#### 35737 APPROVED-BOARD OF TRUSTEES **COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT NO. 508**

**DECEMBER 4, 2025** 

# BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT NO. 508 COUNTY OF COOK AND STATE OF ILLINOIS

# **MINUTES** REGULAR BOARD MEETING THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2025

# KENNEDY KING COLLEGE U BUILDING, GREAT HALL, ROOM U105

6301 S HALSTED ST. CHICAGO, IL 60621

Pursuant to provisions of the Public Community College Act, as amended, of the State by Illinois, County of Cook, the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Community College District No. 508 was held in person and live streamed for simultaneous public viewing on YouTube on November 6, 2025, at 2:00 p.m., Kennedy King College, U building, Great Hall, Room U105, 6301 S Halsted St., Chicago, Illinois 60621.

# **ATTENDEES**

OFFICERS OF THE DISTRICT **TRUSTEES** Veronica Herrero – EVC Chief Institutional Advancement Officer Katya Nuques, Board Chair David Anthony – Vice Chancellor, Administrative Services Princella "Jaribu" Lee, Secretary Maribel Rodriguez - Chief Financial Officer Oscar Sanchez Kafi Moragne-Patterson Eugene Nichols – Deputy Chief Talent Officer Stacia Edwards - Deputy Provost Widedji Deguenon (Student) Jacquelyn Werner - Chief of Student Experience Officer Brittany Kairis Jackson – Vice Chancellor, Strategy & Planning **CHANCELLOR** Jay Agarwal - Chief Information Officer Juan Salgado Jen Mason – Vice Chancellor, Legislative & Community Affairs Will Barefield – Vice Chancellor/Student Enrollment Management PROVOST AND CHIEF ACADEMIC David Deyhle – Vice Chancellor-Institutional Branding & Strategic **OFFICER** Marketing Mark Potter Veronica Resa – Director - Media Relations Aricka Jones - Compliance Officer and Director-Risk Management **GENERAL COUNSEL** Sarah Lichtenstein Walter - Associate Vice Chancellor, Academic Karla Gowen **Programs** CHIEF ADVISOR TO THE BOARD **PRESIDENTS Bonnie Phillips** 

# SENIOR ASSISTANT BOARD LIAISON

Emma Mims

ASSISTANT BOARD LIAISON

Avery Walls

Daniel Lopez – President, Harold Washington College Shawn Jackson – President, Harry S Truman College Peggy Korellis – Interim President, Richard J Daley College

Andres Oroz – President, Wilbur Wright College

Katonja Webb Walker – President, Kennedy-King College

David Sanders - President, Malcolm X College

Kimberly Hollingsworth – President, Olive Harvey College

# I. <u>CALL TO ORDER</u>

Chair Nuques began by calling to order the November 6, 2025, Regular Board Meeting at 2:05 p.m. All attendees stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

# II. ROLL CALL

Chair Nuques asked the Chief Advisor to call the roll.

The Chief Advisor called roll:

Katya Nuques Present
Marshall E. Hatch, Sr. Absent
Oscar Sanchez Present
Princella "Jaribu" Lee Present
Darlene Hightower Absent
Kafi Moragne-Patterson Present
Widedji Deguenon (Student) Present

Quorum confirmed in accordance with the Illinois Public Community College Act and the Illinois Open Meetings Act.

# III. <u>WELCOME</u>

Chair Nuques welcomed everyone to the November 6, 2025 regular board meeting of the City of Chicago Board of Trustees and thanked president Webb Walker, for hosting the meeting at Kennedy King College.

Chair Nuques stated that it was a pleasure to welcome our fellow trustees, the chancellor, college presidents, faculty, staff, students, and members of the public for joining the meeting today.

November is a month rich in reflection and gratitude. As we approach Thanksgiving, we are reminded of the importance of community, generosity, and shared purpose. It is also Native American Heritage Month, a time to honor the history, culture, and contributions of Indigenous peoples across our nation. Chair Nuques recognized the deep significance of this observance and reaffirmed our commitment to equity and inclusion in all that we do.

This month also includes Veterans Day Chair Nuques stated, when we honor those who have served in our armed forces. We are deeply grateful for their service and sacrifice, and we remain committed to supporting our student veterans and their families.

Today's agenda includes a presentation on our food security initiative, she said that this is a vital effort to ensure that no student is forced to choose between nourishment and education.

Let us proceed with today's meeting in a spirit of gratitude, reflection, and action. Together, we are building a stronger, more inclusive future for Chicago through education."

The next City of Chicago Board of Trustees meeting will be held on December 4<sup>th</sup> at Harold Washington College.

Chair Nuques called on Student Trustee Deguenon to proceed with his report.

# IV. STUDENT TRUSTEE REPORT

The full Student Trustee report can be found on the Board website and by clicking below:

Student Trustee Report - Nov.

# V. <u>CHANCELLOR UPDATES</u>

The Chancellor began by thanking Student Trustee Deguenon and all the SGAs across the District for their leadership at this moment in time. He went on to thank President Webb Walker and her team for hosting today and he asked her to say a few words.

President Webb Walker remarked by thanking the Chancellor. She went on and greeted the members of the Board and distinguished guests and said that she is honored to welcome them to Kennedy-King College today. The energy at KKC is palpable now as we prepare to host the Higher Learning Commission on December 1st and 2nd for our 10-year reaffirmation of accreditation comprehensive site visit. A team of faculty, staff, and administrators worked tirelessly on preparing the 150-page college self-study to orient the site review team to the college's work since the last review, along with hundreds of pieces of evidence that attest to colleges alignment with the four criteria for accreditation.

In the coming days, a briefing will be prepared by the Academic Affairs team at the CCC District Office to prepare the board for that visit. President Webb Walker stated that since KKC last hosted, our team has been busy developing new programs, engaging community and industry partners, and enhancing our student engagement efforts. President Webb Walker said that she would like to take this opportunity to celebrate just a few recent achievements and initiatives.

KKC is thrilled to celebrate a continued rise in student enrollment, with a 13% increase in opening credit enrollment from Fall 2024 to Fall 2025, among the highest in the state.

Enrollment is only one piece of our success journey. She stated that they understand how important it is to create a campus environment that supports students through to completion, transfer, and entry into the workforce according to their intent. Part of this culture shift is reflected by the phenomenal work of our Student Affairs team via our Student Government Association. The team is working tirelessly to create a welcoming and engaging climate for the students. In the last two years, KKC has expanded the number of student clubs from two to nine and now offers a Chess Club, a Black Students

Union, a Tech Club, a Garden Club, as well as a brand-new Majorettes Dance Team. Our VP of Student Affairs has threatened to join them on the floor one day, and we are all working to make that happen.

Last month, the college culminated a two-year technical assistance project in collaboration with the Urban Institute to advance our work toward becoming a parent-friendly campus. I had the pleasure of traveling to Washington, D.C., with our Director of Research, Liz Salgado, Vice Chancellor of Strategy and Planning, Britney Jackson Kairis, and one of our parenting students, where we shared our capstone project and sat on a panel discussion with an audience of over 300 in-person and virtual participants from across the country wanting to learn more about supporting the parenting students.

Our Center of Equity and Creative Arts is housed here in this building. CECA has facilitated several collaborations with industry and community partners. Last week we served as a site for the Chicago International Film Festival, and we will host a celebration in honor of Englewood's own MacArthur Fellow and Genius Grant awardee, Tonika Johnson, who will be working with us on designing the arts related curricula.

Kennedy-King will open the Statesmen Market, a beautifully appointed and accessible food pantry for our students who are facing food insecurity. President Webb Walker stated that she is grateful to have an incredibly talented team of faculty, staff, and students, some of whom are present today. We extend an open invitation to members of the Board to visit us and learn more about our college.

Chancellor Salgado thanked President Webb Walker and took a moment to mention the meeting that was held at Kennedy-King's Sikia restaurant where a donor contributed one million dollars toward the Food Security for Life initiative. He thanked Student Trustee Deguenon and Chair Nuques for their remarks at the meeting.

Chancellor stated that November is a time to honor the U.S. veterans who served our country, protecting our freedoms and our democracy. We also recognize Native American history, culture, and community as part of Native American Heritage Month. It is a time we set aside to reflect on all that we are thankful for.

Chancellor stated that he is inspired by thinking about the legacy of those who came before us and the strength they displayed in the face of challenges. He said that he has also have been energized reflecting on all that he is grateful for especially our inspiring students, our dedicated colleagues, and the many partners who work with us, and the leadership we are fortunate to find across our city and state at this moment.

There is no better place to be right now than here at City Colleges. We will continue to make sure our students feel connected to our institution and know that an education is the best path toward reaching their goals.

During the Committee meeting today, we heard about fall enrollment with a strong sign that our momentum is continuing. We are up again in credit enrollment (+6.6%), greater than the state average of 5%. Since the pandemic in Fall 2021, fall credit enrollment has increased significantly for Black male students (+41%), Black female students (+37%),

Latine male students (+35%), and Latine female students (+24%). We did see a decline in adult education enrollment of 6%; however, this was less than the statewide decline.

Chancellor stated that he attributes our overall upward trend to the trust we have built in our brand and the many strategies and systems we have put in place, from enrollment management to new student advising to our growing suite of unparalleled student supports.

Today we will hear from President Webb Walker and Executive Director of Student Wellness Anne Althoff about a major new support for our Food Security for Life program. This program is more important than ever as our community faces changes to federal benefits like SNAP and Medicaid.

At City Colleges, we continue to meet the moment in collaboration with our partners at the Greater Chicago Food Depository. We recently held several informational sessions about changes to SNAP benefits to make sure our students and community members are prepared to comply with policy changes and retain their benefits.

We also recently hosted a college wide virtual "Know Your Rights" training where we reminded the community of our security procedures. Thanks to the Offices of Safety and Security, our undocumented liaisons, and the Wellness Center staff who are going the extra mile to support our community.

Chancellor said that he has had the opportunity to listen a great deal lately to our community members as we shared the progress made through our last five-year plan. We will share the forthcoming new strategic plans which launch next spring. Chancellor said that it has been validating to hear from our partners who are thrilled about our work and eager to continue working alongside us.

Provost Potter and President Webb Walker represented us at the signing of a new transfer agreement with Purdue University Northwest. This agreement strengthens the transfer pathways and support academic and career success for students pursuing Construction Management careers. The new agreement will create a seamless transition from KKC's Associate of Applied Science (AAS) in Construction Management to Purdue Northwest's Bachelor of Science in Construction Management Engineering Technology program.

Chancellor acknowledged that Wright College received its Focused Visit Report from the Higher Learning Commission, which is a follow-up to its ten-year accreditation. The college is in full compliance, with no additional monitoring, follow-up reports, or special visits necessary. He congratulated the Wright College team, including faculty, staff, and administration, whose work represented the highest standards of academic quality, institutional integrity, and student success.

Chancellor acknowledged the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers, the Wilbur Wright College Chapter which has been named a recipient of a 2024-2025 National Chapter Award, making it the first community college chapter ever to receive this national recognition. The award honors Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers

(SHPE) chapters that demonstrate exceptional leadership, service, and impact in empowering and elevating Latinos in STEM.

Chancellor noted that Malcolm X College President David Sanders has been appointed to a three-year term on the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU)'s Commission on International Education.

He also noted that Harold Washington College Vice President of Student Affairs Luvia Moreno and Malcolm X College Interim Dean of Instruction and Director of Academic Projects Wendy Arzate have been named to the 2025-2026 Cohort of the HACU Leadership Academy.

City Colleges Executive Director of Career Development and Success Maria Gutierrez, Chancellor said, has been selected as a recipient of the 2025 Illinois Career Development Association Advocacy Award. This award recognizes people, organizations, and businesses that demonstrate a commitment to career development education. ASM Technical Fellow and Certified Quality Engineer Michael Connelly is an adjunct manufacturing professor at Daley College, has been appointed president of the International Metallographic Society.

Chancellor invited all City Colleges of Chicago students, faculty, staff, and Board members to explore the Art Institute of Chicago for free this evening from 4:00 p.m.–7:00 p.m. for an exclusive look at an exhibit of Elizabeth Catlett's work, called: "A Black Revolutionary Artist and All That It Implies."

Chancellor ended his remarks stating that on November 12th, there will be a celebration with community partners marking the culmination of our five-year strategic plan.

# VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were 0 requests for public participation.

# VII. FACULTY COUNCIL REPORT

No Faculty Council Report was presented. The reports for October and November will be entered into the record.

# VIII. <u>PRESENTATION</u>

**Topic:** Food Security for Life Presentation

# **Presenters:**

Katonja Webb Walker – President, Kennedy King College Anne Althoff - Executive Director - Student Wellness

The full presentation can be found on the Board website and by clicking below: Food Security For Life

Chancellor Salgado asked who can access the markets.

President Webb Walker advised that all CCC students are welcome to visit the markets.

Trustee Moragne-Patterson asked whether the Food Security for Life initiative will take on any additional partnerships beyond the Greater Chicago Food Depository. She also asked what opportunities exist for those who wish to get involved.

Director Althoff advised that, for the current programs, the Greater Chicago Food Depository meets all existing needs. However, they are open to partnering with other organizations that want to support City Colleges students.

Trustee Moragne-Patterson asked if there is an online component.

Director Althoff advised that there is currently no online component. However, some students reach out directly to the Wellness Center or staff involved in the program to arrange specific pickup times and communicate their needs if the existing system does not work for them.

Trustee Moragne-Patterson asked if the culinary students at Kennedy-King will create any of the meals.

President Webb Walker advised that, while they are not involved in meal preparation, they do help students learn healthy cooking methods using foods available in the markets. They will also offer healthy cooking classes.

# IX. <u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>

Trustee Sanchez presented the Committee Report.

In the Committee meeting today, Interim Chief of Student Experience Officer Werner, Vice Chancellor Barefield and Director Kiera Bowens presented a presentation on enrollment and retention. The Highlight of the presentation focused on the combined total of the credit and adult education students compared to last fall. Six of the seven City Colleges experienced increase in credit enrollment. While adult education declined, Black and Latine male and female students experienced growth across the district.

We also reviewed the minutes, resolutions, personnel report, resource development report, agreements, purchases and legal invoices included on today's Academic Affairs and Student Services agenda as part of the Consent Agenda to this November 6, 2025 regular board meeting."

# X. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 6, 2025 REGULAR BOARD MEETING PACKET

Chair Nuques led the board in the approval of the minutes, resolutions, personnel report, resource development report, agreements, purchases, and legal invoices listed in the Consent Agenda. The Chair asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

<Second> Trustee Oscar Sanchez

Motion carried.

The Chief Advisor called the roll:

Katya Nuques	Aye
Princella "Jaribu" Lee	Aye
Oscar Sanchez	Aye
Kafi Moragne-Patterson	Aye
Widedji Deguenon	Aye

There were five ayes, zero nays, and no abstentions or recusals.

# XI. <u>MOTION FOR CLOSED SES</u>SION

Pursuant to the Illinois Open Meetings Act, Chair Nuques asked for a roll call vote to hold Closed Session at 2:58 p.m. for the discussion of exceptions: 2c(1), the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body. 2c(2), collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees. 2c(11), litigation, when an action against, affecting, or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting.

The Chair asked for a motion to go to Closed Session.

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<Motion> Trustee Oscar Sanchez
<Second> Trustee Princella "Jaribu" Lee
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Motion carried.

The Chief Advisor called the roll:

Katya Nuques	Aye
Princella "Jaribu" Lee	Aye
Oscar Sanchez	Aye
Kafi Moragne-Patterson	Aye
Widedji Deguenon	Aye

There were five ayes, zero nays, and no abstentions or recusals.

# XII. RETURN FROM CLOSED SESSION

Closed Session ended at 3:25 p.m. Upon the Board's return, the Chair reconvened the November 6, 2025, board meeting and noted that no action was taken during closed session that required action in open session.

# XIII. MOTION TO ADJOURN

Upon concluding that there was no further business to come before the Board, the Chair asked for a motion to adjourn.

<Motion> Trustee Princella "Jaribu" Lee <Second> Trustee Oscar Sanchez

Motion Carried.

The meeting adjourned at 3:26 p.m.

Princella "Jaribu" Lee Secretary Board of Trustees

Submitted by – Avery Walls, Assistant Board Liaison