**TERRA STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE**
**Fremont, OH 43420**
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**
**Wednesday, May 27, 2026**
**3:00 p.m. Boardroom B206**

The Terra State Community College Board of Trustees met at 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 27, 2026, in the Boardroom in the General Technologies Building on the Terra State Community College campus.

Board Members Present: Tim Ellenberger, Nick Gerber, Mircea Handru, Dr. Jim Lahoski, Jodi Rucker, and Luke Sutter; Derek Gerstenberger attended virtually by audio until 3:18 p.m., at which time he attended in person.

Others Present: Dr. Cory Stine, Dr. Doug Mead, Wayne Yerdon, Kelli Miller, Jan Jazwiecki, Jennifer Fehnrich, Lisa Shuey, Regina Mendicino-Dwyer (virtually), Jacob Oetama-Paul (virtually), Chelle Younker, Krista Weirich, Jessica McCarthy, Kristen Smith, Roger LaPointe, Robert Cordell, Mike Holewinski, Tim Shaal, Ian DeWitt, Matt Hoffman, Lindi Cahill, Tom Shaffer, Mackenzie Pena, Clori Nasser, Alisa Nowaczyk, Melissa Ramirez, Jake Wilson, Evan Schiefer, and Greg Hedden

## Call to Order

Chair Handru called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. Those in attendance recited the *Pledge of Allegiance*. The Mission, Vision, and Values were reviewed.

## Recognition of Student Athlete Evan Schiefer

Athletic Director Lindi Cahill recognized student athlete Evan Schiefer, who delivered a historic performance at the NJCAA Division III Outdoor Track & Field National Championships, earning two National Championship titles and All-American honors. Schiefer captured first place in the men's 10,000-meter race with a winning time of 33:03.42, finishing more than 30 seconds ahead of the second-place runner. He followed that performance by winning the men's 5,000-meter race with a time of 15:19.45, again crossing the finish line more than 30 seconds ahead. His two first-place finishes earned him NJCAA Division III Outdoor Track & Field All-American status and helped Terra State finish 12th overall in the 25-school national field with Schiefer scoring all the team's points himself. Evan's accomplishments on the national stage are extraordinary," said Terra State Athletic Director Lindi Cahill. "To become a two-time national champion and continue representing Terra State at such a high level speaks to his dedication, work ethic and competitive spirit."

## Recognition of the Men's Baseball Team and Coaches

Ms. Cahill applauded the efforts of the Men's baseball team – they captured the Division III OCCAC Conference Championship and the Region XII Championship. Hanson Huth, Hayden Kline and Jax LaPata earned All-Tournament honors, while Thomas Zuccaro was named Tournament Player of the Year. Ms. Cahill also recognized Coach Jake Wilson and Region XII Coach of the Year awardee Head Coach Gregg Hedden.

## Changes or Additions to the Agenda* R-2026-41

By board request, the Executive Session and items requiring board approval (the *Fiscal Watch* agenda, board policies, and curriculum changes) were moved earlier, to after Item No. 8, *Consent Agenda*, to accommodate a trustee who had to leave the meeting early.

Trustee Ellenberger made a motion to approve the order of the agenda as updated. Trustee Rucker seconded the motion. Roll call was taken. Voting *aye* were Trustees Ellenberger, Gerber, Lahoski, Rucker, Sutter, and Chair Handru. The Chair declared the motion passed at 3:15 p.m.

**Public Commentary**
There were no requests for public commentary.

**Consent Agenda*** **R-2026-42**

**Approval of Regular Board Meeting Minutes – April 22, 2026**
There were no additions, changes, or corrections to the meeting minutes from the April 22, 2026, Board of Trustees meeting.

**Approval of Policy Review Committee Meeting Minutes –March 30, 2026**
There were no additions, changes, or corrections to the meeting minutes from the March 30, 2026 Policy Review Committee meeting minutes.

Trustee Sutter made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Trustee Rucker seconded the motion. Roll call was taken. Voting *aye* were Trustees Ellenberger, Gerber, Lahoski, Rucker, Sutter, and Chair Handru. The Chair declared the motion passed at 3:17 p.m.

**Executive Session*** **R-2026-43**
Trustee Rucker made a motion pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22 to enter into Executive Session to consider: Personnel, specifically, appointment/employment of a public employee. Trustee Gerber seconded the motion. Roll call was taken. Voting *aye* were Trustees Ellenberger, Gerber, Gerstenberger, Lahoski, Rucker, Sutter, and Chair Handru. The Chair declared the motion passed at 3:18 p.m.

**Return to Public Session*** **R-2026-44**
Trustee Ellenberger made a motion to return to Public Session with a second by Trustee Lahoski. Roll call was taken. Trustee Sutter had stepped out of the room. Voting *aye* were Trustees Ellenberger, Gerber, Gerstenberger, Lahoski, Rucker, and Chair Handru. The Chair declared the motion passed at 4:26 p.m.

**Interim President's Resignation**
Interim President Cory Stine announced that he has submitted his resignation to the Board of Trustees effective in the middle of July to pursue an opportunity; however, he will be here to assure that the 90-day financial recovery plan gets submitted to the Ohio Department of Education at the appropriate time. To help with the transition, we have some visits coming up from the Auditor of State in July. He said that Terra State Community College has been an amazing place to work for over 21 years. He thanked the Executive Team for their hard work and the trustees for the opportunity to serve as interim president. Trustee Gerber lauded Dr Stine's efforts, especially for stepping up in this situation, and Chair Handru echoed his thanks to Dr. Stine. The Board wishes Dr. Stine the all the best in his future endeavors.

**Fiscal Watch**

**Finance Committee Minutes for May 19, 2026** **R-2026-45**
Trustee Lahoski made a motion to approve the Finance Committee Minutes as presented with a second by Trustee Gerstenberger. Roll call was taken. Voting *aye* were Trustees Ellenberger, Gerber, Gerstenberger, Lahoski, Rucker, Sutter, and Chair Handru. The Chair declared the motion passed at 4:30 p.m.

**Treasurer's Report*** **R-2026-46**

The CFO presented the *Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, Other Charges;* the *Accounts Receivable and Aging Analysis, Accounts Payable Aging,* and the OACC report, *FY 2020 to FY 2025 Composite Score Trend* Report for all Ohio community colleges, which shows Terra State's 2024 composite score as 1.8. This is important for the College to focus on. Trustee Ellenberger requested elaboration on the *Statement of Revenues* Other Non-Operating Income figure, as it appears that the AVI income was not included. This will be corrected, and it will have a positive impact on the Total Overall Increase/Decrease Operating/Non-Operating final figure.

Trustee Rucker made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented plus the amendment recommendations by Trustee Ellenberger with a second by Trustee Gerber. Roll call was taken. Voting *aye* were Trustees Ellenberger, Gerber, Gerstenberger, Lahoski, Rucker, Sutter, and Chair Handru. The Chair declared the motion passed at 4:40 p.m.

**Approval and Monitoring of Monthly Levels of Expenditures**
The Accounts Payable Report snapshot was presented, showing the aging status of two large vendor account invoices as of May 26, 2026, showing $1.2M balance. These invoices for budgeted expenses are monitored, and when there is available cash, they will be paid. Nothing needs board approval today.

**Reaffirmation to OBM on Capital Funding Request – Academic Learning Labs*** **R-2026-47**
The Ohio Office of Budget and Management communicated to the College that they have reviewed the request for release of capital appropriation submitted by Terra State Community College (TTC0105030 Academic Learning Lab Renovation). Given the Chancellor's declaration that Terra State Community College is in a state of Fiscal Watch, and given the recent leadership change at the College, they request that Terra State submit further documentation and confirmations before moving the request for capital funding through the OBM queue for approval.

Trustee Ellenberger made a motion to approve the continuation of the Academic Learning Lab Renovation capital appropriation project with a second by Trustee Rucker. Roll call was taken. Voting *aye* were Trustees Ellenberger, Gerber, Gerstenberger, Lahoski, Rucker, Sutter, and Chair Handru. The Chair declared the motion passed at 4:47 p.m.

**Board Policies*** **R-2026-48**
Policy Committee Chair Rucker summarized this year's policy review process, the committee's questions to the Attorney General's Office, and reported on their recommendations. These were to allow virtual attendance at special and emergency meetings and keep the 48-hour required notice by a trustee if they would be attending a meeting remotely. Other committee changes included adjusting the public commentary notice from seven days to 24 hours prior to the meeting and discontinuing the guest sign-in requirement at board meetings.

Trustee Sutter made a motion to return to approve the board policies as presented and revised to incorporate the recommendations of the Attorney General's Office, with a second by Trustee Rucker. Roll call was taken. Voting *aye* were Trustees Ellenberger, Gerber, Gerstenberger, Lahoski, Rucker, Sutter, and Chair Handru. The Chair declared the motion passed at 4:51 p.m.

**Approval of Curriculum Changes*** **R-2026-49**
In compliance with Ohio Revised Code 3345.457, the 136th General Assembly's House Bill 96 legislation, which integrates the Board's review and approval prior to submission to the Ohio Department of Higher Education and the Higher Learning Commission, the Terra State Community College Curriculum Committee submitted the curriculum changes requested for the courses listed below and enumerated on the included Appendix A for Board approval:

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| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| ENG 1020 | Introduction to College Composition | ENG 2010 | Effective Speaking |
| | | MTH 2310 | College Algebra |
| ENG 1050 | College Composition I | EET1200 | Electrical Codes and Prints |
| ENG 1060 | College Composition II | REF 1120 | Electricity for HVAC I |
| ENG 1850 | Introduction to Literature | REF 1220 | Electricity for HVAC II |
| ENG 2630 | Non-Western Literature | REF 2280 | Heating Systems II |
| ENG 2640 | British Literature I | REF 2330 | Electronics for HVAC |
| ENG 2650 | British Literature II | REF 2501 | HVAC Troubleshooting |

Trustee Rucker made a motion to approve the curricular changes on the included Appendix A (for the courses listed above) and to direct the College to submit them to the Ohio Department of Higher Education and the Higher Learning commission. Trustee Lahoski seconded the motion. Roll call was taken. Trustee Gerber had to leave at 4:51 p.m. Voting *aye* were Trustees Ellenberger, Gerstenberger, Lahoski, Rucker, Sutter, and Chair Handru. The Chair declared the motion passed at 4:52 p.m.

## President's Report

This month the College has focused on financial recovery plan preparation, financial modeling, and positioning the College for required external reviews this summer and fall. We remain on track to meet the 90-day plan Ohio Department of Higher Education (ODHE) submission deadline. The Ohio Auditor of State's office has scheduled their summertime visits to Terra State. The introductory meeting will be Wednesday, July 15, and then their team will be located on campus beginning Monday, July 20, for a four to six-week engagement. We continue to monitor summer enrollment and fall registrations. Because we missed the FY24 state audit deadline submission with the State of Ohio, we also missed the FY24 state audit deadline for the Ohio Department of Education, and we received notification of an annual submission criterion letter regarding failure to submit that in a timely fashion. We will miss the state audit with the federal government Department of Education and will continue to work through that. We completed a financial review of academic programs. Four programs were identified as having an opportunity for improvement relative to enrollment, and therefore income, and to bring them into a net positive position. The Academic Leadership team is working directly with the respective programs and personnel.

## Board Information

### Enrollment Report

Summer 2026

| Historical Comparison (Reported 5/28/2025) | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Year | Headcount | % change | FTE | % change |
| Summer 2026 | 467 | -9.0% | 85.64 | -13.7% |
| Summer 2025 | 513 | -17.5% | 99.20 | -4.4% |

Fall 2026

| Historical Comparison (Reported 5/28/2025) | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Year | Headcount | % change | FTE | % change |
| Fall 2026 | 976 | 5.3% | 265.81 | -5.3% |
| Fall 2025 | 927 | -4.0% | 280.61 | -4.3% |

### HLC Update

The Higher Learning Commission (HLC) issued Terra State Community College (TSCC) a Financial Issue Designation on April 27, 2026. This action was taken due to the College's recent placement on Fiscal Watch by the Ohio Department of Higher Education. It is important to note that HLC's designation is fiscal and not an accreditation issue, but does necessitate public disclosure on our website of the

designation, more reports to HLC, and an HLC Advisory Visit on September 15-16, 2026 on TSCC's campus.

**FT/PT Faculty Ratio Report**

The Terra Faculty Association agreement calls for an annual review by the Board of Trustees of the full-time to part-time faculty ratio. The table below shows the last five years of data.

| Year | FT Faculty | % Total Faculty | Adjunct | % Total Faculty | Total Faculty |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2026 | 32 | 19% | 134 | 81% | 166 |
| 2025 | 34 | 18% | 151 | 82% | 185 |
| 2024 | 35 | 17% | 167 | 83% | 202 |
| 2023 | 31 | 16% | 158 | 84% | 189 |
| 2022 | 31 | 16% | 159 | 84% | 190 |

## Adjournment

As there was no other business to discuss, the Board Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 5:04 p.m.

**Indicates agenda items requiring a motion and a vote*