ATTACHMENT 9a

MOHAWK VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
UTICA AND ROME, NEW YORK

1. **Call to Order**

The meeting of the Mohawk Valley Community College Board of Trustees held in the Stetson Boardroom, Payne Hall, Room 300, Utica, New York was called to order at 4:03 p.m. by Chair Waters on Monday, May 19, 2025.

Members Present	**Members Excused**
Wendy Waters	Student Trustee
Dana Jerrard	Camille Kahler
David Mathis	
Anna D'Ambrosio	
Anthony Colón	
Frank Dubeck	
Elaine Falvo	
William S. Calli	

2. **Chair's Report**

Chair Waters opened the May meeting by expressing appreciation to the Board of Trustees for their participation in the College's year-end celebrations, particularly Commencement. She noted that their presence reflects a strong commitment to MVCC students and the broader college community. Chair Waters also recognized the dedication of faculty and staff in planning and supporting these events, which celebrated student achievement across the institution.

In the absence of the Foundation Executive Director, Chair Waters reported that the MVCC Foundation received a record 650 scholarship applications this year. The Foundation awarded 411 scholarships to 208 students, totaling $459,565 in support. These awards were recognized at the annual Scholarship Dinner, which brought together students, families, donors, and sponsors. A video showcasing the impact of these scholarships will be shared through internal communication channels due to technical difficulties at the meeting.

Chair Waters also highlighted Commencement Day events, including the Honors Brunch, Lavender Graduation, and the main Commencement Ceremony, where over 400 graduates received degrees and certificates.

Chair Waters acknowledged Norma Chrisman for her service and leadership during her tenure as President of the Professional Association and recognized that this meeting marked her final appearance in that role. The Board expressed its appreciation for her leadership and contributions to shared governance.

3. **Treasurer's Report**

Vice President Squires introduced Tricia Lucas and Courtney Pearsall of D'Arcangelo & Company to present the final audit and financial statements. Ms. Pearsall reviewed the audit summary and reported that the audit resulted in an unmodified (clean) opinion for the College. All prior year recommendations have been resolved or fully implemented.

Trustee William S. Calli made a motion to accept and approve the audit. The motion was seconded by Trustee Anna D'Ambrosio and unanimously approved.

Vice President Squires then presented the current financial reports. He noted that revenue is presently below budget expectations due to a delay in grant revenue receipts, affecting the overall revenue position. Expenses have increased in accordance with enrollment growth. Fringe benefits have also seen a notable year-over-year increase as the College transitioned to a self-insured health insurance plan in 2024. Despite the short-term revenue timing variances and rising expenses, the College continues to maintain a strong financial position.

Additional updates from the Business Office included a summary of recent bid awards and investment activity. In April 2025, the College awarded several bids totaling approximately $485,000, including purchases of drill presses, milling machines, precision lathes, and the Summer 2025 MVCConnect Brochure. Previously in FY 2024–25, bids were awarded for a plasma table, boiler feed set replacement, spring brochure printing, and a scissor lift, totaling approximately $136,000.

The College continues to maintain $15 million in staggered six-month U.S. Treasury bills, structured to mature monthly. These investments are yielding a 4.2% return and have generated over $620,000 in interest income to date for the fiscal year.

4. **Student Trustee Report**

As the Student Trustee position is currently vacant, there was no Student Trustee Report for the May meeting.

5. **Committees and Affiliations**

<u>Academic Student Success Committee</u>

Committee Chair Tony Colón reported that the committee met on May 5, 2025. As part of its regular review, the committee updated its charter and officially changed its name from the *Academic and Student Success Committee* to the *Student Success Committee*.

Vice President Kahler and Assistant Vice President Lynch provided a presentation on the annual course scheduling process. Their presentation focused on strategies to better align course offerings with student needs, improve course fill rates, and reduce cancellations. They also offered a comprehensive overview of instructional formats currently in use, including modular and cohort-based models tailored to specific programs and student populations, in addition to the traditional 15- week semester format.

Vice President Pine presented on the student experience at MVCC, referencing the most recent SUNY Student Satisfaction Survey. Using this data as a foundation, she outlined MVCC's response strategy, which includes launching a new Pulse Survey, developing progress tracking dashboards, and enhancing cross-campus collaboration. These efforts aim to ensure that student feedback continues to shape institutional planning and decision-making.

Audit and Finance

Committee Chair Elaine Falvo reported that the committee met prior to the Board meeting to review the audit and financial statements with D'Arcangelo.

Facilities and Campus Safety

Although the committee has not formally met, Vice President Squires provided an update on the Dental Hygiene and Science & Technology (S&T) projects in lieu of a meeting.

The bid for the Dental Hygiene project closed on Thursday, with all bids received within budget. The County is expected to review and finalize the selected bidders by mid-to-late this week. The College currently estimates that the Dental Hygiene lab will open in April 2026.

The S&T project bid deadline is May 29, 2025. Once contractors are selected and bids are reviewed, the College will be able to establish a more predictable construction timeline. At present, the estimated completion for the S&T project is Summer 2027.

Governance and Personnel

Chair Waters announced that the Governance and Personnel Committee will meet on June 9.

Auxiliary Services Corporation (ASC)

Auxiliary Services Board Liaison, Trustee Elaine Falvo reported that the ASC Board met on May 2. The ASC budget was reviewed, finalized, and approved.

Dormitory Corporation (DC)

DC Chair Anna D'Ambrosio reported that the DC Board met on May 13. The DC currently maintains approximately $1.4 million in strategic investments. During the meeting, the Board received an occupancy update, reviewed meal plan options, approved the addition of a second attorney of record, appointed two personnel, and approved the 2025–2026 budget. Additionally, the DC Board met in advance of the June meeting to review the Dormitory Corporation's audit, IRS Form 990, and financial statements with representatives from D'Arcangelo & Company. The audit resulted in an unmodified (clean) opinion.

Foundation

A written report was provided to the Board in advance of the meeting in lieu of a verbal presentation.

ACCT/NYCCT

Trustee Tony Colón provided an update on pressing federal policy developments impacting community colleges. Proposed changes to Pell Grant eligibility—including raising the full-time requirement to 15 credits and limiting part-time eligibility—could significantly affect MVCC students, many of whom balance academic responsibilities with work and caregiving. He also noted that federal student loan repayments have resumed, raising concerns about increased default rates. Additional concerns include proposed cuts to key student support programs such as Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants, TRIO, GEAR UP, and CCAMPIS. Trustees and college leadership are encouraged to advocate to the Congressional delegation to preserve this essential funding.

Two legislative priorities were highlighted: the reauthorization of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act and support for the Tax-Free Pell Grant Act. Trustees were encouraged to communicate directly with federal representatives in support of both measures.

Trustee Colón emphasized the importance of continued engagement with ACCT advocacy tools, including the Action Center, Congressional Contact Form, and regular participation in ACCT webinars and updates.

Trustees were encouraged to attend the ACCT Leadership Congress, taking place October 22–25, 2025, in New Orleans.

NYCCT Chair-Elect Wendy Waters reminded the Board that the nomination deadline for the 2025 NYCCT Awards Program is Tuesday, June 10, 2025. Registration for the Annual Conference, scheduled for September 10–12 in Saratoga Springs, will open in early July.

Chair Waters reported that advocacy efforts are ongoing, including recent meetings with state legislators. She noted a strategic shift in approach, with advocacy now focused on drafting legislation to include specific language for community colleges in collaboration with key contacts in Albany. The first bill, the "nursing bill" proposes to include additional funding directly to the colleges for each nursing student. The "floor bill" proposes to legislatively mandate the funding floor for community colleges and to include a provision that would increase the funding floor each year to adjust for inflation and higher employee benefit costs. Both bills have been assigned numbers and the Board will be updated on their progress.

Chair Waters also provided an update on the NYCCT litigation. She noted that June 4 was established as a key deadline for progress. If no changes occur by that date, NYCCT will move forward with filing the lawsuit. In preparation, Board Chairs who have joined as plaintiffs are scheduled to meet with legal counsel this week.

<u>SUNY/NYCCAP</u>
President VanWagoner reported that the New York State budget has been passed. He noted that Cabinet has been actively participating in meetings related to SUNY Reconnect, formerly known as the Free Community College initiative. Executive Director Smajic added that the Marketing team has developed a dedicated landing page on the MVCC website to promote and communicate information about the SUNY Reconnect initiative.

6. **President's Report**
President VanWagoner reviewed this month's Key Performance Indicator—MVCC is committed to student success through personal enrichment—highlighting three key engagement metrics: the number of active student clubs and organizations, the number of student participants, and enrollment in non-credit CCED courses. The number of active clubs has remained steady at 38 for the past three years, reflecting consistent student interest despite external challenges. Student participation in clubs and organizations has increased, with 578

students engaged in Fall 2024, up from 528 in Fall 2023. Although current CCED enrollment reflects a year-to-date decrease, it is expected to rise with finalized summer registrations. Collectively, these trends affirm MVCC's ongoing commitment to fostering personal growth and student engagement beyond the classroom.

College Senate

College Senate Chair Christine Miller provided an overview of Senate activities for the 2024–2025 academic year. The Senate endorsed or approved 14 agenda items and held discussions on several strategic topics, including Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion; updates to the Strategic Council Framework; and Prior Learning Assessment. Reports were also presented on the Academic Integrity Tutorial in Brightspace and the Applied Learning Workgroup. The Electronic Information and Technology Ad Hoc Committee concluded its work and submitted final recommendations. The Senate also enhanced its governance practices by refining the Senator-to-Constituent communication process, revising Appendix 3 of the Senate By-Laws, and launching a new mentor/mentee initiative for incoming Senators.

President VanWagoner then provided an update on the progress of the 2024–25 Annual Plan and previewed institutional priorities for 2025–26. He emphasized the College's continued focus on its strategic "Big Rocks," including academic innovation, workforce development, and institutional sustainability. He noted key external factors shaping the landscape, including shifts in federal financial aid and student loan policy, emerging SUNY and New York State initiatives (such as SUNY Reconnect, ON-RAMP, and MV Empowers), and preparations for the College's upcoming Middle States Self-Study. President VanWagoner also highlighted MVCC's engagement with national efforts such as the Carnegie Classifications and ATD's Community Vibrancy framework. Finally, he reported on progress in major capital projects, including the Science & Technology building and the new Dental Hygiene lab, both of which remain on track.

7. **Vice President Reports and Academic Affairs Spotlight**

There were no questions from the Board regarding the written reports submitted by the Vice Presidents. Vice President Squires presented an overview of the proposed 2025–2026 operating budget. The budget was developed with the assumption of a 1% increase in student enrollment for the fiscal year. As of the start of the fiscal year, the College anticipates a fund balance of \$8,568,616, with plans to use \$1,700,000 of that balance in support of the 2026–2027 budget cycle. The proposed budget includes a 2% tuition increase, which will maintain MVCC's tuition among the 8th, 9th, or 10th lowest across SUNY community colleges. This adjustment equates to \$104 annually for full-time students and \$4 per credit hour for part-time students. The budget aligns institutional resources with strategic priorities while ensuring continued fiscal responsibility and affordability for students. Trustees were invited to ask questions and review the underlying assumptions guiding the proposed budget.

8. **Discussion Items**

a. 2025-26 Operating Budget

President VanWagoner provided an overview of the proposed 2025-26 Operating Budget including the following:

The proposed budget includes a 2% tuition increase, which will maintain MVCC's tuition among the 8th, 9th, or 10th lowest across SUNY community colleges. This adjustment equates to $104 annually for full-time students and $4 per credit hour for part-time students.

2025-26 Tuition and Fee Schedule
Vice President Squires reviewed the proposed tuition and fee schedule noting the following new fees and fee revisions: addition of a health information technology fee for HM 101 and HM 102; fee revisions to the credit by experiential learning fee from per credit hour to per course; welding fee per course increase; academic advantage pack aka book bundle per credit hour increase; and 2025-26 annual pricing per student for international student health insurance program adopted by SUNY.

b. 2024-25 Annual Plan
President VanWagoner provided an overview of the Annual Plan. The plan is a result of the work of the Strategic Planning Council and is based on departmental budget submissions in direct support of advancing college-wide initiatives.

c. 2024-25 Diversity Plan
President VanWagoner provided an overview of the Diversity Plan. The plan is a result of the work of the Diversity Council.

9. **Consent Agenda**

Attachment a. Minutes of April 22, 2025 Board of Trustees Meeting
Attachment b. Treasurer's Report
Attachment c. 2025-26 Operating Budget
Attachment d. 2025-26 Tuition and Fee Schedule
Attachment e. 2025-26 Annual Plan
Attachment f. 2025-26 Diversity Plan
Attachment g. Creation of MVCC College Statement: Guidelines for Ethical and Secure Usage of Generative Artificial Intelligence at MVCC
Attachment h. Board Policy Revision: 2029. Public Order: Assembly, Picketing, and Demonstration
Attachment i. Board Policy Revision: 1005. Meeting of the Board of Trustees
Attachment j. New Board Policy: 3020. MVCC Identification Card
Attachment k. New Board Policy: 5016. Camping and Use of Tents
Attachment l. New Board Policy: 5017. Posting Policy
Attachment m. Revision to College Senate By-Laws
Attachment n. Nomination of Anthony "Tony" J. Colón Candidacy for ACCT Secretary-Treasurer
Attachment o. Nomination of Anthony "Tony" Colón for the NYCCT Anne M. Bushnell Memorial Award for Special Achievement
Attachment p. Nomination of College-Community-Connection (C3) for the NYCCT Community College Innovation Award
Attachment q. Nomination of Greg Evans for the NYCCT Distinguished Alumni Award
Attachment r. Nomination of David Mathis for the NYCCT Donald M. Mawhinney, Jr. Trustee Leadership Award
Attachment s. Renewal of Grant-Funded Appointments

Attachment t. Renewal of Probationary Appointments
Attachment u. Christopher Surprenant, Career Counselor
Attachment v. Civil Service Update to Staffing Plan: Administrative Supervisor
Attachment w. Stephen Cook, Coordinator Cybersecurity Initiatives
Attachment x. Sean Radigan, Technical Director NCAE Cyber Games Project

Trustee Frank Dubeck motioned to pull Consent Agenda Item 9t for further discussion and vote. Trustee David Mathis seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

A motion to approve remaining Consent Agenda Items 9a–9s and Items 9u-9x was made by Trustee Anna D'Ambrosio and seconded by Trustee Elaine Falvo. The motion was unanimously approved.

Consent Agenda Item 9t was discussed. Trustee Frank Dubeck noted his personal conflict of interest for this resolution and that he will be abstaining from the vote. A motion to accept Consent Agenda Item 9t was made by Trustee David Mathis and seconded by Trustee William Calli. Motion passed 7-0 with 1 abstention.

10. **Adjournment**
Motion was made by Trustee David Mathis and seconded by Trustee William Calli to adjourn the meeting at 5:39 p.m. Unanimously approved.