BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Public Retreat/Meeting

Minutes
October 15, 2026

A retreat/meeting of the Ocean County College Board of Trustees was called to order at 12:34 p.m. on Thursday, October 15, 2026, by Mr. Steven Zabarsky, Chair, in Gateway 5th Floor on the College campus and via Webex. — Call to Order

The announcement of public meeting was made by Mrs. Connie Bello in compliance with the amended New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act by posting a notice on the OCC Public Notices webpage and sharing the link with the Secretary of State on October 7, 2026. The notice, which included information to join by Webex, was also distributed and posted on campus. — Public Meeting Announcement

Those in attendance were Mr. Zabarsky, Mr. Lynn Canfield, Mr. Frank Dupignac, Ms. DiAnne Gove, Mr. Moshe Bender, Ms. Susan Naples, Mr. Terrance Turnbach, Ms. Annellie Lopez, Mr. Jack Sahradnik, Dr. Pamela Monaco, Executive Vice President Sara Winchester, and Mrs. Connie Bello. Also in attendance were Dr. Alexa Beshara-Blauth, Assistant Vice President of Strategic Initiatives and Ms. Lisa Daly, Associate Director of Institutional Research. — Attendance

The pledge of allegiance was recited by all those in attendance. — Pledge of Allegiance

Upon a request for public comments by Mr. Zabarsky, there were no comments from the public at this time. — Public Comments

<u>Finance Committee</u>

Mr. Dupignac presented the Finance Agenda, which was unanimously approved as submitted.

- Resolutions were adopted to award the following contracts: — Resolutions Adopted for Contract Awards
  - A maximum of $80,000 to Capstone Medical Services, LLC, North Brunswick, New Jersey, for a seven-month contract for professional athletic training services from October 18, 2026, through May 15, 2027, at Ocean County College.
  - A maximum of $60,000 to Henry Schein, Inc., Melville, New York, for the purchase of dental supplies and equipment through the Sourcewell Cooperative Purchasing Program for patient care and student lab courses for the Allied Health Dental Hygiene Program at Ocean County College.

- The following contracts were amended: Contracts Amended

  - An additional $6,255, for a maximum total of $54,407.72, to Howard Industries, Inc., Laurel, Mississippi, for additional audio and visual equipment and labor as part of the contract for audio and video equipment for room 104, the Lecture Hall Control Room in the Gateway Building, through the Omnia Partners Cooperative Purchasing Contract at Ocean County College (contract originally awarded at the April 23, 2026, Board meeting).

  - An additional $30,000, for a maximum total of $125,000, to Carrier Enterprise, East Syracuse, New York, for the continued purchase of HVAC supplies and materials for the remainder of the contract for the procurement of specified heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning (HVAC) supplies and materials on an as-needed basis resulting from severe winter weather conditions at Ocean County College (original contract awarded at the January 29, 2026, Board meeting).

Personnel Committee

In the absence of Dr. Kubiel, Chair, Ms. Winchester presented the Personnel Report, which was unanimously approved as submitted upon roll call vote. Personnel Report Approved

Miscellaneous

Ms. Winchester shared that there are two resolutions presented today requesting approval to authorize the termination of Ocean County College's participation in the School Employees Health Benefits Program (SEHBP). The first explains the reasons and the second is the State form, which is required to officially terminate participation.

Mr. Zabarsky reported that the Board of Trustees had engaged in discussions regarding this matter over the course of several months. He expressed appreciation to the County Commissioners for including College employees in the plan; to Mr. Scott Davenport of Connor Strong for efforts in developing the plan and providing information essential to the Board's consideration; to College Administration for its work in support of the process; and to College staff for their understanding.

Upon unanimous roll call vote, the following resolutions were adopted authorizing and approving the termination of Ocean County College's participation in the Medical Plan and Prescription Drug Plan of the School Employees' Health Benefits Program (SEHBP) for all active employees, and facilitate participation in the County Health Fund, in accordance with applicable State requirements, laws, regulations, and collective bargaining obligations, effective January 1, 2027: Resolutions Adopted/Termination Participation in

- Ocean County College Resolution Setting forth Reasons for College's Termination of Participation in the School Employees' Health Benefits Program (SEHBP)

- State Health Benefits Program (SHBP) and School Employees' Health Benefits Program Resolution: Terminate Participation in SHBP/SEHBP

Dr. Beshara Blauth and Ms. Daly provided an overview of OCC's Five-Year Strategic Plan, which has been in development through a collaborative effort involving the College community since August 2024. Dr. Beshara-Blauth then introduced the following Goal Leaders, who shared highlights and initiatives, and some challenges along with institutional response for each of the four goals:

- Goal 1: Create and Sustain an Environment that Continuously Improves Equitable Student Access, Retention, and Success
  Goal Leaders: Dr. Yessika Garcia-Guzman, Assistant Vice President of Student Services and Financial Aid, and Dr. Vandana Saini, Dean of the School of STEM

- Goal 2: Design and Deliver Programs that Respond to Evolving Community and Workforce Needs
  Goal Leaders: Dr. Aslihan Cakmak, Dean of Workforce, and Mr. James Marshall, Executive Director of Curriculum

- Goal 3: Cultivate a Positive and Collaborative Workplace Culture
  Goal Leaders: Ms. Christina Matuszewski, Assistant Director of Benefits Administration, and Mr. Ryan Ward, Director of Capital Projects (outgoing), Ms. Madison Caldwell, Coordinator of Early College (incoming)

- Goal 4: Optimize Institutional Resources and Strengthen Financial Stability
  Goal Leaders: Mr. Timothy Landers, Interim Dean of Business and Social Science, and Ms. Sara Winchester, Executive Vice President of Finance and Administration

The trustees commended Dr. Beshara Blauth, Ms. Daly, and the Goal Leaders for the extensive report.

Public Comments

Mr. Zabarsky requested comments or inquiries from members of the public, and none were received.

Adjournment

With no further comments from the Board members or the public, the public meeting adjourned at 1:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

DiAnne C. Gove
Secretary

Jodi Heitmann
Special Assistant, Operations
Office of the President