

JOHN A. LOGAN COLLEGE
Board of Trustees
Carterville, Illinois

Minutes of the special meeting of the Board of Trustees of Community College District No. 530, Counties of Williamson, Jackson, Franklin, Perry, and Randolph, State of Illinois, held at Carterville, Illinois, on Tuesday, July 28, 2026, commencing at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was open to the public and streamed on the College's YouTube channel.

Chairman Aaron R. Smith called the meeting to order and directed the recording secretary to call the roll.

Rebecca Borgsmiller	-- present
Brent Clark	-- not present
Bill Kilquist	-- present
Mandy Little	-- present
Glenn Poshard	-- present
Jake Rendleman	-- present
Aaron R. Smith	-- present
Ferris McEvoy	-- not present

Also in attendance were President Dr. Kirk Overstreet, Legal Counsel Rhett Barke, Provost Dr. Stephanie Chaney Hartford, Vice President of Business Services and CFO Dr. Susan LaPanne, Recording Secretary Pixie Vaughn, and other College personnel.

Chairman Smith led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

PRESENTATIONS

None

BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORTS

A. Chairman's Report

Chair Aaron R. Smith reported that on Thursday night, Mt. Dew Park will host the Thrillbillies Baseball game. It is a thank-you from the Board of Trustees to the employees who make the college's wheels turn every day. Also, Ferris McEvoy is unable to be here tonight, but she has requested that the board complete the survey that was sent to them. Legal Counsel, Rhett Barke, reminded the board that their answers will be subject to FOIA. Keep that in mind as you review and answer.

B. Athletics Advisory Committee

Trustee Bill Kilquist stated the camps are doing well. They are getting ready to welcome the student-athletes back to John A. Logan for the upcoming year.

C. Building, Grounds, and Safety Committee

Trustee Jake Rendleman reported that **CTC RENOVATION/CONSTRUCTION (EDA Grant) H Building (HVAC program)**: The building's renovation is expected to be completed in September. **Welding/CNC Manufacturing Building**: The roofing membrane has been installed, and exterior wall panels are expected to be installed in the next few weeks. **Vocational Building (Automotive Programs)**: Work has focused on the interior of the building. The new paint booth will be installed in the coming weeks. **WEST LOBBY EXPANSION [LOGAN HALL] (CDB)**: Repair work is in planning with the contractor. This work is expected to begin in September. Concrete foundation work is underway and will continue over the next few months. In February, there was a power surge due to a construction error. Lighting and audio equipment in the Auditorium was damaged beyond repair. As a result, JALC received new lighting and audio equipment at no cost. **D WING ROOF REPLACEMENT (PHS FUNDING)**: This project is nearly complete. The contractor received defective metal panels and is awaiting delivery of new ones. **HOFFARD POND DREDGING**: This work was completed this week. Approximately 3,000 tons of sludge were removed from the Mirror Pool and Hoffard Pond. The surrounding area has been cleaned up and seeded.

D. Board Policy Committee

Trustee Becky Borgsmiller reported that the Board Policy Committee has renewed its review of Board policies to ensure that the College's governing documents remain current, compliant, and reflective of College operations.

This month's policy packet includes several proposed updates that are being presented for Board review, with final action anticipated at the August meeting.

This month's packet includes two new policies:

- Annual Review and Updates of the Policy Manual
- Recording Devices and Artificial Intelligence

The packet also includes updates to policies related to student organizations and activities, employee professional development, leaves from employment, conflicts of interest, and tuition. These revisions are intended to improve clarity, support compliance efforts, and better align Board policies with current institutional practices.

We appreciate the Board's review of these proposed changes and welcome any feedback prior to final consideration next month.

Trustees with questions are encouraged to contact Committee Chair Becky Borgsmiller or Jennifer Fuller, Assistant Director of Legislative Affairs.

E. Budget and Finance Committee

Trustee Dr. Glenn Poshard reported that they had not met.

F. Enrollment Committee

Chair Aaron R. Smith reported that they will meet in October.

G. Integrated Technology Committee

Trustee Mandy Little reported that they completed the Barnes & Noble integration project, including associated billing processes. They also completed the ReUp integration project, pending final tuition file review, and the integration with the College Catalog and Curriculum management tool with Modern Campus. They started development of a centralized integration dashboard. This platform will serve as the standard framework for future integrations, and migration of existing integrations has begun.

IT Support Services

- Completed a full campus technology inventory scan.
- Decommissioned two computer labs as part of technology lifecycle and resource management efforts.
- Scheduled the upgrade of the Document Manager system. As part of this project, the legacy desktop application will be retired due to vendor deprecation.

Network Infrastructure & Security

- The College experienced an increase in phishing attempts targeting student accounts during the past month, resulting in twenty-two students giving up their login credentials.
- We responded by securing their accounts and expanding our deployment of DUO multi-factor authentication to additional student populations.
- We also communicated to all student accounts best practices in avoiding phishing attempts.
- Completed installation of FY26 exterior security cameras and started FY27 additions and replacements.
- Completed deployment of Axon police vehicle iPads.

H. Illinois Community College Trustees Association (ICCTA)

Trustee Mandy Little reported that the ICCTA Board Retreat will be held on August 7 & 8 in Freeport. Mandy has been asked to continue on for a second year as the Chair of the Student Trustee Engagement Committee. The focus of that committee aligns with what Ferris is doing here. It is also in line with what the ACCT Student Advisory Committee is doing. This is developing an onboarding tool for student trustees so that the year is more seamless and the transition is better for them. That will be the focus for this coming year. During that Executive Board Retreat, in addition to putting together this year's strategic plan for ICCTA, they will tour the Highland Community College Agriculture underground irrigation and fertilization test facility, which is the only one in the State of Illinois. They are going to tour the simulation hospital, which is one of only two in Illinois. They are going to give them a demonstration of their mobile medical lab, and also visit the Lincoln-Douglas debate site. For the 2027 election, the brochure's article on Local Leadership that makes a difference explains what it takes to become a trustee and what a trustee actually does. Their push for ICCTA is tied to the upcoming election season for April 2027. If you know people who are interested in running, make sure they get that information. ACCT Leadership Congress is October 21-24, 2026, in Chicago. Early bird

registration is open until Friday, August 14, 2026. They will have their opening general session with all Regional accrediting organizations. They will be providing Artificial intelligence and emerging technologies, workforce development, economic mobility enrollment, student success, institutional culture, and well-being. They launched their ACCT Excel Program, a structured, self-paced online learning system with interactive opportunities for trustees. You have to complete them in order so you can move on to level two. If you are interested in signing up, you must do so by July 31, 2026.

I. John A. Logan College Foundation

No Report

J. Student Trustee

No Report - the Student Trustee Ferris McEvoy was traveling with the Leadership team of the John A. Logan chapter of the Aspiring Educators Club.

ASSOCIATION REPORTS

No Report

EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP REPORT

President Kirk Overstreet reported on:

Partnerships, Pathways & Student Opportunity

This month has been an important reminder that John A. Logan College's work is strongest when it is done in partnership with the schools, colleges, universities, employers, and communities we serve.

We recently hosted and participated in a productive meeting with area K-12 superintendents and school leaders, along with members of the JALC administration, to discuss shared priorities around student access and success. Much of that conversation focused on dual credit and early college opportunities, which remain critical tools for helping high school students begin their college journey earlier, reduce costs, and build momentum toward a credential or degree.

These partnerships are especially important in a region like ours. When students can begin earning college credit while still in high school — and when those pathways are clearly aligned with transfer, workforce, and career opportunities — we are helping them see college as both accessible and achievable. Just as importantly, we are working with our local school districts to make sure those opportunities remain high-quality, sustainable, and responsive to the needs of students and families.

Statewide Engagement & Common Course Numbering

At the state level, I also participated in recent conversations focused on common course numbering. This work brings together Illinois community college leaders and our four-year university counterparts to explore a framework that can make course transfer more transparent and student-friendly.

Common course numbering has been a priority topic for some leaders in the Illinois General Assembly, and for good reason. When students move from one institution to another, they should be able to

understand how their coursework applies, what credits will transfer, and how to stay on track toward completion. The goal is straightforward: reduce confusion, remove unnecessary barriers, and help students make more informed decisions about their academic pathways.

This work is complex but important. JALC will continue to engage in these statewide discussions to ensure that any framework supports students, respects institutional quality, and strengthens transfer pathways across Illinois.

Facilities Master Plan

Work also continues on the College's Facilities Master Plan. The most recent draft is now posted online for review, and we continue to welcome feedback from students, employees, alumni, and community members. The public planning page notes that as JALC approaches its 60th anniversary in 2027, the plan is intended to guide long-term decisions about campus spaces to support teaching, learning, workforce development, and community engagement. The Administrative Planning Documents page also identifies the Facilities Master Plan 2026 as a draft updated July 13, 2026. [\[jalc.edu\]](http://jalc.edu) [\[jalc.edu\]](http://jalc.edu)

This is more than a facilities document. It is a roadmap for how our physical spaces can better support the College's mission in the years ahead. From classrooms and labs to gathering spaces, student support areas, and community-facing facilities, our campus must continue to reflect the needs of today's students while preparing for the opportunities ahead.

Strategic Long-Range Planning

At the same time, the campus has begun its work on the next Strategic Long-Range Plan, which will take effect next year. This planning process will help define JALC's priorities for the years ahead and ensure that our goals remain aligned with our mission, our students, and the needs of southern Illinois.

As we begin this work, our focus will be on listening carefully, thinking strategically, and identifying the areas where the College can make the greatest impact. The plan will help guide decision-making, resource alignment, institutional improvement, and accountability across the College. We will keep you informed of future meetings and opportunities to engage.

Closing

Overall, this has been a month focused on alignment — alignment with our K-12 partners, with statewide higher education efforts, with our facility's needs, and with the College's future direction.

That alignment matters. It helps ensure that John A. Logan College remains responsive, forward-looking, and deeply connected to the people and communities we serve.

Thank you for your continued support of that work.

Finally, we want to remember our friend, Manar Qasem, who passed away very unexpectedly this month. Her loss has been, and continues to be felt across the campus community. She will be missed.

PROVOST

Dr. Stephanie Hartford reported on:

Manar Qasem (sounds like Kawesome), Assistant Manager of Financial Aid Systems

- Passed away on July 2
- Statement from Cheri Rushing, Director of Financial Aid, “Manar began her career at the college in the Bursar’s Office in 2012 before joining the Financial Aid Office in 2019, where she quickly became an invaluable member of the team. Her dedication, attention to detail, and commitment to excellence consistently went above and beyond expectations, playing a significant role in maintaining compliance and ensuring quality work. Manar was determined, passionate, and deeply cared about the things that mattered most to her—her job, her family, fitness, and, of course, good food. She brought humor and positivity to those around her, making even the busiest days brighter. Her infectious laughter, strong work ethic, and zest for life left a lasting impression on everyone who knew her. Manar truly lived life to the fullest and will be remembered with great fondness and appreciation.”
- Rachel Sveda-Webb and I want to add the following: "Manar's exceptional work in maintaining financial aid compliance played a key role in the College receiving a clean FY25 audit report from Kemper, as reported at the March 2026 Board of Trustees meeting. Her dedication to accuracy, regulatory compliance, and continuous monitoring of financial aid processes helped ensure the College met all audit requirements. She consistently demonstrated professionalism, attention to detail, and a deep commitment to serving our students and safeguarding the institution's integrity. We remain grateful for her contributions, and her work continues to have a lasting impact on the College."
- Manar was an alumnus of John A. Logan College.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

JALC Summer Community Band Concert

- Sunday, August 2, 2026 at 2:00 pm in O’Neil Auditorium
- “A Musical Celebration of 250 Years of Freedom”
 - *A band concert including a group of singers to present music from historical events in our country.*

SIUC Meetings

- JALC team met with SIUC College of Health and Human Services staff on July 22 to discuss opportunities to strengthen transfer pathways.
- JALC team met with SIUC College of Arts and Media on July 28 to discuss opportunities to strengthen transfer pathways.

STUDENT AFFAIRS

Superintendents Breakfast

- Dual Credit & Partnerships office hosted district superintendents for breakfast on Tuesday, July 14. We thanked them for their partnership and provided information on our facility projects, discussions surrounding the Dual Credit Quality Act at the state level, and the Promise scholarship program, and offered an opportunity to gather feedback from them.

Recruiting

- **Saturday Sign-Up Event** will be on Saturday, August 8th, 9:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.
- **Coffee & College Event** will be on Saturday, August 8th 10:00 A.M. – 11:00 A.M.

Fall Semester Begins Monday, August 17.

- We have a full week of activities preceding that week to orient staff and students.
- We then have a very full week of activities to welcome students.

VICE-PRESIDENT OF BUSINESS SERVICES AND CFO

Dr. Susan LaPanne reported that they are preparing for the physical audit. They will have people on site at the end of August or the beginning of September in order to do site work. However, in the rest of the Business Services division, they are extremely busy helping student support services and the Academic Administration with the new textbook contract and the new way students will access their materials. The winner of that contract, Barnes & Noble, with their program called First Day. The concept being that students will be charged a per-credit fee for the materials for each of their courses. Students may opt in, or they may opt out if it is one of those semesters that is not particularly heavily spent on books and materials, and they can do something better on their own. However, their cost is capped at \$25 per course credit. So, a three-credit course would have a \$75 charge for books and materials. Sometimes, in some courses, that can be multiple hundreds of dollars. We are trying this program for the first time and are very hopeful it will be helpful to our students and encourage enrollment and retention. The other problem, in addition to the financial one, is that it is important to the faculty that students have their textbooks and materials on the first day of classes, rather than waiting to see if they need them. They are hopeful it will be well received by the students. The exciting part of this is that Business Services has been working hand in hand with the Academic side of the house. It is a pleasure to serve students, and they do not get to do that directly very often. We want to make sure that students are not confused or quiet, that everything runs as smoothly as it should, and that everyone across the college is working to help students succeed. Also, please take a look at the General Store. It looks wonderful, and they are now selling Gift Cards, which make a great gift for parents, friends, and other folks. In addition to the audit and closing of the old year, they opened the new year and completed the transition within the first week of July. They had a Quilt show this past weekend, and that was well attended. It was a beautiful show. They are in partnership with the Quilt Museum out of Paducah. They were pleased with the turnout here and with our facility. They are getting ready for all of the Autumn activities. Hunting and Fishing Days, Autumn Fest, and they are trying to work all of these events around a very strenuous building schedule. She thanked the board for the kind invitation to the Thrillbillies game on Thursday. The faculty and staff are looking forward to it.

PRESIDENT'S CABINET

Dr. Overstreet asked Jennifer Fuller to speak about the Legislative Luncheon. Jennifer stated that on August 28, she invited all of the Constitutional Officers, as well as every Representative and Senator, basically from Interstate 64 South, to come to this campus and join the Regional Community College Presidents to discuss issues specific to Community Colleges in Southern Illinois. They have gotten a great response so far. Three of the four Representatives have confirmed they will be here, and she has heard from several of the Constitutional Officers that are working through their scheduling. They chose that day specifically because it is the day of the Du Quoin State Fair Twilight Parade. So, a lot of people are coming to town as a part of that as well. Jennifer is very optimistic that they will have a good turnout for this. They will be talking about Workforce issues and the economic impact of the Community Colleges in this area, as well as Dual Credit and the Baccalaureate issues. There are several meetings that week leading up to the launch of the Du Quoin Fair. She also mentioned that the petition signatures will be available for the April 2027 Trustee Elections. There are three seats that will be up for either re-election or election depending on people's decisions. She will be the person to see about that.

Steve O'Keefe stated that they would have a tent at the Du Quoin State Fair. They will be doing the Twilight Parade. Last year, Charger and several other people rode in the parade. If anyone would like to participate in the parade, please contact Steve. They will have something coming out about some of the different things they are going to do at the fair. They will also start celebrating the 60th Anniversary at the fair.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

A. RETIREMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS, AND PROMOTIONS

President Overstreet accepted the resignation of Amy Specker, Mary Logan High School Instructor, effective July 6, 2026, and Janey Hicks, Manager of Manufacturing Training, effective July 6, 2026. Other: Manar Qasem, Assistant Manager of Financial Aid Systems, effective July 6, 2026, after 13.75 years of service.

B. Darktrace

President Overstreet stated Darktrace provides cybersecurity monitoring and response capabilities that support the College's ongoing efforts to detect unusual activity, identify potential threats, and strengthen protection of institutional systems and data. It is year 3 of 3 of the contract and is the final payment of \$175,367.00.

CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman Smith asked if there were any Consent Agenda items the Board would like to pull for further discussion or a separate vote. Hearing none, Chairman Smith presented Consent Agenda Items A-R for approval.

A. Approve the Johnson Controls Contract for Building Automation

Approved the Johnson Controls Contract for Building Automation as presented.

B. Approve the Commercial Outdoor Tent Rental for Hunting & Fishing Days

Approved the Commercial Outdoor Tent Rentals for Hunting & Fishing Days as presented.

- C. **Approve the C106 Chiller Replacement**
Approved the C106 Chiller Replacement as presented.
- D. **Approve the G-Building Chiller Replacement**
Approved the G-Building Chiller Replacement as presented.
- E. **Approve the FY27 Consulting Services Agreement for Workforce Clarity Initiative Phase Four**
Approved the FY27 Consulting Services Agreement for Workforce Clarity Initiative Phase Four as presented.
- F. **Approve the Personnel Action Items** *(Appendix A)*
Approved the employment and ratification of personnel as recommended by President Overstreet.
- G. **Approve the Insurance Package and Workers' Compensation Annual Renewal**
Approved the Insurance Package and Workers' Compensation Annual Renewal as presented.
- H. **Approve the A-1 Lock, Inc. Electrified Door Hardware, Security Cameras, and Installation**
Approved the A-1 Lock, Inc. Electrified Door Hardware, Security Cameras, and Installation as presented.
- I. **Approve the Purchase of Desktop Computers for the Computer Information Systems & Cyber Security Program**
Approved the Purchase of Desktop Computers for the Computer Information Systems & Cyber Security Program as presented.
- J. **Approve the SI Now Board Membership**
Approved the SI Now Board Membership as presented.
- K. **Approve the Fusion Contract for Gym Management Software – Logan Fitness**
Approved the Fusion Contract for Gym Management Software – Logan Fitness as presented.
- L. **Approve the Revised Academic Calendar 2026-2027**
Approved the Revised Academic Calendar 2026-2027 as presented.
- M. **Approve the Expenditure Report for the period ending June 30, 2026**
Approved the Expenditure Report for the period ending June 30, 2026 as presented.
- N. **Approve the Treasurer's and Financial Report for the period ending May 31, 2026**
Approved the Treasurer's and Financial Report for the period ending May 31, 2026 as presented.
- O. **Approve the Content of Closed Session Minutes of June 10, 2026**
Approved the Content of Closed Session Minutes of June 10, 2026 as presented.
- P. **Approve the Minutes of the June 23, 2026, Public Hearing**
Approved the Minutes of the June 23, 2026, Public Hearing as presented.
- Q. **Approve the Minutes of the June 23, 2026, Regular Meeting**
Approved the Minutes of the June 23, 2026, Regular Meeting as presented.
- R. **Approve the Content of the Closed Session Minutes of June 23, 2026**
Approved the Content of the Closed Session Minutes of June 23, 2026 as presented.

Trustee Jake Rendleman and Trustee Mandy Little moved and seconded that the Board of Trustees approve Consent Agenda Items A–R, as presented.

Upon roll call, all members present voted yes. Motion carried.
(Resolution #27-0001)

9. NEW BUSINESS *(No Action)*

Board Policy Revisions for First Reading

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Overstreet stated that Greg Starrick, Athletic Director, extended an invitation for the Board of Trustees to attend the John A. Logan College Vols Night Out on Wednesday, August 19, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at the Thrillbillie Thrill House in Marion. It is a wonderful opportunity to meet the 2026-2027 JALC student-athletes and celebrate the upcoming athletic season. Representatives from Student Affairs, Logan Fitness, and Media Relations will present on the many resources and support services available to students.

ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Dr. Glenn Poshard and Trustee Mandy Little moved and seconded that the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees be adjourned.

Upon roll call, all members present voted yes. Motion carried.
(Resolution #27-0002)

The meeting was duly adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Pixie Vaughn, Recording Secretary to the Board of Trustees.

Aaron R. Smith, Chairman

Rebecca Borgsmiller, Secretary