

**REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
HOUSTON CITY COLLEGE**

October 15, 2025

Minutes

The Board of Trustees of Houston City College held a Regular Meeting on Wednesday, October 15, 2025, at the HCC Administration Building, 3100 Main, Second Floor Auditorium, Houston, Texas.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Eva Loreda, Chair
Laolu Davies, Vice Chair
Sean Cheben, Secretary
Renee Patterson
Monica Richart (via Video Conference)
Adriana Tamez (via Video Conference)
Pretta VanDible Stallworth
Dave Wilson

CHANCELLOR COUNCIL

Margaret Ford Fisher, Chancellor
Rima Adil, Interim Vice Chancellor, Strategic Communications and Marketing
Lisa Alcorta, Vice Chancellor, Student Services
Andrea Burrigde, Vice Chancellor for Strategy, Planning, and Institutional Effectiveness
Jerome Drain, President, Online College
Michael Edwards, Office of the Ombudsman
Betty Fortune, President, Northeast College
Frances Villagran-Glover, President, Southeast College
Lutricia Harrison, President, Coleman College
Edmond "Butch" Herod, President, Central College
Zachary Hodges, President, Northwest College
Warren Hurd, Vice Chancellor, Administrative Services
Barry Sullivan, Chief Information Officer, Information Technology
Bob McCracken, Vice Chancellor, Administration and Operations and Interim Associate Vice Chancellor of Finance & Accounting
Nicole Montgomery, General Counsel
Rodney Nathan, Interim Vice Chancellor for Talent Engagement/Chief Human Resource Officer
Norma Perez, Senior Vice Chancellor for Instructional Services/Chief Academic Officer
Karen Schmidt, Executive Director, HCC Foundation
Nathan Smith, Faculty Senate President
Michael Webster, President, Southwest College
Morgan Yette, Staff Senate President
Remmele Young, Vice Chancellor of External and Governmental Relations, Transfer and Alumni Relations

OTHERS PRESENT

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Melissa Mihalick, Board Counsel, Thompson and Horton, LLP

CALL TO ORDER

Trustee Eva Loreda, Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m. and declared the Board convened to consider matters of Houston City College as listed on the duly posted Meeting Notice.

(The following Trustees were present: Cheben, Loreda, Patterson, Richart, Tamez, VanDible Stallworth, and Wilson)

PRAYER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Trustee Renee Patterson led in the prayer and pledges.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR APRIL 2025

Motion – Trustee Sean Cheben motioned, and Trustee Renee Patterson seconded.

Vote – The motion passed with a vote of 7-0, with Trustees Loreda, Cheben, Patterson, Richart, Tamez, VanDible Stallworth, and Wilson in favor.

(Trustee Davies joined the meeting at 4:09 p.m.)

AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS, AND RECOGNITIONS

The awards and recognition were as follows:

- Check Presentation by Dr. Ruth J. Simmons Endowed Scholarship Fund
- Check presentation for Rotary Club of Katy Current Use and Endowed Scholarship
- Recognition of Clariza Reyes as Gucci Changemaker Scholar
- Highlight Ben Mendez in Recognition of Hispanic Heritage Month

(Dr. Tamez left the meeting at 4:28 p.m.)

CHAIR'S REPORT

TRUSTEE DISTRICT REPORT

The Trustees provided the following district reports:

District II – Trustee Patterson expressed appreciation to Dr. Betty Fortune, President, Northeast College, Dr. Desmond Lewis, Associate Vice Chancellor, College Readiness and Sue Moraska, Director, VAST Academy for the launch of the VAST program at the Acres Home Campus and noted the upcoming launch at the North Forest Campus.

District V – Trustee Cheben acknowledged the K–16 program and recognized Dr. Desmond Lewis for outstanding performance in Dual Credit, noting enrollment was 15% higher than state projections. He expressed appreciation for the progress and acknowledged the Southwest College, President Dr. Michael Webster, and faculty for their strong community engagement.

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District VI – Trustee Wilson apprised that Dr. Michael Webster, President of Southwest College, and Dr. Zachary Hodges, President of Northwest College, hosted an orientation for higher education programs in Fort Bend County, showcasing the colleges' workforce programs for businesses and industry. He noted that the newly appointed Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board Commissioner, Dr. Wynn Rosser, attended the event. Trustee Wilson also apprised that Northwest Student Life held a National Constitution Day event focused on voter registration. He noted that the Katy Campus IT Center hosted the Landscape Association meeting on September 23, 2025, and on September 24, 2025, Northwest College Career Services and the Media Arts Filmmaker Program held a "Take-Out" series event at the Alief-Hayes Campus. Additionally, Trustee Wilson apprised that Foxconn, a leading Apple manufacturing partner, visited the Spring Branch Campus on October 8, 2025, to interview candidates for multiple positions.

District VIII – Trustee Loredó expressed appreciation to the Southeast College for hosting the Art Contest, which showcased student artwork in preparation for the Gold Cup competition.

District IX – Dr. VanDible Stallworth apprised that she met with Genesis Salomon, Consultant in Personal Finance Analysis, who supports Mexican women facing challenges by helping them rebuild their lives through entrepreneurship. Dr. Stallworth extended an invitation for Ms. Salomon to meet with the Board.

- **BOARD MEETING SCHEDULED**

Trustee Loredó announced that the Committees/COTW and Special meetings will be held on Wednesday, November 5, and Regular meeting on Wednesday, November 19, 2025.

- **BIRTHDAY RECOGNITIONS**

Trustee Loredó expressed birthday wishes to Trustee Renee Patterson, who will celebrate her birthday on October 18, Trustee Laolu Davies on October 22, and Dr. Adriana Tamez on October 25, 2025.

CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

Dr. Ford Fisher expressed appreciation to the HCC Foundation for assisting the HCC Students as well as appreciation to Dr. Ruth Simmons and Katy Rotary Club for their donations and support to HCC. Dr. Ford Fisher also commended Claria Reyes and Ben Mendez on their recognition. Dr. Ford Fisher provided the following report:

- The University of Houston announced the Next UH Pilot Program, highlighting its transfer program with community colleges. HCC is one of the five community colleges participating in the program
- TACC Provided Updates Impacting Community Colleges to include Texas Community Colleges review of Dual Credit materials in response to Senate Bill 12.
- Chancellor Ford Fisher and the Board Executive Committee will attend Session 1 of Texas Presidents and Trustees Collaboration hosted by Aspen. The full Board will participate in Session 2 and Session 3 virtually on January 28, 2026 and April 23, 2025 respectively

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- Total Enrollment Comparison – As of October 13, total enrollment for Fall 2025 reached 64,275 students, surpassing the Fall 2024 enrollment of 58,825 students
- Dual Credit enrollment (Fall 24 vs Fall 25 showed the most significant growth, increasing by 28%

UNITED STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT

Gia Jones, President United Student Council, reported on the following:

- Student Council General Assembly Meeting was held on September 30, 2025
- Student Government Association (SGA) Leadership Retreat is scheduled for November 7, 2025
- Representatives from each HCC campus attended the Texas SGA Junior College meeting in Pasadena, Texas

FACULTY SENATE REPORT

Dr. Nathan Smith provided the Faculty Senate Report as follows:

- Extended an invitation to the Bedichek–Orman Auction on November 7; donations are still being accepted
- Introducing new Faculty Senate officers For Academic Year 2025-2026
- Reported that the core curriculum (general education) represents a significant portion of HCC enrollment
- Highlighted that community colleges function as the liberal arts colleges of Texas
- Discussed the value of liberal arts education in exposing students to foundational knowledge and ideas
- Recognized faculty involved in the Human Horizons initiative focused on “transformative texts” and seminar-style teaching
- Highlighted faculty participation in the upcoming Teagle Foundation convening in Nashville

STAFF SENATE REPORT

Ms. Morgan Yette, Staff Senate President, provided a report on the following:

- Completed onboarding for new senators and developed goals.
- Officers were elected, with the exception of the president-elect position, which will be elected at the next scheduled meeting.
- Coordinated with multiple departments regarding emergency management.
- Committee meetings are scheduled for the week of October 20, 2026.
- Attended the meet-and-greet event at the West Loop Campus.
- The next Staff Senate Meeting is scheduled for October 31, 2025, at 1:00 p.m.

HEARING OF THE CITIZENS

There were no citizens present to speak before the Board.

CONSENT AGENDA

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Motion – Trustee Sean Cheben motioned, and Trustee Laolu Davies seconded.

Vote – The motion passed with a vote of 6-0, with Trustees Loreda, Cheben, Davies, Patterson, VanDible Stallworth, and Wilson in favor.

The following items were approved:

- Acceptance of Donated Item by Apple REJI
- Acceptance of Donated Item by Adaptive Computing
- Acceptance of Donated Item by Professor Michelle Kirkpatrick
- Acceptance of Donated Item by Judy Robinson Estates
- Acceptance of Donated Item by Cemtiva Factory, Inc.
- Acceptance of Donated Item by Brochsteins Inc.
- Acceptance of Donated Item by Baylor St. Lukes Medical Center
- FY 2025 Internal Audit Annual Report
- Proposed Revisions to Board Policy BBH (Local)
- Proposed Revisions to Retaliation Policies DIAB and FFDB (Local)
- Proposed Revisions to ECC (Local): Course Load and Schedules
- Proposed Establishment of FLBC (Local) Student Conduct: Prohibited Organizations and Hazing
- Proposed Changes to Local Policies - Safety Program: CG, CGF, and CHA
- Monthly Investment Report, Financial Statement and Budget Review for August 2025

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION

TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES (TACC) ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FOR 2025-2026

Motion – Trustee Laolu Davies motioned, and Dr. Pretta VanDible Stallworth seconded.

Dr. Ford Fisher noted that the item is requesting to approve payment of the FY 2026 membership dues for the Texas Association of Community Colleges (TACC).

Trustee Wilson apprised that when he looks to approve an item, he weighs the benefit and cost and noted he is not in support of the item.

Vote – The motion passed with a vote of 5-1, with Trustees Loreda, Cheben, Davies, Patterson, and VanDible Stallworth in favor; and Trustee Wilson opposing.

WAYFINDING AND GRAPHICS STANDARDS PROGRAM CONSULTANT (PROJECT NO. RFP 25-15)

Motion – Trustee Laolu Davies motioned, and Trustee Renee Patterson seconded.

Dr. Ford Fisher noted that the item authorizes the Chancellor to execute contracts with D/G Studios, Inc., to provide wayfinding and graphic standards program consulting in accordance with RFP 25-15. She noted that Mr. Robert McCracken, Vice Chancellor, Administration and Operations, would provide an overview.

Vote – The motion passed with a vote of 6-0, with Trustees Loredo, Cheben, Davies, Patterson, VanDible Stallworth, and Wilson in favor.

SOLE SOURCE CONTRACT AWARD WITH HOUSTON ACADEMY OF MEDICINE - TEXAS MEDICAL CENTER LIBRARY

Motion – Trustee Sean Cheben motioned, and Trustee Laolu Davies seconded.
Dr. Ford Fisher noted that the item authorizes the Chancellor to execute a contract with Houston Academy of Medicine – Texas Medical Center Library through a sole source procurement.

Vote – The motion passed with a vote of 6-0 with Trustees Loredo, Cheben, Davies, Patterson, VanDible Stallworth, and Wilson in favor.

BANKING RESOLUTION AUTHORIZATION

Motion – Trustee Laolu Davies motioned, and Trustee Renee Patterson seconded.

Dr. Ford Fisher noted that the Banking Resolution authorizes the Vice Chancellor for Administration & Operations and the Interim Associate Vice Chancellor for Finance & Accounting to establish accounts, enter into agreements and transactions contemplated by the provisions of treasury management services by depository banks.

Vote – The motion passed with a vote of 6-0, with Trustees Loredo, Cheben, Davies, Patterson, VanDible Stallworth, and Wilson in favor.

(Dr. Tamez joined the meeting at 5:04 p.m.)

LETTER OF NOMINATION SUPPORTING APPOINTMENT TO ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY COLLEGE TRUSTEES (ACCT) 2026 APPOINTED COMMITTEES

Motion – Trustee Sean Cheben motioned, and Trustee Laolu Davies seconded.

Vote – The motion passed with a vote of 7-0, with Trustees Loredo, Cheben, Davies, Patterson, Tamez, VanDible Stallworth, and Wilson in favor.

PERSONNEL AGENDA (FACULTY)

Motion – Trustee Laolu Davies motioned, and Trustee Renee Patterson seconded.

Vote – The motion passed with a vote of 7-0, with Trustees Loredo, Cheben, Davies, Patterson, Tamez, VanDible Stallworth, and Wilson in favor.

ADJOURNED TO CLOSED SESSION

Trustee Eva Loredo adjourned the meeting to Executive Session at 5:07 p.m., notice having previously been given and reiterated per Sections 551.071, 551.072, and/or 551.074 of the Open Meetings Law. Trustee Eva Loredo stated that any final action, vote, or decision on any

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item discussed in Executive Session would be taken up in the Open Session or a subsequent Public Meeting.

Trustee Eva Loredo reconvened the meeting in Open Session at 5:55 p.m. and entertained any motions on pending matters.

(The following Trustees were present: Cheben, Davies, Loredo, Patterson, VanDible Stallworth, and Wilson)

REVIEW OF LEVEL FOUR COMPLAINT - EMPLOYEE 1

Motion – Trustee Cheben motioned, and Trustee David Wilson seconded to affirm the Level 3 decision.

Vote – The motion passed with a vote of 5-0-1, with Trustees Loredo, Cheben, Patterson, VanDible Stallworth, and Wilson in favor and Trustee Davies abstaining.

REVIEW OF LEVEL FOUR COMPLAINT - EMPLOYEE 2

Motion – Trustee Sean Cheben motioned, and Trustee David Wilson seconded to affirm the Level 3 decision.

Vote – The motion passed with a vote of 6-0, with Trustees Loredo, Davies, Cheben, Patterson, VanDible Stallworth, and Wilson in favor.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business coming before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 5:59 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Sharon Wright, Director, Board Services

Minutes Approved as Submitted: _____