

MINUTES
FLORIDA GATEWAY COLLEGE
DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES
January 8, 2026
5:00 pm, Regular Meeting
FGC Administration Building, Board Room

I. Call to Order

The regular meeting of the District Board of Trustees was called to order on January 8, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. by Chairperson Lindsey Lander.

All votes were unanimous unless stated otherwise.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Lindsey Lander led the board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Audience of Any Citizen

There was no response.

IV. Approval of Minutes

Dr. Jim Surrency made a motion to approve the November 13, 2025 Board meeting minutes. Mr. John Medina seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

V. Student Government Report

There was no report.

VI. Presentation of Consent Agenda

- A. *Personnel Matters
- B. *Routine Contracts and Agreements
- C. *Surplus Property
- D. *Approval of Foundation Donation
- E. *Approval of Naming Opportunities

Ms. Suzanne Norris made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of items "A" through "E". Ms. Renae Allen seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

VII. Academic Affairs

Vice President of Academic Affairs, Dr. Kris Brady, started his report reviewing the end of last semester. The HOWL team earned multiple awards at the FCSPA Conference, including third place overall for statewide general excellence. Dr. Appling was elected Vice President of the Florida College Publications Association.

Dr. Brady further reported on Nursing programs, noting multiple pinning ceremonies. A total of 19 LPN students, 67 RN students, and 26 Bachelor of Nursing students received their pins.

The Firefighter program graduated 42 students in the fall semester, achieving a 96% first-time pass rate on State Certification Testing. More than half of the graduates are already employed, with others actively progressing through hiring processes with local agencies.

The Olustee Campus is preparing for spring semester, with more than 200 students expected on campus daily. Several programs have added second—and in some cases third cohorts to meet increased demand from local agencies. The Florida Department of Agriculture recently donated two 2018 Dodge Chargers, valued at approximately \$32,000, to the Law Enforcement program. Appreciation was expressed for the continued support of local and state partners, with special recognition given to Director Scott Busby for his efforts in strengthening industry partnerships.

Lastly, renovation of the Welding Lab is progressing ahead of schedule. Installation of the new ventilation system is anticipated within the next two weeks, with a projected late-spring opening of the facility. Dr. Brady thanked Mr. Carswell, Dean Higdon, and Professors Ganser and Green for their contributions to the project.

VIII. Enrollment and Marketing

Ms. Kacey Mimbs, Vice President of Enrollment and Marketing, provided an update on activities within her area. She noted that spring classes begin January 12, with current enrollment at 2,682 students compared to 2,624 at the same time last year, representing a 2.2% increase. Credit hour enrollment increased from 24,332 to 24,967, a 2.6% increase.

Fall commencement was held on December 9th in the Howard Center, with 167 students participating. The Audio-Visual Center supported three concerts, four completion ceremonies in December and assisted with commencement preparations. The department also installed new house lighting in the Performing Arts Center and continues work on the new gym scoreboard installation in the Howard Center, which is anticipated to be completed by February.

Vice President Mimbs announced plans for a new outreach initiative for local high schools titled Instant Decision Days. Similar to One-Stop Enrollment Days, this initiative will send Admissions, Financial Aid, Advising, and Registration staff to high schools to assist seniors with the enrollment process. She also noted that the Spring Open House is scheduled for Thursday, March 6th, from 4:30–6:30 p.m. in the Wilson S. Rivers Library & Media Center and will be open to the community.

Lastly, Vice President Mimbs presented a Board of Trustees Scholarship Recipient video, which is being used to encourage high school seniors to apply for the 2026 Board of Trustees Scholarship.

IX. Business Services

Ms. Michelle Holloway, Vice-President of Business Services requested Board consideration of the following items:

A. General Information

B. * Budget Amendment Number Five (5) Restricted Current Fund (Fund 2) Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Dr. Jim Surrency made a motion to approve Budget Amendment Number Five (5) Restricted Current Fund (2) Fiscal Year 2025-2026. Mr. John Medina seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

C. * Budget Amendment Number Five (5) Capital Outlay Plan for Unexpended Plant Fund (7) Budget Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Ms. Suzanne Norris made a motion to approve Budget Amendment Number Five (5) Capital Outlay Plan for Unexpended Plant Fund (7) Budget Fiscal Year 2025-2026. Mr. Chuck Brannan seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously

X. President's Report

Dr. Barrett began his report by thanking Dr. Surrency for inviting him to attend the Gilchrist Rotary meeting. He noted that, through the Board's approval of the Consent Agenda, two naming opportunities were approved: Library Room 115 as the Ron Chambers Classroom and the Lee Family Atrium.

Project updates were provided as follows: the Welding Lab remains on schedule, STEM II is anticipated to be completed in April. The new HVAC system for the Howard Center is expected to be completed in March. Requests for Proposals for the Tiny Homes project have been submitted and are currently under review. Work continues on the Downtown Campus building, along with approval from the Florida Massage Therapy Association. Development of the X-Ray Technician program will begin soon.

Dr. Barrett reminded the Trustees that the two legislative requests for the upcoming session include the Howard Center ADA bathroom project and the Downtown Lake Shore building. Bellwether College Consortium selected Florida Gateway College as one of thirty colleges nationwide—and the only institution from Florida to compete in the competition. Upcoming events include a Valentine's Night performance featuring an Elton John and Billy Joel tribute, scheduled to begin at 7:30 p.m.

XI. Topics for Future Meetings

XII. Inspect Warrant Register

XIII.

Set Time for the Next Meeting

February 12, 2026

5:00 pm Regular Meeting

Location Regular meeting:

Florida Gateway College

149 SE College Place

Lake City, FL 32025

The meeting adjourned at 5:21 pm



Mr. Lindsey Lander, Chair



Dr. Lawrence Barrett, Secretary