



BOARD OF TRUSTEES
JAMES A. RHODES STATE COLLEGE
542nd Meeting Minutes
May 19, 2026

The Rhodes State College (RSC) Board of Trustees met on Tuesday, May 19, 2026 at 4:30 pm in the Keese Hall Board Room, Cabinet and Faculty Association President were present in the room, all other guests via Zoom, a virtual platform.

CALL TO ORDER AND QUORUM

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Butch Kirk, Chair. Members present were Mr. Butch Kirk, Mr. Sam Bassitt, Mr. Robert Sielschott, Ms. Jessica Cunningham, Ms. Jill Jacobs and Dr. Russ Decker. Dr. Ellis joined the meeting in session.

ADDED AGENDA ITEM

Chair Kirk stated that an item needed to be added to the agenda for Executive Session regarding personnel matters.

Ms. Cunningham moved to add Executive Session - Personnel Matters to the agenda, and Mr. Bassitt seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

Chair Kirk called for a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss personnel matters. Ms. Cunningham moved, and Mr. Bassitt seconded. A Roll Call vote was taken, with Mr. Kirk, Mr. Bassitt, Ms. Cunningham, Ms. Jacobs, Mr. Sielschott, and Dr. Decker voting yes.

The Board adjourned to Executive Session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

a. Personnel Matters

The Board discussed personnel matters. Following the discussion, Chair Kirk called for a motion to adjourn from Executive Session and return to Public Session. Ms. Jacobs moved to adjourn from Executive Session, and Mr. Sielschott seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken, with Mr. Kirk, Mr. Bassitt, Ms. Cunningham, Ms. Jacobs, Mr. Sielschott, and Dr. Decker voting yes.

WELCOME DR. RUSS DECKER – NEWLY APPOINTED BOARD MEMBER

Chair Kirk welcomed Dr. Russ Decker to the Board of Trustees and shared highlights of his extensive leadership experience in public safety, homeland security, emergency management, and community relations. Chair Kirk noted Dr. Decker's current role at Nutrien Lima Nitrogen, previous leadership positions with the Ohio Department of Public Safety and Allen County Emergency Management, as well as his involvement with several community organizations. The Board welcomed Dr. Decker and recognized the expertise and leadership he brings to the College.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE BOARD MEETING OF APRIL 21, 2026

Chair Kirk called for the approval of the minutes from the April 21, 2026, Board meeting. Ms. Cunningham moved to approve the minutes, and Ms. Jacobs seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

ACADEMIC FACULTY PROMOTIONS (RECOGNITION OF DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT)

On behalf of the President, the Vice President for Academic Affairs, and the Faculty Promotion Committee, it is our honor to recognize the following faculty members who have successfully fulfilled all requirements for Faculty Rank Promotion, effective for the 2026–2027 academic year. The list below reflects each faculty member and the rank to which they have been promoted.

Name	Rank
Dr. Joseph Abbott	Assistant Professor
Ms. Angeline Nichols	Assistant Professor
Ms. Aubree Rhoad	Assistant Professor
Ms. Rebecca Uppenkamp	Assistant Professor
Mr. Adam Wehrman	Assistant Professor
Dr. Jeanna Haggard	Associate Professor
Ms. Cara Hurd	Associate Professor
Ms. Amanda Kuck	Associate Professor
Dr. Andrea Liles	Associate Professor
Mr. Chadwick Massie	Associate Professor
Mr. Justin Nance	Associate Professor
Mr. Jesse Wallace	Associate Professor
Dr. Edwina Hatzaetos	Professor
Ms. Petra Linnon	Professor

Dr. Eric Mason recognized faculty members who achieved promotion to the ranks of assistant professor, associate professor, and full professor for Academic Year 2026–2027 in recognition of successfully meeting the established promotion criteria.

FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET-TO-ACTUAL PERFORMANCE AS OF APRIL 2026 (unaudited)

NOTES

Revenue Overview

Total revenue through April is \$18.4M, which represents 87.2% of the annual budget. This is slightly ahead of last year's pace of 86.9%, and overall revenue performance remains strong.

Tuition and Fees

Tuition revenue is \$7.55M, which is 83.5% of the annual budget. This is higher than the same point last year (\$6.95M), reflecting continued strength in tuition collections despite a higher overall budget target.

State Appropriations

State funding totals \$10.1M, or 88.6% of the annual appropriation. This is ahead of last year in absolute dollars (\$9.27M), reflecting the increase in state support.

Gifts from the Foundation

The College transferred \$350K in Foundation support during March. This represents 100% of the annual budget for this category.

Sales and Services of Educational Activities

Revenue in this category totals \$124,952. The budget for this line was conservative. Revenue in this category includes indirect cost recovery from grants, background checks, the dental hygiene clinic, and farm sales.

Other Operating Income

Other operating income totals \$122,314 reflecting additional miscellaneous revenue sources not originally anticipated.

Investment Income

Investment income totals \$176,322, or 78.4% of the annual projection. While slightly behind proportional budget pacing, investment earnings remain healthy overall.

Expense Overview

Total expenditures through April are \$17.1M, or 81.1% of the annual budget. Spending is slightly ahead of last year's pace of 79.6%, primarily due to timing of purchases and facility-related expenditures.

Wages and Benefits

Personnel costs remain stable and predictable. Wages are at 83.9% of budget. Benefits are at 88.6% of budget. These figures are generally consistent with normal payroll and benefit cycles.

Equipment and Supplies

This category is currently at 103.2% of the annual budget, which is above typical pacing. During the fiscal year, the College adjusted spending priorities within existing budget resources to address operational and instructional equipment needs as they arose. A portion of these expenditures was offset by lower than anticipated spending within the Information and Communication category.

Information and Communication

This category is currently at 62.8% of budget, which is below proportional budget pacing. The College has continued to evaluate spending needs throughout the fiscal year and has ultimately spent less in this category than originally anticipated while still maintaining operational and technology needs.

Maintenance

Maintenance spending is at 96.5% of budget, reflecting ongoing facility and operational needs, including projects completed earlier in the fiscal year.

Miscellaneous

Miscellaneous expenses are at 92.6% of budget and remain within overall budget expectations.

Travel

Travel expenses remain below budget expectations at 55.5% of the annual budget as employees have attended fewer conferences and events than anticipated.

Net Position

Through April, the College has a net cash gain of \$1.30M in operations. Cash balances overall increased approximately \$1.0M during the fiscal year despite continued expenditures related to forward-funded grants and operational investments.

Overall Assessment

The College remains in a strong financial position through April. Revenue growth in tuition, state appropriations, and other operating categories combined with controlled spending has resulted in a positive operating position. While several expense categories are pacing ahead of budget due to timing of purchases and maintenance activity, no material financial concerns currently exist.

Mr. Adkins provided an overview of the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget to Actual performance through April 2026, noting that revenues are projected to meet or exceed budgeted amounts. Expenses remain below budget projections, and the College is expected to end the fiscal year in a positive cash position.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT (Informational)

Dr. Spiers provided national, state, and local updates, including potential impacts of the proposed federal FY2027 budget on student support programs and grants. She also highlighted continued growth and demand for community colleges, Rhodes State’s commitment to developing programs aligned with workforce needs, and recent commencement activities, including recognition of CCP graduates and the Outstanding Alumnus.

Dr. Greaney provided a summer and fall enrollment update, noting continued enrollment growth. Summer enrollment projections showed double-digit increases in headcount and FTE, while fall enrollment also reflected strong growth trends compared to the previous year. The Board recognized the College’s positive enrollment momentum and continued growth.

Dr. Smith provided a presentation regarding the Rhodes State College Strategic Completion Plan, which is required by the Ohio Department of Higher Education every two years. The presentation highlighted progress made on the 2024–2026 plan, identified barriers impacting student success, and outlined the goals and strategies focused on persistence, retention, workforce alignment, and student support initiatives for the next two-year cycle.

FACULTY ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT’S UPDATE

The outgoing Faculty Association President, Dr. Jacquie Martz, thanked the Board of Trustees for its continued support of the Faculty Association and stewardship of College resources. It was shared that faculty recognize the administration’s commitment to the mission and values of the College and feel supported in serving student success. Confidence was also expressed in incoming Faculty Association President Traci Bitler and President-Elect, Angela Lee and their continued representation of faculty interests.

CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF PERSONNEL ACTIONS

Resolution No. 2026-44

Resolved, upon recommendation of the President and with the concurrence of the Executive Staff, that the following personnel actions be approved:

- Faculty/Staff Appointments – May 19, 2026

Ms. Goings provided a brief overview of the personnel actions, which included the hiring of a new Controller, an internal transfer to Director of Business Services, and an internal transfer into a Systems Analyst role within Information Technology.

Chair Kirk requested the Board’s consideration and approval of Resolution No. 2026-44 (Consideration of Approval of Personnel Actions). Ms. Jacobs moved to approve Resolution No. 2026-44, and seconded by Ms. Cunningham. The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL FOR PURCHASES OVER \$50,000 FOR THE RENEWAL OF THE ELLUCIAN ENTERPRISE SYSTEMS

Resolution No. 2026-45

Resolved, upon the recommendation of the President, and with the concurrence of the Vice President for Finance & Administrative Services, that approval be given to renew our license with Ellucian for the Banner enterprise resource planning (ERP) system and customer relationship management (CRM) software for fiscal year 2027 (July 2026-June 2027).

Vendor:	Ellucian
Amount:	\$355,805
Source of Funds:	Operating Funds

Overview:

The College utilizes a suite of enterprise systems from Ellucian to support student, academic, and administrative operations.

Banner serves as the College's core enterprise system, supporting student, financial, and human resource operations. It maintains official student records, including admissions, registration, financial aid, and billing, and serves as the system of record for all student-related data. Banner also manages the College's financial operations, including budgeting, purchasing, accounting, and reporting, as well as payroll and human resources functions. As the College's primary administrative system, Banner underpins daily operations and ensures accurate, secure, and compliant management of institutional data.

CRM Recruit supports the College's enrollment efforts by managing prospective student engagement from initial inquiry through application and admission. It enables targeted communications, tracks interactions with prospective students, and helps streamline recruitment processes. This improves the College's ability to attract, communicate with, and convert prospective students into enrolled students.

Ellucian CRM Advise supports student success by providing tools for advising, early alerts, and coordinated case management. Faculty and staff can identify and respond to at-risk students, track interventions, and communicate more effectively across departments. This system helps improve retention and ensures students receive timely support throughout their academic journey.

DegreeWorks provides a comprehensive degree audit and academic planning tool for both students and advisors. It allows users to track progress toward degree completion, understand remaining requirements, and explore academic pathways. This improves transparency, supports informed decision-making, and helps students stay on track to graduate.

Together, these systems form an integrated technology platform that supports the full student lifecycle, from recruitment through graduation, while also enabling the College's core financial and administrative operations. Renewal is recommended to maintain continuity of these critical functions.

Attachment:

- None

Mr. Adkins provided an overview of Resolution 2026-45 regarding the annual renewal of the College's Banner ERP and CRM software systems through Ellucian. The software supports institutional operations, recruiting, and advising. Discussion clarified that the renewal is separate from the ongoing ERP evaluation process.

Chair Kirk requested the Board's consideration and approval of Resolution No. 2026-45 (Consideration of Approval for Purchases Over \$50,000 for the Renewal of the Ellucian Enterprise Systems). Mr. Bassitt moved to approve Resolution No. 2026-45; seconded by Mr. Sielschott. The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL FOR PURCHASES OVER \$50,000 FOR THE RENEWAL OF THE CAMPUSLOGIC FINANCIAL AID SOFTWARE**Resolution No. 2026-46**

Resolved, upon the recommendation of the President, and with the concurrence of the Vice President for Finance & Administrative Services, that approval be given to renew our license with CampusLogic for the financial aid management software for fiscal year 2027 (July 2026-June 2027).

Vendor:	CampusLogic
Amount:	\$72,350
Source of Funds:	Operating Funds

Overview:

The College utilizes CampusLogic to support the administration of financial aid processes. The system manages key functions such as FAFSA verification, collection of required student documentation, and automated communication with students regarding outstanding requirements.

CampusLogic streamlines compliance with federal financial aid regulations by guiding students through required steps, reducing errors, and ensuring documentation is complete and properly reviewed. It replaces manual, paper-based processes with a secure digital platform, improving efficiency for staff while providing a more accessible and transparent experience for students.

The system integrates with the College's enterprise system, Ellucian Banner, allowing financial aid information to be processed accurately and in a timely manner. The College has used CampusLogic effectively and recommends renewal to maintain these essential functions.

Attachment:

- None

Mr. Adkins provided an overview of Resolution 2026-16 regarding the renewal of the CampusLogic Financial Aid Software. The software supports financial aid processing by automating workflows, document collection, reminders, and communication with students, while improving efficiency and customer service within the Financial Aid Office.

Chair Kirk requested the Board's Consideration and Approval of Resolution No. 2026-46 (Consideration of Approval for Purchases Over \$50,000 for the Renewal of the CampusLogic Financial Aid Software). Ms. Cunningham moved to approve Resolution No. 2026-46; seconded by Mr. Bassitt. The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL FOR PURCHASES OVER \$50,000 FOR THE RENEWAL OF COURSELEAF SOFTWARE**Resolution No. 2026-47**

Resolved, upon the recommendation of the President, and with the concurrence of the Vice President for Finance & Administrative Services, that approval be given to renew our license with Leepfrog Technologies for CourseLeaf software for fiscal year 2027 (July 2026-June 2027).

Vendor:	Leepfrog Technologies, Inc.
Amount:	\$64,422
Source of Funds:	Operating Funds

Overview:

CourseLeaf, developed by Leepfrog Technologies, is the College's system for managing academic curriculum, course approvals, and the official academic catalog.

The system provides a structured and consistent process for developing and approving courses and programs, while ensuring accurate and up-to-date information is published for students. It also integrates with Ellucian Banner, the College's student information system.

The College has used CourseLeaf effectively to support academic operations and recommends renewal to maintain these essential functions.

Attachment:

- None

Mr. Adkins provided an overview of Resolution 2026-47 regarding the renewal of CourseLeaf software. The software supports curriculum approval, academic catalog management, and class scheduling, while integrating with the College's Banner system to manage academic processes and data.

Chair Kirk requested the Board's Consideration and Approval of Resolution No. 2026-47 (Consideration of Approval for Purchases Over \$50,000 for the Renewal of CourseLeaf Software). Mr. Bassitt moved to approve Resolution No. 2026-47; seconded by Ms. Jacobs. The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL FOR PURCHASES OVER \$50,000 FOR NETWORK SECURITY AND INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES
Resolution No. 2026-48

Resolved, upon the recommendation of the President, and with the concurrence of the Vice President for Finance & Administrative Services, that approval be given to purchase network infrastructure, security, and software support services for fiscal year 2027 (July 2026-June 2027).

Vendor:	Step CG, LLC
Amount:	\$81,500
Source of Funds:	Operating Funds

Overview:

The College utilizes network infrastructure and software from Extreme Networks to support secure, reliable campus-wide connectivity for academic, administrative, and operational systems.

This annual renewal provides maintenance, technical support, and software licensing necessary to manage and protect the College's network environment. It includes security features that control and monitor access to the network, regular system updates to address cybersecurity vulnerabilities, and vendor support to ensure timely response to system issues or equipment failure.

This system is critical to maintaining a secure and stable technology environment that supports all institutional operations. Without active maintenance and support, the College would face increased cybersecurity risk, potential network outages, and disruption to instruction, student services, and administrative functions.

Attachment:

- None

Mr. Adkins provided an overview of Resolution 2026-48 regarding security and infrastructure services. The annual renewal supports licensing, maintenance, and security updates for the College's technology infrastructure, including Wi-Fi, network switches, and related systems.

Chair Kirk requested the Board's Consideration and Approval of Resolution No. 2026-48 (Consideration of Approval for Purchases Over \$50,000 for Network Security and Infrastructure Services). Ms. Jacobs moved to approve Resolution No. 2026-48; seconded by Ms. Cunningham. The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL FOR PURCHASES OVER \$50,000 FOR THE PURCHASE OF INDUSTRIAL CONTROL TRAINERS
Resolution No. 2026-49

Resolved, upon the recommendation of the President, with the concurrence of the Vice President for Finance & Administrative Services, that approval be given for the College to spend up to \$141,059.00 to purchase industrial control center trainers on the Talent Ready Grant in fiscal year 2026.

Vendor: Advanced Technologies Consultants
Amount: \$141,059
Source of Funds: Talent Ready Grant

Overview:

This request seeks Board of Trustees approval to utilize Talent Ready Grant funds to purchase additional instructional equipment from Advanced Technologies Consultants in support of the advanced manufacturing programs. The investment is intended to expand instructional capacity and improve student access to high-demand technical training by reducing current lab bottlenecks that limit hands-on participation.

Specifically, the grant will fund the acquisition of four motor control training systems with integrated programmable logic controllers (PLC) and human machine interfaces (HMI). This equipment is used to teach students how automated industrial systems are controlled, monitored, and troubleshot, including the safe operation of electric motors, programming of automated processes, and interaction with systems through operator interfaces.

The proposed investment aligns with the intent of the Talent Ready Grant by increasing student access to industry-relevant training, supporting workforce development needs, and enabling the College to serve more students each term while maintaining the applied, hands-on learning model essential for technical skill development.

Attachment:

- Advanced Technologies Consultants Quote

Mr. Adkins and Dr. Haus provided an overview of Resolution 2026-49 regarding the purchase of industrial control trainers funded through the Talent Ready Grant. The equipment will support advanced manufacturing and industrial automation programs by providing students with hands-on training using current industry technology related to motor controls, programmable logic controllers, and industrial maintenance systems.

Chair Kirk requested the Board's Consideration and Approval of Resolution No. 2026-49 (Consideration of Approval for Purchases Over \$50,000 for the Purchase of Industrial Control Trainers). Dr. Decker moved to approve Resolution No. 2026-49; seconded by Ms. Jacobs. The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL FOR PURCHASES OVER \$50,000 FOR CONCRETE REPAIR AT THE BORRA CENTER FOR HEALTH SCIENCES

Resolution No. 2026-50

Resolved, upon the recommendation of the President, and with the concurrence of the Vice President for Finance & Administrative Services, that approval be given to repair the concrete outside the Borra Center for Health Sciences.

Vendor: Tuttle Construction, Inc
Amount: \$56,100
Source of Funds: Operating Funds

Overview:

The College is seeking approval to complete necessary concrete and handrail repairs at the Borra Center for Health Sciences to address deterioration and maintain a safe and functional environment for students, faculty, and staff. The project includes repair of spalled concrete, filling existing openings, and modifying the handrail system to a surface-mounted design to improve durability and long-term performance. These improvements are necessary to maintain the integrity of the facility and reduce the risk of further deterioration.

Approval is recommended to proceed with these repairs to preserve the facility and ensure a safe campus environment.

Attachment:

- None

Mr. Adkins provided an overview of Resolution 2026-50 regarding repairs to the Borra Center for Health Sciences entrance walkway. The project includes concrete repairs and replacement of the existing rail system to address deterioration caused by the original railing design and winter weather conditions.

Chair Kirk requested the Board's Consideration and Approval of Resolution No. 2026-50 (Consideration of Approval for Purchases Over \$50,000 for Concrete Repair at the Borra Center for Health Sciences). Mr. Sielschott moved to approve Resolution No. 2026-50; seconded by Mr. Bassitt. The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL FOR PURCHASES OVER \$50,000 FOR CLEANING SERVICES AT THE BORRA CENTER FOR HEALTH SCIENCES

Resolution No. 2026-51

Resolved, upon the recommendation of the President, and with the concurrence of the Vice President for Finance and Administrative Services and the Vice President for Human Resources, that approval be given to contract with Master Maintenance to provide cleaning services for the Borra Center for Health Sciences for the period of July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027, in an amount not to exceed \$85,000.

Background:

Cleaning and housekeeping services for the main campus are provided through the cost share agreement with Ohio State University at Lima, which includes janitorial support across shared facilities. The Borra Center for Health Sciences is not included in that agreement and requires separate cleaning services.

Since the facility opened, the College has contracted with Master Maintenance to provide cleaning services specific to the Borra Center. The building supports high-demand health science programs and requires consistent, specialized cleaning to maintain instructional environments and meet operational standards.

The College has been satisfied with the quality and reliability of services provided by Master Maintenance. This request continues those services for FY27 through the College's standard annual renewal process, with no increase in cost.

Attachment:

- Master Maintenance Contract

Mr. Adkins provided an overview of Resolution 2026-51 regarding annual housekeeping and janitorial services for the Borra Center for Health Sciences, which are contracted separately from the shared services agreement with Ohio State. It was noted that the annual contract pricing remains unchanged from the previous year.

Chair Kirk requested the Board's Consideration and Approval of Resolution No. 2026-51 (Consideration of Approval for Purchases Over \$50,000 for Cleaning Services at the Borra Center for Health Sciences). Ms. Cunningham moved to approve Resolution No. 2026-51; seconded by Ms. Jacobs. The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL FOR PURCHASES OVER \$50,000 FOR THE RHODES STATE COLLEGE/OSU-LIMA COLLABORATIVE COST SHARE EXPENDITURE

Resolution No. 2026-52

Resolved, upon the recommendation of the President, with the concurrence of the Vice President for Finance & Administrative Services, that approval be given for the payment of the Cost-Share Agreement with OSU-Lima from July 1, 2026 through August 31, 2026.

Overview:

Rhodes State College and OSU-Lima are currently negotiating a new five-year cost-share agreement. The agreement is in draft form and we expect it to be completed before July 1, 2026. The new draft outlines the shared services between the two institutions. The expenses for each institution are not expected to change at a material level.

The average monthly payment from Rhodes to OSU-Lima is \$110,000. These expenses are mostly personnel based for shared services in facilities, grounds, housekeeping, library, and public safety. Payments are made quarterly.

We are asking for approval to enter into the new cost-share agreement and pay OSU-Lima the approximately \$110,000 per month for July and August 2026. We will present the full cost-share agreement with annual totals at the scheduled August board meeting.

Attachment:

- None

Mr. Adkins provided an overview of Resolution 2026-52 regarding the Rhodes State and Ohio State University collaborative cost-share expenditure. Discussion included the transition to a new five-year agreement, updates to the cost-sharing methodology, and approval to continue payments until the full agreement is presented to the Board at the August board meeting.

Chair Kirk requested the Board's Consideration and Approval of Resolution No. 2026-52 (Consideration of Approval for Purchases Over \$50,000 for the Rhodes State College/OSU-Lima Collaborative Cost Share Expenditure). Mr. Sielschott moved to approve Resolution No. 2026-52; seconded by Ms. Jacobs. The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL FOR PURCHASES OVER \$50,000 FOR THE PURCHASE OF FURNITURE FOR THE TUTORING CENTER**Resolution No. 2026-53**

Resolved, upon the recommendation of the President, with the concurrence of the Vice President for Enrollment Management & Student Affairs, that approval be given for the College to spend up to \$74,000 to purchase furniture from Innovative Office Solutions.

Vendor:	Innovative Office Solutions, Inc.
Amount:	\$74,000
Source of Funds:	Department of Education Title III Strengthening Institutions Program Grant

Overview:

Strategy Two of the College's Title III grant is focused on enhancing the student experience through the improvement of student spaces throughout the College. Additionally, as the College has strategically invested in staffing in the Tutoring Center, there has been a significant increase in student usage of the Center. The purchase of furniture will enhance our students' experience and contribute to student success, a key component of our Title III grant.

The quote from Innovative Office Solutions is for \$66,793.01 and we included a contingency for \$7,206.99 due to price volatility from quote to purchase and any installation issues.

Attachment:

- Proposal from Innovative Office Solutions, Inc.

Dr. Greaney provided an overview of Resolution 2026-53 regarding the third phase of campus space improvements funded through the Title III grant. The project includes furniture and upgrades for the Tutoring Center, with installation planned prior to the start of the fall semester.

Chair Kirk requested the Board's Consideration and Approval of Resolution No. 2026-53 (Consideration of Approval for Purchases Over \$50,000 for the Purchase of Furniture for the Tutoring Center). Mr. Bassitt moved to approve Resolution No. 2026-53; seconded by Ms. Jacobs. The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL FOR THE 2026-2028 RHODES STATE COLLEGE STRATEGIC CAMPUS COMPLETION PLAN

Resolution No. 2026-54

Resolved, upon the recommendation of the President, and with the concurrence of the Vice President for Institutional Effectiveness Planning, that consideration be given for the Rhodes State College Campus Completion Plan update and activities for 2026-2028.

Description:

Public colleges and universities in Ohio are required to submit a board-approved campus completion plan to the Chancellor by June 30, 2026.

The current legislation, as defined by section 3345.81 (Strategic Completion Plan) of the Ohio Revised Code, states:

"The board of trustees of each institution of higher education shall adopt an institution-specific strategic completion plan designed to increase the number of degrees and certificates awarded to students. The plan shall be consistent with the mission and strategic priorities of the institution, include measurable student completion goals, and align with the state's workforce development priorities. Upon adoption by the board of trustees, each institution of higher education shall provide a copy of its plan to the chancellor of higher education.

The board of trustees of each institution of higher education shall update its plan at least once every two years and provide a copy of their updated plan to the chancellor upon adoption."

The Rhodes State College Strategic Campus Completion Plan: 2024–2026 Progress & 2026–2028 Goals reflects the College's ongoing efforts to align its Strategic Plan priorities with grant-funded initiatives and state-supported collaborations with peer institutions. The Plan outlines both quantitative and qualitative strategies designed to increase the number and percentage of students earning meaningful postsecondary credentials, with a focused emphasis on addressing key barriers to student persistence and completion.

Attachment:

- Rhodes State College Strategic Campus Completion Plan: 2024-2026 Progress & 2026-2028 Goals

Chair Kirk requested the Board's Consideration and Approval of Resolution No. 2026-54 (Consideration of Approval for the 2026-2028 Rhodes State College Strategic Campus Completion Plan). Mr. Sielschott moved to approve Resolution No. 2026-54; seconded by Ms. Jacobs. The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL TO ADOPT THE POLICY 7.19 ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI)

Resolution No. 2026-55

Resolved, upon the recommendation of the President, and with the concurrence of the Vice President for Academic Affairs, that approval be given for the new Rhodes State College Policy 7.19, Artificial Intelligence (AI) to be effective immediately upon approval.

Description:

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy 7.19 has been developed in alignment with the provisions of House Bill 96, Ohio's biennial state budget, related to artificial intelligence governance. While the requirement applies to K-12 institutions, the College has proactively established this policy and accompanying procedure to support alignment with its College Credit Plus (CCP) partners and to promote consistency across educational settings. In its development, the College reviewed guidance from the Ohio Department of Higher Education (ODHE), as well as policies from peer institutions. The policy provides a comprehensive framework for the responsible, ethical, and secure use of AI technologies. It also defines acceptable use, outlines prohibited activities, and establishes clear expectations for compliance.

Attachments:

- Recommended Artificial Intelligence (AI) policy 7.19
- Artificial Intelligence (AI) policy 7.19 with track changes

Dr. Mason and Dr. Bradley-Glenn provided an overview of the new Policy 7.19, Artificial Intelligence (AI), which outlines guidelines for ethical AI use, FERPA compliance, approved technology tools, classroom expectations, and academic integrity.

Chair Kirk requested the Board's Consideration and Approval of Resolution No. 2026-55 (Consideration of Approval to Adopt the Policy 7.19 Artificial Intelligence (AI)). Ms. Cunningham moved to approve Resolution No. 2026-55; seconded by Ms. Jacobs. The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL FOR THE DEGREES AND CERTIFICATES CONFERRED ON MAY 2, 2026**Resolution No. 2026-56**

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Board of Trustees Policies of James A. Rhodes State College, the Board holds the authority to confer degrees and certificates; and

WHEREAS, faculty within each academic program are responsible for verifying the students who have successfully completed requirements for their respective degrees and certificates; and

WHEREAS, the College Registrar has certified the names of the students as having fulfilled all academic requirements;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of James A. Rhodes State College hereby approves the conferral of degrees and certificates on May 2, 2026, to the students who have completed all program requirements and been recommended by the faculty.

Attachment:

- 2025-2026 List of Graduates

Dr. Greaney provided an overview of the approval of degrees and certificates conferred at the May 2, 2026 Commencement Ceremony. It was noted that final approval occurs following the completion and verification of final grades.

Chair Kirk requested the Board's Consideration and Approval of Resolution No. 2026-56 (Consideration of Approval for the Degrees and Certificates Conferred on May 2, 2026). Dr. Ellis moved to approve Resolution No. 2026-55; seconded by Ms. Cunningham. The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

BOARD MEETING CALENDAR FOR 2026-2027 – PROPOSED

Tuesday, August 18, 2026	*4:00 pm	Board of Trustees Meeting
	5:30 pm	Annual Joint Meeting/Foundation Board
Tuesday, September 15, 2026	4:30 pm	
Tuesday, October 20, 2026	4:30 pm	
Tuesday, November 17, 2026	4:30 pm	
Tuesday, December 15, 2026	4:30 pm	
Tuesday, January 19, 2027	4:30 pm	
Tuesday, February 16, 2027	4:30 pm	
Tuesday, March 16, 2027	4:30 pm	
Tuesday, April 20, 2027	**4:30 pm	
Tuesday, May 18, 2027	4:30 pm	

Special Meetings will be called as needed.

***Change in time to accommodate the Joint Meeting and Dinner with the Foundation Board.**

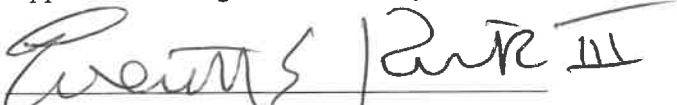
**** Subject to Notification of AACC Annual Conference.**

Dr. Spiers reviewed the upcoming Board meeting calendar. It was noted that the August meeting will include the annual joint meeting with the Foundation Board, and the April meeting date may require adjustment due to the AACC Annual Conference.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Kirk called for a motion to adjourn the Board meeting. Dr. Ellis moved to adjourn the Board meeting, and was seconded by Ms. Jacobs. The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

Approved Meeting Minutes of May 19, 2026



Mr. Everett "Butch" S. Kirk III

Chair

Pamela Mooneyhan, Recording Secretary