

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE STATE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
IVY TECH COMMUNITY COLLEGE
February 5, 2026**

Call to Order

Chair Kim Emmert O'Dell called the State Board of Trustees meeting to order at 1:00 pm EST.

Roll Call

Trustee Dora called the roll, and the presence of a quorum was announced, with members in person

The following State Trustees were present in person:

Ms. Kim Emmert O'Dell, Chair
Mr. Kerry Stemler, Vice Chair
Mr. Michael Dora, Secretary
Mr. Jesse Brand
Ms. Jennie Dekker
Ms. Marianne Glick
Ms. Gretchen Gutman
Mr. Jack Hingst
Ms. Paula Hughes-Schuh
Mr. Kyle Hupfer
Mr. Jeremy Lugbill
Mr. Stewart McMillan
Mr. Aaron Williams
Mr. Andrew Wilson

The following State Trustee was virtual:

The following State Trustees were not present:

Mr. Harold Hunt

Executive Session Memoranda

Following notice under IC 5-14-1.5-4, IC 5-14-1.5-5 and IC 5-14-1.5-6.1(d)

The State Board of Trustees met in Executive Session on February 4, 2026, at 3:00 pm at 3645 River Crossing Parkway, Indianapolis, IN

Members present were: Kim Emmert O'Dell, Chair; Kerry Stemler, Vice Chair; Michael Dora, Secretary; Jesse Brand; Jennie Dekker; Marianne Glick; Gretchen Gutman; Jack Hingst; Paula Hughes-Schuh; Kyle Hupfer; Jeremy Lugbill; Stewart McMillan; Aaron Williams and Andrew Wilson.

The Trustees considered the following items as permitted under IC 5-14-1.5-6.1(b). For each subject, a reference to the applicable subdivision of IC 5-14-1.5-6.1(b) and a description of that subject are included.

- (2) (B) Initiation of litigation that is either pending or has been threatened specifically in writing.
- (5) To receive information about and interview prospective employees
- (7) For discussion of records classified as confidential by state or federal statute.
- (9) To discuss job performance evaluations of individual employees. This subdivision does not apply to a discussion of the salary, compensation, or benefits of employees during a budget process.

With the approval of these minutes, the Trustees present at the meeting certify that no subject matter other than that specified in the public notice issued for this meeting was discussed in the executive session.

NOTICE OF MEETING MAILED AND POSTED

Trustee Michael Dora, Secretary, confirmed that the notice of regular meetings on February 5, 2026, was properly mailed and posted. The public was invited to attend the meeting, which was open to the public.

APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

Trustee Gutman moved to approve the board meeting minutes from December 4, 2025. Trustee Wilson seconded the motion; the motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Item 1: Audit Committee: Chair Emmert O'Dell called upon Trustee Gutman. The State Board of Trustees Audit Committee met on February 4, 2026, and reported that there were no action items for the Full Board. During the meeting, the committee met with representatives from the State Board of Accounts to discuss the financial audit and federal compliance audits. The committee also reviewed reporting related to the confidential hotline and the cybersecurity report. In addition, members reviewed the 2025–26 audit schedule, the three-year audit plan, and internal audit reports issued since the previous committee meeting.

Item 2: Workforce and Careers Committee: Chair Emmert O'Dell called upon Trustee Dekker. Dekker reports two action items for consideration and board approval. The Workforce & Careers committee report focused on three core priorities for Ivy Tech: strengthening employer-driven pathways for working adults, ensuring the long-term

viability and relevance of our academic offerings, and investing in high-impact training infrastructure aligned to regional workforce needs.

First, the Board received the findings of a national evaluation of Ivy Tech's Achieve Your Degree (AYD) program conducted by the RAND Corporation. This is the first formal, external evaluation of the AYD model. The study examined both how the program is implemented and the relationship between participation and student outcomes. The goal of the evaluation was to understand how employer–community college partnerships can support credential completion for working adult learners.

The outcomes analysis demonstrates that participation in the AYD program increased the likelihood of earning a credential, controlling for differences in time and select student characteristics. The benefit of AYD participation was especially large for those who completed short-term certificates.

Second, Dodge informed the Board of a statewide suspension of the Global Workforce Skills certificate in the School of Business. The action reflects Ivy Tech's data-driven program review, as enrollment and completion trends do not support long-term standalone viability, and outcomes are duplicative of existing programs.

Finally, two capital equipment resolutions were presented for the South Bend/Elkhart and Lafayette campuses.

At the South Bend/Elkhart campus, the proposed purchase of dental clinic equipment will modernize instructional facilities and support students' full licensure preparation in a region with significant workforce needs. Both investments directly strengthen Ivy Tech's ability to deliver high-quality, employer-aligned training.

Trustee Dekker motioned for approval of **Resolution 2026-1**, Approval of Contract with Patterson Dental South Bend Campus. Trustee Gutman seconded the motion; the motion carried unanimously.

At the Lafayette campus, the proposed purchase of advanced process operations and automation training equipment will expand capacity for high-demand technician preparation in areas such as process control, PLC automation, and troubleshooting, directly supporting regional employers, including semiconductors and advanced manufacturing partners.

Trustee Dekker motioned for approval of **Resolution 2026-2**, Approval of Contract with Williams Crowe Inc., dba Aidex Corporation, Lafayette. Trustee Hughes-Schuh seconded the motion; the motion carried unanimously.

Item 3: Academics & Student Experience: Chair Emmert O’Dell called upon Trustee Dora. The Academic and Student Experience Committee received an update on enrollment for the 2025–2026 academic year. Dr. Crook reported that the K14 Headcount surpassed 100,000 to 100,144. The first time the college has had a six-figure dual-credit and dual-enrollment headcount. Total unduplicated headcount has reached 204,347 students, representing a 5.3% increase compared to the same point in the prior academic year. The College is currently surpassing its annual goal of 190,000 by 14,347 students.

Total Revenue-Generating Annualized FTE also showed positive momentum, currently at 41,445, a 1.6% increase from 40,795 in the previous year.

Additionally, Dr. Bryan Hamann reported that Fall-to-Spring retention is at 69.5%, which is slightly ahead of this point last year. The Fall-to-Spring retention metric continues until July 1, and we will continue to see increases throughout the spring.

Item 4: Finance & Business Affairs Committee: Chair Emmert O’Dell called upon Trustee Brand. Trustee Brand reported there are no action items for consideration and board approval. The Committee received an informational update on key financial and enrollment matters. The College reported routine budgetary adjustments made in response to enrollment changes, noting that fall full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment increased by 6 percent overall compared to fall 2024. The Committee also reviewed student affordability data, highlighting that more than 60 percent of Ivy Tech students receive financial aid that does not require loans or paid employment. Additionally, 46 percent of students incur no direct out-of-pocket costs, while another 39 percent owe \$2,000 or less. These outcomes were attributed to expanded need-based aid through FAFSA Simplification, Pell Grant increases, and accessible payment plans, which have contributed to reduced borrowing. As a result, approximately 12 percent of students take out loans, and 13 percent of graduates left with debt in 2025. The Committee also received an update on FY 2026 operating revenues and expenses through December 31, 2025.

The Board received a Foundation update presented by Stephanie Bailey, President of the Ivy Tech Foundation, highlighting FY26 year-to-date fundraising results, donor trends, major grant activity, and upcoming initiatives. As of January 23, 2026, the Foundation has raised \$31.4 million toward an all-in goal of \$53.4 million (59%), with public fundraising exceeding goal at 109% and private fundraising at 38% of goal. The Foundation also reported a total fundraising pipeline exceeding \$270 million, including gifts agreed to, decision-pending proposals, and active development opportunities. Donor trend data underscored the continued importance of revenue diversification, with public sources comprising the largest share of dollars raised and individual donors accounting for the majority of gifts. An

update was provided on the Lilly Endowment AIHE initiative, noting that Phase I planning funding of \$300,000 has been secured and that Phase II implementation and collaboration grant opportunities, totaling up to \$65 million, are due May 1. The Board was also reminded of Ivy Tech Day 2026, scheduled for April 21, 2026, as a key upcoming engagement and fundraising event.

Item 5: Marketing & Public Relations Committee: Chair Emmert O'Dell called upon Trustee Dekker. Trustee Dekker reported there are no action items for consideration and board approval. The committee received an update from Vice President of Marketing Kathie Fleck, who provided a snapshot of SO Marketing work for 2025, including social media efforts, website traffic, creative projects, and student communication. She also provided an overview of the relationship with the IHSAA and showed a video of the fall sports champions of education from across Indiana. VP Fleck shared an update on the performance of paid advertising campaigns that drive admissions and enrollment. Despite a 25% reduction in spending, ads still drove a 15% increase in requests for information and nearly 8% increase in applications. Overall, 24% of all applicants who come directly from advertising eventually enroll at the college. Finally, she provided an initial assessment of the refreshed homepage's performance on the college's main website. In the first month, homepage views are up 50%, and Skills Training web views are up 61%.

MJ Michalak, Senior Vice President, Legal and Public Affairs, presented information on the current legislative session and key bills that Ivy Tech is following. Additionally, she presented information on the state's revenue forecast and an upcoming Ivy Tech economic impact report. Michalak advised that the Indianapolis campus will receive \$850k in federal funding for a flex lab based on the federal budget passed and signed by President Trump yesterday.

Item 6: Building Grounds & Capital Committee: Chair Emmert O'Dell called upon Trustee Stemler. Trustee Stemler reported there are three items for consideration and board approval.

Trustee Stemler motion to approve **Resolution 2026-3, Approval of Clean Room Project, Lafayette Campus.** Trustee Dekker seconded the motion; the motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Stemler motion to approve **Resolution 2026-4, Approval of Contract for Boiler Replacement Crown Pointe, Lake County Campus.** Trustee Gutman seconded the motion; the motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Stemler motion to approve **Resolution 2026-5, Approval of South Bend Dental Lab GMP, South Bend/Elkhart Campus**. Trustee Gutman seconded the motion; the motion carried unanimously.

TREASURERS REPORT

Chair Emmert O'Dell called upon William Bogard, Interim CFO and Treasurer, to the Treasurer's Report.

Ivy Tech remains affordable and good value for students and continues to operate within budgetary parameters.

Fall revenue-generating student FTE was up 6% for the fall terms over last year. 18 of our 19 campuses saw growth. Full-time FTE outpaced PT FTE.

Spring revenue-generating student FTE is currently up about 3% over last year at the majority of our campuses. We are again seeing FTE outpace headcount

Expenditures are within budget. It is anticipated that most campuses will transfer funds at year's end for future RR projects or scholarships. This will bring us closer to the budget.

Trustee Wilson motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report. Trustee Gutman seconded the motion; the motion carried unanimously.

STATE OF THE COLLEGE

Chair Emmert O'Dell called upon President Marty Pollio for the State of the College.

President Marty Pollio delivered the State of the College report, highlighting student and campus spotlights, recent institutional achievements, enrollment performance, and progress toward Ivy Tech's next Strategic Plan. Trustees heard updates on the statewide recognition of the Achieve Your Degree program from a recent RAND study, the honors awarded to Chancellor Rachel Kartz, and engagement efforts at Statehouse Day. Spring 2026 enrollment data showed year-over-year growth, with increases in total headcount and FTE, several campuses exceeding enrollment and retention targets, and continued progress toward systemwide goals. The presentation concluded with an update on the development of Ivy Tech's 2030 Strategic Plan, emphasizing extensive statewide listening sessions, trustee and leadership engagement, upcoming milestones, and a planned July 1, 2026, launch.

OLD BUSINESS

Chair Emmert O'Dell called for old business, but there was none.

NEW BUSINESS

Chair Emmert O'Dell called for new business.

Trustee Dekker moved to approve **Resolution 2026-6, Approval of Campus Board of Trustees**. Trustee Dora seconded the motion; the motion carried unanimously.

AJDOUNRMENT

Chair Emmert O'Dell adjourned the meeting with no further business to come before the Board.

**STATE TRUSTEES
IVY TECH COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

Dated February 6, 2026, prepared by Gretchen L. Young, Recording Secretary