

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

MINUTES

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING / BOND ISSUE NOTIFICATION ACT HEARING
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2026**

HAROLD WASHINGTON COLLEGE

**ROOM 1115
30 E. LAKE STREET
CHICAGO, IL 60601**

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 February 5, 2026, at 2:00 p.m., Harold Washington College, Room 1115, 30 E. Lake Street, Chicago, Illinois 60601.

ATTENDEES

TRUSTEES

Katya Nuques, Board Chair
Marshall E. Hatch, Sr., Vice Chair
Princella “Jaribu” Lee, Secretary
Darlene Hightower
Oscar Sanchez
Fernando Diaz
Widedji Deguenon (Student)

CHANCELLOR

Juan Salgado

**PROVOST AND CHIEF ACADEMIC
OFFICER**

Mark Potter

GENERAL COUNSEL

Karla Gowen

CHIEF ADVISOR TO THE BOARD

Bonnie Phillips

SENIOR ASSISTANT BOARD LIAISON

Emma Mims

ASSISTANT BOARD LIAISON

Avery Walls

OFFICERS OF THE DISTRICT

Veronica Herrero — EVC Chief Institutional Advancement Officer
David Anthony — Vice Chancellor, Administrative Services
Maribel Rodriguez — Chief Financial Officer
Carol Dunning — Chief Talent Officer
Stacia Edwards — Deputy Provost
Angela Arrington — VC, Business and Procurement Services
Jacquelyn Werner — Chief of Student Experience Officer
Brittany Kairis Jackson — Vice Chancellor, Strategy & Planning
Jen Mason — Vice Chancellor, Legislative & Community Affairs
Will Barefield — Vice Chancellor/Student Enrollment Management
David Deyhle — Vice Chancellor-Institutional Branding & Strategic Marketing
Jeff Wong — Deputy Chief Financial Officer
Veronica Resa — Director, Media Relations
Sarah Lichtenstein Walter — Associate Vice Chancellor, Academic Programs
Greg Williams — Executive Director, IT Service Delivery & Academic Technology
Lonnie Washington — Executive Director, Business enterprise systems

PRESIDENTS

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
Roy Walker III — Sr. Vice President, Malcolm X College
Kimberly Hollingsworth — President, Olive Harvey College

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Nuques called to order the February 5, 2026, Regular Board Meeting at 2:11pm.

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.	Present
Oscar Sanchez	Present
Princella “Jaribu” Lee	Present
Darlene Hightower	Present
Kafi Moragne-Patterson	Absent
Fernando Diaz	Present
Widedji Deguenon (Student)	Present

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

III. WELCOME

Chair Nuques welcomed everyone to the February 5, 2026, regular board meeting of the City of Chicago Board of Trustees, and extended a warm welcome to the Board’s newest trustee, Fernando Diaz, and expressed appreciation for his willingness to serve. The Chair noted that Trustee Diaz’s experience, perspective, and commitment to public service will support the Board’s mission to ensure all students across every campus have access to high-quality, equitable, and life-changing educational opportunities. The Chair also acknowledged fellow Trustees, the Chancellor, college presidents, faculty, staff, students, and members of the public in attendance.

Chair Nuques recognized February as Black History Month and noted its importance as a time to honor the achievements and contributions of Black Americans.

Chair Nuques also recognized Chancellor Salgado and President Webb Walker for their leadership in the recent grand opening of a new on-campus food market at Kennedy-King College. The market expands upon the College’s former food pantry and provides students and their families with access to food and essential resources in a modern, grocery-style setting designed to reduce stigma and barriers, allowing students to remain focused on their studies.

Chair Nuques noted that the next regular board meeting will be on March 5, 2026, at Harold Washington College.

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

IV. STUDENT TRUSTEE REPORT

The Student Trustee report can be found on the Board website and by clicking below:
[Student Trustee Report - Feb 2026](#)

V. CHANCELLOR UPDATES

Chancellor Salgado welcomed the newest trustee, Fernando Diaz. He stated that we are fortunate to have Trustee Diaz on board and that the community will benefit from his experience in government finance and higher education. He stated that Trustee Diaz has joined a dedicated group of trustees whose counsel is greatly valued.

Chancellor went on the state that we proudly recognize Black History Month and celebrate the contributions and enduring legacy of Black Americans. Throughout the month, the colleges will host events that create opportunities for reflection and community building. Everyone is encouraged to monitor their email and check the website for information on these celebrations.

Earlier this week, the Chancellor said that he joined President Webb Walker, Chair Nuques, the team at the Greater Chicago Food Depository, the funders at Knight Impact Partners, and many others for the opening of the beautiful Kennedy King College Statesmen Market. He noted that this is the first of the new dynamic markets across the colleges which are part of the Food Security for Life initiative to address students' basic needs. The markets complement the ready-to-heat meals provided at the three colleges and the snacks-to-go offered to all students, at no charge, at every college. Chancellor said that while students are facing cuts to SNAP and other benefits, they are committed to step up and fill these gaps as much as they possibly can.

The Chancellor recognized President Webb Walker and her team for their extraordinary leadership as the pilot college for the Food Security initiative and acknowledged President Webb Walker's recognition from the State Treasurer's Office for her service, dedication, and excellence.

Late last month, the ribbon was cut on a new barbershop for Olive Harvey College. Chancellor stated that he is always so impressed by the vibrancy of the OHC campus and the sense of community that President Hollingsworth and her team creates.

In today's meeting Chancellor noted that the Board will hear about the growing partnership with the student support organization One Million Degrees, from Deputy Chief Student Experience Officer Jacquelyn Werner and Chief of Staff and President of the CCC Foundation Veronica Herrero. Chancellor stated that this partnership is an example of how they are investing in what works, and the unrivaled student support that is producing real, tangible impacts on student outcomes.

City Colleges has been named the Midwestern Regional Hub for AWS Machine Learning University. This designation confirms the leadership in the technology space

and it establishes City Colleges as the central institution responsible for organizing, delivering, and scaling faculty-led AI and machine learning bootcamps, workshops, and a regional business case competition across the Midwest, in collaboration with Amazon and funded through AWS-MLU support. Chancellor Salgado congratulated the Tech team, led by Associate Vice Chancellor, Technology Sector Strategy Ayoka Samuels, and the technology team whose leadership helped make this possible. This recognition is a testament to our role as the go-to workforce partner for the region and will continue to grow opportunities for the students and faculty in this high-demand field.

Chancellor congratulated Malcolm X College's very own Director of Health Sciences for Medical Laboratory Programs, Dr. RoDina L. Williams, who became the first Black person in Illinois to hold a Doctorate in Clinical Laboratory Science, which she earned from the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston last year.

Chancellor also recognized the five City Colleges students and alumni who were selected as 2026 Apprentice Ambassadors by the Illinois Workforce Innovation Board Work-Based Learning and Apprenticeship Committee: Beril Mese, Christian Rodriguez, Ashley Sosa, Elian Aguilar, and John Williams. The ambassadors will serve as apprenticeship advocates, share their stories, and mentor current and future apprentices.

Chancellor also congratulated Malcolm X College student Elizabeth "Ely" Barajas, who won a substantial prize for Creative Writing, stemming from a writing portfolio developed in a Gender, Women's and Sexuality Studies Praxis Project Portfolio Review. Professor Viggie Alexandersson noted that Ely's dedication to transforming the world for the better stands as a powerful testament to the depth and impact of Ely and her peers' praxis work. Chancellor stated that this is yet another example of the talent and passion that thrive within our classrooms and the dedication of our faculty who inspire and support our students every day.

VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were 4 requests for public participation. 3 speakers presented.

1. Randall Miller
Topic: Adjunct Faculty Issues
2. Beth Harris
Topic: Adjunct Faculty Concerns
3. Carlos Aulet
Topic: Current State of Adult Education
4. Helena Moody (**Did Not attend**)
Topic: Adult Education Concerns

VII. PRESENTATION

Topic: One Million Degrees

Presenters: Veronica Herrero — Executive Vice Chancellor - Chief Institutional Advancement Officer & Chief of Staff

Jacquelyn Werner — Deputy Chief Student Experience Officer

Trustee Lee requested information regarding student outcomes beyond course completion, including degree attainment, transfer to four-year institutions, and employment outcomes related to students' long-term academic and economic success. Trustee Lee also asked that the data be included in future reports if not currently available.

EVC Herrero responded that the initiative is currently in its fourth year and that completion is formally assessed at the four-year benchmark under established student outcomes measures. While comprehensive completion data is not yet available, findings from a randomized controlled trial indicated that students enrolled at City Colleges of Chicago and participating in One Million Degrees were 73 percent more likely to complete an associate degree within three years. EVC Herrero further reported that a longitudinal study initiated in 2016 has examined persistence, course completion, and degree attainment, with forthcoming results expected to include labor market outcomes.

Chancellor Salgado stated that our stickiest challenge has been fall to fall retention. A significant decline is typically observed from fall to fall enrollment, which greatly reduces the likelihood of degree completion and upward mobility for students who do not re-enroll. Based on this, the fall to fall numbers presented are very good. CCC looks to make sure that all eligible students have the opportunity to continue their education.

Trustee Hightower asked how we are defining the program?

EVC Herrero responded that program includes all current One Million Degrees (OMD) supports. These include program coordinators who work directly on campus with a caseload of students, as well as professional development opportunities for participants. The program also provides volunteer coaches, whom One Million Degrees recruits, trains, manages, and matches with students. In addition, career advising and related supports are offered. Overall, it is a robust and comprehensive system that produces strong results and is intended to sustain the work currently being done. The stipends will be supported through a separate philanthropic source.

Trustees Hatch Sr. and Sanchez expressed their appreciation for the mentorship and resources that One Million Degrees will continue to provide CCC's students.

VIII. FACULTY COUNCIL REPORT

No Faculty Council Report was presented. The report will be entered into the record.

IX. COMMITTEE REPORT

Vice Chair Hatch presented the Committee Report.

In the Committee meeting today, the minutes, resolutions, personnel report, resource development report, agreements, purchases and legal invoices were reviewed and included on today's Academic Affairs and Student Services agenda as part of the Consent

Agenda to this February 5, 2026 regular board meeting.

X. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY 5, 2026 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 excluding resolutions 1.01 and 1.13. The Chair asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

<Motion> Trustee Oscar Sanchez
<Second> Trustee Darlene Hightower

Motion carried.

The Chief Advisor called the roll:

Katya Nuques	Aye
Marshall Hatch Sr.	Aye
Princella “Jaribu” Lee	Aye
Oscar Sanchez	Aye
Darlene Hightower	Aye
Fernando Diaz	Aye
Widedji Deguenon	Aye

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

XI. MOTION FOR CLOSED SESSION

Pursuant to the Illinois Open Meetings Act, Chair Nuques asked for a roll call vote to hold Closed Session at 3:19 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.

<Motion> Trustee Princella “Jaribu” Lee
<Second> Trustee Oscar Sanchez

Motion carried.

The Chief Advisor called the roll:

Katya Nuques	Aye
Marshall Hatch Sr.	Aye
Princella “Jaribu” Lee	Aye
Oscar Sanchez	Aye
Darlene Hightower	Aye
Fernando Diaz	Aye
Widedji Deguenon	Aye

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

XII. RETURN FROM CLOSED SESSION

Closed Session ended at 3:46 p.m. Upon the Board’s return, the Chair reconvened the February 5, 2026, 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 Oscar Sanchez
<Second> Trustee Princella Lee

Motion Carried.

The meeting adjourned at 3:46 p.m.

**Princella “Jaribu” Lee
Secretary
Board of Trustees**

Submitted by – Avery Walls, Assistant Board Liaison