

[Link: Recording of June 17, 2026, Committee of the Whole Meeting](#)

**Gateway Technical College District Board
Committee of the Whole Meeting, June 17, 2026**

The Gateway Technical College District Board held an in-person and virtual Committee of the Whole Meeting at the Elkhorn Campus, South Building Room 112/114, on Wednesday, June 17, 2026, to review matters relating to top priorities and performance criteria for the new President, set parameters to finalize the evaluation form, and engage in questions and answers. The meeting was called to order at 3:00 pm by Jason Tadlock, Chairperson.

Open Meeting Compliance: David Elliott confirmed the meeting was duly noticed in accordance with state statutes for open meeting compliance.

Roll Call

Present: Ram Bhatia, Preston Gardner, Jason Tadlock and Caio Lisboa, student trustee

Virtual: Tamarra Coleman and Ashleigh Henrichs

Excused: Zaida Lange-Irisson, Rebecca Matoska-Mentink, Nicole Oberlin and Michael P. Reader

Also in attendance were Interim President Morgan Phillips, Recorder David Elliott, and 2 in-person and 18 virtual attendees. No decisions were made and no actions were taken.

At 3:28 pm, it was moved by R. Bhatia, seconded by P. Gardner and carried without objection to adjourn the meeting.

[Link: Recording of June 17, 2026, Regular Board Meeting](#)

**Gateway Technical College District Board
Regular Meeting, June 17, 2026**

The Gateway Technical College District Board met virtually and in person at the Elkhorn Campus, South Building Room 112/114, on Wednesday, June 17, 2026. The meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm by Jason Tadlock, Chairperson.

Open Meeting Compliance: David Elliott confirmed the meeting was duly noticed in accordance with state statutes for open meeting compliance.

Roll Call

Present: Ram Bhatia, Preston Gardner, Zaida Lange-Irisson, Nicole Oberlin, Jason Tadlock and Caio Lisboa, student trustee

Virtual: Tamarra Coleman, Ashleigh Henrichs and Rebecca Matoska-Mentink

Excused: Michael P. Reader

Also in attendance were Interim President Morgan Phillips, Recorder David Elliott, and 13 in person and 23 virtual attendees.

Approval of Agenda: It was moved by R. Bhatia, seconded by Z. Lange-Irisson and carried without objection to approve the Agenda.

Approval of Minutes: It was moved by P. Gardner, seconded by R. Bhatia and carried to approve the Minutes of the May 14, 2026, Committee of the Whole Meeting and Regular Meeting with a minor correction.

Citizen Comments: A statement submitted in advance by former Trustee Pamela Zenner-Richards thanking Trustee Ram Bhatia for his 21 years of service to the college and commemorating his upcoming retirement from the board was read aloud. Dan Lyons of Gateway Technical College Education Association (GTEA) presented the organization's position on proposed classification and compensation structures that are undergoing negotiation for a collective bargaining agreement.

Chairperson's Report - Board Evaluation Summary:

4 of the 8 trustees who attended completed the May Regular Meeting survey. Comments were: Strategic – Meetings of the Whole continue to be worthwhile. Wish all trustees would attend. / Really appreciated the tour and presentations by Horticulture Task – (none). Action – Chair's request for additional information was appreciated. Results – For the strategic plan regarding facilities planning I appreciate the digest version however it did limit the ability to provide the "why" behind the projects helping the board to understand facilities alignment to the strategic plan. Thanks for providing the context of historical annual investment.

Chairperson's Report – Wording of Governance Policy 3.10: The Trustees reviewed the Wording of Governance Policy 3.10. It was moved by Z. Lange-Irisson, seconded by A. Henrichs and carried without objection to approve the wording of Policy 3.10.

Chairperson's Report – Wording of Governance Policy 4.1, Ends Statement #5: The Trustees reviewed the Wording of Governance Policy 4.1, Ends Statement #5. It was moved by Z. Lange-Irisson, seconded by T. Coleman and carried without objection to approve the wording of Policy 4.1, Ends Statement #5.

Board Member Community Reports: The Trustees and Interim President Phillips honored and recognized Trustee R. Bhatia for his 21 years of service, as this was his final meeting before retiring from the board. R. Bhatia provided an update on the most recent DBA meeting at which no action was taken due a quorum not being formed and summarized upcoming activities the DBA will undertake. The Trustees also expressed their thanks and appreciation to M. Phillips for his service in his role as Interim President, which will end June 30, 2026.

President's Report – Announcements: Interim President Phillips provided college and industry updates, including onboarding the Director of Government Relations position, transition plans for the new President, developing a Memo of Understanding to address improvement opportunities with the Gateway Foundation, affirming the roles and responsibilities of the President's Office support staff for the new President, activities in the WTCS President's Board to support students to address state funding issues, and the refined Classification/Compensation structure for staff that is now in place and undergoing negotiations with the GTEA.

President's Report – Dashboard: In addition to the metrics regularly tracked, the dashboard report included information on the college's Classification/Compensation initiative, WTCS budgeting and forecasting, and developing a comprehensive transition and onboarding plan for the new President.

President's Report – Commencement Ceremony Process Report: Interim President Phillips arranged to have Registrar Travis Jansen give an overview of guidelines for commencement ceremony participation eligibility, outlining issues that have occurred and plans for future improvements.

President's Report – Proposed Schedule, Agenda Items and Topics for FY 2026-2027 Board Meetings: The proposed schedule for FY 2026-27 District Board Meetings was presented for review, including the survey results of the Trustees' preferences regarding cadence, start times and meeting locations. The board is slated to approve the schedule at its annual Organizational Meeting on July 13, 2026.

Student Trustee Report: C. Lisboa presented a report on student activities over the past month.

Fiscal Year (FY) 2026-2027 Budget Approval

The administration recommends the FY 2026-2027 budget to be approved.

Following discussion and a request to have a more detailed summary of the proposed budget provided next year, it was moved by P. Gardner, seconded by Z. Lange-Irisson and carried to roll call vote for approval of the FY 2026-2027 Budget.

Aye: 8

No: 0

Abstaining: 0

Excused: 1

Resolution No. B-2026-B – Approval of Strategic Facility Planning Guide for State Submission: Fiscal Years 2026-27, 2027-28 and 2028-29

The administration provided the required guide per the Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) Board Financial and Administration Manual (FAM) for a Strategic Facility Planning Guide for Fiscal Years 2026-27, 2027-28 and 2028-29 for board approval.

Following discussion, it was moved by Z. Lange-Irisson, seconded by T. Coleman and carried without objection to approve Resolution No. B-2026-B.

Resolution No. F-2026-2027A.1 – Resolution Authoring the Issuance of \$4,000,000 General Obligation Promissory Notes, Series 2026-2027A

The administration is recommending approval to issue General Obligation Promissory Notes, Series F-2026-2027A; in the principal amount of \$4,000,000: \$1,500,000 for the public purpose of financing building remodeling and improvement projects and \$2,500,000 for the public purpose of financing the acquisition of movable equipment.

Following discussion, it was moved by R. Bhatia, seconded by P. Gardner and carried to roll call vote for approval of Resolution No. F-2026-2027A.1.

Aye: 8

No: 0

Abstaining: 0

Excused: 1

Resolution No. F-2026-2027A.2 – Resolution Establishing Parameters for the Sale of \$4,000,000 General Obligation Promissory Notes, Series 2026-2027A

The administration is recommending Board approval of a Resolution Establishing Parameters for the Sale of \$4,000,000 General Obligation Promissory Notes, Series F-2026-2027A: \$1,500,000 for the public purpose of financing building remodeling and improvement projects and \$2,500,000 for the public purpose of financing the acquisition of movable equipment.

Following discussion, it was moved by A. Henrichs, seconded by P. Gardner and carried to roll call vote for approval of Resolution No. F-2026-2027A.2.

Aye: 8

No: 0

Abstaining: 0

Excused: 1

Consent Agenda

It was moved by R. Bhatia, seconded by N. Oberlin and carried without objection that the following items in the consent agenda be approved.

Finance - Summary of Revenue and Expenditures: Approved the summary of revenue and expenditures as of 5/31/2026.

Finance – Cash and Investment Schedule: Approved the monthly cash reconciliation, investment schedule, and investment report.

Personnel Report for June: Approved the personnel report of new hires (2), transfers (2), reclassifications (1), separations (1) and retirements (1).

BWS Contracts for Instructional Delivery: Approved the contracts for instructional delivery report for June 2026.

Protective Services Contracts for Instructional Delivery: Approved the contracts for instructional delivery report for June 2026.

High School Contracts for Instructional Delivery: Approved the contracts for instructional delivery report for June 2026.

Advisory Committee Activity Report: Three (12) new members added since last month's report as of June 1, 2026.

Grant Awards: Gateway received two new grant awards.

Next Meeting Date and Adjourn

Organizational Meeting – Monday, July 13, 2026, 8:00 am, In-Person and Virtual, SC Johnson iMET Center, Kopper Auditorium

Adjourn - At 5:45 pm, it was moved by Z. Lange-Irison, seconded by A. Henrichs and carried by a roll call vote that the meeting was adjourned and the Gateway Technical College District Board moved into Closed Session pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes 19.85(1)(c) to discuss **Personnel Issues**. The Board reserves the right to reconvene in open session to take action on items discussed in closed session.

Aye: 8

No: 0

Abstaining: 0

Excused: 1

Closed Session

At 6:19 pm, it was moved by R. Bhatia, seconded by T. Coleman and carried to reconvene in Open Session.

It was moved by T. Coleman, seconded by N. Oberlin and carried without objection to approve the Personnel Issue and retain Dr. Morgan Phillips as Transition Advisor to support the onboarding of the new President.

At approximately 6:25 pm, it was moved by R. Bhatia, seconded by T. Coleman and carried without objection that the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Preston Gardner". The signature is stylized with a large, looped "P" and a cursive "G".

Preston Gardner, Secretary
Gateway Technical College Board of Trustees