
DCC Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: January 26, 2026

Meeting Location: DCC Board Room

Approval: FINAL

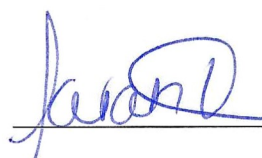
Recorded By: BreAnn Miller

Attendance for the January 26, 2016, Board of Trustee Meeting

Name	Title/Organization	Present
Cindy Larsen	Chair	Yes
Sarah Thorson	Vice Chair	Yes
Gloria Garceau-Glaser	Trustee	Yes
Brendan Heidner	Trustee	Yes
Jordan Ulrich	Trustee	Yes
Sandy Johnson	Trustee	Yes
Lesley Gibbs	Trustee	Yes
Chad Knudson	President of DCC	Yes
Becky Smith	Dean of Finance and Operations	No
Daisy Nyberg	Dean of People and Culture	No
BreAnn Miller	Interim Dean of Academic Affairs /DCC ALO	Yes
Joe Peterson	Athletic Director	No
Community Members		
Jamie Crisafulli	Ranger Review	No
Dennis Harp	DC Foundation	Yes



 Cindy Larsen, Chair



 Sarah Thorson, Vice Chair

Dawson Community College Board of Trustees
Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting
Monday, January 26, 2026, at 5:30 pm
Recorded by BreAnn Miller

Chairperson Larsen called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

I. Introductions

Chairperson Larsen called for introductions. Introductions were made around the room.

II. Correspondence

There was a letter from Raquel McAuliffe requesting to have alcohol at her wedding to take place on the softball field.

III. Minutes

Trustee Johnson moved and Trustee Thorson seconded to approve the minutes of the December 22, 2025, regular board meeting. There were no corrections. Motion passed unanimously.

IV. Reports

• President's Update:

President Knudson noted the Board of Regents reports that were included in the packet. President Knudson noted that various illnesses have hit campus that have affected both students and employees. January 26, 2026 is the calendar date set for student to accept their charges or set up a payment plan. There has been a lot of work from the Business Office team to ensure that students accept their charges or set up payment plans.

The Play for MLK basketball games were another great success. The gym filled with around 1,000 students from Glendive and area schools. Coach Ciochetto stated that he saw this as a huge benefit for the teams, as the visiting students brought a lot of energy to the gym.

The final donation for the Buccaneer statue site prep came in.

Jenzabar had its first data pass happen today. The entire team has been working diligently to keep on track for an October 2026 implementation date.

With Banner Self-Serve no longer operational, the Business Office has had to switch to a manual process for printing and mailing tax documents.

The Student Success Committee has established a "High Seas Highlights" memo to go out weekly. The purpose is to give a shout-out to students, employees, and community members who go above and beyond at or for the college. Emails are send out and, in the future, posted on the big screen at the basketball games. Anyone is able to make a recommendation for this spotlight.

At the college in-service, there was a lot of discussion around artificial intelligence. At this time, the faculty are looking at making class policy changes at the syllabi level. There is a Dual Enrollment opportunity with Glasgow High School. This would include DCC faculty teaching senior-level English via Writing 101 and a literature class. To be eligible to teach in this capacity at both the college and high school level, the instructor would have to hold a current Montana teaching license. Dawson does have one faculty on staff that is eligible for this.

A reminder that the Hall of Fame Banquet is Saturday, January 31 with the basketball games on Sunday, February 1.

President Knudson noted that within the 2-year college leadership meeting there was concern about the change of election timelines. There was some confusion on where community colleges aligned with this change. A special meeting may need to be called to discuss this further.

Department Reports: Reports were included in the packet for review.

- Key Performance Indicator (KPI) Review

Interim Director of Academic Affairs and Accreditation Liaison Officer BreAnn Miller updated the board of KPI review. This process has been paused since the spring, but Interim Director Miller said that she would like to get this up and running again. A Data and Assessment Committee that includes key individuals across campus to review the KPIs and propose changes. The KPIs tie directly to the college's mission statement and strategic priorities. Change to these outcomes may be necessary to suit the college's needs and provide the data needed for informed decision-making.

- Finance Committee

Trustee Thorson reviewed the January 13, 2026 Finance Committee meeting. The committee looked at a tuition and fees analysis on what a 3% and 5% increase would look like. After reviewing the options, the trustees suggested looking at a more modest increase of tuition but a larger increase for technology and computer fees, where those investments remain high. The finance office will also review housing expenses and bring a more comprehensive cost increase to the next meeting. Tammy Reed spoke to the committee about her process of tracking cash through the county treasurer's office. There was also an update on the audit and that it continues to move slowly through the processes.

- Community Engagement Committee

Trustee Heidner reviewed the January 23, 2026 Community Engagement Committee meeting. There was discussion about what questions community members ask board members and misconceptions that the community has. Specifically around DCC

athletes and whether or not all athletes receive a full-ride scholarship. The committee also discussed the possibility of starting two regular newsletters: one published by the administration and the other by the board. The committee does want to discuss the logistics of this, and there was no action at this time. Trustee Heidner also presented a draft of language to add to the DCC website where board member contact information is located that regards the standard for how individual board members respond to the public. Future meetings will further discuss this topic. Chair Larsen suggested a list of pain points of how the board members can respond and advocate for the college when approached.

- Policy Committee
This committee did not meet.

V. Public Comment

Chairperson Larsen called for public comment three (3) times. There was none.

VI. New Business

- There was discussion about the alcohol request waiver. The wedding date on the letter states that the event will be in 2025, and needs changed to 2026. Trustee Thorson asked about event insurance. President Knudson said that Denny Malone did bring this up, but that he did not think it was necessary. There was discussion about not making this request cost prohibitive. President Knudson was willing to ask some more questions. Trustee Johnson made a motion and Trustee Garceau-Glaser seconded to approve the request with the noted change to the date and additional questions asked by President Knudson. The motion carried.
- There was discussion about setting a date for the board retreat. This date has been set for February 26, 2026

VII. Consent Items

Trustee Thorson moved to approve the consent items distributed in the Board Packet. Trustee Gibbs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Press Releases are forwarded to Board members as they are issued.

IX. Open Forum for Public Input on Dawson Community College Issues.

Chairperson Larsen called for public comment on any Dawson Issues.

Mac Haggerty reported on his recent trip to NASA through the Montana Space Grant at Langley. His experiences included learning about drone capabilities and touring the main building and talking about habitats for the moon and Mars. He did state that two days was not enough.

The Regular Board of Trustee meeting was adjourned at 6:42 p.m.