

**ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 10, 2025, 10:00 A.M.**

The Alabama Community College System Board of Trustees (also referred to herein as the Board) held a meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, September 10, 2025, in the Board Room of the Alabama Community College System building in Montgomery, Alabama. The meeting was called in accordance with Act No. 2015-125.

PRESIDING: MS. VALERIE GRAY, CHAIR

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Gray.

The invocation was delivered by Pastor John Fleming, Director of Missions - Bullock County Baptist Association, followed by the pledge of allegiance.

On roll call, the following Board members were present:

Ms. Valerie Gray
Mr. Jeb Shell
Mr. John Mitchell (via phone)
Mr. Britton Lightsey
Mr. Ron Houston
Mr. Llevelyn Rhone
Mr. Tim McCartney
Dr. Yvette Richardson (via phone)

Also present was Mr. Jimmy H. Baker, Chancellor of the Alabama Community College System. Absent was Mr. Goodrich Rogers and Governor Kay Ivey.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion by Mr. Lightsey, second by Mr. McCartney, the Board of Trustees voted unanimously to approve the agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion by Mr. Shell, second by Mr. Houston, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the August 13, 2025, meeting as presented without discussion.

**SECTION VI
(PUBLIC COMMENT)**

None.

SECTION VII
COLLEGE SPOTLIGHT – SHELTON STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Dr. Jonathan Koh, President of Shelton State Community College, stated that over the last two years, a new college-wide initiative, Service in Action, has been implemented. This initiative is designed to bring the college's purpose and intent to life. The focus is on helping people achieve their goals and potential. The college has been laser-focused on making enrollment and registration easy, and on bringing people from the non-credit side to the credit side in line with the college's mission. Dr. Koh added that partnerships have made the strategic enrollment growth possible, in particular, the Adult Education program. The college has learned how to leverage and benefit from federal financial aid, such as Pell Grants. Partnership with the Juvenile Detention Center in Tuscaloosa County is also providing great success. At the Detention Center, Shelton State has its own dorm cell, the Leadership Dorm, in which the college works and provides training. Dr. Koh introduced Mr. Dalton Peters, whom the college met at the Juvenile Detention Center and mentored all the way through graduation and full-time employment with the college.

Mr. Peters briefly spoke on his success story with Shelton State. He stated that he came from a very poor background with little hope, but his mother had always told him how important it was to get a good education. After getting involved in drugs and alcohol, and getting into trouble, he eventually found himself at the Juvenile Detention Center. While there, he realized that he needed to make a change, and enrolled in Shelton State, which gave him structure, discipline, and the second chance he needed. He earned his GED and then a degree in Psychology. Mr. Peters added that the college not only gave him direction, but a community who cared. He now works as a full-time Educational Pathway Specialist at Shelton State and helps others who are in the same situation he was in. He added that the college doesn't just provide education, but transformation, and hope for the future.

SECTION VIII
(EXECUTIVE, LEGAL, AND PUBLIC INFORMATION)

ENTERPRISE STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
REVIEW OF MISSION STATEMENT

On motion by Mr. Houston, second by Mr. McCartney, the Board of Trustees approved the Mission Statement of Enterprise State Community College.

Fiscal Consideration: None.

MARION MILITARY INSTITUTE
REVIEW OF MISSION STATEMENT

On motion by Mr. McCartney, second by Mr. Lightsey, the Board of Trustees approved the Mission Statement of Marion Military Institute.

Fiscal Consideration: None.

SHELTON STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
REVIEW OF MISSION STATEMENT

On motion by Mr. Houston, second by Mr. Rhone, the Board of Trustees approved the Mission Statement of Shelton State Community College.

Fiscal Consideration: None.

CALHOUN COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NAMING OF THE ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY CENTER

On motion by Mr. Lightsey, second by Mr. Houston, the Board of Trustees authorized the President of Calhoun Community College to name the Advanced Technology Center on the Decatur campus as the Gene Haas Workforce Training Center and to add appropriate signage.

Fiscal Consideration: \$1,000,000 Gift from the Gene Haas Foundation

SECTION IX
(INSTRUCTION, RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT, ADULT EDUCATION, FACILITIES,
FISCAL, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT)

DRAKE STATE COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE
INCREASE IN SPECIAL BUILDING FEE

On motion by Mr. Houston, second by Mr. Shell, the Board of Trustees authorized Drake State Community & Technical College to increase its Special Building Fee from \$15 to \$20 per credit hour. The increased fee will take effect Spring Semester 2026.

Fiscal Consideration: \$100,000 Estimated additional revenue annually

BISHOP STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE IN AVIATION MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY

On motion by Mr. Shell, second by Mr. Rhone, the Board of Trustees approved Bishop State Community College's application for an Associate in Applied Science in Aviation Manufacturing, to be implemented Spring Semester 2026.

Fiscal Consideration: The College estimates that a total of \$329,798 is required to support the program and \$1,976,400 is projected to be available through tuition and extramural funds.

CALHOUN COMMUNITY COLLEGE
ADDITION OF INSTRUCTIONAL SITE

On motion by Mr. McCartney, second by Mr. Shell, the Board of Trustees approved an additional instructional site for Calhoun Community College.

Fiscal Consideration: The operation of this site proposed herein is within the budget of the college.

CALHOUN COMMUNITY COLLEGE
ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE IN THEATRE DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

On motion by Mr. Lightsey, second by Mr. Houston, the Board of Trustees approved Calhoun Community College's application for an Associate in Applied Science in Theatre Design and Technology, to be implemented Spring Semester 2026.

Fiscal Consideration: The College estimates that a total of \$36,000 is required to support the program and \$137,500 is projected to be available through tuition and extramural funds.

REID STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
ASSOCIATE IN ARTS (TRANSFER DEGREES)

On motion by Mr. Shell, second by Mr. Rhone, the Board of Trustees approved Reid State Community College's application for an Associate in Arts (Transfer Degrees), to be implemented Spring Semester 2026.

Fiscal Consideration: The College estimates that a total of \$614,000 is required to support the Associate in Arts and \$877,345 is projected to be available through internal allocations, tuition, and extramural funds.

REID STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
ASSOCIATE IN SCIENCE (TRANSFER DEGREES)

On motion by Mr. Houston, second by Mr. Shell, the Board of Trustees approved Reid State Community College's application for an Associate in Science (Transfer Degrees), to be implemented Spring Semester 2026.

Fiscal Consideration: The College estimates that a total of \$614,000 is required to support the Associate in Science and \$877,345 is projected to be available through internal allocations, tuition, and extramural funds.

ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM
ALLOCATION OF FY2025-2026 INDUSTRY CERTIFICATION INITIATIVE FUNDS
(SKILLS USA)

On motion by Mr. Lightsey, second by Mr. McCartney, the Board of Trustees authorized the Chancellor to provide scholarships for 2025 SkillsUSA – Alabama competition winners who are entering or have entered postsecondary education.

Fiscal Consideration: \$150,000 – FY2025-2026 Education Trust Fund Industry Certification Initiative Funds

ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM
ALLOCATION OF FY2025-2026 INDUSTRY CERTIFICATION INITIATIVE FUNDS

On motion by Mr. Houston, second by Mr. Shell, the Board of Trustees authorized the allocation of a portion of the FY2025-2026 Industry Certification Initiative Funds as outlined below.

Bevill State Community College - \$574,529

- \$80,000 – Career Coordinator Initiative
- \$74,780 – Purchase equipment to enhance nursing and allied health training.
- \$86,065 – Purchase equipment to support the Automotive Technology program.
- \$333,684 – Purchase equipment to support expansion of the Electrical Program

Bishop State Community College - \$166,706

- \$101,706 – Success Coach Initiative
- \$65,000 – Career Coordinator Initiative

John C. Calhoun Community College - \$523,883

- \$50,000 – Success Coach Initiative
- \$473,883 – Purchase a sensor/vision system to address a critical manufacturing skills gap.

Central Alabama Community College - \$172,119

- \$57,000 – Success Coach Initiative
- \$103,044 – Career Coordinator Initiative
- \$12,075 – Support for the ServSafe Food Safety Certification program.

Chattahoochee Valley Community College - \$201,063

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- \$92,063 – Success Coach Initiative
- \$109,000 – Career Coordinator Initiative

Coastal Alabama Community College - \$193,106

- \$117,672 – Career Coordinator Initiative
- \$75,434 – Purchase training equipment to support Nursing and Allied Health instruction.

J.F. Drake State Community & Technical College - \$372,049

- \$81,415 – Success Coach Initiative
- \$76,814 – Career Coordinator Initiative
- \$213,820 – Purchase equipment to expand Fame Advanced Manufacturing Technician (AMT) program.

Enterprise State Community College - \$139,908

- \$67,941 – Success Coach Initiative
- \$71,967 – Career Coordinator Initiative

Gadsden State Community College - \$818,802

- \$89,395 – Success Coach Initiative
- \$91,543 – Career Coordinator Initiative
- \$119,171 – Purchase a truck and trailer to support the Cardinal Construction Mobile Lab.
- \$209,482 – Purchase professional paint booth to upgrade the Automotive Technology program.
- \$228,149 – Purchase equipment to support expansion of the Surgical Technology program.
- \$81,062 – Purchase equipment to develop an Advanced Skill Lab for the EMS program.

Jefferson State Community College - \$732,882

- \$98,585 – Success Coach Initiative
- \$70,230 – Career Coordinator Initiative
- \$65,079 – Purchase Phlebotomy and Sterile Processing Equipment for Shelby Healthcare Lab.
- \$498,988 – Purchase high-fidelity and skills lab equipment to enhance Nursing Simulation.

T.A. Lawson State Community College - \$81,010

- \$81,010 – Success Coach Initiative

Lurleen B. Wallace Community College - \$185,328

- \$112,328 – Success Coach Initiative
- \$73,000 – Career Coordinator Initiative

Marion Military Institute - \$132,052

- \$132,052 – Purchase equipment to support the MMI First Responder program.

Northeast Alabama Community College - \$111,854

- \$50,000 – Success Coach Initiative
- \$61,854 – Purchase drone package to expand access to drone skills and careers.

Northwest Shoals Community College - \$229,960

- \$81,928 – Success Coach Initiative
- \$79,928 – Career Coordinator Initiative
- \$68,104 – Purchase of equipment to outfit the new health sciences non-credit lab.

Reid State Technical College - \$164,160

- \$89,068 – Success Coach Initiative
- \$75,092 – Career Coordinator Initiative

Shelton State Community College - \$371,822

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- \$86,361 – Success Coach Initiative
- \$285,461 – Purchase equipment to expand capacity of the nursing suite facility.

Snead State Community College - \$443,217

- \$131,740– Success Coach Initiative
- \$108,163 – Career Coordinator Initiative
- \$203,314 – Purchase equipment to support CTE program expansion in Additive Manufacturing.

Southern Union State Community College - \$434,010

- \$72,606 – Success Coach Initiative
- \$72,000 – Career Coordinator Initiative
- \$289,404 – Purchase equipment to launch a Pre-CDL and Heavy Equipment Workforce Pathway Initiative.

H. Councill Trenholm State Community College - \$124,200

- \$105,000 – Career Coordinator Initiative
- \$19,200 – Purchase of virtual cyber range licenses to support cybersecurity training.

George C. Wallace Community College - \$694,673

- \$87,237 – Success Coach Initiative
- \$106,807 – Career Coordinator Initiative
- \$219,900 – Purchase a double bucket truck to enhance the Lineworker and CDL program.
- \$280,729 – Purchase a simulator, truck, and trailer to support CDL program expansion.

Wallace State Community College - \$403,386

- \$88,341 – Success Coach Initiative
- \$69,787 – Career Coordinator Initiative
- \$245,258 – Purchase equipment to expand the Aviation program.

George Corley Wallace State Community College - \$352,452

- \$55,500 – Success Coach Initiative
- \$85,000 – Career Coordinator Initiative
- \$211,952 – Purchase skid steers (2) and a trailer to expand heavy equipment skid steer training.

Fiscal Consideration: \$7,623,171 – FY2025-2026 Education Trust Fund Industry Certification Initiative Funds

ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM
ALLOCATION OF FY2025-2026 INDUSTRY CERTIFICATION INITIATIVE FUNDS –
EXISTING INDUSTRY TRAINING PROGRAM

On motion by Mr. Shell, second by Mr. Lightsey, the Board of Trustees authorized the Chancellor to distribute through grants the sum of \$1,000,000 from the legislative appropriation for Industry Certification Initiative funds to support existing industry training. Individual grants awarded by the Chancellor shall be limited to a maximum of \$15,000 per training project, with an annual limit of \$60,000 for each company, for the purpose of providing training for existing businesses. The Chancellor and his staff are authorized and encouraged to use all appropriate means to expedite the award of grants to timely meet the needs of existing businesses

**Fiscal Consideration: \$1,000,000 – FY2025-2026 Education Trust Fund Industry
Certification Initiative Funds**

ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM
ALLOCATION OF FY2025-2026 INDUSTRY CERTIFICATION INITIATIVE FUNDS

On motion by Mr. Houston, second by Mr. Rhone, the Board of Trustees authorized the Chancellor to distribute \$250,000 in Industry Certification Initiative funds, from the current legislative appropriation, through grants to address immediate workforce development training needs. It is also recommended that the Chancellor be authorized to reallocate any unused funds from the previous fiscal year for the same purpose.

**Fiscal Consideration: \$250,000 – FY2025-2026 Education Trust Fund Industry
Certification Initiative Funds**

COASTAL ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE
BAY MINETTE CAMPUS FORT CRUSE RENOVATIONS

On motion by Mr. Shell, second by Mr. McCartney, the Board of Trustees authorized Coastal Alabama Community College to proceed with the project named Bay Minette Campus Fort Cruse Renovation. Construction contracts shall be executed no later than December 1, 2025, or this authorization shall expire.

Fiscal Consideration: TOTAL PROJECT COST \$966,125

BEVILL STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
INDUSTRIAL PARKWAY CAMPUS PURCHASE OF NITTO PROPERTY

On motion by Mr. Lightsey, second by Mr. Houston, the Board of Trustees authorized Bevill State Community College to proceed with the project named Jasper Campus Purchase of Nitto Property. Closing shall be executed no later than December 1, 2025, or this authorization shall expire.

Fiscal Consideration: TOTAL PROJECT COST \$2,738,500

LAWSON STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
BIRMINGHAM CAMPUS BUILDING A RENOVATION

On motion by Mr. Houston, second by Mr. Rhone, the Board of Trustees authorized Lawson State Community College to proceed with the project named Birmingham Campus Building “A”

Renovation. Construction contract shall be executed no later than December 15, 2025, or this authorization shall expire.

Fiscal Consideration: Total Project Cost \$11,454,500

ENTERPRISE STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
GENEVA CAMPUS ARMORY RENOVATION FOR WORKFORCE TECHNICAL
EDUCATION (GTECH)

On motion by Mr. Shell, second by Mr. Lightsey, the Board of Trustees authorized Enterprise State Community College to proceed with the project named Geneva Campus Armory Renovation for Workforce Technical Education (GTECH). Construction contracts shall be executed no later than December 1, 2025, or this authorization shall expire.

Fiscal Consideration: Total Project Cost \$2,087,152

JEFFERSON STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
PROPERTY DEED OF GIFT TO CHILTON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

On motion by Mr. Houston, second by Mr. McCartney, the Board of Trustees authorized Jefferson State Community College to proceed with the project named Clanton Campus Property Deed of Gift to Chilton County Board of Education. Closing shall be executed no later than December 1, 2025, or this authorization shall expire.

Fiscal Consideration: None.

ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM
ALABAMA MARITIME CONSORTIUM BLUE FORGE ALLIANCE RESOLUTION

On motion by Mr. Houston, second by Mr. Shell, the Board of Trustees approved the resolution to approve and authorize the Chancellor to complete negotiations and execute final contracts for capital improvement projects at Bishop State Community College, Reid State Community College, Coastal Alabama Community College, and Lurleen B. Wallace Community College, and authorize the Chancellor's approval of purchases in connection with and furtherance of the Blue Forge Alliance subcontract.

Fiscal Consideration: None.

SECTION X
PERSONNEL

Charlene Finkelstein, Human Resources Generalist, introduced the following new employees:

- Christopher Mullins – Director of Software Engineering

- Santiago Cersosimo – Software Engineer
- Stephen Whitlock – Regional Project / Facilities Director

SECTION XI
CHANCELLOR’S REPORT

Dr. Neil Scott, Vice Chancellor of Student Success, presented the latest enrollment numbers. Per Dr. Scott, the Fall 2025 Semester shows a 7.9% increase in enrollment over Fall 2024, with 95,185 students in for-credit courses. This is 6,925 more students than last year. Credit hours show a 7.4% increase over Fall 2024.

Chancellor Baker stated that consideration is currently being given to prison education and, over the next several months, a task force with membership from multiple agencies will be formed to discuss opportunities within the prison system. The ACCS will participate in this task force. Our mission is to provide training programs so incarcerated individuals will have a skill and a job to look forward to once they have served their time. Updates on this project will be forthcoming.

SECTION XII
COMMITTEE REPORTS

Per Mr. Shell, the Finance Committee met this morning, September 10, 2025, to discuss upcoming events.

SECTION XIII
(DATE AND LOCATION OF NEXT MEETING)

The next Board meeting will be held at J.F. Drake State Community and Technical College, Huntsville, Alabama, at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, October 8, 2025. A work session will follow at 10:20 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The Board meeting was adjourned at 10:46 a.m.

Chairman

Chancellor