

KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS**MINUTES**

September 17-18, 2025

The meeting was called to order by Chair Blake Benson at 1:15 p.m. on Wednesday, September 17, 2025. The meeting was held at the Board office, Curtis State Office Building, 1000 SW Jackson, Ste. 520, Topeka, Kansas. Proper notice was given according to the law.

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Blake Benson, Chair	John Dicus	Neelima Parasker
	Diana Mendoza, Vice Chair	Alysia Johnston	Kathy Wolfe Moore
	Pamela Ammar		

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regent Dicus moved to approve the minutes of the Board's June 11-12, 2025, meeting; June 20, 2025, special meeting; June 27, 2025, special meeting; July 28-30, 2025, Board Retreat; July 30, 2025, special meeting; and September 3, 2025, special meeting. Regent Wolfe Moore seconded the motion. The motion carried.

INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Benson introduced newly appointed Regent Pamela Ammar and newly appointed Pittsburg State University President Dr. Thomas Newsom.

Fort Hays State University President Tisa Mason introduced Dr. Corey Isbell, President of Fort Hays Tech Northwest; Dr. Matthew Clay, Faculty Senate President; Nicole Houchen, Degree Analyst for International Partnerships and Staff Senate President; Eileen Moore, Online Student Government President; and Jackson Sinsel, Student Government President.

Wichita State University President Richard Muma announced Dr. Terri Hall, Vice President of Student Affairs, is retiring and presented a certificate in celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Board.

Emporia State University President Ken Hush introduced Dr. Rochelle Rowley, Faculty Senate President; Azwad Zahraan, Student Government President; Josh Manahan, Student Government Vice President; Cassie Dieker, Staff Senate President; and Kyle Markowitz, Staff Senate Vice President.

Pittsburg State University President Thomas Newsom introduced David Weaver, Faculty Senate President; Jamie Cook, General Counsel; Corey Humble, Student Government President; and Darrel McLeod, Student Government Vice President. He also announced that Dr. Shawn Naccarato, Vice President for Research and Economic Development, will be leaving the institution.

GENERAL REPORTS**REPORT FROM THE CHAIR**

Chair Benson opened the meeting with a welcome to students, attendees, and the new academic year, expressing enthusiasm for the opportunities ahead. He extended his gratitude to President Linton for hosting the Board Retreat over the summer.

Chair Benson reported that on September 3, the Board convened a special meeting to appoint members to the Emporia State Presidential Search Committee and formally approve the committee's charge. The committee is composed of highly qualified individuals dedicated to identifying strong candidates for consideration.

Chair Benson also attended a Literacy Advisory Committee meeting in Pittsburg. He noted that the committee's work highlights the collaborative efforts among higher education institutions, K-12 educators, and legislative

leaders to implement science-based reading instruction. These initiatives are designed to enhance literacy outcomes for students across Kansas.

Chair Benson noted that key agenda items for the September meeting include the system's budget request and the approval of the Board's annual goals. Additionally, the Board is commemorating its 100th anniversary with a special reception celebrating its legacy and future direction.

REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO

Blake Flanders, President and CEO, began with a tribute to Warren Corman, a distinguished architectural engineer and long-serving architect for the Kansas Board of Regents, who passed away at age 99. His legacy includes iconic university buildings such as Allen Fieldhouse and Ahearn Fieldhouse. Corman participated in over 4,500 professional interviews for university construction projects. His celebration of life was scheduled for the same afternoon as the Board's meeting.

Dr. Sheree Utash, President of WSU Tech, was featured on Mike Rowe's podcast "The Way I Heard It" in an episode titled "It's Only the Best School in America." The interview spotlighted WSU Tech's transformation into a national model for workforce development and emphasized the importance of skilled trades in revitalizing America's workforce.

President Flanders also highlighted student-created artwork displayed in the Board office that was commissioned through the Board's micro-internship program. Notable pieces include an institutional map by Jenna Lindsey (Johnson County Community College), a piece titled "Shared Horizons" by Mike McCoy (Wichita State University), and a Board of Regents logo crafted from native Kansas wood by GoCreate at Wichita State. These works reflect pride in the creativity and craftsmanship within the Kansas higher education system.

REPORT FROM COUNCIL OF FACULTY SENATE PRESIDENTS

Faculty Senate President Rochelle Rowley reported that the council is actively collaborating with Rusty Monhollon, Vice President for Academic Affairs, to develop a comprehensive workload policy. While the process is taking slightly longer than initially anticipated, meaningful progress is being made.

She also noted that Norman Philipp, last year's Faculty Senate President, continues to analyze data related to a proposed faculty tuition program. The findings are expected to be presented to the Council of Chief Academic Officers (COCAO) and the Council of Business Officers (COBO) in November.

Additionally, the council will meet with representatives from International Baccalaureate high school programs as part of its responsibility to evaluate those programs during the current academic year.

REPORT FROM STUDENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Student Advisory Committee Chair Azwad Zahraan shared that the committee met earlier in the day with the Council of Student Affairs Officers, with a shared goal of strengthening collaboration moving forward. Discussions focused on student-centered initiatives and strategies to enhance campus resources, aligning with KBOR's emphasis on prioritizing student needs.

He also noted that the committee is looking forward to joining the Board for breakfast in the morning.

STANDING COMMITTEE AND OTHER REPORTS

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Regent Johnston shared that the Board Academic Affairs Standing Committee (BAASC) met virtually on September 3 to review several academic proposals and policy updates. The committee approved placing the University of Kansas' proposal to offer a Master of Science in Computational Biology degree on the Board's consent agenda. This program requires no new faculty and offers a credential for PhD students who choose not to

continue, recognizing coursework already completed. BAASC also reviewed a proposal from Kansas State University to offer an Associate of Applied Science in Food and Feed Manufacturing degree. Although state universities are generally discouraged from offering associate degrees, KSU was approached by industry to develop this program. After initially tabling the proposal in May, BAASC requested that KSU collaborate with Cowley County Community College, which offers a related certificate. Faculty and administrators from both institutions met last month, and an articulation agreement is under consideration. Due to the program's unique nature, BAASC approved placing it on the Board's discussion agenda.

Additionally, KSU submitted a proposal for a Bachelor of Applied Science in Uncrewed Aircraft Systems, along with a request for the Board to waive the 120-credit-hour requirement for baccalaureate degrees. As no current policy exists for reduced-credit-hour degrees, BAASC deferred the waiver request to the full Board for discussion. The committee recommends no action be taken at this time and suggests forming a working group with representation from all sectors to develop a policy framework for such degrees.

Sam Christy-Dangermond, Director for Academic Affairs, presented recommended changes to the accreditation policy following the passage of Senate Bill 78 last spring and provided a report on institutional and program accreditation. Both items will be presented to the full Board for discussion.

Rusty Monhollon, Vice President for Academic Affairs, provided an update on the ongoing review of tenure, post-tenure, and workload policies initiated earlier this year. A draft workload policy, informed by national research and designed to reinforce the Board's commitment to tenure, was shared with provosts and Faculty Senate Presidents. A joint review meeting was held earlier today, and a follow-up virtual meeting will be scheduled to gather additional feedback. A revised policy may be presented to BAASC on November 4, with potential Board consideration later in the month.

Finally, BAASC approved adding GED cut scores to the systemwide placement measures for gateway math and English courses. This change will expand access to higher education by allowing eligible adult learners and some homeschooled students to bypass additional placement exams.

FISCAL AFFAIRS & AUDIT

Regent Dicus reported that the Fiscal Affairs and Audit Committee held its first agenda call of the year on September 2. The committee was pleased to welcome campus representatives and student government leadership to its meeting earlier today. During the meeting, the committee received the results of the external management review for Fort Hays State University, presented by Mike Lowry of AGH. Conducted in accordance with Board policy—which requires such a review at least once every eight years or upon a change in university leadership—the review revealed no issues. Regent Dicus expressed appreciation to the FHSU staff for their support in providing data and participating in interviews. Similar reviews are scheduled this year for Pittsburg State University and Emporia State University due to recent leadership transitions, as well as for the University of Kansas as part of its routine eight-year review cycle.

The committee approved its work plan for the year and received several financial updates. Becky Pottebaum, Director of Finance and Administration, presented the internal audit of the alumni account, confirming that all FY 2025 transactions were in compliance with policy. She also presented the Board Office budget for FY 2026. The committee reviewed and approved all consent agenda items related to fiscal affairs and received an update on Excel in CTE distributions, including a discussion on potentially covering part of the state aid shortfall through other appropriations.

Regent Dicus noted that the unified appropriation request is on today's Board discussion agenda and the Fiscal Affairs and Audit Committee has a recommendation for the Board's consideration. The proposed budget builds on discussions held during the budget workshop in late July and reflects input from across the system's 32 institutions, the Technical Education Authority (TEA), and the Board Office. While the request does not include

every item submitted, it prioritizes those with the greatest potential impact on workforce development and student success. Regent Dicus thanked campus colleagues for their continued advocacy, noting the system's recent success in securing increased state support for students.

GOVERNANCE

Chair Benson reported that the Governance Committee convened earlier today to review and approve its annual work plan. During the meeting, the committee reviewed conflict of interest disclosures submitted by Board members and developed recommendations to address any actual or perceived conflicts. These recommendations will be considered during the Board's discussion session on Thursday.

Additionally, the committee authorized Board staff to draft amendments to the regulations governing the Kansas Nursing Service Scholarship Program. The proposed changes are intended to remove outdated eligibility restrictions and incorporate technical updates. Once the formal rulemaking process is complete, the amendments will be presented to the Board for approval.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Benson stated that he is recusing himself from voting on the Memorandum of Understanding between Pittsburg State University and Pittsburg State University/Kansas National Education Association and requested the Board authorize Vice Chair Mendoza to execute the MOU on his behalf. Vice Chair Mendoza moved to approve the consent agenda. Regent Dicus seconded the motion. The motion carried and the following items were approved:

Academic Affairs

ACT ON REQUEST TO APPROVE MS IN COMPUTATIONAL BIOLOGY – KU

The University of Kansas received approval to offer a Master of Science in Computational Biology.

Fiscal Affairs & Audit

ACT ON REQUEST TO AMEND THE FY 2026 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN AND APPROVE PROGRAM STATEMENT FOR TOMANEK HALL AIR CONDITIONING IMPROVEMENTS – FHSU

Fort Hays State University received approval to amend the Fiscal Year 2026 capital improvement plan, and the Board accepted the program statement for the Tomanek Hall Air Conditioning Improvements.

ACT ON REQUEST TO APPROVE PROGRAM STATEMENT FOR CROSSLAND COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY DIESEL AND HEAVY EQUIPMENT (DHE) AND HYBRID ELECTRIC VEHICLE (HEV) FACILITY – PSU

The Board accepted the program statement for Pittsburg State University's Crossland College of Technology Diesel and Heavy Equipment and Hybrid Electric Vehicle Facility.

ACT ON REQUEST TO CONSENT TO ANNEXATION OF REAL PROPERTY IN DESOTO, JOHNSON COUNTY, KANSAS – KU

The Board granted consent for a portion of real property owned by the University of Kansas to be annexed to the City of De Soto and authorized the Chair to execute necessary documents.

ACT ON REQUEST TO RAZE STUDENT CENTER, AMEND THE FY 2026 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN, AND APPROVE PROGRAM STATEMENT FOR OLATHE PAVILION AND STUDENT CENTER DEMOLITION – KUMC

The University of Kansas Medical Center received approval to raze the Student Center and amend the Fiscal Year 2026 capital improvement plan, and the Board accepted the program statement for the Olathe Pavilion and Student Center Demolition.

ACT ON REQUEST TO RAZE SHELLENBERGER HALL AND FEED TECHNOLOGY BUILDING – KSU

Kansas State University received approval to raze Shellenberger Hall and the Feed Technology Building.

ACT ON REQUEST TO AMEND THE FY 2026 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN AND APPROVE PROGRAM STATEMENT FOR ANDERSON HALL EXTERIOR RESTORATION – KSU

Kansas State University received approval to amend the Fiscal Year 2026 capital improvement plan, and the Board accepted the program statement for the Anderson Hall Exterior Restoration.

ACT ON REQUEST TO AMEND THE FY 2026 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN AND APPROVE PROGRAM STATEMENT FOR JUSTIN HALL ROOF REPLACEMENT – KSU

Kansas State University received approval to amend the Fiscal Year 2026 capital improvement plan, and the Board accepted the program statement for the Justin Hall Roof Replacement.

ACT ON REQUEST TO AMEND THE FY 2026 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN AND APPROVE PROGRAM STATEMENT FOR JUSTIN HALL APPLIED LEARNING LAB RENOVATION – KSU

Kansas State University received approval to amend the Fiscal Year 2026 capital improvement plan, and the Board accepted the program statement for the Justin Hall Applied Learning Lab Renovation.

ACT ON REQUEST TO AMEND THE FY 2026 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN AND APPROVE PROGRAM STATEMENT FOR WILDCAT ONE STOP PROJECT – KSU

Kansas State University received approval to amend the Fiscal Year 2026 capital improvement plan, and the Board accepted the program statement for the Wildcat One Stop project.

ACT ON REQUEST TO AMEND THE FY 2026 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN AND APPROVE PROGRAM STATEMENT FOR SEATON HALL PROJECT – KSU

Kansas State University received approval to amend the Fiscal Year 2026 capital improvement plan, and the Board accepted the program statement for the Seaton Hall project.

ACT ON KANSAS COMPREHENSIVE GRANT PROGRAM DISTRIBUTIONS

The Board approved the reallocation of \$170,911 from the \$35.3 million Kansas Comprehensive Grant state aid for FY 2026 to participating institutions. This adjustment was made to reflect institutions that did not meet the required match threshold in FY 2024, in accordance with previously communicated match guidance. The reallocation applies only to the FY 2026 funding cycle and does not affect future allocations. The following allocations were approved:

FY 2026 Kansas Comprehensive Grant Allocations			
Institutions Arranged by Sector	Original Allocation	Redistribution of Unmatched State Funding	Revised FY 2026 Total
Baker University	\$ 2,232,209	\$ 10,413	\$ 2,242,622
Barclay College	170,397	795	171,192

Benedictine College	1,133,144	5,286	1,138,430
Bethany College	1,171,620	5,465	1,177,085
Bethel College	894,587	4,173	898,760
Central Christian College	551,836	-	551,836
Cleveland University of KC	136,319	-	136,319
Donnelly College	496,337	2,315	498,652
Friends University	1,840,294	8,585	1,848,879
Hesston College	350,571	1,635	352,206
Kansas Wesleyan University	1,397,261	6,518	1,403,779
Manhattan Christian College	315,236	1,471	316,707
McPherson College	826,429	3,855	830,284
MidAmerica Nazarene University	1,273,721	5,942	1,279,663
Newman University	2,151,270	10,035	2,161,305
Ottawa University	1,121,994	-	1,121,994
University of Saint Mary	1,329,101	6,200	1,335,301
Southwestern College	1,079,727	5,037	1,084,764
Sterling College	877,547	4,094	881,641
Tabor College	779,569	3,637	783,206
Total - Private Institutions	\$20,129,169	\$ 85,456	\$ 20,214,625
Emporia State University	\$ 1,258,419	\$ 5,342	1,263,761
Fort Hays State University	2,937,762	12,472	2,950,234
Kansas State University	4,310,834	18,301	4,329,135
Pittsburg State University	1,715,597	7,283	1,722,880
University of Kansas	4,292,280	18,222	4,310,502
University of Kansas Medical Center*	59,906	254	60,160
Wichita State University	4,056,815	17,223	4,074,038
Washburn University	\$1,497,556	6,358	1,503,914
Total - Public Universities	\$20,129,169	\$ 85,455	\$ 20,214,624
Total State Funding	\$40,258,338	\$ 170,911	\$ 40,429,249

* The University of Kansas Medical Center's original allocation was apportioned from the distribution to the University of Kansas; KCG is awarded only to eligible Kansas resident undergraduate students.

ACT ON ANNUAL BUDGET FOR WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY MILL LEVY – WSU

The Board approved the FY 2026 budget for the Wichita State University Mill Levy as follows:

Wichita State University Mill Levy FY 2026 Budget Request

	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2026 Budget	Change FY 2025- 2026
Revenues				
Mill Levy Revenue	\$10,023,867	\$10,686,334	\$11,500,000	\$813,666
Interest Earnings	306,639	10,000	10,000	--
Contingent Revenue	--	500,000	500,000	--
Total Revenue	\$10,330,506	\$11,196,334	\$12,010,000	\$813,666
Expenditures				
Capital Improvements				
Debt Service – WPBC Series 2014-3 (2054)	\$1,748,358	\$1,748,359	\$1,748,359	\$ --
Debt Service – WPBC Series 2014-4 (2027)	750,068	747,298	747,818	520
Debt Service Admin Fees	4,240	6,740	6,740	--
Contribution to WSU NIRD T Debt Service	532,000	532,000	532,000	--
Debt Service – KDFA Series 2023J (2043)	826,133	823,800	826,550	2,750
Contribution to WSU Series 2025D Stadium	--	--	441,733	441,733
Total Capital Improvements	\$3,860,799	\$3,858,197	\$4,303,200	\$445,003
Student Support/Workforce Development				
WSU Tech Support	\$ 800,000	\$ 800,000	\$ 800,000	\$ --
Undergraduate Support	4,109,134	4,191,458	4,275,287	83,829
Graduate Support	411,197	419,421	427,809	8,388
Public Policy and Management Center Support	40,326	41,133	41,956	823
Total Student Support	\$5,360,657	\$5,452,012	\$5,545,052	\$93,040
Economic and Community Development				
Interns – City/County	\$ 211,076	\$144,324	\$147,210	\$2,886
Business and Economic Research	159,060	159,181	162,365	3,184
City Government Services	82,020	106,121	108,243	2,122
County Government Services	193,554	106,121	108,243	2,122
Total Economic and Community Development	\$645,710	\$515,747	\$526,061	\$10,314
Board Support Services				
Organization and Development	\$ 36,289	\$60,489	\$61,698	\$1,209
University Strategic Initiatives	450,202	809,889	1,073,989	264,100
Total Board Support Services	\$486,491	\$870,378	\$1,135,687	\$265,309
Contingency				
Contingency	\$ --	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$ --
Total Contingency	\$ --	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$ --
Total Expenditures	\$10,353,657	\$11,196,334	\$12,010,000	\$813,666

Totals may not add due to rounding.

Technical Education AuthorityACT ON CHANGES TO COURSE BUCKET ASSIGNMENTS FOR INSTRUCTIONAL COST MODEL CALCULATIONS

The Board approved the changes to course bucket assignments for instructional cost model calculations.

(List on file with official minutes)

ACT ON UPDATES TO EXTRAORDINARY COST CALCULATIONS FOR INSTRUCTIONAL COST MODEL CALCULATIONS

The Board approved the following Extraordinary Cost calculations for AY 2025:

Three Years Total Extraordinary Costs / Three Years Tiered CH delivered (AY 2022, 2023, 2024)

CIP/Program Title	CIP	Total Tiered Credit Hours Delivered over 3 Years	Total Costs over 3 Years	Calculate d Extra - ordinary Cost per CH	Current Extra - ordinary cost	Recommended Extraordinary rate/credit hour
Agricultural Mechanics and Equipment/ Machine Technology/Technician	01.0205	4,609	\$1,289,156.59	\$279.70	\$70	\$139
Digital Communication and Media/Multimedia	09.0702	244	\$2,797.08	\$11.46	\$0	\$0
Radio and Television Broadcasting Technology/Technician	10.0202	1,242	\$51,639.62	\$41.58	\$35	\$35
Recording Arts Technology/Technician	10.0203	1,534	\$155,959.92	\$101.67	\$0	\$70
Prepress/Desktop Publishing and Digital Imaging Design	10.0303	3,979	\$116,308.57	\$29.23	\$35	\$35
Graphic and Printing Equipment Operator, General Production	10.0305	2,794	\$103,928.09	\$37.20	\$139	\$35
Computer Programming/ Programmer, General	11.0201	8,876	\$546.71	\$0.06	\$0	\$0
Web Page, Digital/Multimedia, and Information Resources Design	11.0801	4,458	\$2,928.00	\$0.66	\$0	\$0
Computer Systems Networking and Telecommunications	11.0901	20,124	\$211,448.52	\$10.51	\$0	\$0
Cloud Computing	11.0902	1,850	\$3,244.29	\$1.75	\$0	\$0
Network and System Administration/Administrator	11.1001	1,750	\$23,942.42	\$13.68	\$0	\$0
System, Networking, and LAN/WAN Management/Manager	11.1002	1,089	\$15,735.25	\$14.45	\$0	\$0
Computer and Information Systems Security/Auditing/Information Assurance	11.1003	5,737	\$39,279.67	\$6.85	\$0	\$0
Web/Multimedia Management and Webmaster	11.1004	720	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0	\$0
Computer Support Specialist	11.1006	16,465	\$283,522.17	\$17.22	\$35	\$0
Funeral Service and Mortuary Science, General	12.0301	1,897	\$81,977.00	\$43.21	\$0	\$35
Cosmetology/Cosmetologist, General	12.0401	30,283	\$1,361,602.49	\$44.96	\$35	\$35
Aesthetician/Esthetician and Skin Care Specialist	12.0409	1,482	\$45,619.00	\$30.78	\$35	\$35
Nail Technician/Specialist and Manicurist	12.0410	2,263	\$113,315.31	\$50.07	\$35	\$35
Cosmetology, Barber/Styling, and Nail Instructor*	12.0413	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0	\$0
Cooking and Related Culinary Arts, General	12.0500	4,667	\$587,423.05	\$125.87	\$70	\$139
Baking and Pastry Arts/Baker/Pastry Chef	12.0501	1,964	\$156,325.00	\$79.60	\$139	\$70
Culinary Arts/Chef Training	12.0503	4,515	\$780,701.81	\$172.91	\$70	\$139

Three Years Total Extraordinary Costs / Three Years Tiered CH delivered (AY22, 23, 24) (continued)

Restaurant, Culinary, and Catering Management/Manager	12.0504	2,121	\$37,033.37	\$17.46	\$0	\$0
Food Preparation/Professional Cooking/Kitchen Assistant	12.0505	2,770	\$750,679.78	\$271.00	\$139	\$139
Welding Engineering Technology/Technician (&)	15.0614	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0	\$0
Child Care and Support Services Management	19.0708	14,823	\$167,514.92	\$11.30	\$0	\$0
Child Care Provider/Assistant	19.0709	534	\$45,137.94	\$84.53	\$0	\$70
Legal Administrative Assistant/Secretary	22.0301	90	\$147.22	\$1.64	\$0	\$0
Legal Assistant/Paralegal	22.0302	3,238	\$8,560.00	\$2.64	\$0	\$0
Court Reporting and Captioning/Court Reporter	22.0303	46	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$70	\$0
Corrections	43.0102	18	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0	\$0
Criminal Justice/Police Science	43.0107	13,894	\$322,162.70	\$23.19	\$0	\$35
Security and Loss Prevention Services	43.0109	3	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0	\$0
Fire Services Administration#	43.0202	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0	\$0
Fire Science/Firefighting	43.0203	14,834	\$1,786,092.42	\$120.41	\$70	\$139
Crisis/Emergency/Disaster Management	43.0302	684	\$57,022.17	\$83.37	\$0	\$70
Forensic Science and Technology	43.0406	546	\$83,058.26	\$152.12	\$0	\$139
Homeland Security, Law Enforcement, Firefighting and Related Protective Services, Other^	43.9999	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0	\$0
Electrical and Power Transmission Installation/Installer, General	46.0301	11,590	\$221,774.81	\$19.14	\$35	\$35
Communications Systems Installation and Repair Technology/Technician^	47.0103	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0	\$0
Heavy Equipment Maintenance Technology/Technician	47.0302	550	\$302,612.63	\$550.20	\$139	\$139
Autobody/Collision and Repair Technology/Technician	47.0603	5,395	\$1,449,101.69	\$268.60	\$70	\$139
Automobile/Automotive Mechanics Technology/Technician	47.0604	47,114	\$4,476,333.96	\$95.01	\$70	\$70
Diesel Mechanics Technology/Technician^	47.0605	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0	\$0
Small Engine Mechanics and Repair Technology/Technician*	47.0606	0	\$15,846.89	\$0.00	\$0	\$0
Airframe Mechanics and Aircraft Maintenance Technology/Technician	47.0607	12,599	\$1,337,988.35	\$106.20	\$139	\$139
Aircraft Powerplant Technology/Technician	47.0608	13,627	\$1,426,951.66	\$104.72	\$139	\$139
Avionics Maintenance Technology/Technician	47.0609	1,133	\$145,154.00	\$128.11	\$139	\$139
Motorcycle Maintenance and Repair Technology/Technician	47.0611	704	\$13,261.45	\$18.84	\$139	\$35
Medium/Heavy Vehicle and Truck Technology/Technician	47.0613	12,115	\$3,281,532.55	\$270.87	\$139	\$139
Alternative Fuel Vehicle Technology/Technician	47.0614	2,096	\$332,391.81	\$158.58	\$0	\$139
Machine Tool Technology/Machinist	48.0501	12,134	\$3,707,747.68	\$305.57	\$139	\$139
Sheet Metal Technology/Sheetworking #	48.0506	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0	\$0
Tool and Die Technology/Technician	48.0507	1,847	\$105,774.59	\$57.27	\$0	\$70
Welding Technology/Welder	48.0508	65,180	\$13,049,159.28	\$200.20	\$139	\$139
Precision Production, Other (Aircraft Coatings)	48.9999	1,170	\$142,243.97	\$121.58	\$35	\$139
Construction/Heavy Equipment/Earthmoving Equipment Operation	49.0202	2,891	\$1,284,923.38	\$444.46	\$139	\$139
Truck and Bus Driver/Commercial Vehicle Operator and Instructor	49.0205	6,148	\$1,575,947.65	\$256.36	\$139	\$139

Three Years Total Extraordinary Costs / Three Years Tiered CH delivered (AY22, 23, 24) (continued)

Railroad and Railway Transportation	49.0208	2,900	\$1,546,522.05	\$533.28	\$139	\$139
Forklift Operation/Operator	49.0209	265	\$5,999.00	\$22.64	\$0	\$35
Medical Transcription/Transcriptionist^	51.0708	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0	\$0
Logistics, Materials, and Supply Chain Management	52.0203	1,670	\$10,520.00	\$6.30	\$0	\$0
Office Management and Supervision	52.0204	758	\$10,481.97	\$13.83	\$0	\$0
Accounting Technology/Technician and Bookkeeping	52.0302	7,932	\$10,863.76	\$1.37	\$0	\$0
Administrative Assistant and Secretarial Science, General	52.0401	5,357	\$11,000.00	\$2.05	\$0	\$0
General Office Occupations and Clerical Services	52.0408	1,850	\$21,058.62	\$11.38	\$0	\$0
Parts, Warehousing, and Inventory Management Operations^	52.0409	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0	\$0
Fashion Merchandising	52.1902	1,651	\$23,996.60	\$14.53	\$0	\$0

(&) Program offered in partnership with a university

* New program

^ Program on Hold status

Program is offered as Registered Apprenticeship

*Other Matters***ACT ON PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO MOU BETWEEN KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY AND THE KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION, LOCAL 6400 (KSUEA) REPRESENTING ELIGIBLE MAINTENANCE AND SERVICE EMPLOYEES – KSU**

The Board approved an addendum to the memorandum of understanding negotiated and agreed upon by Kansas State University and the Kansas State University Employees Association, Local 6400 (KSUEA).

ACT ON PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO MOU BETWEEN PITTSBURG STATE UNIVERSITY AND PITTSBURG STATE UNIVERSITY/KANSAS NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION (KNEA)

The Board approved amendments to the memorandum of agreement between Pittsburg State University and Pittsburg State University/Kansas National Education Association (KNEA), and authorized Vice Chair Mendoza to sign on behalf of the Board.

ACT ON REQUEST TO APPOINT MEMBERS TO THE EPSCOR PROGRAM REVIEW COMMITTEE

The Board appointed the following individuals to the EPSCoR Program Review Committee for three-year terms expiring June 30, 2028:

Wolfram Zueckert, Ph.D.
Professor, Microbiology, Molecular Genetics, and Immunology
University of Kansas School of Medicine

Randy Gorton, P.E., PTOE
Vice President, Public Works Services
BHC

Sam V. Kaplan, Ph.D.
Chief Operating Officer
Pinnacle Technology

ACT ON APPOINTMENT TO THE POSTSECONDARY TECHNICAL EDUCATION AUTHORITY

The Board approved the reappointment of Keith Humphrey through June 30, 2027.

ACT ON APPOINTMENTS TO VARIOUS BOARD COMMITTEES AND THE WASHBURN BOARD OF REGENTS

The Board approved the following committee appointments:

Committee	Regent	Start	End
Board Academic Affairs Standing Committee	Alysia Johnston, Chair	9/1/2025	6/30/2026
Board Academic Affairs Standing Committee	Pamela Ammar	9/1/2025	6/30/2026
Board Academic Affairs Standing Committee	Blake Benson	9/1/2025	6/30/2026
Board Academic Affairs Standing Committee	Diana Mendoza	9/1/2025	6/30/2026
Board Fiscal Affairs & Audit Standing Committee	John Dicus, Chair	9/1/2025	6/30/2026
Board Fiscal Affairs & Audit Standing Committee	Kathy Wolfe Moore	9/1/2025	6/30/2026
Board Fiscal Affairs & Audit Standing Committee	Neelima Parasker	9/1/2025	6/30/2026
Board Governance Committee	Blake Benson, Chair	9/1/2025	6/30/2026
Board Governance Committee	Diana Mendoza	9/1/2025	6/30/2026
Board Governance Committee	Alysia Johnston	9/1/2025	6/30/2026
Board Governance Committee	Neelima Parasker	9/1/2025	6/30/2026
Literacy Advisory Committee	Vacant		6/30/2029
Midwestern Higher Education Compact	Pamela Ammar	9/1/2025	6/30/2026
Retirement Plan Committee	Blake Benson	9/1/2025	6/30/2026
Transfer and Articulation Advisory Council	Alysia Johnston	9/1/2025	6/30/2026
Washburn University Board of Regents	John Dicus	9/1/2025	8/31/2026

CONSIDERATION OF DISCUSSION AGENDA

Academic Affairs

RECOGNIZE FACULTY AND STAFF OF THE YEAR AWARDEES

Chair Benson stated that this year, the Board has broadened its recognition program to include awards for full-time non-tenure track faculty and staff, alongside tenured and tenure-track faculty. This expansion underscores the Board's commitment to honoring the diverse contributions that support student success and institutional excellence.

Faculty and staff play distinct yet complementary roles: faculty advance learning and research, while staff ensure effective operations and a supportive campus environment. Through these awards, the Board formally acknowledges individuals whose work strengthens our institutions and communities.

To support this initiative, faculty senates at each state university and KUMC were invited to nominate up to three faculty members—one tenured, one tenure-track, and one non-tenure track—for the Kansas Board of Regents Faculty of the Year Award. Institutions also submitted one nominee each for the Staff of the Year Award. The Board received these nominations in June.

Regent Johnston moved to approve the Faculty of the Year award recipients. Regent Ammar seconded, and the motion carried.

Chair Benson invited Vice President Monhollon to introduce and recognize the each of the Faculty and Staff awardees. The following awardees were recognized:

FACULTY OF THE YEAR AWARDS			
Institution	Tenured	Tenure-Track	Non-Tenure Track
FHSU	Dr. Lexey Bartlett, Professor of English	Dr. Jennifer Bechard, Assistant Professor of Pedagogy, PK-12 Teaching & Coaching	Dr. Linda Mayer, Instructor of Education, English as a Second Language
KSU	Dr. Gabe Kerr, Professor of Math	Dr. Logan L. Britton, Assistant Professor in Agricultural Economics	Chad Bailey, Instructor in Electronic and Computer Engineering
KU	Dr. Vitaly Chernetsky, Professor in Slavic, German, & Eurasian Studies	No nomination	Dr. David O. Johnson, Associate Teaching Professor in Electrical Engineering & Computer Science
KUMC	Dr. Sufi Thomas, Associate Professor of Otolaryngology	Dr. Dinesh Mudaranthakam, Assistant Professor in Biostatistics and Data Science	Dr. Laurie Steen, Clinical Assistant Professor in Occupational Therapy Education
PSU	Dr. Karen Johnson, Professor of Nursing	Dr. Megan Westhoff, Assistant Professor in Communication	Dr. Kristopher Mijares, Instructor of Chemistry
WSU	Dr. Lisa Parcell, Associate Professor of Communication	Dr. Erin O'Bryan, Assistant Professor of Communications Sciences & Disorders	Marco Hernandez, Assistant Teaching Professor of Print Media

STAFF OF THE YEAR AWARD	
Institution	Staff Nominee
FHSU	No nomination
KSU	Richard Becker, Director of Infrastructure Security Architecture
KU	No nomination
KUMC	No nomination
PSU	Jamie Rink, Director of Student Financial Assistance
WSU	Dr. Christopher Leonard, Director of Counseling and Psychological Services

ACT ON REQUEST TO APPROVE AAS IN FOOD & FEED MANUFACTURING – KSU

Provost Mendez presented a proposal to offer an Associate in Applied Science in Food & Feed Manufacturing. The program aligns with KSU's land-grant mission to serve Kansas families, support local businesses, and strengthen the state's agricultural economy.

There is strong industry demand for skilled professionals in supervisory, operational, and technical roles across milling, baking, feed, and pet food sectors. While KSU is already a leader in training industry professionals, this new program addresses a critical workforce gap through practical, applied education. It will be offered in a hybrid format to accommodate both full- and part-time students.

KSU's facilities—including the O.H. Kruse Feed Technology Innovation Center, the Hal Ross Flour Mill, and the Cargill Feed Safety Research Center—provide unmatched resources for this type of training, supported by expert faculty in milling, baking, food safety, and animal sciences.

As directed by Regent Johnston and BAASC, KSU has been collaborating with Cowley County Community College to develop an articulation agreement. A draft was shared on August 29, and discussions are ongoing.

Regent Johnston moved to approve the Associate of Applied Science in Food and Feed Manufacturing at KSU. Regent Ammar seconded, and the motion carried.

Fiscal Affairs & Audit

DISCUSS AND ACT ON BOARD'S UNIFIED STATE APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST

Elaine Frisbie, Vice President for Finance and Administration, noted that institutions shared a preliminary list of budget priorities at the Board's June meeting. She emphasized the Board's role in advocating for the system, which requires gathering ideas from the field and engaging with policymakers. Based on recent discussions and legislative staff input, it is evident that state spending currently exceeds projected revenues, suggesting future budget constraints. At the Board retreat, proposals were presented by the TEA, four-year universities, two-year colleges, and the Board office. Following further refinement, the Fiscal Affairs team has developed a formal proposal for Board consideration.

The proposed enhancement request for FY 2027 totals \$40.3 million. To provide context, the system was approved for \$1.182 billion in base funding for FY 2026, along with \$14 million for a 2.5% legislative pay plan. However, \$62.1 million was removed from the FY 2026 base, later partially restored by \$12 million for regional universities' regional growth and development. As a result, the FY 2027 request remains approximately \$4.6 million below the current year's approved funding, avoiding a net increase.

The enhancement request includes several key assumptions. These include continued support for capital renewal through the Kansas Campus Restoration Act (Senate Bill 18); sustained funding for student financial aid programs at both the Board office and university levels; and ongoing support for the instructional cost model for two-year colleges, including tiered, non-tiered, and Excel in CTE programs. While the exact amounts for the instructional cost model are pending, they will be finalized in time for the November budget appeal. The proposal also seeks to maintain funding for student success initiatives adopted by the Board and introduces new funding requests: \$2 million for Kansans with some college but no degree, \$5.5 million to restore Blueprint for Literacy funding (previously \$10 million in FY 2025, with no allocation in FY 2026), \$15 million to support future energy needs (\$5 million per research university), and \$1.5 million for Washburn University, aligning with support provided to regional universities.

Regent Wolfe Moore expressed strong support for the Blueprint for Literacy initiative, noting its foundational importance to the Board's mission. She highlighted the dual challenges of declining enrollment and the need to prepare students for workforce demands, emphasizing that literacy issues are a nationwide concern and that other states are investing more aggressively. She urged the Board to pursue this funding with determination.

President Flanders added that while the request targets State General Fund support, the initiatives require broader partnerships. He acknowledged the significant contributions made by universities and colleges toward capital renewal and financial aid and noted that the Blueprint for Literacy funding falls short of the task force's recommendations. Universities will likely need to contribute an additional \$3–\$4 million to reform and enhance current programming. President Flanders emphasized that the Board is not seeking full funding for these initiatives, but rather a shared investment from the state to continue progress and maintain momentum.

Regent Dicus moved to approve the unified appropriation request for FY 2027. Regent Parasker seconded, and the motion carried.

(Presentation on file with official minutes)

RECEIVE KANSAS CAMPUS RESTORATION ACT (KCRA) PLANS FROM STATE UNIVERSITIES – SYSTEM

Director of Facilities Chad Bristow introduced the presentation of six-year campus restoration plans from Kansas state universities, as required by statute. These plans follow the Board's initial approval of Campus Restoration

Act (KCRA) allocations for FY 2026, which were later revised in May due to legislative funding reductions. Approval of these university-specific plans is a prerequisite for releasing the allocated funds. Each university has outlined its priorities for the six-year term, identifying specific projects and categories, with the understanding that plans may evolve to address emerging needs, especially given the age of many campus facilities.

He provided context for the facilities initiative, noting that decades of underinvestment has led to outdated and underperforming infrastructure across campuses—a challenge common nationwide. Kansas has taken a unique approach by implementing a facilities policy in 2021 that includes an annual maintenance assessment. This assessment calculates a reinvestment target of 2% of the replacement value of mission-critical facilities, gradually increasing from 0.25% in FY 2023 to 2% by FY 2028. This strategy aims to halt the growth of deferred maintenance and eventually restore campus facilities to a state of good repair.

The initiative has already yielded significant results. Over the past three years, universities have executed more projects than ever before, planned or demolished 28 obsolete buildings, avoided \$108 million in deferred maintenance costs, and reduced their campus footprint by 680,000 square feet. Legislative support has been critical, with approximately \$100 million appropriated between FY 2023 and FY 2025, including \$75 million requiring a one-to-one institutional match and \$25 million dedicated to facility demolition.

With the enactment of the KCRA in the 2024 legislative session, the Board of Regents and the state universities enter the next phase—facilities initiative 2.0. This long-term funding effort, spanning FY 2026 to FY 2031, will provide \$177.7 million for university restoration and demolition projects, including \$16 million for coordinated institutions. By FY 2028, the projected maintenance assessment will reach approximately \$180 million annually. Combined with the Educational Building Fund, universities will still require an estimated \$90 million per year to meet best-practice reinvestment levels. The recommendation before the Board is to approve the submitted university plans and continue using the current allocation formula for apportioning future KCRA funding.

Each of the universities shared presentations for their KCRA Plans, including common projects like HVAC upgrades, roof repairs, and electrical system improvements. These efforts focus on addressing deferred maintenance and enhancing energy efficiency across campuses. Plans also include elevator modernizations, plumbing repairs, and fire protection upgrades. Remodeling initiatives include classroom renovations, student service centers, and research spaces to foster academic excellence and student success. Several universities plan demolition of obsolete buildings to optimize campus space, while new construction projects aim to replace aging facilities with modern infrastructure. Collectively, these plans reflect a coordinated and strategic approach to improve and sustain Kansas' public university campus facilities.

(Presentations and plans on file with official minutes)

ACT ON KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY MASTER PLAN

President Linton introduced Kansas State University's new campus master plan, describing it as the most significant initiative undertaken during his tenure. He emphasized the plan's strategic, inclusive, and innovative nature, noting that it reflects the university's future direction and was developed through extensive engagement with internal and external stakeholders. This included surveys, town halls, workshops, and one-on-one meetings, resulting in broad support across the university community. He credited the collaborative process for shaping a vision that aligns with the institution's goals and invited Casey Lauer, Associate Vice President for Facilities, to present the details.

Associate Vice President Lauer explained that the 18-month planning process, led in partnership with consulting firm Smith Group, marks a shift from the growth-focused 2012 master plan to one centered on strategic development, resiliency, and stewardship. The new plan proposes fewer new construction projects, each carefully selected for strategic impact, alongside a significant increase in renovations and necessary demolitions. These changes aim to modernize the campus while improving space quality and efficiency. The plan is guided by four

strategic imperatives: increasing enrollment, retaining students longer, expanding applied learning opportunities, and enhancing research capacity. It also aligns with the university's opportunity agenda and Board of Regents goals, which have become deeply embedded in KSU's mission.

A major outcome of the plan is a unified framework that connects the university's three campuses—Manhattan, Salina, and Olathe—while leveraging their individual strengths. New planning principles were developed and tested through Campus Restoration Act projects and will guide future development. The engagement process reached thousands of stakeholders and was praised by Smith Group as setting a new gold standard for campus planning participation. Key themes that emerged include activating open spaces, integrating KSU-themed public art, improving safety and accessibility, promoting health, modernizing buildings with a balance of aesthetics and functionality, and expanding research space. Currently, the university is 200,000 square feet short of its aspirational research space goals, and existing space quality remains a concern.

Campus-specific visions were also shared. In Salina, two major facilities—the Kansas Artificial Intelligence Research and Entertainment Studio (K-AIRES) Center and the Aerospace Education Hub—represent over \$80 million in investment, transforming the former Air Force base into a modern learning destination. Enhancements include walkways, renamed roads, and integrated gateways with the City of Salina. At the Olathe campus, the focus is on partnerships with the city, Johnson County Education Research Triangle (JCERT), and industry to support credentialing, workforce development, and innovation in advanced manufacturing, community health, and food systems. For the Manhattan campus, the plan aims to align resources with mission priorities, featuring new construction, extensive renovations, and strategic demolitions. Overall, the plan will reduce mission-critical gross square footage by 14%, and a real-time space utilization pilot has been launched to improve efficiency and strategic use of facilities.

To further enhance the campus experience, the plan proposes pedestrianizing or closing five existing roadways to create a safer, more vibrant environment. These areas will feature KSU-themed public art to reinforce campus identity. A study is also underway to connect Jardine Drive to Manhattan Avenue, improving access to the upcoming Kansas Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory. Bosco Plaza is being reimagined as a central gateway to campus, linking student life with the historic core and serving as a welcoming space for visitors and prospective students. In total, the plan includes over 400,000 square feet of completed demolition, one million square feet of strategic new construction, renovations to half of the mission-critical portfolio, and an additional 500,000 square feet of demolition through building replacements. While the overall space impact is net-neutral, the repositioning of facilities is designed to support KSU's vision of becoming a next-generation land-grant university. President Linton concluded the presentation with a visual journey through the future campus, illustrating how these elements come together to shape a cohesive and forward-looking vision for KSU.

Regent Wolfe Moore moved to approve the 2025 Campus Master Plan for KSU. Regent Ammar seconded, and motion carried.

(Presentation on file with official minutes)

Other Matters

ACT ON REQUEST TO REVISE INSTITUTIONAL MISSION STATEMENT – KSU

President Linton proposed a revision to the institutional mission statement, suggesting the replacement of the word “diversity” with “all” to ensure compliance with 2025 Senate Bill 125.

Regent Wolfe Moore moved to approve the proposed revision to the KSU mission statement. Regent Ammar seconded, and the motion carried.

ACT ON REQUEST TO APPROVE GRANTING OF HONORARY DOCTORATE – WSU

President Muma presented a recommendation to award an honorary doctorate to WSU alumna and internationally acclaimed opera singer Joyce DiDonato, to be conferred during the December commencement ceremony.

Regent Dicus moved to approve the granting of an honorary doctorate. Regent Johnston seconded, and the motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 3:27 p.m.

Thursday, September 18, 2025

The meeting was called to order by Chair Blake Benson at 9:47 a.m. on Thursday, September 18, 2025, in the Board Room at the Board Office.

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Blake Benson, Chair	John Dicus	Neelima Parasker
	Diana Mendoza, Vice Chair	Alysia Johnston	Kathy Wolfe Moore
	Pamela Ammar		

CONSIDERATION OF DISCUSSION AGENDA

AMENDMENT TO AGENDA

Chair Benson stated that item VII.2, regarding the KSU request to waive the bachelor's degree requirement, would be amended from "act on" to "discuss," in accordance with the Board Academic Affairs Standing Committee's recommendation presented Wednesday by Regent Johnston.

Academic Affairs

RECEIVE UPDATE ON HIGHER LEARNING COMMISSION GUIDELINES FOR REDUCED-CREDIT BACHELOR'S PROGRAMS

Rusty Monhollon, Vice President for Academic Affairs, initiated a discussion on Reduced Credit Bachelor's Degrees (RCBDs), highlighting national efforts to lower credit hour requirements for bachelor's degrees. Since 2017, Kansas institutions have standardized most programs to 120 credit hours, but RCBDs—typically requiring 90 to 105 credits—are gaining traction nationwide due to their affordability and alignment with workforce needs. However, concerns remain about their academic rigor and industry recognition. The Higher Learning Commission (HLC) now permits RCBDs, provided institutions receive state approval, but Kansas' current policy defining bachelor's degrees as requiring 120 credits presents a barrier. Vice President Monhollon posed key questions regarding the value, naming, acceptance, and structure of RCBDs. Regents expressed varied concerns, including employer perception, enrollment impact, transferability, and the potential dilution of traditional degrees. President Flanders emphasized preserving durable skills and avoiding unintended consequences, while Regent Johnston advocated for a thoughtful, inclusive approach. The Board showed interest in exploring RCBDs further, with the Board Academic Affairs Standing Committee gathering input and guiding the Board's next steps.

(Presentation on file with official minutes)

DISCUSS KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY'S REQUEST TO WAIVE BACHELOR'S DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

Regent Johnston, speaking on behalf the Board Academic Affairs Standing Committee, emphasized the importance of thoughtful deliberation and broad stakeholder input. BAASC recommended forming a working group composed of representatives from all educational sectors, including two-year institutions and industry partners, to draft a policy framework for RCBDs. President Linton clarified that the intent of the discussion was not to evaluate the specific waiver request, but to explore the broader rationale and market opportunities for RCBDs. Provost Mendez expressed enthusiasm for the initiative, noting that KSU has been actively researching RCBD models and engaging with accrediting bodies. He stressed that the university's approach is focused on addressing unmet workforce needs through new degree offerings, rather than reducing existing programs. Collaboration with two-year institutions and faculty engagement were highlighted as essential to the success of

this initiative. He acknowledged the transformative nature of RCBDs and the need for careful planning as the conversation moves forward.

RECEIVE REPORT ON PROGRAM ACCREDITATION

Vice President Monhollon presented the 2024 accreditation report for acceptance. He explained that the Board compiles this report every four years to assess the accreditation status of state universities and their specialized academic programs. Accreditation certifies that institutions and programs meet established standards, and it falls into two categories: institutional accreditation and specialized program accreditation. Kansas's public postsecondary institutions are accredited by the HLC, one of six regional accreditors recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. Specialized accreditation, typically found in professional fields such as engineering, nursing, law, and teacher education, is overseen by discipline-specific agencies. Vice President Monhollon confirmed that all six state universities and the University of Kansas Medical Center are fully accredited by the HLC and maintain specialized accreditations across various academic areas. He recommended the Board formally accept the report.

Regent Johnston moved to accept the Program Accreditation report. Vice Chair Mendoza seconded, and the motion carried.

(Presentation on file with official minutes)

ACT ON REQUEST TO CHANGE ACCREDITATION POLICY

Vice President Monhollon shared that following the passage of Senate Bill 78 during the last legislative session, all postsecondary institutions in Kansas are now required to regularly review and update their accreditation policies. The bill also prohibits accrediting agencies from compelling institutions to act in violation of state law. By the end of the year, each institution's governing body must identify eligible accrediting agencies—specifically those recognized by the U.S. Department of Education—and revise institutional policies to ensure institutions may freely pursue accreditation from any agency listed in the Department's database. Board staff reviewed the current accreditation policy (Chapter II.A.3.12) and recommended updates to remove restrictive language, aligning the policy with SB 78. This revision ensures compliance with state law and affirms institutional autonomy in selecting appropriate accrediting bodies.

Regent Ammar moved to approve the amendments to the Board's Accreditation Policy. Regent Parasker seconded the motion. The motion carried and the following Board policy amendment was adopted:

CHAPTER III: COORDINATION - STATE UNIVERSITIES, COMMUNITY COLLEGES, TECHNICAL COLLEGES, WASHBURN UNIVERSITY AND/OR THE WASHBURN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

A ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

...

12 ACCREDITATION OF DEGREE GRANTING INSTITUTIONS

It is the policy of the Board of Regents that all public post-secondary institutions conferring college degrees achieve and maintain accredited status ~~with a nationally recognized accrediting agency for higher education in the United States~~. A public post-secondary institution may freely pursue accreditation by any accrediting agency or association that is: (a) recognized by the United States Department of Education in the database maintained by such department; and (b) appropriate for the programs offered by the institution.

Any public post-secondary institution that has not achieved or does not maintain accredited status with ~~a nationally recognized such accreditor~~ an accrediting agency or association that is recognized by the United States Department of Education in the database maintained by such department may be subject to loss of degree granting authority.

Each public post-secondary institution pursuing institutional accreditation shall continue to comply with all standards established by the institution's current accrediting agency; and shall submit an end of fiscal year report to the Board of Regents confirming adequate progress toward accredited status, including as applicable any supporting documentation.

Fiscal Affairs & Audit

RECEIVE INFORMATION ON DISTRIBUTION OF FY 2026 STATE APPROPRIATIONS FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGES – SYSTEM

Elaine Frisbie, Vice President for Finance and Administration, provided an update on the distribution of FY 2026 state appropriations to community and technical colleges. A new legislative proviso, applicable only to community colleges, required these institutions to certify their estimated cash on hand as of June 30, 2025. The Board developed a standardized form, which all 19 community colleges completed and submitted in July. According to the proviso, colleges must have less than six months of cash on hand to qualify for two specific state aid distributions: the Business and Industry and Apprenticeship Distribution and the Student Success Initiative Distribution. Eighteen of the 19 colleges met the eligibility criteria. President Flanders submitted a certification letter to the Office of Accounts and Reports confirming compliance, and the corresponding funds were distributed. Johnson County Community College did not meet the eligibility threshold, resulting in approximately \$5.2 million in unallocated funds. If these funds remain unspent by June 30, they will revert to the State General Fund. The Board will re-verify eligibility using each college's audited financial statements to be submitted this winter. During the discussion, Regent Parasker asked how the colleges are using these funds. Vice President Frisbie responded that the legislation does not specify their use but noted that the TEA may have previously collected related information and offered to provide it to Regents.

Business & Industry and Apprenticeship Distributions – Community Colleges			
Institution	FY 2025 State Aid	FY 2026 State Aid	Increase/ (Decrease)
Allen County Community College	\$ 379,013	\$ 316,423	\$ (62,590)
Barton County Community College	957,062	998,958	41,896
Butler Community College	1,375,757	1,309,893	(65,864)
Cloud County Community College	308,397	307,278	(1,119)
Coffeyville Community College	345,267	323,739	(21,528)
Colby Community College	313,084	307,887	(5,197)
Cowley County Community College	531,493	509,081	(22,412)
Dodge City Community College	385,574	377,086	(8,488)
Fort Scott Community College	335,581	303,620	(31,961)
Garden City Community College	464,627	448,113	(16,514)
Highland Community College	465,564	445,980	(19,584)
Hutchinson Community College	1,027,678	996,214	(31,464)
Independence Community College	191,225	189,915	(1,310)
Johnson County Community College	2,930,552	0	(2,930,552)
Kansas City Kansas Community College	911,131	910,249	(882)
Labette Community College	264,028	270,392	6,364
Neosho County Community College	307,460	325,263	17,803
Pratt Community College	275,589	291,121	15,532
Seward County Community College	320,271	360,015	39,744
Total	\$ 12,089,353	\$ 8,991,227	\$ (3,098,126)

Student Success Initiatives Distributions – Community Colleges			
Institution	FY 2025 State Aid	FY 2026 State Aid	Increase/ (Decrease)
Allen County Community College	\$ 463,827	\$ 232,339	\$ (231,488)
Barton County Community College	1,171,230	733,500	(437,730)
Butler Community College	1,683,619	961,810	(721,809)
Cloud County Community College	377,409	225,624	(151,785)
Coffeyville Community College	422,530	237,711	(184,819)
Colby Community College	383,145	226,071	(157,074)
Cowley County Community College	650,428	373,801	(276,627)
Dodge City Community College	471,857	276,881	(194,976)
Fort Scott Community College	410,676	222,938	(187,738)
Garden City Community College	568,599	329,034	(239,565)
Highland Community College	569,746	327,467	(242,279)
Hutchinson Community College	1,257,648	731,486	(526,162)
Independence Community College	234,017	139,448	(94,569)
Johnson County Community College	3,586,340	--	(3,586,340)
Kansas City Kansas Community College	1,115,020	668,365	(446,655)
Labette Community College	323,111	198,540	(124,571)
Neosho County Community College	376,262	238,830	(137,432)
Pratt Community College	337,259	213,760	(123,499)
Seward County Community College	391,939	264,347	(127,592)
Total	\$ 14,794,662	\$ 6,601,952	\$ (8,192,710)

ACT ON DISTRIBUTION OF FY 2026 APPROPRIATIONS FOR TECHNICAL EDUCATION (EXCEL IN CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION INITIATIVE AND AO-K PROVISIO)

Vice President Frisbie provided an update on the funding status of the Excel in Career and Technical Education (CTE) initiative, commonly referred to as Senate Bill 155. Originally enacted in 2011, the program received a dedicated appropriation beginning in Fiscal Year 2022. With increased enrollment post-pandemic, the program is facing a funding shortfall for the current year due to higher-than-anticipated participation.

Vice President Frisbie also outlined the statutory requirement to distribute funds within 60 days of the first class start date and presented a timeline for compliance. The proposed funding amounts for FY 2026, based on recently certified AY 2025 data, reflect an equal proration across all participating colleges. These figures have been reviewed and approved by the TEA.

Additionally, Vice President Frisbie noted the potential reallocation of \$5.2 million from the Business & Industry and Apprenticeship and Student Success Initiative accounts. These funds, originally designated for Johnson County Community College, may be redirected pending financial audits and confirmation of eligibility, as the college did not meet the qualifications for those specific allocations.

Regent Johnston moved to approve the distribution of FY 2026 appropriations for technical education. Regent Wolfe Moore seconded the motion. The motion carried and the following distributions were approved:

Excel in Career Technical Education

Institution	FY 2026 Calculation	FY 2026 State Aid
Allen County Community College	\$ 984,968	\$ 871,605
Barton County Community College	695,015	615,023

Excel in Career Technical Education (continued)

Institution	FY 2026 Calculation	FY 2026 State Aid
Butler Community College	981,464	868,504
Cloud County Community College	666,271	589,588
Coffeyville Community College	1,403,461	1,241,932
Colby Community College	359,317	317,962
Cowley County Community College	1,684,772	1,490,866
Dodge City Community College	1,658,841	1,467,919
Flint Hills Technical College	3,202,167	2,833,619
Fort Hays Tech North Central	789,253	698,415
Fort Hays Tech Northwest	985,034	871,663
Fort Scott Community College	1,341,334	1,186,955
Garden City Community College	1,047,759	927,169
Highland Community College	2,443,443	2,162,219
Hutchinson Community College	3,382,777	2,993,442
Independence Community College	191,748	169,680
Johnson County Community College	2,852,939	2,524,585
Kansas City Kansas Community College	3,323,415	2,940,912
Labette Community College	599,880	530,838
Manhattan Area Technical College	1,001,665	886,380
Neosho County Community College	2,212,911	1,958,220
Pratt Community College	573,558	507,545
Salina Area Technical College	1,689,615	1,495,152
Seward County Community College	1,334,135	1,180,585
Washburn University Institute of Technology	6,276,213	5,553,863
Wichita State University Campus of Applied Sciences and Technology	10,907,946	9,652,514
Total	\$ 52,589,901	\$ 46,537,155

Accelerating Opportunity: Kansas

Institution	FY 2026 Calculation	FY 2026 State Aid
Allen County Community College	\$ --	\$ --
Barton County Community College	--	--
Butler Community College	36,612	32,348
Cloud County Community College	--	--
Coffeyville Community College	--	--
Colby Community College	69,016	60,978
Cowley County Community College	2,418	2,136
Dodge City Community College	--	--
Flint Hills Technical College	--	--
Fort Hays Tech North Central	--	--
Fort Hays Tech Northwest	--	--
Fort Scott Community College	--	--
Garden City Community College	37,932	33,514
Highland Community College	27,555	24,346
Hutchinson Community College	6,029	5,327
Independence Community College	--	--

Accelerating Opportunity: Kansas (continued)

Institution	FY 2026 Calculation	FY 2026 State Aid
Johnson County Community College	25,701	22,708
Kansas City Kansas Community College	2,015	1,780
Labette Community College	--	--
Manhattan Area Technical College	--	--
Neosho County Community College	--	--
Pratt Community College	--	--
Salina Area Technical College	10,200	9,012
Seward County Community College	34,739	30,693
Washburn University Institute of Technology	91,537	80,876
Wichita State University Campus of Applied Sciences and Technology	236,691	209,127
Total	\$ 580,445	\$ 512,845

DISCUSS AND ACT ON BOARD POLICY AMENDMENTS – SYSTEM

Chad Bristow, Director of Facilities, presented proposed amendments to the Board's facilities policy aimed at streamlining approval processes and enhancing operational efficiency. The key changes include increasing the authority of university CEOs to approve small capital projects from under \$500,000 to under \$1.5 million, and delegating authority to the Board President and CEO to approve program statements and amendments for projects already included in the Board's five-year capital plans. The policy update also includes general language revisions to remove outdated terminology. Director Bristow acknowledged KBOR Associate General Counsel Gage Rohlf for his significant contributions to the policy development and review process.

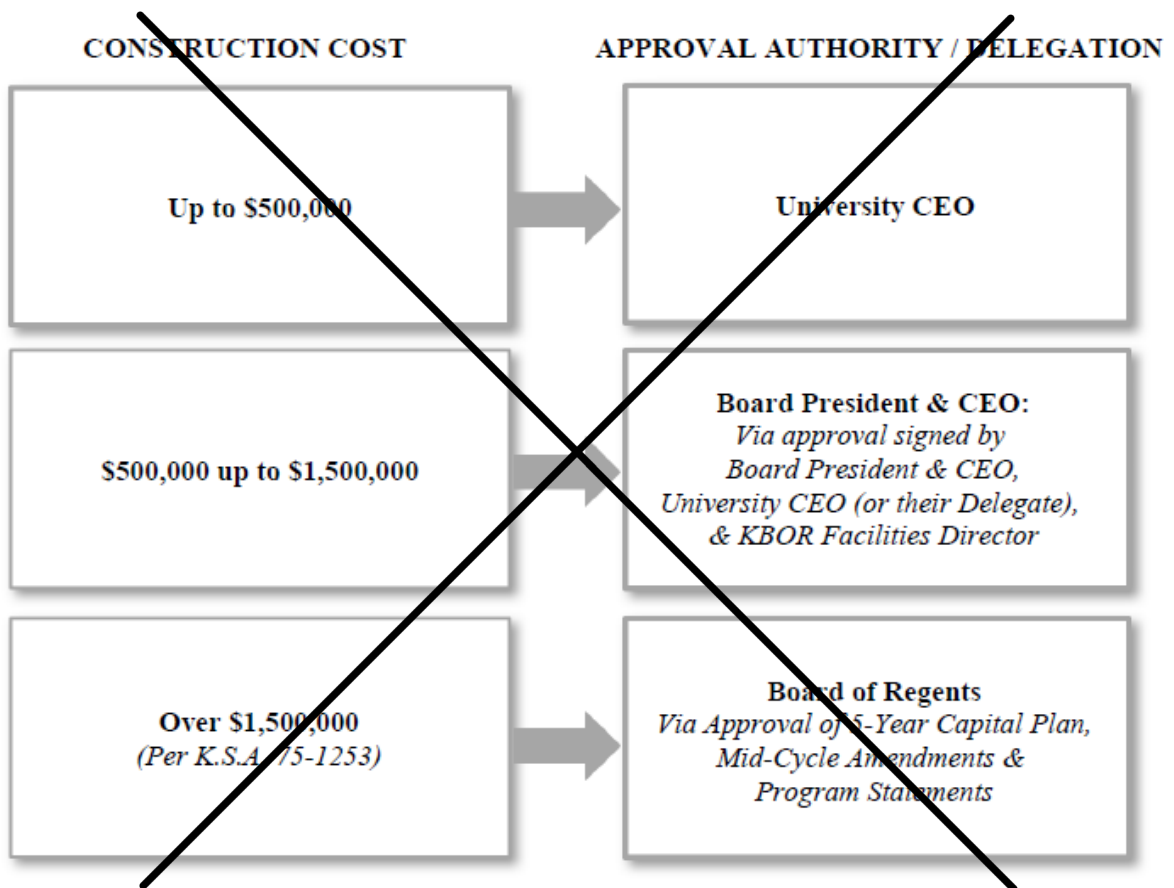
Regent Wolfe Moore expressed support for the amendments and emphasized the Board would remain informed about approvals made under the new delegated authority to monitor trends and maintain transparency.

Regent Dicus moved to approve the recommended Board Policy amendments. Regent Parasker seconded the motion. The motion carried and the following amendments were approved:

E FACILITIES

...

2 SUMMARY OF APPROVAL REQUIREMENTS**a ~~Capital Projects Approval~~**



	Expected Total Construction Cost			
	Under \$1,500,000 (no new space)	Under \$1,500,000 (new space)	\$1,500,000 to under \$10,000,000	\$10,000,000 or greater
5-Year Capital Plan	N/A	N/A	Board of Regents	Board of Regents
Off-cycle addition to 5-Year Capital Plan (new project)	N/A	N/A	Board of Regents	Board of Regents
Off-cycle amendment to 5-Year Capital Plan (previously approved project)	N/A	N/A	Board President and CEO	Board of Regents
Program Statement (initial)	N/A	Board of Regents	Board of Regents	Board of Regents
Program Statement (amendment)	N/A	Board President and CEO	Board President and CEO	Board of Regents
Selection of Design Professional (standard)	State Building Advisory Commission*	State Building Advisory Commission*	State Building Advisory Commission	State Building Advisory Commission
Selection of Design Professional (alternative, if authorized)	University or Endowment/Foundation	University or Endowment/Foundation	University or Endowment/Foundation	University or Endowment/Foundation
Design Development Plans	N/A	Board President and CEO	Board President and CEO	Board President and CEO

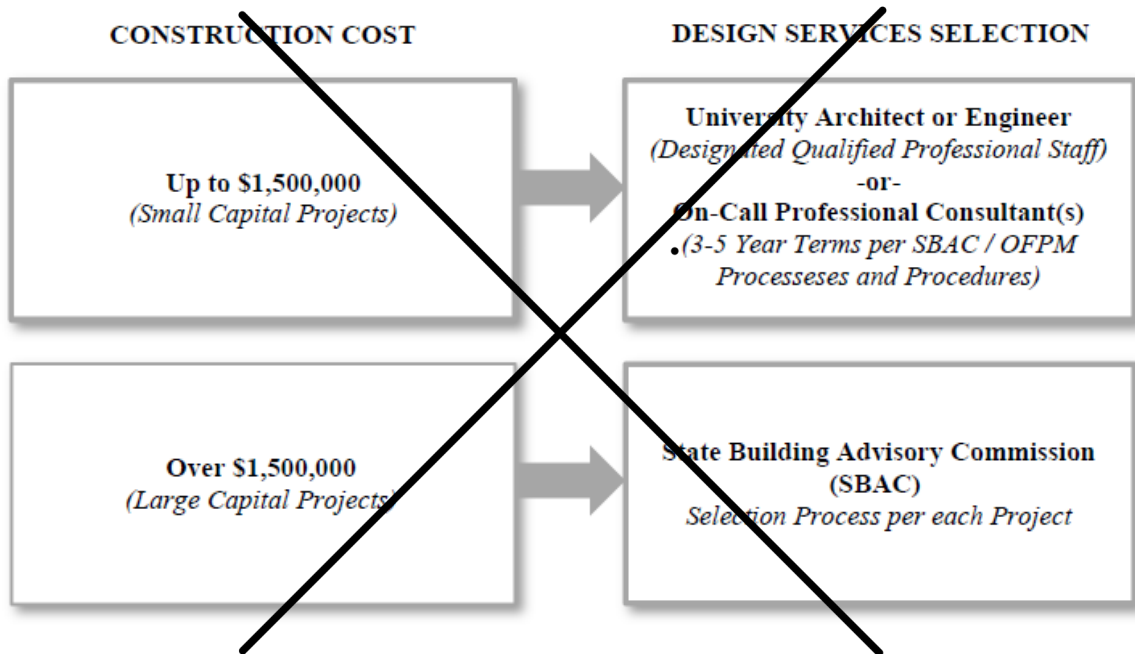
*For projects less than \$1,500,000, the university may utilize an on-call design professional shortlisted by the State Building Advisory Commission and selected through the state process. Alternatively, the university may utilize properly licensed university or State of Kansas staff.

Additional Notes:

- Approval requirements are applicable to all university projects with state funding or on state-owned property except for ~~projects~~ those done in partnership with private developers which require only Board approval and, ~~but which~~ are not included in the five-year capital plan.
- All projects with construction costs \$1.5 million and greater are included in the university's five-year capital plan.
- Design Development plans must be approved by the Board President and CEO via signed memorandum.
- Joint Committee on State Building Construction (JCSBC) must be advised of all project expenditures.

~~b — Architect & Engineer Selection (Projects with State Funding)~~

3 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS



a Definitions

- i Large capital improvement projects are those that are expected to equal or exceed \$1,500,000 in estimated construction costs, regardless of funding source, including: new construction, building additions, major renovation, remodeling or alterations, demolition of structures, annual maintenance, deferred maintenance, rehabilitation and repair, fixed equipment replacement, and utility or infrastructure projects. ~~“Total project costs” include project soft costs.~~ Any large capital improvement project located on state property is governed by the applicable and relevant processes and policies for capital improvements established by the State of Kansas and the Kansas Board of Regents, regardless of funding source.
- ii Small (or On-Call) capital improvement projects are those that are expected to be less than \$1,500,000 in estimated construction costs, regardless of funding source, including: new construction, building additions, renovation, remodeling or alterations, demolition of structures, annual maintenance, deferred maintenance, rehabilitation and repair, fixed equipment replacement, and utility or infrastructure projects. ~~“Total project costs” include project soft costs.~~ Any small capital improvement project located on state property is governed by the applicable and relevant processes and policies for capital improvements established by the State of Kansas and the Kansas Board of Regents, regardless of funding source.
- iii Educational Building Fund (EBF) means the fund created pursuant to K.S.A. 76-6b01 et seq. and funded by the annual mill levy authorized by Article 6, Section 6 of the Kansas Constitution.

b Process

i Large Capital Improvement Projects

(1) *Initial Request:* Each state university shall submit initial concept requests for authorization of large capital improvement projects within the university's five-year capital plan submitted to the Board for consideration on March 1 of each year, utilizing the Kansas Division of Budget forms. Typically, Board review of each five-year capital plan will take place in April with Board approval in May of each year. Each approved five-year capital plan shall be filed with the appropriate state offices on or before July 1st in the format determined by the State Budget Director. Upon Board approval of the five-year capital plan, and prior to proceeding with selection of an architect and/or engineer for design services, each university shall submit for Board review and approval, as outlined in 3.b.i(5), a written program statement for each project. ~~Each request approved by the Board shall be filed with the appropriate state offices on or before July 1st in the format determined by the State Budget Director.~~ No state university shall pursue gubernatorial or legislative approval of any large capital improvement project without prior Board approval.

(2) *New Space:* ~~All large capital improvement projects consisting of proposals for new buildings or major additions on state-owned property; shall include detailed plans for facility maintenance, utilizing the Board's standard calculation worksheet template(s), as part of the program statement. For all new construction projects and additions on state property, a~~ That structured plan shall demonstrate a commitment for how and from what proposed revenues maintenance over the projected life of the building will be financed, consistent with existing university facilities. Such plan will be incorporated within the overall maintenance plan for the university. The plan shall consider building type, complexity, and function and shall use the Board's standard calculation worksheet template(s) for identifying, worksheet for calculating the maintenance and operating costs. Such costs shall be determined by industry standard methods and shall consider building type, complexity, and function. Maintenance expenditures and plans shall be reviewed by the Board annually. ~~Such annual maintenance and operating plans shall be included in the program statement and shall adhere to standards prescribed by the Board's Director of Facilities.~~

(3) *Amendments* to the university's five-year capital plan ~~current year capital improvements project list~~ may be submitted to the Board at any times other than those specified above. Following Board approval, the state universities shall be responsible for advising the Joint Committee on State Building Construction of amendments ~~after the capital plans are due at the Budget Office on July 1st of each year.~~ All amendments adding new projects must be approved by the Board. Amendments to previously approved projects must be approved by the Board, except that the Board President and Chief Executive Officer may approve any amendment when the estimated construction costs after such amendment will be less than \$10,000,000.

(4) *Licensed Professional Consultants:* ~~The design~~ Design and construction administration for all ~~new buildings and major renovations~~ capital improvements on state property shall be performed by licensed professional consultants retained in accordance with Kansas statutes. Such services shall not be obtained until a ~~A~~ written program statement has been approved in accordance with this policy. ~~for each building project shall be submitted and approved by the Board and by the Legislature or Joint Committee on State Building Construction, as set forth in section E.3.b.i.5., before such services are obtained.~~

(5) *Program Statements:* Minimum requirements for program statements include goals and objectives, detailed project scope and description, project budget (indicating estimated total

project development costs in line-item format), project schedules, and project delivery method. For projects creating new space, the program statement must also include a list of spaces with detailed descriptions, area summaries, functional criteria, room data sheets, justification and impact of the additional space on overall campus space, the projected design life of the building (in years) and completion of the maintenance assessment worksheet and the revenue sources proposed for maintenance and operations over the life of the facility. Additional information that the state university deems necessary may also be included. ¶

~~Board approval of program statements are only required for large capital projects, except in the case where a small capital project is a new building or addition. All initial program statements shall be approved by the Board. The Board President and Chief Executive Officer may approve amended program statements when the estimated construction costs after such amendment will be less than \$10,000,000.~~ At the time of the request for approval of a program statement, the state university shall submit, to the Board's Director of Facilities, a statement identifying the procurement method that it intends to utilize to execute the project, or, if the project will be completed by an endowment association or research foundation as defined in K.S.A. 76-756 or 76-759, a statement demonstrating that the project is authorized by K.S.A. 76-757 or K.S.A. 76-759. For reference purposes, a summary of state university procurement methods and endowment association and research foundation project authorization is set out in subsection II.E.3.d. below. The state university shall provide further notification if the procurement method or project authorization changes.

(6) *Design Development Plans:* Following Legislative and Board approval of a specific capital improvement project, design development plans for a building or project and the location of the new building shall be submitted to the President and Chief Executive Officer for review and approval before final plans are prepared. The Board President and Chief Executive Officer, upon the recommendation of the Director of Facilities, may approve design development plans on behalf of the Board by issuance of a signed memorandum. Board approval of design development plans ~~are-is only~~ required for only large capital projects, except in the case where a small capital project is a new building or addition that adds new space.

ii Small Capital Improvement Projects

Authority to approve projects costing less than ~~\$1,500,000~~ \$500,000 in construction costs is delegated to the state university chief executive officer. ~~Upon written request of the university's chief executive officer, and with concurrence of the Board's Director of Facilities, the Board President and Chief Executive Officer has the authority to authorize projects with construction that equal or exceed \$500,000 but are less than \$1,500,000.~~ The large capital projects requirements for Licensed Professional Consultants also apply for small capital projects. Large capital project requirements for Program Statement, Design Development Plans, and Maintenance Assessment shall apply to those small capital projects that consist of new buildings or additions that add new space.

Other Matters

DISCUSS BOARD MEMBER CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS AND ACT ON ACTUAL OR APPARENT CONFLICTS AND REVIEW BOARD POLICY

General Counsel John Yeary provided an update on Board policy regarding conflict-of-interest disclosures by Board members. He reminded the Committee that each year, Board members must disclose their affiliations and memberships, which the Board members submitted in July.

General Counsel Yeary noted one addition to the list included in the agenda materials. Regent Johnston serves on the Board of the Community Health Center of Southeast Kansas, which is a non-profit that provides student health services to Pittsburg State University. Regents serve on various other boards. For example, Regents Benson, Dicus, and Ammar serve on the governing boards of non-controlled affiliated corporations of institutions governed by the Board. Regent Dicus serves on an advisory Board of an institution that is governed by the Board and on a non-governing board of an institution that is coordinated by the Board. And Regent Parasker serves on the governing Board of an organization created by the Executive Order of the Governor of Kansas to assist an office within the Kansas Department of Commerce, and also on a council that promotes apprenticeship. Staff recommends approving continued services on these Boards, as these roles were deemed beneficial to the institutions and are not considered conflicts of interest under Board policy.

However, General Counsel Yeary recommended that certain Regents recuse themselves from participating in Board actions related to any contracts or transactions involving entities they are affiliated with. These recommendations included:

- Regent Benson is employed by the Pittsburg Area Chamber of Commerce, which occasionally has business transactions with Pittsburg State University.
- Regent Benson is a member of the Board of Directors for the Crawford County Career and Technical Education Center, a non-profit entity that works with the Wichita State University Campus of Applied Sciences and Technology.
- Regent Mendoza is a Doctoral Student at Kansas State University.
- Regent Parasker has a 100% ownership interest in SnapIT Solutions, a limited liability company that conducts trainings for which the Board of Regents provides certificates of approval to offer in Kansas, and is a partner in Nilofer Venture Holdings, which holds related intellectual property.

General Counsel Yeary concluded by recommending that Regents Benson and Parasker excuse themselves from participating in Board actions involving or related to contracts or transactions for entities they are affiliated with, and that Regent Mendoza excuse herself from participating in Board actions directly affecting academic programs in which she is enrolled. These steps ensure compliance with the Board's conflict of interest policy.

Regent Ammar moved to approve the staff's recommendation regarding the disclosed conflicts of interest. Regent Johnston seconded, and the motion carried.

RECEIVE PLAN TO UPDATE THE BOARD'S STRATEGIC PLAN, BUILDING A FUTURE

President Flanders proposed a strategic refresh of the Building a Future plan, emphasizing the need to sharpen its focus and enhance its effectiveness. Reflecting on lessons from the previous Foresight 2020 initiative, he stressed the importance of maintaining a mission-driven, state-centric approach rather than institutional prestige. The plan's success has been evident in improved systemwide metrics, particularly through the implementation of Pillar 1—supporting Kansas families.

President Flanders outlined the need to reassess and potentially realign Pillars 2 and 3, which focus on research and economic prosperity. He advocated for identifying actionable behaviors and structural changes, such as fostering multidisciplinary research and strengthening partnerships with the Department of Commerce. He also highlighted the cultural shift in facilities planning—from expansion to efficiency and stewardship.

The upcoming refresh will include revisiting community engagement through focus groups, refining the dashboard to prioritize key metrics, and continuing to build on successful initiatives like student success plans and early warning systems.

Chair Benson supported the initiative and emphasized the importance of communicating current successes, particularly those enabled by external stakeholders such as the Governor and Legislature. He encouraged continued messaging around the tangible impacts of the strategic plan.

DISCUSS AND ADOPT BOARD GOALS FOR 2025-2026

Chair Benson outlined the Board's goals for the year, developed during the July planning retreat, with a focus on enhancing the relevance and impact of Kansas public higher education. The first initiative involves a structured review and update of the Building a Future strategic plan, led by board staff, that will incorporate stakeholder feedback, emerging trends, and performance metrics to ensure the plan remains responsive to the needs of the state. The second goal centers on a comprehensive review of tenure, post-tenure review, and instructional workload policies at state universities, led by the Board Academic Affairs Standing Committee under Regent Johnston. This review aims to support academic innovation, faculty development, and student success. The Board will also study three-year baccalaureate degree models, drawing on examples from other states and institutions to evaluate feasibility and identify opportunities for innovation. Additionally, recognizing the growing importance of artificial intelligence, the Board will request state universities to submit reports detailing current AI-related initiatives, research, and instructional strategies. This effort will help identify best practices, foster collaboration, and position Kansas institutions as leaders in AI-driven education and workforce development.

Vice Chair Mendoza moved to approve the goals as written. Regent Ammar seconded, and the motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Benson adjourned the meeting at 10:55 a.m.

Blake Flanders, President and CEO

Blake Benson, Chair