

**ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 12, 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, November 12, 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 Dr. Jennifer Foster of Heritage Baptist Church in Montgomery, Alabama, followed by the pledge of allegiance.

On roll call, the following Board members were present:

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

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion by Mr. Shell, second by Mr. McCartney, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the October 8, 2025 meeting as presented without discussion.

**SECTION VII
(PUBLIC COMMENT)**

None.

**SECTION VIII
COLLEGE SPOTLIGHT – NORTHEAST ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

Dr. David Campbell, President of Northeast Alabama Community College, spoke briefly to spotlight Presidential Hosts Ms. Caroline Yates and Mr. Luke Barber, and their sponsor Ms. Andrea Okwu. Per Dr. Campbell, these student representatives are valuable to the college in assisting with events and activities used to reach out to the community.

Ms. Andrea Okwu, Director of High School Relations, spoke briefly. She also serves as Lead Sponsor for the Presidential Hosts on campus. Per Ms. Okwu, the Presidential Organization consists of 32 Northeast Alabama students. Selection of hosts is competitive. They have to maintain an excellent academic record in high school and go through an interview process with a panel of NACC administrators and faculty. About 150 students apply each year, but only about 15 or 16 are selected. Once chosen, these students serve at many events throughout the year, such as the Annual NACC Experience Day where they host high school juniors on campus; Athletic Events; the High School Scholarship Recognition Ceremony; the Annual Latino

Festival; and various receptions, luncheons, and fund-raising activities. The hosts also help with recruitment activities and provide campus tours to visitors.

Ms. Okwu introduced Ms. Caroline Yates, a sophomore host, and Mr. Luke Barber, a freshman host. Ms. Yates stated that she is honored to represent Northeast Alabama, which changed her life. She is majoring in Business and plans to transfer to UAH majoring in cybersecurity. She serves as SGA President, tutor, and leads several student organizations. She added that she came from a graduating class of 20 students, where she knew everyone. When she first attended Northeast Alabama, she was nervous, until she attended her first Presidential Host meeting. She stated that Northeast Alabama helped her turn her fear into confidence.

Ms. Yates next introduced Mr. Luke Barber. Mr. Barber is a freshman at Northeast Alabama majoring in Business Finance with plans to transfer to Auburn University. His experience as a student has given him much personal growth. He stated that when he first started, he had doubts, but NACC provided him with a community where he feels he belongs. Serving as a Presidential Host has allowed him to gain professional experience and given him the tools and encouragement he needed to push himself and grow. He is thankful for all he learned at Northeast Alabama.

Dr. Campbell summarized by stating that in the Spring Semester, the college will honor the Presidential Hosts with a lunch. He added that these students will be the future leaders of the state.

SECTION IX
(EXECUTIVE, LEGAL, AND PUBLIC INFORMATION)

ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM
BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2026 MEETING SCHEDULE

On motion by Mr. McCartney, second by Mr. Rhone, the Board of Trustees adopted the 2026 meeting schedule.

Fiscal Consideration: None.

ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM
GENERAL AND GARAGE LIABILITY INSURANCE

On motion by Mr. Houston, second by Mr. McCartney, the Board of Trustees authorized and directed each college and Alabama Technology Network (ATN) to purchase general liability and garage liability insurance coverage under a policy recommended by the Chancellor for the coverage period November 15, 2025 and ending November 14, 2026. It is further recommended “That the annual premium be apportioned among the colleges and ATN as determined by the Chancellor.”

Fiscal Consideration: \$340,522.58 – Current Unrestricted Fund

ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM
CYBER LIABILITY INSURANCE

On motion by Mr. Houston, second by Mr. Rhone, the Board of Trustees authorized and directed each college and Alabama Technology Network (ATN) to purchase cyber liability insurance coverage under a policy recommended by the Chancellor for the coverage period November 15, 2025, and ending November 14, 2026. It is further recommended “That the annual premium be apportioned among the colleges and ATN as determined by the Chancellor.”

Fiscal Consideration: \$222,000 – Current Unrestricted Fund

SOUTHERN UNION STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NAMING OF THE BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER BUILDING

On motion by Mr. Shell, second by Mr. McCartney, the Board of Trustees authorized the President of Southern Union State Community College to name the Business and Technology Center Building on the Opelika campus as the Gary Fuller Business and Technology Center and to add appropriate signage.

Fiscal Consideration: None.

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

ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM INSTITUTIONS
2025-2026 ACCS OPERATING BUDGETS

On motion by Mr. Houston, second by Mr. Shell, the Board of Trustees approved the 2025-2026 budgets as presented by the Chancellor for the community and technical colleges, Alabama Technology Network (ATN) and Marion Military Institute (MMI).

Fiscal Consideration: \$1,387,767,990

TRENHOLM STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
ADDITION OF INSTRUCTIONAL SITE

On motion by Mr. Mitchell, second by Mr. Shell, the Board of Trustees approved an additional instructional site located at 4520 Executive Park Drive, Montgomery, Alabama for Trenholm State Community College.

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

LAWSON STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
BESSEMER CAMPUS ETHEL HALL BUILDING REROOFING

On motion by Mr. Houston, second by Mr. Rhone, the Board of Trustees authorized Lawson State Community College to proceed with the project named Bessemer Campus Ethel Hall Building Reroofing. Construction contracts shall be executed no later than February 1, 2026, or this authorization shall expire.

Fiscal Consideration: TOTAL PROJECT COST \$554,444

LAWSON STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
BIRMINGHAM AND BESSEMER CAMPUSES NETWORK UPGRADES FROM BRAND
ADTRAN TO CISCO

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 and Bessemer Campuses Network Upgrades from Brand AdTran to Cisco. Construction contract shall be executed no later than February 1, 2026, or this authorization shall expire.

Fiscal Consideration: TOTAL PROJECT COST \$546,520

BISHOP STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
MAIN CAMPUS DELCHAMPS BUILDING RENOVATIONS

On motion by Mr. Shell, second by Mr. Rhone, the Board of Trustees authorized Bishop State Community College to proceed with the project named Main Campus Delchamps Building Renovations (Phase I: Demolition Package). Construction contracts for the project shall be executed no later than February 1, 2026, or this authorization shall expire.

Fiscal Consideration: TOTAL PROJECT COST \$568,033

SHELTON STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
FREDD CAMPUS BUILDING RENOVATIONS

On motion by Mr. Rhone, second by Mr. McCartney, the Board of Trustees authorized Shelton State Community College to proceed with the project named Fredd Campus Building Renovations (Data/Telecom Installation Bid Package). Construction contracts shall be executed no later than February 1, 2026, or this authorization shall expire.

Fiscal Consideration: TOTAL PROJECT COST \$11,267,034

CALHOUN COMMUNITY COLLEGE
HUNTSVILLE CAMPUS SPARKMAN BUILDING CHILLER AND MECHANICAL
EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT

On motion by Mr. Rogers, second by Mr. Shell, the Board of Trustees authorized Calhoun Community College to proceed with the project named Huntsville Campus Sparkman Building Chiller and Mechanical Equipment Replacement (Mechanical Equipment Installation Bid). Construction contracts shall be executed no later than February 28, 2026, or this authorization shall expire.

Fiscal Consideration: TOTAL PROJECT COST \$1,570,014

SOUTHERN UNION STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
OPELIKA CAMPUS PURCHASE OF AMERICAN LEGION PROPERTY

On motion by Mr. McCartney, second by Mr. Shell, the Board of Trustees authorized Southern Union State Community College to proceed with the project named Opelika Campus Purchase of American Legion Property. Closing shall be executed no later than February 1, 2026, or this authorization shall expire.

Fiscal Consideration: TOTAL PROJECT COST \$541,250

SECTION XI

PERSONNEL

Chancellor Baker recommended that the Board approve the retirement of President Jackie Screws of Chattahoochee Valley Community College effective December 1, 2025. On motion by Mr. Shell, second by Mr. Houston, the Board unanimously approved the retirement of President Screws.

Dr. Vicky Williams, Associate Dean of Student Development at Chattahoochee Valley Community College, introduced a video showcasing President Screws leadership, commitment, and service to the college. After the video, President Screws received a standing ovation.

President Screws briefly thanked her staff, whom she stated were essential to her success. She thanked her family and the Phenix City community where she was born and raised. She stated that her staff shared her vision and supported her all the way. She added that her one promise was to leave Chattahoochee Valley in better shape than she found it, and she has accomplished that goal.

Board Chair Valerie Gray next read a resolution honoring President Screws. On motion by Mr. McCartney, second by Mr. Rhone, the resolution was unanimously approved.

Chancellor Baker next recommended that the Board approve the resignation of Ms. Annette Funderburk as President of Ingram State Technical College, effective November 16, 2025. On motion by Mr. Shell, second by Mr. Houston, the Board unanimously approved the resignation.

Chancellor Baker added that Ms. Funderburk will be joining the ACCS System Office effective November 17, 2025, as a Special Assistant to the Chancellor. On motion by Mr. McCartney, second by Mr. Shell, the Board unanimously approved. Chancellor Baker added that he has appointed Mr. David Walters as Interim President at Ingram State effective November 17, 2025.

SECTION XII

CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

Dr. Neil Scott, Vice Chancellor of Student Success, presented the latest enrollment numbers. Per Dr. Scott, the Fall Semester has been a very good one regarding enrollment. Spring Semester 2026 is promising, as well, with 43,151 students enrolled in for-credit courses, a 22.5% increase over Spring 2025. Credit hours show an increase of 23.3% over Spring 2025.

Chancellor Baker next announced that, after ten years, Mr. Boone Kinard, Executive Director of External Affairs, will be transitioning to a different role and will leave the Alabama Community College System at the end of the year. Chancellor Baker asked Mr. Alan Bates, Special Assistant to the Chancellor, to speak on plans for moving forward on legislative issues.

Mr. Bates stated that there is excitement regarding the future of the ACCS. Emphasis will be placed on promoting the ACCS as the leader in Workforce Development and training for the State of Alabama. He added that we will be more aggressive in pushing dual enrollment and the expansion of ATN, the Innovation Center, and prison education. Mr. Bates further added that Ms. Drew Haney, Communications Coordinator, will be an integral asset going into the next legislative session.

Following a promotional video highlighting the ACCS, Ms. Sara Calhoun spoke on the people behind the system's growth. She stated that our college employees are essential in mentoring and training students for the jobs of today and careers of tomorrow. She added that she is pursuing increased funding for the colleges and their employees. Per Ms. Calhoun, we must invest in our people for the benefit of all Alabamians.

Mr. Bates spoke again on the disparity between the K-12 system and the ACCS compensation. Per Mr. Bates, we compete with other education providers, as well as business and industry across the state. Decreasing the pay disparity will be a priority, as well as making adjustments for inflation and increased health insurance costs.

SECTION XIII
COMMITTEE REPORTS

None.

SECTION XIV
(DATE AND LOCATION OF NEXT MEETING)

The next Board meeting will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, December 10, 2025 at Enterprise State Community College. A work session will follow at 10:20 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The Board meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Chairman

Chancellor