairman.

- Welcome, our next item now is of course Dr. Bowne's monthly report to the board.

- All right, so you, unfortunately, you didn't get to meet Caleb today, but you got to hear about Caleb and hear a little bit from Caleb. Again, it's one of the highlights of each and every month for me is getting to spend some time one-on-one with the students and then watching them interact with you, frankly brings me a great deal of joy. So, all right, let's talk about several things on the agenda here. Let's talk about enrollment. And so enrollment isn't where we want it to be, but it is where it is. We finished the census that is taken, it was taken on the 14th of February. So this is where we stand. We were just slightly better than this a month ago. And we're anticipating that we would end somewhere around the 5% range down. And you know, certainly this is a goal to address and improve for the coming year. Head count and credit hours aligned pretty closely, right both at about 5%. If we look at our students and, you know, again, what we've talked about before we did see that significant or noticeable decline for female students in all age groups, except for 60 and above. We were also down in non-degree seeking students, as well as those who had previously attended. I think without this being entirely anecdotal, I think that this is very much an impact of COVID and the challenges that our students are facing. And I think it's also

the fact that, you know, we continue to have about a 50/50 split in terms of in person and online. We continue to be up in evening courses, in Developmental Reading courses, in first time students. And so that's about where we are. And from an analysis standpoint, what I have to offer tonight. If we look at our non-credit instruction, again, through our Continuing Ed Workforce Development group, the numbers continue to be very strong. Again, we're at 138% of where we were a year ago on the 14th of February, excuse me, where we were two years ago, we're at 171% of where we were a year ago and well on target to meet and exceed the goal. When we think about, you know, other groups of students that from a non-credit standpoint that we serve, you know, whether we think about courses through the Nerman Museum, contemporary art through the Midwest Trust Center, through CLEAR, and in other occupational programs, you know, we're rapidly approaching 5,500 students already. And so as we take this specific snapshot for Continuing Ed Workforce Development, we're well on track to achieve the goals set for that group. You've already heard a lot about already tonight, our National Legislative Summit through ACCT. And so I won't say much more about that other than that I think the hot topic in DC was not just Pell in general, although that certainly is a priority, I think for us as an institution, but also for community colleges and higher education students in general is a high priority specifically for community colleges. And very definitely for us is the opportunity for short-term Pell and hoping that that'll make it through on the Senate side and move to the president. Short-term Pell, Pell currently cuts off in terms of programmatic eligibility at 600 hours of instruction, short-term Pell would take that down to 150. It would clearly open up the avenue for non-credit instruction. That's where our Continuing Ed group and their programs becomes really attractive. It also, in what had passed through the House included excluding for-profit institutions of higher education from access to short-term funding. So anyways, as already reported a very good trip and engagement with our senators and Congresswoman. In addition to that, I wanted to take a moment and talk a little bit about the League for Innovation. This is a national organization that we are a part of. In fact, we are a Board Member college. We have been a member of the League for decades, and it has been an instrumental part of who we are as an institution. Again, they serve predominantly, but not exclusively community and technical colleges. They provide a wealth of resources, let alone the relationships with some of the most exemplary community colleges in the country. But resources such as an Innovation Library, a place where we can go and see what others are doing. And as they call it, rip off and duplicate or flatter the others that are doing great work and look for opportunities to adjust and adapt what they're doing to our needs here. On an annual basis, they offer a Learning Summit, which is a targeted experience where typically a college would send a team of people. We have not participated in that in the last, well, since COVID really kicked in. And so I know I have participated in their Learning Summits in the past when I was a part of Grand Rapids Community College and saw first-hand that focused team engagement along with teams from other colleges, really spurs really good, along with industry partners, spurs on really good innovation. Their Innovations Conference is a highlight each and every year, that's coming up at the end of this month. And early in March, it will be a virtual conference this year. And then they offer very targeted solutions, workshops, focus workshops, even shorter period than the Learning Summits, as well as a variety of online experiences throughout the year, webinars and so forth. We have been an active member historically, and a leader, and it's been a, the League colleges are ones that we often benchmark against in a variety of ways as a college, because they're considered to be some of the finest community colleges, the most successful community colleges in the country by their data and by the things that they implement. As I said earlier, we are a Board Member college. I currently serve on the Board as the President, and Dr. Randy Weber serves as our college representative, our League representative for the

college in a group that provides great work and leadership on behalf of the league. As we think about the coming months, we are entering into, or we're actually well into the reaffirmation process. When a new president comes to the college, they give the college a year's grace, and then enter a reaffirmation process. We've submitted a written report before the break between semesters, the Board has reviewed that, and we've been invited for a site visit. Again today, the League is operating in virtual site visits. And so they will want to spend time with you as well as seeing a variety of presentations around innovative practices within the college. So I'm working with a very small team right now. We'll be broadening that as we move forward, but you will soon have a calendar invite inviting you as Trustees to meet with the site team. They very much want to hear from the Board about the importance of innovation to the college, of how we see the opportunities for innovation and engagement with the League and the value that we place on innovation as a college. And so there's that, I've got one more item and then I'll break for questions. And I apologize because I can't see any of you right now. All I get to do is see the screen, so I don't know if there are questions. So I apologize for that. The last item in my report today is an update regarding COVID. And so earlier this week, IRT recommended to the Executive Policy Group or Cabinet as it's most commonly affirmed, but from an emergency management standpoint, Cabinet becomes the executive policy group that gained consensus around our COVID19 protocols. It is our plan to remove the mask requirement indoors effective April 4th. If, you'll see that's in all caps, if the environment, assuming the environment continues to trend in a positive direction. We will continue to have discussions with faculty, staff, and students to address operational issues and/or concerns. I think the advantage of announcing this now that this is our intent, gets it out in the open. We can talk openly about it and work through the plan to get to an April 4th date. I will also say though, if the trends reverse course then you know, then I think we've gotta look at how we maintain the and protect the learning environment as we've work so hard to do over these past two years. So I'm bringing that forward as our plans to move this forward through Executive Policy Group. And with that, I'm gonna put this down and engage back in conversation with you where I can see you.

- Thanks President Dr. Bowne, anything else to add in your report? I apologize.

- No, I think I've run on for a while, so I'd be happy to entertain questions.

- You're fine. Trustee Smith-Everett.

- Thank you, Mr. Chair, two questions for you, Dr. Bowne. First one is, that League of Innovation report. Do you know when it was sent?

- It was a few weeks ago, we will resend it to you so you don't have to wonder where it is.

- Thank you so very much, appreciate that. Radar, lots of things on the radar at all times. Appreciate that. The other question is when you say that you are looking for the trends to be going in the right direction, has the IRT come up with a threshold of what they feel is safe for us to go maskless? So I was looking at the dashboard today and we are just now back to the highest rates that were happening during Delta. And so I, in particular am concerned that we're gonna put people at risk. Let's say if we plateaued at the level we are right now. And I just wondered if there was a level that IRT was looking for, that would indicate we were safe to go maskless?

- And Dr. Bowne, if you would, please, could you define IRT please?

- Yes, thank you very much. IRT is the Incident Response Team. Thank you very much, yeah, for, yeah. Anyways, Incident Response Team that is the group of professionals within the college that are the experts really in this from an overall safety, risk management, safety and security, as well as leaders from Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, Communications and Operations, I think I have them. And so that they're watching, that we watch very closely, you know, what I'm watching is to see when the, and when you look at the dashboard from a County standpoint and we get down, and we're down at the bottom of the orange category and specifically into the blue and the yellow is where I feel most comfortable, but it's taking those into fact into consideration together with a number of other factors, including cases on campus and so forth. So we'll be watching very deliberately to make sure that in order to implement as desired, that we're gonna do it in a way that keeps the learning environment as reasonably safe as possible.

- Okay, if at some point we could have that threshold. I mean, if we could have what that number is that you are looking for, I'm gonna go back right now while we're having this discussion and look at that blue level. That helps me just to know what we're shooting for to make sure that when we do this, we're keeping our faculty, staff, and students safe so that we can preserve that learning environment that we've talked about as the most important thing that we do. So thank you so much, appreciate it, and that concludes my comments.

- Thank you, Trustee Smith-Everett, Trustee Dawn Rattan.

- My apologies, it's a little loud here. I just wanna make sure have we decided on how we will address those operational issues and concerns? What is the way that we will, who do they contact? Are there public meetings set up? I just wanna understand how we plan to address those.

- Yeah, and that's what I'll be looking heavily to IRT to help us operationalize that specifically, this has moved quickly this week. And so we don't have all of the details worked out yet, but we will absolutely seek to address the concerns that our employees and students may have.

- Yes, I just want to make sure that those employees that do have some compromised health and students are addressed, and that they know that we care, that they know we wanna keep them safe. And that's very important to us.

- And I will say that, you know, they'll be communication coming out tomorrow that begins to lay that out.

- Thank you, Trustee Rattan, Mr. President. Trustee Koesten then Trustee Ingram.

- Thank you, Mr. Chairman, I too just wanna echo that keeping our constituents safe, both faculty, students, our staff, is really paramount here. But I do want to ask, after the April 4th deadline, or maybe before that April 4th deadline will, again, these policies be revisited so that we understand what those thresholds are, and we can kind of see how, what their thinking is as that date approaches.

- Yeah, this is, IRT is watching while they meet on an every other week basis. Members of IRT are watching those numbers daily. I know they are, 'cause I hear about it. And frankly, I go out and look at them pretty regularly as well to ensure that, you know, we're mindful of what's happening around us, but also what's happening within the college for our faculty and staff. And I guess I would, I would make this observation of our team across the college as folks have done a really good job at keeping each other safe and maintaining the learning environment. And we wouldn't be bringing this forward if we didn't believe that the numbers were, that the indicators were moving in the right direction and that we believed that they would be at a level appropriate to maintain the learning environment, and working environment that we're seeking to do. And I hope that our colleagues and that you hear this as well. I take this very seriously, that our relationship, our ability to work well effectively together is critically important. And we've done a good job so far, and frankly, this isn't the time to mess it up. And if I thought that this was going to do that, I wouldn't be bringing this forward to you tonight. It also gives us time to get it out in the open and have that conversation within the college as we move forward. And I know that, you know, from my conversations with, you know, as recently as this afternoon with Dr. Leiker, with members of Cabinet or Executive Policy Group, and then I think back to the over time, the work of the various groups across campus, whether it was returning to campus when we went from nobody was, hardly anybody was on campus, except for limited staff, there was a very thoughtful process of going through that. And so, you know, it is our hope as we move forward, that to model what we've done best and to continue doing that because, you know, we understand that there's all, there are so many different perspectives rolled into this transition.

- Thank you, I appreciate the leadership that is being put forward on this issue. It's so very important. Thank you.

- Thank you, Trustee Koesten, Trustee Ingram.

- But I did want to say thank you to everyone for their understanding as we have navigated this. You know, we continue to have twists and turns that I don't think, you know, I mean, when you think about the magnitude of a community college and what we offer and those whom we serve, and beyond the day-to-day operations of the education of our students, you know, we've got the Nerman Museum, we have performing arts events that go on. I mean, it just is endless to the folks that need to be considered as we're making these kinds of decisions. So, you know, along with everything else that we've discussed tonight, this is a tough situation. We're all wanting it and wishing for it because we want to move on. I mean, there's certainly no doubt about that in anyone's mind, but just the confidence that we have in your ability to guide us through, to make sure that everything is safely done as we move forward is as much appreciated. So, you know, I think of the CLEAR program, I mentioned art museum, you know, the cafe, you know, just places where people have avoided, you know, that safety is extremely important, so thank you very much. I understand, but we appreciate everyone's confidence in us as we navigate through the next couple of months too. So thank you.

- [Andy] Thank you.

- Thank you, Trustee Ingram, Trustee Rattan, then Trustee Smith-Everett.

- Dr. Andy, I do appreciate that you're gonna continue, you, the IRT, and the Cabinet are gonna continue to monitor these results closely and that it's not a all or nothing, and that you will change course if needed. One question that, and I may have missed this, so forgive me if I don't know where it is. Is there a public dashboard on our website that we may access, and the public, students, and faculty may see to see whether we're trending up or down, whether that's numbers, a chart, red light, green light, blue light. Any of that kind of stuff.

- [Andy] Yep, yep.

- And where to find it.

- So, yes, so within the college, our website, if you were to go to the search function and type in COVID tracker, that will pull you to that. And that shows the number of cases, any new cases per day.

- Is that in the county and the college?

- That is college, that is the college-only number.

- Okay.

- Thank you, Trustee Rattan, Trustee Smith-Everett.

- Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just checked on the dashboard that Dr. Bowne sent us in an email the last few days. And so the, to be in the blue, we would need to be at 4.99%. And currently in the county, we're at 11.9. Our height during Omicron was 30%. So we have fallen quite dramatically in the last 10 days, basically. So just for clarification, because I like to kinda know a number and I will be consulting back and looking for that as we move forward and get closer to April. Thank you very much.

- And if I can just add, if we were to look back at last spring and summer, I think you would see if I recall correctly, that we were floating around in the yellow and blue, and that was at a period of time when we did not require masks on campus.

- Thank you both, Trustee Hamill.

- Yeah, I just wanted to, I received a ton of emails and phone calls, especially in the last week. I don't know if anybody else did, but I wanna thank everybody in the community for being concerned about these issues. And I also wanted to thank everybody on the Operations Team that went ahead and worked on making changes, and setting new policy here for April 4th policy change. So thank you.

- Thank you, Trustee Hamill, seeing no other comments or questions, I'll just add it is a pleasure to work with this administration and President Bowne, like even we don't agree, we can still find ways to work together. Like for instance, you like the Cubs, I don't. And my preference would be to keep the masks for the balance of the semester. I do, however, appreciate the watchful eye to watch numbers and make sure we have the option to be safe. I mean, I'm so old before there was an RPO, Run Pass Option in football, we played DeBeers. So we just handed it to the fullbacker, pitched it to the tailback, you know, so I appreciate you giving us the option to do what needs to be done as you read the play as it develops, you and your team. So I do appreciate that. I know it has been a thoughtful consideration and one that puts our safety first. So I appreciate that greatly. Any other comments with respect to, are you, have you concluded Dr. Bowne, I'm sorry.

- Actually, I have a couple things that I left off on the first slide. And so if we go, no, I'm not gonna pull up the slides, but just a couple quick things. We didn't have any formal recognitions and awards at the beginning of the meeting. However, in our board packets, we get every month, a compilation of reports from across the college. And this month one jumped out at me, and that was from our Dining Services team. And I just wanted to recognize them. They were recognized with a gold medal for the Loyal E. Horton award for their online catering menu. This group does a great job, and I won't single anybody out because it's a team of folks that make it happen. But we can go in through an app on our phone and order lunch and go pick it up and it's ready. I mean, they just do a fantastic job and it blossomed. This was an innovation that blossomed through the early days of COVID and it's continued and it's been a fantastic service to folks on campus. And then I will say, as much consternation as making a decision about COVID creates, on a lesser scale, but nonetheless angst-producing at times is the wrong decision you get to make about whether school is open or closed. And it is always the wrong decision. But I will say, as of tomorrow, we expect to be open, so I'm not gonna get a cheer from the students tonight, and that's okay, 'cause we gotta get back to school. But where I do want to throw some recognition is to our Facilities and Grounds Crews. You know, as the snow was winding down, they went into full action to ensure that our campus is ready to go tomorrow. And so I think of Tom Hall and Dean Spalding and their teams across the campus across the hours of the day and night that are working to get campus opened up tomorrow from a snowstorm that actually delivered what they said it was going to. So with that, I conclude my report.

- Thank you, Mr. President. I grew up in Lawrence and went to the University of Kansas and I think it was Trustee Ingram today, or someone, oh my neighbor who was a K-Stater, you know, in both Lawrence and Manhattan we went to school really in any weather. And I think what that taught me was you keep going and in order to accomplish things, especially academically, but as you need to in the private sector in a job, you have to go, you have to keep going. And so I appreciate, you know, today was a thick day. I helped shovel part of my driveway and I think you made the right call. So thank you again to you and your team.

- The team that helps.

- I don't see that we have any old business, our next item on the agenda, the item after that is a new business. Excuse me, I skipped new business. Are there any new business, any trustee would like to take up? Mr. Musil shook his head no, I feel sufficiently confident to move on to old business. There is no old business. We have the Consent Agenda. The Consent Agenda is in your board packet. Is there any items the trustees would like to pull off the Consent Agenda and consider separately? Or could we just have a motion to adopt the Consent Agenda as is.

- Mr. Chair, I move to approve the Consent Agenda as it is in our board packet.

- Thank you.

- [Dawn] Seconded.

- Smith-Everett.

- Trustee Rattan seconded. Any discussion on the Consent Agenda, seeing none, all those in favor of the Consent Agenda, please say yes.

- [All] Yes.

- [Dawn] Yes.

- All those opposed say no, please. Hearing none, the motion to adopt the Consent Agenda passes unanimously. I do believe we have an Executive Session as Kelsey Nazar has given me and Terri Schlicht has given me a form that we have to keep track of. So we do have one Executive Session still, right, Dr. Bowne? And I've lost my form, but I'll find it. What time should, could we start at 7:15? Is that too late?

- I think it's good to give folks a couple seconds to.

- You wanna do 20, or 7:15 okay? Let's start at 7:15, I think I had a memory Kelsey and I talked about going to 7, half an hour, right, Dr. Bowne?

- That is correct.

- [Lee] Okay.

- [Nancy] Mr. Chair?

- [Lee] Yes ma'am.

- Did you find your recommendation?

- I did yes.

- For that motion, okay, very good.

- I would like to entertain a motion to go into Executive Session for the purpose of personnel matters of non-selected personnel in order to protect the privacy interest of the individuals involved. No action will be taken in this session. The Executive Session will last for 30 minutes, beginning at 7:15. And since I fumbled around, you wanna make it 7:16, let's do 7:16, and ending at 7:46, at which time open session will resume at Zoom via this link. We would like to invite Dr. Bowne and Kelsey Nazar to join the Executive Session. And is there a motion?

- So moved.

- Trustee Ingram.

- Second.

- I think I heard Trustee Hamill. Who was that second?

- Yeah, I think it was.

- Trustee Hamill.

- Okay, all right folks, we'll see you at 7:15. We've exhausted our time and we need more time. So I think I need another motion to go into Executive Session for the same purpose for personal matters of non-elected personnel.

- Make a motion for 15 minutes.

- Second.

- [Lee] All those in favor?

- Aye

- Aye.

- [Mark] Aye.

- [Lee] Closed.

- Lee, before we go, why don't we ratify the first one that we all agreed to?

- Yes, I neglected to take a vote on the first motion for Executive Session. Do we have any motion to ratify that earlier vote?

- I would move to confirm and ratify that we moved into Executive Session for the 30 minute period, just exhausted.

- Yes, sir, thank you and.

- Second.

- All those in favor?

- Aye.

- [Greg] Aye.

- [Mark] Aye.

- Any opposed, no. Okay, so what time.

- Mr. Chair you have to vote as well for both of those.

- The motion passes unanimously.

- [Laura] Okay, thank you.

- Did we vote on both motions though, Lee? I think that's Laura's point.

- Let's start over. Not in court, like when I don't know, let's just back up. We have a motion made and approved to go into a new Executive Session, correct?

- [Laura] Yes.

- Kelsey, okay. Now with respect to ratifying the old motion, I had three votes in favor, I'm voting yes too, that's unanimous, four.

- Mm-hmm.

- What did you.

- Just wanted, yeah, just wanted to confirm we took two separate votes. Both of them were 4-0.

- Okay, I probably rushed it, I apologize. I'm trying to keep it straight, so. Kelsey, are we good or do I need to?

- So the next Executive Sessions start at 7:50 and end at 8:05. Would that be right, for 15 minutes?

- Let's do 7:51.

- 8:06.

- [Lee] 8:06.

- Got it.

- And then we'll use the same link and no business, no action will be taken during this session. The Executive Session will last for, the second one will be 15 minutes beginning at 7:51 ending at 8:06. At which time, the open session will resume at this Zoom link. We'd like to invite Dr. Bowne and Kelsey Nazar again to participate in the session. And we'll see you over there at 7:51. We've returned from Executive Session in which no action was taken. Now I'd like to entertain a motion to adjourn.

- So moved.

- [Laura] Second.

- All those in favor? Any discussion, any discussion? Hearing none, all those in favor, please say aye.

- Yes.

- [All] Aye.

- [Dawn] Aye.

- Any opposed? I think it passes unanimously, thank you all.

- Good job, Chair Cross.

- [Mark] Wore my purple tie today.

- Have a good evening.

- [Andy] Thank you all.

- [Lee] Thank you, bye.

- Bye.