

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
McHENRY COUNTY COLLEGE DISTRICT #528**

May 20, 2025
Committee of the Whole



MCC Board Room A217
8900 U.S. Highway 14
Crystal Lake, IL 60012

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Morton called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM.

2. ROLL CALL

Vice Chair Morton asked Chair Hoban to serve as Secretary. He then asked her to take a roll call.

Trustees Present

Dale Morton
Linnea Kooistra
Elizabeth Speros
Suzanne Hoban
Tess Reinhard

Also Present

Dr. Clinton Gabbard - College President
Ken Florey - Legal Counsel

Trustees Not Present

Alyssa Kueffner
Tom Allen

3. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

Agenda was accepted as presented.

4. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:

Motion: Move that the Board of Trustees approves the minutes from Committee of the Whole Meeting, April 15, 2025. Trustee Reinhard motioned; seconded by Chair Hoban. Motion approved.

5. OPEN FOR RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

No public comments.

6. PRESIDENT'S REPORT: DR. CLINTON GABBARD

Spring 2025 Commencement Recap

The College recognized 792 graduates at its Commencement Ceremony on Saturday, May 17. Of those graduating, a record-number 292 individuals participated in the event, with the MCC Gym and three viewing areas filled to capacity with friends, family, and other supporters. Of these graduates, over 60 individuals earned their Dual Degree through MCC's partnership with Harvard Community School District 50, Woodstock District 200, and Huntley Community School District 158. The Spring 2025 Commencement Ceremony highlighted student speaker, Ramona Henderson, and concluded with a faculty charge from ICCTA 2025 Faculty of the Year recipient, Dr. Paige Lush. Prior to the ceremony, MCC held its annual Nurses' Pinning Ceremony. A hearty congratulations and best wishes to all MCC spring graduates.

Progress on Campus Renovations

Dr. Gabbard updated the Board on campus renovations progress.

Administrator Session on Communication and Conflict

On Wednesday, March 14, MCC administrators participated in an all-day development session to learn tips and tools for how to work through difficult conversations and conflict. Facilitated by the Center for Conflict

Resolution in Chicago, this immersive and hands-on discussion also included a section on de-escalation strategies. Feedback from participants was positive, and administrators will continue sharing feedback about how they are applying what was learned in their daily interactions.

MCC Student Art Awards

The annual MCC Student Art Exhibit, showcasing work from students enrolled in credit art courses from the fall and spring semesters, is on exhibit in Epping Gallery, artspace144, and the Student Galleries. A total of 134 MCC students entered 179 artworks, of which 43 pieces were chosen by MCC faculty for exhibition. The MCC Art & Design Department hosted an Awards Reception on Thursday, May 8. It was fantastic to celebrate our outstanding art students alongside their friends and families. Over 170 people came out to support these talented students. The exhibit will be on display through June 5.

Update – New Student Trustee

College leadership continues to actively seek an ideal candidate to serve as MCC's next Student Trustee. Until recently, there was a candidate ready to serve; unfortunately, that individual will not have availability to participate in Board meetings. We hope to bring a candidate to you in the coming weeks.

MCC Launches New Tagline – “It Starts with One”

This spring, MCC's Office of Marketing and Public Relations will roll out a new tagline for the institution, “*It Starts with One.*” This memorable, distinctive, and versatile tagline will be woven into the College's various marketing and enrollment campaigns with the intent of helping create an emotional connection with constituents, as well as encouraging prospective students to move from simply contemplating college to preparing to attend MCC. The tagline will soon be visible across all marketing channels, including social media, radio, digital, and outdoor advertising.

Upcoming Events

Dr. Gabbard shared upcoming campus events with the Board of Trustees.

7. PRELIMINARY APRIL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Mr. Tenuta provided a recap of the April financial statements. Questions and discussion followed.

8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS/SUMMARY COMMENTS BY BOARD MEMBERS

Trustee Speros attended the Spring Commencement and noted that it's always an honor to be a part of it and how special it is. She recognized the student speaker for the commencement ceremony and our instructors for their caring and passionate support of the students.

Trustee Kooistra stated that she's onboarding and is very impressed with the staff and the College.

Trustee Reinhard thanked staff for the budget meeting and taking the time to answer all of her questions prior to the meeting. She attended the plant sale at the college and loved it. She also attended Spring Commencement and it's always great. She'd like to get some information on MCC Foundation and student activities for future agenda items.

Vice Chair Morton really enjoyed commencement ceremony and it was great to see everyone that attended.

9. CLOSED SESSION

At 6:32pm pm Vice Chair Morton asked for a motion to move into Closed Session under Illinois Open Meetings Act 120/2 (c), Exception # 1 Personnel #21-Review of Closed Session Minutes. Chair Hoban motioned; Trustee Kooistra seconded. On a roll call all were in favor.

10. ACCEPTANCE OF CLOSED SESSION MINUTES: November 12, 2024 Committee of the Whole Closed Session Minutes.

Motion: Move that the Board of Trustees approve the closed session minutes from November 12, 2024 COTW Meeting. Chair Hoban motioned; Trustee Kooistra seconded. Motion approved.

11. ADJOURNMENT

At 6:43PM, hearing no further business Trustee Speros motioned to adjourn, seconded by Trustee Reinhard. All were in favor.

Denisa J. Shallo, Recording Secretary

Alyssa Kueffner, Board Secretary