

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Chairman Stephens called the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees to order in the Boardroom at 6:37 p.m. The following roll call was taken.

Present: Mr. Luke Casson, Mr. Jarrell David, Mr. Tracy Jennings, Mr. Glover Johnson, Mrs. Elizabeth Potter, Ms. Diane Viverito, Mr. Mark Stephens.

Absent: Mr. Rich Regan.

Chairman Stephens noted that Trustee Regan was unable to attend the meeting due to work-related travel obligations.

APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

Mr. Johnson made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Potter, to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of January 27, 2026. Voice vote carried the motion unanimously.

COMMENTS ON THIS AGENDA

None.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Students Sebastian Davila and Elli Krivok addressed the Board to voice strong opposition to the proposed inactivation of the Horticulture program at Triton College. They spoke on behalf of the student body, expressing concern and frustration about the potential closure and affirmed their commitment to increasing enrollment in Horticulture courses to help sustain and grow the program. The students emphasized that the program is the only degree-granting Horticulture program in Cook County and highlighted its importance to the region. They further noted that closure would create barriers for local students, particularly those who are working or from low-income backgrounds.

President Moore clarified that the program is currently moving toward inactive, not closed, and assured students that the administration, under the leadership of AVP Paul Jensen, will work individually with each currently enrolled student to ensure they are able to complete their Horticulture degree or certificate.

Chairman Stephens noted that the Horticulture program has experienced declining enrollment for at least eight years. As a result, full-time faculty have been unable to meet minimum course load requirements, with the past two semesters presenting significant challenges due to extremely low enrollment. He stressed that Triton College has a devoted administration, faculty, and staff who care deeply about student success. However, enrollment trends show a continued decline, and as a community college, the institution must serve the greatest number of students at the most reasonable cost. Chairman Stephens further explained that limited resources and insufficient enrollment revenue do not cover Horticulture faculty salaries, while the College must also ensure fair compensation for its faculty. He concluded that, under current enrollment numbers, the College is unable to sustain the program and is therefore compelled to close it. Students were referred to meet with AVP Jensen for individual guidance.

REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS – Employee Groups

Chairman Stephens presented a report on behalf of Faculty Association President Leslie Wester, who extended Lunar New Year greetings and noted she was unable to attend due to family commitments. Dr. Wester expressed support for the tenure-track faculty under consideration and looks forward to celebrating those granted tenure and those whose contracts are renewed. She also shared disappointment that one faculty member will not be tenured due to program limitations, noting he will be missed. As a recent highlight, she recognized Dr. Sheldon Turner’s continued research and teaching at sea, including a recent STEM Seas expedition through the Panama Canal with two Triton College students. She encouraged review of the program’s online updates for more details.

Adjunct Faculty Association President Bill Justiz reported that there was no update at this time.

STUDENT SENATE REPORT

Student Trustee Jarrell David delivered the report on behalf of TCSA President Dmytriy Havrylyak. He shared that the recent Karaoke event, hosted by Program Board and Asian Cultural Club, was a success and well received by attendees. He also announced that the upcoming “Pack the Place” event will be held on February 19 in the Triton College Gymnasium, featuring the Triton Trojans versus the Malcolm X Hawks basketball games. The women’s game will begin at 5:00 p.m., followed by the men’s game at 7:00 p.m.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Academic Affairs/Student Affairs

Ms. Viverito reported that the committee met on February 4, 2026, reviewed all pertinent items that were unanimously approved and forwarded to the Board with a recommendation for approval.

Finance/Maintenance & Operations

Mrs. Potter reported that the committee met on February 4, 2026, and reviewed six new business items and one purchasing schedule. All were unanimously approved and sent to the Board with a recommendation for approval.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

None.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

None.

CHAIRMAN’S REPORT

Chairman Stephens informed the Board that the regular March meeting of the Board of Trustees, currently scheduled for March 17, 2026, will need to be rescheduled due to the primary election. He noted that the meeting will be held prior to March 17, and that the Office of the President will contact Trustees to coordinate and confirm a new date.

NEW BUSINESS

ACTION EXHIBITS

17331 Board of Trustees Travel

Ms. Viverito made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Potter, to approve Action Exhibit 17331.

Roll Call Vote:

Affirmative: Mr. Jennings, Mrs. Potter, Ms. Viverito, Mr. Stephens.

Abstention: Mr. David, Mr. Casson, Mr. Johnson.

Motion carried by a vote of 4-0, with three Trustees abstaining, including Student Trustee.

The following action exhibits were presented as a group.

17332 Budget Transfers

17333 Agreement with Garrick Michael Consulting

17334 River Forest Civic Center Authority Rental Space

17335 Wolters Kluwer Health Vendor Limit Increase

17336 Affiliation Agreement with University of Chicago Medical Center

17337 Cooperative Affiliation Agreement with AdaptHealth, LLC

17338 Approval and Release of Closed Session Minutes of the Board of Trustees

17339 Destruction of Closed Session Verbatim Recordings

Mrs. Potter made a motion, seconded by Ms. Viverito, to approve the Action Exhibits. The motion carried, with negative votes from Trustee Casson and Trustee Johnson.

PURCHASING SCHEDULES

B48.13 Radiology Equipment Replacement - Building F

Ms. Viverito made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Potter, to approve the Purchasing Schedule. The motion carried; however, it was not unanimous. Trustee Casson voted no and Trustee Johnson abstained.

BILLS AND INVOICES

Mrs. Potter made a motion, seconded by Ms. Viverito, to pay the Bills and Invoices in the amount of \$1,456,828.43.

Roll Call Vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Potter, Ms. Viverito, Mr. Stephens.

Negative: Mr. Casson, Mr. Jennings, Mr. Johnson.

Abstention: Mr. David.

Motion failed by a vote of 3-3, with the Student Trustee abstaining.

HUMAN RESOURCES REPORT

1.0 Faculty

Ms. Viverito made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Potter, to approve pages 1-5 of the Human Resources Report, items 1.1.01 through 1.6.01. Motion carried, with Trustee Casson and Trustee Johnson voting no.

2.0 Adjunct Faculty

Ms. Viverito made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Potter, to approve pages 6-8 of the Human Resources Report, items 2.1.01 through 2.6. Motion carried, with Trustee Casson and Trustee Johnson voting no.

3.0 Administration

No action was taken, as there were no items to review or approve.

4.0 Classified, Police & Engineers

Ms. Viverito made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Potter, to approve pages 10-11 of the Human Resources Report, items 4.1.01 through 4.7.01. Motion failed with Trustee Casson, Trustee Jennings, and Trustee Johnson voting no. Student Trustee abstained.

5.0 Mid-Management

Mrs. Potter made a motion, seconded by Ms. Viverito, to approve page 12 of the Human Resources Report, items 5.1.01 through 5.3.01. Motion failed with Trustee Casson, Trustee Jennings, and Trustee Johnson voting no. Student Trustee abstained.

6.0 Hourly Employees

Ms. Viverito made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Potter, to approve pages 13-14 of the Human Resources Report, items 6.1.01 through 6.4.01. Motion failed with Trustee Casson, Trustee Jennings, and Trustee Johnson voting no. Student Trustee abstained.

7.0 Other

Ms. Viverito made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Potter, to approve page 15 of the Human Resources Report, items 7.1.01 through 7.3.02. Motion failed with Trustee Casson, Trustee Jennings, and Trustee Johnson voting no. Student Trustee abstained.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Ms. Viverito to adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Board, seconded by Mrs. Potter. Voice vote carried the motion unanimously. Chairman Stephens adjourned the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Submitted by: Chairman Stephens
Board Chair

Tracy Jennings
Board Secretary

Margaret Kluza
Margaret Kluza, Recording Secretary