



**MINUTES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Monday, September 15, 2025 - 6:00 PM**

A Regular Board Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Temple College was held Monday, September 15, 2025 beginning at 6:00 PM in the Louise L. Cox Board Room, Room 916, located in the Marc Nigliazzo Administration Building on the Main Campus.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Lydia Santibañez-Farrell, Chair; Larry Wilkerson, Vice Chair; Dr. Andrejs Avots-Avotins; John Bailey; Dr. Mark Durham; Dr. Hope Koch; Dr. Jack Myers

ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Christy Ponce, President; Judy Dohnalik, Assistant to the President and Board of Trustees; Dr. Susan Guzmán-Treviño, Provost-Academic Affairs and Student Services; Dr. Lorenzo Reyes, Vice President of Resource Development and External Relations; Glenn Graham, Chief Financial Officer/Vice President, Administrative Services; DeDe Griffith; Vice President of Workforce Development; Dr. Robbin Ray, Associate Vice President and Chief of Operations, East Williamson County Centers

OTHERS PRESENT

Amelia Arenas; Carolyn Beatty; Chief Stella Bergeron-Green; Lynn Botts; Shannon Bralley; Jeremy Coleman; Tracey Cooper; Lance English; Eric Eckert; Basilia Flores; Jeff Fritz; Ayleen Garcia; Marcie Gomez; Cynthia Gonzales; Veronica Hill; Caleb Hogue; Monica Lefner; Jason Locklin; Isaac Masoner; Cienna McMurry; Melissa Parker; Dana Riegel; Priscilla Santana; James Skinner; Sara Solis; Rich Stein; Dr. John White; Jadarius Wilkerson

1. Call to Order

Lydia Santibañez-Farrell, Chair, called the Board of Trustees meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Dr. Andrejs Avots-Avotins offered the Invocation.
Dr. Mark Durham recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Opportunity for Citizens to Address the Board

- A. Chair Santibañez-Farrell asked if there were any citizens wishing to speak before the Board. There were no citizens to address the Board.

Chair Santibañez-Farrell announced that before the meeting begins the Board must approve a revised meeting agenda.

Revision 1. A revision under Item 6. Student Spotlight. Students from the VA Work Study program will be acknowledged at today's meeting.

Revision 2. Under Item 10.A. New Miscellaneous Item to Consider a Resolution of Candidate Nominations for the Tax Appraisal District of Bell County Board of Directors for the Year 2026 has been added to the agenda.

On a motion by Dr. Andrejs Avots-Avotins, seconded by Larry Wilkerson, and without negative vote, the Board approved the revisions to the Board Agenda as presented.

Chair Santibañez-Farrell announced that the meeting would return to the order of the day.

4. Consideration of Approval of Consent Agenda

Chair Santibañez-Farrell asked if there were any items that the members wanted to remove from the Consent Agenda. She stated that if there were no objections, these items would be considered. After pausing for any objections, she stated that since there were no objections, these items were ready for consideration.

On a motion by Dr. Andrejs Avotins-Avotins, seconded by Dr. Jack Myers, and without negative vote, the Board approved the Consent Agenda as presented.

- A. Consideration of Approval of Minutes from the Special Called Board/Budget Workshop, August 18, 2025 and the Regular Board of Trustees Meeting on August 25, 2025.

- B. Consideration of the Appointment of Full-Time Professional Staff
The following individuals were recommended by the President for appointment as members of the Full-Time Professional Staff.

- **Irelan, Dori**- Transition Coordinator, Dual Credit
- **Kubera, Caleb**- Enrollment Advisor, Health Professions

- C. Consideration of the Appointment of Adjunct Faculty
The following individuals were recommended by the appropriate departmental and divisional supervisors, and by the Provost-Academic Affairs and Student Services, for appointment as members of the Adjunct Faculty.

- ★ **Eshbaugh, Krista**—Adjunct Professor, Music
- ★ **Millican, Sherry**— Adjunct Professor, Music
- ★ **Richards, Megan, Dr.**- Adjunct Professor, Music

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- ★ **Guzman, Maritza**- Adjunct Clinical Instructor, Surgical Technology
 - ★ **Knight, Christopher**- Adjunct Professor, English
 - ★ **Graham, Cassie**- Adjunct Professor, English
 - ★ **Witherspoon, Amanda**- Adjunct Professor, English
 - ★ **Tepe, Teresa**- Adjunct Professor, English
 - ★ **Anderson, Elizabeth**- Embedded Professor
 - ★ **Slaten, Amanda, Ph.D.**- Adjunct Professor, Learning Frameworks
 - ★ **Quintanilla, Katherine-Lee**- Adjunct Clinical Instructor, Dental Hygiene.
 - ★ **Baker, Christina, Ph.D.**- Adjunct Professor, Learning Frameworks
 - ★ **Deaton, Tammie**- Adjunct Professor, Business
 - ★ **Roberts, Desi, Ph.D.**- Adjunct Professor, Business
 - ★ **Singh, Jaskeerat**- Adjunct Professor, Physics
 - ★ **Siegel, Nathan, Ph.D.**- Assistant Professor, Music
 - ★ **Simpson, Patti**- Assistant Professor, Mathematics
 - ★ **Wyatt, Christopher, Ph.D.**- Assistant Professor, English and Communication
 - ★ **Iden, Kirsten, Ph.D.**- Assistant Professor, English
 - ★ **Karunarantne, Vidanage, Dr.**- Assistant Professor, Physics
 - ★ **Bollinger, Jodi**- Assistant Professor, Biology
 - ★ **Robida, Piper, Ph.D.**- Assistant Professor, Biology
 - ★ **Vaughn, Keela**- Assistant Professor, English
- D. Consideration of Approval of the Public Funds Investment Disclosure Report-June 2025
- E. Consideration of Approval of Budget Summary Report-Budget vs Actual-July 2025

5. Consideration of Approval of Disbursements for August 2025

On a motion by John Bailey, seconded by Larry Wilkerson, and without negative vote, the Board approved the Disbursements as presented.

6. Student and Employee Spotlights

Student Spotlights

Basilia Flores, Coordinator for Veteran's Affairs, introduced three VA Work Study students.

- Jeremy Coleman, is a U.S. Army veteran who honorably served for seven years as a Combat Engineer Sergeant. He is currently pursuing an Associate of Arts in Business at Temple College. He plans to continue his education through the TAMUCT at Temple College partnership, with plans to earn a Bachelor of Business Administration from Texas A&M University-Central Texas.
- Jadarius Wilkerson is a U.S. Army veteran who proudly served in the U.S. Army as an 88M (Motor Transport Operator) for two years. He is pursuing an Associate in Computer Information Systems degree at Temple College.
- Ayleen Garcia, is a proud daughter of a disabled Army veteran who honorably served for 21 years. She is dedicating her academic and professional journey to supporting the veteran community. Ayleen is in the process of completing School Certifying Official (SCO) training to enhance her ability to assist with the enrollment and benefits management of veteran students.

Outstanding Employee Spotlights

Ten recipients of the 2025 NISOD (National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development) Excellence Award were acknowledged:

- Brice Olivier, Professor, History (Barnhart Award Winner)
- Dr. Jamie Arnold, Professor, History and Department Chair, Social Sciences II
- Alicia Buck, Department Chair, Surgical Technology
- Lance English, Assistant Professor, Physical Sciences
- Eddy Bertrand, Physical Plant
- Veronica Hill, Administrative Assistant, Visual Arts
- DeDe Griffith, Vice President, Workforce Development
- Marcie Gomez, Enrollment Coordinator, Workforce and Continuing Education
- Carolyn Beatty, Adult Education and Literacy, Administrative Assistant
- Treva Askey, Director of Special Projects & Rural Workforce Liaison

7. President's Report

Dr. Christy Ponce's report included the following:

- Emergency Preparedness Week was held September 8 to September 11, 2025. Campus safety procedures and how to respond to critical situations were presented and emergency drills were conducted throughout the week.
- The Circle of Support will offer a Partner Resource Fair, Wednesday, September 17, 2025 from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
- Temple College's Alumni and Friends Association is open to everyone regardless if a credit or non-credit class has been taken, or if someone is a friend or fan of Temple College.
- As part of Temple College's Community Engagement, Temple College participated in Adopt-a-School activities at Hubbard Branch Elementary in Belton on Thursday, Sept. 11, 2025.
- A ribbon-cutting ceremony and grand opening of the
- Temple College celebrated a ribbon-cutting ceremony and grand opening of the Michael Donahue Gallery was held on Saturday, Sept. 6, 2025 in the College's new Workforce and Visual Arts Building.
- A warm welcome was extended to Elizabeth Chivers as she assumes the duties of the office of the Associate Vice President of Institutional Research and Planning.
- Dr. Christy Ponce, Lydia Santibañez-Farrell, and Dr. Hope Koch attended the 2025 CCATT Annual Conference in Austin, September 12-13, 2025. Dr. Koch reported the following:

8. Reports

A. Faculty Council Report

An oral report was not given. The complete report was included in the Board materials.

B. Provost-Academic Affairs and Student Services Reports

An oral report was not given. The complete report was included in the Board materials.

C. Foundation Update

Dana Riegel presented the update on The Foundation activities.

- 872 Applications were received
- 427 Scholarships were awarded compared with 389 last year, up 38 at \$460,255 as compared with \$372,350, up \$87,905.

There are three ways scholarship funds are raised through the Foundation:

- Endowments: - Investments that are awarded balancing providing for students today and for the future. Only what is earned (or growth) is awarded. Currently, we have 127 endowment accounts that generate scholarships. The majority award scholarships ranging between \$400 to \$1000. Some are very specific, yet most are not.
- Passthroughs: - A person or organization sends the Foundation a specific amount to be awarded the next time scholarships are awarded.
- This year's golf tournament will take place October 27th! Currently, we are two teams away from selling all team sponsorships totaling \$95,700 compared to \$110,000 last year. Still needed are two more bronze sponsors and 29 sponsorships for the holes. Sponsorships can be either companies or individuals.

D. Vice President of Workforce Development Report

DeDe Griffith reported on Star Strategies for Building a Talent-Strong Texas.

- A Talent Strong Texas Pathways model was reviewed.
- Community-Based Organizations (CBOs), K–12 systems, universities, and employers— each plays a distinct and vital role in helping students enter, stay on, and complete a purposeful path to a credential of value.
- Strong K–12 partnerships extend Guided Pathways “backward” into high school, helping students choose a path early, stay on it, and succeed.
- Strong partnerships with Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) can significantly enhance the effectiveness of Guided Pathways by addressing students’ non-academic needs and supporting student momentum toward credential and career attainment.
- Strong employer partnerships are essential to the success of Guided Pathways because they ensure that students are not just completing credentials—but completing the right credentials that lead to good jobs and economic mobility.
- Strong partnerships build strong communities. Understanding Our Students through several strategies including Student Barriers, School District Partnerships, Workforce Development, Leveraging Success at Scale, and Internal Partnerships.

- Workforce has received a \$280,000 TRUE Grant Award.

9. New Business

A. Consideration of Approval of Adjustments to Accounts Receivable and Allowances for Doubtful Accounts for Fy2025.

College administrative regulation, "Allowance for Doubtful Accounts," requires that the Board be informed of Accounts Receivable balances that are being removed from College ledgers because of being over three (3) years of age. The amount being written off for 2025 is \$179,054, an increase from 2024, which was \$39,167.

The accounts written to Bad Debt Expense & Allowance for Doubtful Accounts reflect the additional expenses for unpaid balances between one (1) year and three (3) years of age. The amount for 2025 is \$749,116, an increase from the 2024 amount of \$636,042. The 2025 allowance of \$749,116 is in line with Pre-Covid Allowances.

Even though the College is required to remove accounts over three (3) years of age, we do maintain holds on student records for those balances in excess of \$300 and do, in some cases, recover those debts.

On a motion by Larry Wilkerson, seconded by John Bailey, and without negative vote, the Adjustments to Accounts Receivable and Allowances for Doubtful Accounts for Fy2025 were approved as presented.

B. Consideration for Approving a Purchase to DataDefense Partners for Network Security and Support Renewals through the Equalis Cooperative.

As our security posture has grown, we have purchased security products from Fortinet through DataDefense Partners. Many of these products are due for support renewals over the next three years, so this proposal is to consolidate the renewals to a single renewal date and provide an annual payment option that fits our budgetary needs.

This purchase includes the following renewals co-termed to September 30, 2028:

- 6 core network switches for Temple and Hutto
- 135 access network switches in Temple, Hutto, Taylor, and TBI locations
- FortiGuard Indicators of Compromise Service-Provides early warning detection of network and computer intrusion
- FortiVoice Telephone system with remote support
- FortiGate Firewalls for Hutto, Taylor, and THBD Locations with Unified Threat Protection and internet filtering
- FortiEDR Endpoint Detection and Response with Forensics and Threat Hunting
- FortiMail Email Filtering and Virus Outbreak Protection

- FortiAnalyzer Security Automation software

The Board of Trustees was asked to approve a purchase to DataDefense Partners for \$84,282.93 per year for three years, totaling \$252,848.79. The contract is offered through the Equalis cooperative agreement, contract TC-COG-2127C. This cooperative meets the College's requirements for competitive solicitations found in Texas Education Code 44. The Board of Trustees is also asked to give authority to the Vice President of Administration to approve the contract and to approve any change orders up to the amount allowed by the Texas Education Code 44.0411.

On a motion by Dr. Hope Koch, seconded by Dr. Andrejs Avots-Avotins, and without negative vote, a Purchase to DataDefense Partners for Network Security and Support Renewals through the Equalis Cooperative was approved as presented.

C. Consider Approval of Amendment to the FY2025 Budget

Temple College is the recipient of a META Community action grant in the amount of \$100,000. The purpose of the grant is to support the creation of a first-of-its-kind learning environment integrating artificial intelligence and advanced manufacturing.

The project will outfit two key spaces:

- Meta AI Computer Lab – Equipped with 21 high-performance Alienware computers, dual monitors, and interactive displays to support AI language model training and collaborative learning.
- Integrated Robotics Manufacturing & Innovation Lab – A high bay space outfitted with robotic-controlled manufacturing systems, IoT devices, drones, and AI-integrated technologies for hands-on training in smart manufacturing.

Recommendation: Approve amendment to the FY 2025 budget to appropriate reflect activity since budget adoption.

On a motion by Dr. Andrejs Avots-Avotins, seconded by Dr. Mark Durham, and without negative vote, an Amendment to the FY2025 Budget was approved as presented.

10. Miscellaneous

A. Consider a Resolution of Candidate Nominations for the Tax Appraisal District of Bell County Board of Directors for the Year 2026.

On a motion by Dr. Hope Koch, seconded by John Bailey, and without negative vote, the Resolution of Candidate Nominations for the Tax Appraisal District of Bell County Board of Directors for the Year 2026 was approved as presented.

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11. Executive Session to Consider Personnel, Legal Matters, and Real Estate
At 7:22 p.m., Chair Santibañez-Farrell announced that an Executive Session would be called to consider Personnel, Legal Matters, and Real Estate.

The Board convened into Executive Session at 7:28 p.m.

The Board reconvened into Regular Session at 8:12 p.m., and Chair Santibañez-Farrell announced that there were no deliberations during the Executive Session that required Board action.

12. Adjournment

There being no further business, the Meeting of the Board of Trustees was adjourned on a motion by Larry Wilkerson, and seconded by John Bailey, at 8:12 p.m.

NEXT BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING:

A Regular Meeting of the Temple College Board of Trustees will be held Monday, October 20, 2025 at 6:00p.m., in the Louise L. Cox Board Room, located in Room 916 in the Marc Nigliazzo Administration Building on the Main Campus.

Minutes recorded, transcribed & submitted by:

Judith Dohnalik

Judith Dohnalik, Assistant to the Board of Trustees

Minutes Approved as Submitted: _____

Date