

MINUTES
POLK STATE COLLEGE
District Board of Trustees Meeting
Monday, March 24, 2025 – 4:00 p.m.
Polk State Center for Public Safety, CPS 267

Dr. Angela M. Garcia Falconetti called the March 24, 2025, District Board of Trustees meeting to order at approximately 4:00 p.m.

Members Present: Ms. Ashley Bell Barnett, Mr. Greg Littleton, Ms. Teresa Martinez, Ms. Cindy Hartley Ross, and Mr. Ashley Troutman

Members Absent: Ms. Ann Barnhart

Special Recognition: Dr. Angela Garcia Falconetti

- a. President Garcia Falconetti introduced Dr. Deleise Wilson, AdventHealth Dean of Nursing, to introduce graduates Natalie Tala and Zack Baksh.

Agenda:

Mr. Littleton moved, seconded by Mr. Troutman, to approve the agenda for March 24, 2025. All members voted affirmatively.

Consent Agenda Items: Ms. Cindy Baker and Ms. Stacey Cary

- a. **Tangible Property Deletions for March 2025** – Approved on consent agenda. Board action is required.
- b. **Polk State College Personnel Actions Report for February 2025** – Approved on consent agenda. Board action is required.
- c. **Polk State College Collegiate High Schools Personnel Actions Report for February 2025** – Approved on consent agenda. Board action is required.

Ms. Bell Barnett moved, seconded by Mr. Troutman, to approve the consent agenda items for February and March 2025. All members voted affirmatively.

Those items included under the Consent section are self-explanatory and are not expected to require discussion before action. Items will be enacted by one motion. If discussion is desired by any Board member on any item, the item should be identified and removed from the Consent agenda for separate action.

Approval of Board Minutes

- a. **February 24, 2025, Regular Board Minutes**

Mr. Littleton moved, seconded by Mr. Troutman, to approve the February 24, 2025, Regular Board minutes. All members voted affirmatively.

President's Report – Dr. Angela Garcia Falconetti

- a. President Garcia Falconetti highlighted select items from the Positively Polk State Report.

- b. President Garcia Falconetti shared a Polk Newsroom story about today's special recognition titled "From classmates to soulmates: Couple gets engaged at exact coordinates where they met in Polk State Nursing Program."
- c. President Garcia Falconetti provided the Board with a copy the Strategic Plan 2023-2028 titled *A Bolder Polk State College*. She asked them to reference the plan when items 10. b. and c. are presented by Dr. Mary Clark to conduct the annual review of the Polk State College Mission and Vision statements.
- d. Legislative Session
 - President's Leadership Institute | March 10 | Tallahassee
 - Council of President's Meetings | March 10-11 | Tallahassee
 - Polk County Day | March 12 | Tallahassee
 - Tour and Meeting with Florida Commerce | March 14 | SpaceX
 - "Workforce Day" Meeting of Florida College System and State University System Presidents with Commissioner of Education Manny Diaz, Jr., Secretary of Commerce Alex Kelly, and CareerSource Florida President Adrienne Johnston, immediately followed by a press conference | March 27 | Tallahassee
 - First Lady Hope Florida Event | March 27 | Tallahassee

Attorney's Report:

None.

Business Services Action Items:

- a. **Polk State Chain of Lakes Collegiate High School – 2024 Audited Financial Statements – Ms. Cindy Baker**
- b. **Polk State Lakeland Collegiate High School – 2024 Audited Financial Statements – Ms. Cindy Baker**
- c. **Polk State Lakeland Gateway to College Collegiate High School – 2024 Audited Financial Statements – Ms. Cindy Baker**

Ms. Martinez moved, seconded by Ms. Bell Barnett, to approve the 2024 Audited Financial Statements for Polk State Chain of Lakes Collegiate High School, Polk State Lakeland Collegiate High School, and Polk State Lakeland Gateway to College Collegiate High School. All members voted affirmatively.

Business Services Informational Items: Ms. Cindy Baker and Mr. Reggie Webb

- a. **Investment Interest Comparisons through February 2025** – Ms. Baker presented and reviewed the College's Investment Interest Comparisons through February 2025 for the Board's information. No Board action required.

- b. Financial Statements for February 2025** – Ms. Baker presented and reviewed the Financial Statements for February 2025 for the Board’s information. No Board action required. Discussion was had regarding adding a month column to reflect budget to actual for the month.
- c. Capital Project Status Report for March 2025** – Mr. Webb presented and reviewed the Capital Project Status Report for March 2025 for the Board’s information. No Board action required.

Items Removed from the Consent Agenda:

None.

Academic & Student Services Action Items:

- a. 2025-2026 College Calendar – Mr. Reggie Webb**

Mr. Troutman moved, seconded by Mr. Littleton, to approve the 2025-2026 College Calendar. All members voted affirmatively.

- b. Annual Review of Polk State College Mission Statement – Dr. Mary Clark**

Ms. Bell Barnett moved, seconded by Ms. Martinez, to approve the Annual Review of Polk State College Mission Statement. All members voted affirmatively.

- c. Annual Review of Polk State College Vision Statement – Dr. Mary Clark**

Mr. Littleton moved, seconded by Ms. Bell Barnett, to approve the Annual Review of Polk State College Vision Statement. All members voted affirmatively.

Academic and Student Services Informational Items:

None.

Collegiate High School Report:

- a. Polk State Lakeland Gateway to College High School Accountability Plan Performance Targets and AY 2023-2024 Performance – Dr. Meesha Downing-Townsend**

Dr. Meesha Downing-Townsend presented and reviewed the Polk State Lakeland Gateway to College Collegiate High School Accountability Plan Performance Targets and AY 2023-2024 Performance for the Board’s information. No Board action required. President Garcia Falconetti requested Dr. Meesha Dowling-Townsend to provide an update on the status of adding 10th grade. She noted that the addition requires two consecutive years of passing letter grades from the school. The plan is to go before the School District after an additional year of receiving a letter grade. Due to Gateway’s charter, it did not previously receive school grades; it received school improvement ratings which were “commendable” – the highest rating achievable – each year. In its first year receiving a school grade, it received a B for 2023-2024.

First Reading Board Rules (No action required):

None.

Second Reading Board Rules (Final Approval):

None.

Board Discussion:

The next District Board of Trustees meeting will occur on Monday, April 28, 2025, on the Polk State Winter Haven Campus in WST 126 at 4:00 p.m.

Adjournment:

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at approximately 4:45 p.m.

 4/28/2025

Ms. Cindy Hartley Ross Date
DBOT Chair

 4/28/2025

Dr. Angela M. Garcia Falconetti Date
President