

Regular Board Meeting

Board of Trustees

HTC Auditorium

Tuesday, August 18, 2026

5:30pm - 7:00pm

Present: Tim Anderson, Trustee; Kit Fogle, Trustee; Jude Foulk, Trustee; Mary Fox, Trustee; Vidya Iyengar, Trustee; Michael McCleese, Chair; Roxane Somerlot, Trustee; Ryan McCall, President; Amy Adams, Executive Vice President; Rhonda Ward, Chief Financial Officer/Board Treasurer; Bob Haas, Chief Strategy Officer; Laura Woughter, Chief of Staff/Board Secretary

1 Call to Order

Michael McCleese, Chair

Roll Call

Welcome & Introduction of Guests

2 Major Discussion Topic

Ryan McCall, President

Accreditation Reaffirmation February 2027

3 Consent Agenda

Michael McCleese, Chair

All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered routine and will be moved by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion of a singular item is required, it will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered separately.

3.1 Preceding Meeting Minutes

Attachments:

[6-16-26 BOT Minutes.pdf](#)

4 President's Report

Ryan McCall, President

Attachments:

[August 2026 President's Report.pdf](#)

5 Monitoring Reports

5.1 EL 4.1 Communication and Counsel to the Board

Ryan McCall, President

Attachments:

[EL 4.1 Communication and Counsel to the Board Report 8-18-26.pdf](#)

5.2 EL 4.3 Organizational Structure

Ryan McCall, President

Attachments:

[EL 4.3 Organizational Structure Report 8-18-26.pdf](#)

5.3 EL 4.5 Financial Condition

Rhonda Ward, Chief Financial Officer/Board Treasurer

Attachments:

[EL 4.5 Financial Condition 8-18-26.pdf](#)

6 Policy/Governance Review Issues

6.1 EL 4.2 Strategic Planning

Jude Foulk, Trustee

Attachments:

[EL 4.2 Strategic Planning.pdf](#)

6.2 EL 4.5 Financial Condition

Michael McCleese, Chair

Attachments:

[EL 4.5 Financial Condition.pdf](#)

6.3 EL 4.6 Financial Planning

Tim Anderson, Trustee

Attachments:

[EL 4.6 Financial Planning.pdf](#)

6.4 EL 4.9 Treatment of Students

Mary Fox, Trustee

Attachments:

[EL 4.9 Treatment of Students.pdf](#)

6.5 EL 4.10 Treatment of Employees

Roxane Somerlot, Trustee

Attachments:

[EL 4.10 Treatment of Employees.pdf](#)

7 Informational Items

8 Executive Session (roll call vote)

To consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official (ORC 121.22 (G)(1)).

9 Adjournment

Michael McCleese, Chair

Marion Technical College
Board of Trustees
Regular Board Meeting
Tuesday, August 18, 2026
Health Technologies Center Auditorium

Call to Order

Chair Michael McCleese called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Roll Call

The Recording Secretary called the roll. Trustees present in-person were Chair Michael McCleese, Mr. Tim Anderson, Ms. Jude Foulk, Ms. Mary Fox, and Ms. Vidya Iyengar.

Mr. Kit Fogle and Ms. Roxane Somerlot.

Introduction of Guests

Guests present included MTC employees Dr. Ryan McCall, Dr. Amy Adams, Dr. Bob Haas, Ms. Rhonda Ward, Ms. Christy Culver, Ms. Kristy Taylor, and Ms. Laura Woughter. Avi Zaffini, President of the Ohio Association of Community Colleges (OACC), and Sandy Barber, Chair of the OACC Governing Board and trustee at Northwest State Community College, were also in attendance.

Ms. Barber thanked the Board for the invitation to attend the meeting, noting she and Mr. Zaffini have been visiting with a variety of community college boards. Ms. Barber touted the expertise of staff at OACC in representing the interests of community colleges.

Ms. Barber encouraged trustees to participate in a virtual meeting for community college trustees on August 28th, as well as the annual Ohio Department of Higher Education (ODHE) trustee conference on September 9th at Ohio State University. Ms. Barber also highlighted the opportunity to attend national conferences, including the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) in Chicago in October and the ACCT National Legislative Summit in Washington, D.C. in February. Dr. McCall shared with the Board the College was announced as a winner of the central region award for new innovation through ACCT, and Dr. McCall and Dr. Adams will attend for the awards banquet.

Mr. Zaffini thanked the Board for the opportunity to connect, and emphasized the importance in connecting with trustees in advocating for community colleges. He touted the work of the

employees of Marion Tech in leading innovation amongst the sector, and noted Marion Tech will present at the Student Success Leadership Institute (SSLI) in October on scaling reduced academic terms for the work Marion Tech has convened switching to 8-weeks. OACC adopted a new strategic plan through collaboration with college presidents and trustees, and emphasized the importance of the organization to convene community colleges for student success, workforce development, and advocacy. Mr. Zaffini shared with the incoming governor change, and inaugural state budget process, there will be critical work to tell the story of community colleges and seek support for key needs for the sector.

Following introductions from the trustees, Dr. McCall thanked Mr. Zaffini and Ms. Barber for joining the meeting, and for their work on behalf of Marion Tech and the community college sector.

Major Discussion Topic

Ms. Woughter presented to the Board on the College's process to prepare for its 10-year reaffirmation of accreditation visit, including the crafting of the narrative and evidence collection. Ms. Woughter shared the Higher Learning Commission's Criteria for Accreditation with the Board:

- Mission;
- Integrity: Ethical and Responsible Conduct;
- Teaching and Learning for Student Success; and,
- Sustainability: Institutional Effectiveness, Resources and Planning.

She reiterated the importance of framing the narrative through the lens of the College's mission, and invited trustees to participate in an activity to recite the institutional mission.

Consent Agenda

1. Preceding meeting minutes – June 2026

Ms. Fox made a motion to approve the consent agenda and Mr. Anderson seconded the motion. By a unanimous vote, the motion was approved.

President's Report

Dr. McCall highlighted the following from the President's Report:

- Marion Tech has the highest three-year graduation rate for first-time, full-time students (2022 cohort) amongst Ohio's 22 community colleges. The 2022 cohort rate was 45%, up from 10% in 2012.

- Dr. Adams and Dr. McCall wrote an article for the American Association of Community Colleges' bi-monthly journal about lessons in leadership and the institution's growth through grants, the subject of the College's Bellwether Award in 2026. Dr. McCall shared the president of AACC highlighted the article to institutions through their weekly newsletter.
- Dr. Adams submitted two successful grants, each \$50,000, to create an industrial maintenance program and a dental hygiene program. Both programs are planned to begin fall 2027.
- The College has enrolled 4,094 students as of the meeting, and over 28,000 credit hours for fall 2026. This represents the first time the College has surpassed 4,000 students.

Mr. Anderson asked how many of the College's general students are full-time, and Dr. McCall responded approximately 30%. This is one reason the College move to 8-week sessions, to assist students in completing more credit hours in a shortened time frame. Ms. Foulk asked how many other Ohio community colleges offer 8-week classes, and Dr. Haas shared only Washington State College of Ohio. Several institutions, including Columbus State Community College, are a part of the Achieving the Dream (ATD) Shortened Academic Terms initiative. Dr. McCall noted his messaging to employees about continuing to push forward and lead the pack, with support of internal and national data.

Monitoring Reports

EL 4.1 Communication and Counsel to the Board

Dr. McCall emphasized the importance of open and complete communication with the Board to ensure effective governance and institutional compliance. He provided examples of communication with the Board via email throughout the last year. Additionally, Board monitoring reports and presentations support effective communication.

EL 4.3 Organizational Structure

Dr. McCall provided the institution's organizational framework, following the College's reorganization. He highlighted the plan to hire a Director of Teaching and Learning and Director of Institutional Research as part of the reorganization through a collaborative Title III grant with Columbus State. The reorganization helped to align departments, with the addition of three new associate vice presidents, to ensure effective supervisory chains.

EL 4.5 Financial Condition

Ms. Ward highlighted the following from her written report:

- With strong enrollment, she noted her confidence in meeting budget expectations, even with fluctuations in enrollment populations. She also shared much has changed between the beginning of the fiscal year (July) to present.
- Ms. Ward highlighted the number of position changes through the College's reorganization, which were realized in the last academic year to meet enrollment demands. Several positions planned through the reorganization will be added in the upcoming months to fully implement that plan.
- The Business Office and Financial Aid Office are being more aggressive in drawing down federal funds, including grant awards, to improve the College's cash flow, and allowing for investment of those funds.
- STAR Ohio investments are returning, on average, \$300,000 annually, with the current rate around 3.9%.
- The College's current capital reserve balance is \$264,278. The Board previously approved allocating \$88,480 from general cash reserves to capital reserves to support the ongoing costs of the ERP implementation. The College utilized capital reserves for an unplanned elevator repair at Marion Tech Downtown and to support replacement of the College's main sign on State Route 95.
- For the closeout of FY26, the Business Office is having to work out of two ERP systems due to the transition, which is slowing processes in preparing the audit. She anticipated, in comparison to FY25, tuition revenue to be ahead by \$753,000, state subsidy ahead by \$1.18 million, rental income at Marion Tech Downtown (full year) is ahead by \$290,000.
- Operating expenses continued to grow for FY26, compared to FY25, due to demands driven by enrollment growth. Additionally, the ERP transition impacts expenses for the new system and associated software necessary for implementation.
- Future adjustments to the projection for FY26 will include: revenue, capitalization, and depreciation for capital projects; pension liability; grant reconciliations; reconciliation of the cost-share with Ohio State – Marion; and reconciliation of health insurance claims.

Mr. Anderson asked if the College's investment plan is affecting other receivables year over year, noting it is lower. Ms. Ward noted the College had a tendency to wait until the end of the term to draw down funds, and that is impacting the year over year changes.

Mr. Anderson made a motion to approve the monitoring reports and Ms. Iyengar seconded the motion. By a unanimous vote, the motion was approved.

Policy Review/Governance Issues

EL 4.2 Strategic Planning

Ms. Foulk reviewed the policy with the Board, and cited the evidence provided in the most recent report to support the policy's goals. Ms. Foulk, citing the evidence and the words of affirmation from Mr. Zaffini, expressed her admiration for the College. Ms. Foulk asked if the College is aware of how many of its Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) have gone on to advance practice and further education. Dr. Haas noted that information can be tracked through National Student Clearinghouse. Ms. Foulk also asked for information on the progress of Early Childhood Education program. Dr. McCall noted the program is slowly growing, with collaboration with Pleasant Local Schools. The program director is also working to set up transfer agreements with Heidelberg University and Ohio State. No changes to the policy were recommended.

EL 4.5 Financial Condition

Chair McCleese reviewed the policy with the Board, and highlighted Ms. Ward's work to ensure compliance with the policy and providing a complete picture of the institution's financial position. He recommended no changes to the policy.

EL 4.6 Financial Planning

Mr. Anderson reviewed the policy with the Board, and noted Dr. McCall and Ms. Ward work well to create a comprehensive, balanced budget through a thorough process. No changes to the policy were recommended.

EL 4.9 Treatment of Students

Ms. Fox reviewed the policy with the Board, and noted the evidence supports the College's role in supporting students. She highlighted evidence from the most recent report regarding student financial wellness, emphasizing favorable student perception of a college degree. She also noted the concerning trends for students regarding financial need and mental wellness. Ms. Fox shared her experience as an adjunct professor at another institution to affirm the importance of supporting students. Dr. McCall shared about the Connections Center and the Student Resource Navigator (SRN) to support students in non-academic barriers to success. Ms. Fox recommended no changes to the policy.

Informational Items

Dr. McCall reminded the group about the annual ODHE Trustee Conference on September 9th. Vice Chair Fox, Mr. Anderson, Ms. Foulk, and Ms. Iyengar indicated they would participate.

Dr. Adams and Ms. Woughter met with a potential trustee candidate from Wyandot County, and are waiting for a response from the Governor's Office.

Dr. McCall reminded trustees of the opportunity to participate in higher education conferences alongside College employees.

Board Leadership

After discussion, Ms. Iyengar made a motion to nominate Ms. Fox as Board Vice Chair, and Ms. Foulk seconded the motion. Ms. Fox abstained from the vote. The remaining trustees voted unanimously to approve. The motion was approved.

Executive Session

The Board voted to convene into executive session to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official: Chair McCleese – aye, Vice Chair Fox – aye, Mr. Anderson – aye, Ms. Foulk – aye, Ms. Iyengar – aye. The Board convened into executive session at 7:21 p.m. The Board returned to open session at 8:13 p.m. following a motion from Vice Chair Fox and a second from Mr. Anderson.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chair McCleese moved to adjourn the meeting. The Board adjourned at 8:14 p.m.