

[Link](#): Recording of March 19, 2026, Committee of the Whole Meeting and Regular Board Meeting

**Gateway Technical College District Board
Committee of the Whole Meeting, March 19, 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 Thursday, March 19, 2026, to receive information and updates relating to Credits/Certifications in High School and engage in questions and answers. The meeting was called to order at 8:00 am 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, Nicole Oberlin, Michael P. Reader and Jason Tadlock

Virtual: Tamarra Coleman

Excused: Zaida Lange-Irisson, Rebecca Matoska-Mentink and Caio Lisboa, student trustee

Also in attendance were Interim President Morgan Phillips, Recorder David Elliott, Future Trustee Ashleigh Henrichs, Executive Vice President of Academic Affairs Matt Janison, Dean Katie Graf and 9 in-person and 30 virtual attendees. No decisions were made and no actions were taken.

At 8:56 am, it was moved by P. Gardner, seconded by R. Bhatia and carried to adjourn the meeting.

**Gateway Technical College District Board
Regular Meeting, March 19, 2026**

The Gateway Technical College District Board met virtually and in person at the Elkhorn Campus, South Building Room 112/114, on Thursday, March 19, 2026. The meeting was called to order at 9:02 am 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, Ashleigh Henrichs, Nicole Oberlin, Michael P. Reader and Jason Tadlock

Virtual: Tamarra Coleman and Rebecca Matoska-Mentink

Excused: Zaida Lange-Irisson and Caio Lisboa, student trustee

Also in attendance were Interim President Morgan Phillips, Recorder David Elliott, and 11 in person and 35 virtual attendees.

Oath of Office: A. Henrichs took the Oath of Office for the Kenosha County-Employee seat. A signed and notarized copy is on file in the President's Office at Gateway Technical College.

Approval of Agenda: It was moved by P. Gardner, seconded by R. Bhatia and carried to approve the Agenda.

Approval of Minutes: It was moved by P. Gardner, seconded by M. Reader and carried with R. Bhatia abstaining to approve the Minutes of February 19, 2026, Committee of the Whole Meeting and Regular Meeting.

Citizen Comments: None.

Chairperson's Report - Board Evaluation Summary:

4 of the 6 trustees who attended completed the February Regular Meeting survey. Comments were: Strategic – Good presentation on Meeting of the Whole. Succinct updates provided by Sharon on the budget cuts. Task – All trustees engaged in a positive, precise and respectful manner. Action – The question posed focused on our governance role and ensured the President knew of the policies. However, whether guidance was given, not sure that goal was required, asked or needed during the meeting./I applaud the work of the Executive Team in the progress made on the 3-year budget outlook. This forward thinking will position well for the future. Results – Excellent work by the ad-hoc committee./Nice presentation with good information provided on the connection and funding with community partners.

Chairperson's Report – Wording of Governance Policy 2.3: The Trustees reviewed the Wording of Governance Policy 2.3. It was moved by R. Bhatia, seconded by T. Coleman and carried to approve the wording of Policy 2.3.

Chairperson's Report – Wording of Governance Policy 2.4: The Trustees reviewed the Wording of Governance Policy 2.4. It was moved by M. Reader, seconded by A. Henrichs and carried to approve the wording of Policy 2.4.

Ad Hoc Committee-Presidential Search Report: Committee Chairperson P. Gardner provided an update on the Presidential Search, including the Search Committee will meeting virtually (due to inclement weather) on March 16, 2026, to identify semi-finalists to move forward in the process for interviews on March 30-31, 2026.

Board Member Community Reports: The board was provided with the March 2026 Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS)-District Board Association (DBA) association update report. R. Bhatia reported on the WTCS-DBA naming the new Executive Director and the special board meeting held on March 16, 2026. N. Oberlin encouraged the board to attend the WTCS-DBA annual Spring Meeting and Campus Ambassador banquet in April 2026.

President's Report – Announcements: Interim President Phillips provided college and industry updates, including work being done to support and secure grants, tuition rates, an initiative with an industry partner to help save energy costs, budget, strategic planning, a new "Dear Colleague" letter by the US Dept. of Labor and Dept. of Education circulated nationwide, attending the WTCS Board and Presidents Association Meetings at Blackhawk Technical College, the recently held Gateway Foundation Scholarship and developments with accreditation.

President's Report – Dashboard: In addition to the metrics regularly tracked, the dashboard report included information on progress with the Presidential Search, budget/class and compensation updates, programmatic accreditation, and recent travel and results with making connections.

Student Trustee Report: C. Lisboa was excused and submitted a report in advance on student activities over the past month.

Action Agenda

It was moved by R. Bhatia, seconded by N. Oberlin and carried that the following item in the action agenda be approved.

Wisconsin Technical College System Request for Proposal (RFP) #26-003 for External Auditing Services: Gateway Technical College participated in RFP 26-003 External Audit RFP Services with 14 other WTCS colleges, foundations or consortium soliciting requests for proposals for auditing services. CliftonLarsonAllen LLP (CLA) of Milwaukee, WI, will provide audit services for a five-year period.

Consent Agenda

It was moved by R. Bhatia, seconded by P. Gardner and carried that the following items in the consent agenda be approved.

Bid No. 1758 – Dyno Lab Removal, Kenosha Campus-Horizon Center: Approved the administration's recommendation to award the contract to Camosy Construction.

Bid No. 1759 – Pit Retaining Wall Refurbishment, Racine Campus: Approved the administration's recommendation to award the contract to Camosy Construction.

Finance - Summary of Revenue and Expenditures: Approved the summary of revenue and expenditures as of 2/28/2026.

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

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

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

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

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

Advisory Committee Activity Report: Five (5) new members added since last month's report as of March 1, 2026.

Grant Awards: Gateway received two new grant awards, including funding for assisting firefighters and emergency medical services education.

Executive Limitations - 3.8 Partnerships/Grants/Contracts: Director of Grants Development and Operations Kerry Bloemers delivered the presentation covering the policy's parameters.

Following discussion, it was moved by P. Gardner, seconded by M. Reader and carried that this report is evidence that the college is making progress on Executive Limitations 3.8 and approve the parameters.

Next Meeting Date and Adjourn

Gateway Presidential Search Committee Meeting – Monday, March 30, 2026, 8:00 am, Virtual and In-Person, SC Johnson iMET Center, Kopper Auditorium

Gateway Presidential Search Committee Meeting – Tuesday, March 31, 2026, 8:00 am, Virtual and In-Person, SC Johnson iMET Center, Kopper Auditorium

Committee of the Whole Meeting – Wednesday, April 15, 2026, 8:00 am, Virtual and In-Person, Racine Campus, Racine Building Quad Room

Regular Meeting – Wednesday, April 15, 2026, 9:00 am, Virtual and In-Person, Racine Campus, Racine Building Quad Room

Adjourn - At 9:57 am, it was moved by N. Oberlin, seconded by P. Gardner 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 10:16 am, it was moved by R. Bhatia, seconded by N. Oberlin and carried that the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by,



Preston Gardner, Secretary

Gateway Technical College Board of Trustees