

**HENRY FORD COLLEGE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
DEARBORN, MICHIGAN
January 20, 2026**

I. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF NEW CHAIRPERSON

Trustee Aljahmi thanked the Board for electing him to be the new Chair for this year. Chair Aljahmi thanked Trustee Mozip for doing a great job last year and all the work he did. He was collaborative and humble in his work. Chair Aljahmi also noted his appreciation to Dr. Gonko for her support and for the Henry Ford College team. Trustee Zahr also thanked Trustee Mozip for his work.

II. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Henry Ford College Board of Trustees was called to order on Tuesday, January 20, 2026, at the Henry Ford College Administrative Services and Conference Center in the Rosenau Board Room at 7:01 p.m. by Chair Aljahmi.

ROLL CALL

On roll call, the following were present: Trustees Ali Bazzi, Patrick D'Ambrosio, Adel Mozip, Mary Petlichkoff, Nasri Sobh, Amer Zahr and Chair Jamal Aljahmi. There being a quorum, the meeting was declared in session.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion offered by Trustee D'Ambrosio supported by Trustee Petlichkoff, passed with a unanimous vote attached that the following Minutes be approved:

- Regular Board of Trustees Meeting – December 15, 2025
- Audit Committee Meeting – November 17, 2025
- Building & Site Committee Meeting – December 1, 2025

Trustee Mozip asked if there were any minutes for the Presidential Advisory Search Committee meeting. Ms. Tracye Davis stated she does not have meeting minutes but will provide the Board with a summary of the meetings.

IV. RECOGNITION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Elijah Elens-Eigbokhan is an HFC Pre-Engineering student. Elijah had the opportunity to take part in an international competition in Abu Dahbi through the Boys and Girls Club. He appreciates the people who gave him this opportunity. During the time leading up to the competition, Elijah had the opportunity to work on his skills such as Python programming and machine learning. Elijah and his cohort

partnered with Codes and Careers to help with training for the competition. During his time in Abu Dahbi, Elijah had the opportunity to experience a variety of things, but the food was his favorite. Elijah also had the opportunity to go to Paris. Elijah plans to complete his associate degree in Pre-Engineering and then transfer to the University of Michigan – Ann Arbor to complete a degree in Computer Engineering.

1. Congratulations to five teams of my fellow HFC pre-engineering students, as we were recognized at the University of Michigan-Dearborn PIPE 2025 Engineering Showcase. For this regional event, the HFC students identified community needs, conducted patent searches, created designs, and fabricated prototypes. The student work was featured alongside University of Michigan-Dearborn's engineering students, which highlighted the strength of our pre-engineering program. Two HFC student teams earned top recognition for their innovative prototypes, including the "Smart Light System for Seniors" and the "Automated Pet Feeder."

2. Congratulations to HFC instructor Dr. Joel Geffen and retired instructor Pamela Sayre, whose work is part of a new photography exhibition at the Henry Ford Centennial Library titled, "Pathways to the Self." This exhibition, which is part of a community effort to spotlight fine art photography, runs through February. It features works that explore personal growth and self-discovery and invites the community to engage with artistic creators.

3. Congratulations to the HFC Fine Arts programs on their latest collaboration: a new production of "Twas the Night Before Christmas." This nostalgic and creative rendering of a 200-year-old poem aired in December on WHFR, which is the College's award-winning, independent radio station. HFC's version of this holiday classic featured six students and one alumna voicing multiple characters. Music students also created sound effects, as the Theatre program and Media Communication Arts program helped co-create this fun, feel-good holiday piece.

V. PRESIDENT'S ITEMS

- President Gonko congratulated Chair, Jamal Aljahmi and Vice Chair, Nari Sobh on their new positions on the Board.
- President Gonko shared that on January 7 we held our State of the College event. This includes the introduction of new teammates, announcement of promotions, achievements tenure and retirements along with College updates. President Gonko thanked Trustees Bazzi, Petlichkoff, and D'Ambrosio for attending.
- President Gonko represented HFC at our annual day of service which was held in partnership with the University of Michigan - Dearborn. During this service, our students and staff partner with students and staff from UM-D and go out into the community to volunteer at over 20 different organizations. There are also other projects that take place on campus.
- President Gonko stated that the College's credit hour goal for the winter 2026 semester was about 113,000. As of today, we are at 115,815 credit hours, which is about a 2% increase over last year. We will continue to track credit hours until our

- Census date, which is January 27.
- President Gonko shared an update on the status of a new VP/CFO. We have been seeking a long-term interim for this position. We secured the assistance of a consultant, Lisa Freiburger. Ms. Freiburger was the vice president and CFO at Grand Rapids Community College for 15+ years and was recommended to President Gonko by John Satkowski, former VP/CFO at Henry Ford College. President Gonko and Ms. Freiburger have been working with some external organizations that provide long-term interim placements from individuals who have long standing experience within higher education. We are currently working through an organization called “The Registry” to determine what options might look like for a long-term interim. We also have an opportunity with a local individual. We hope to vet candidates within the next two weeks and find a candidate who will come onboard as an interim until a permanent person is identified. This will allow the future permanent president to conduct his/her own search for a VP/CFO.
 - President Gonko stated that D2L (Learning Management System) is again back on the agenda. At the December meeting, the Board approved a ten-year contract securing D2L as our new learning management system. However, the Board had some concerns and reservations about the ten-year length of the contract. The Board asked that we go back to D2L to ask if we could insert contract language that would give us the opportunity to terminate the contract at the five-year mark if we felt we needed to do so. In doing this, the price has changed and we are bringing it back to the Board for approval of a different bid. If the Board wants to approve the new amount, we will be rescinding the previous Board approval granted in December and approving a new contract. The new contract is structured as two five-year terms where the first contract was for a solid ten-year contract.

VI. ACTION ITEMS

A. Citizen Participation

None

B. Special Consideration of an Action Item

Action item 3 was pulled for a roll call vote.

C. Action to Approve Action Items

Motion to approve action items numbered 1-4, except number 3, offered by Trustee Mozip, supported by Trustee Zahr, passed with a unanimous roll call vote attached.

D. At this time, the Secretary will return to any agenda items which Board members had asked to discuss and vote on separately. These will be considered one at a time.

Action item 3 was pulled for a roll call vote.

BIDS AND CONTRACTS

1. Roof Repairs: Technology Building E, Main Campus – Board Report #4796
Interim President Gonko

Move to approve a contract award to Schreiber Roofing Corp for \$484,408.99 for roof repairs and restoration on Technology Building E, as requested by Facility Services in accordance with the specifications of Sealed Bid #24452.

2. Roof Repairs: Child Development Center (Bldg. I), Main Campus – Board Report #4797
Interim President Gonko

Move to approve a contract award to Lutz Roofing for \$162,982.79 for roof repairs and restoration on the Child Development Center (Building I), as requested by Facility Services in accordance with the specifications of Sealed Bid #24504.

3. New Learning Management System – Revisited (LMS) – Board Report #4798
Interim President Gonko

Motion to discuss and possibly approve a contract award to D2L for a ten-year agreement, structured as two consecutive 5-year agreements, totaling \$2,334,028.76 for the implementation, hosting, and support of a D2L Brightspace learning management system offered by Trustee Petlichkoff, supported by Trustee Sobh.

Trustee Mozip asked President Gonko about the number of licenses needed for this software. The original contract was for 22,000 and Trustee Mozip was concerned that this might be excessive. President Gonko explained that D2L was not interested in reducing this number. Dan Murray, Purchasing Director, explained this number of licenses is based on the College's FTE. This number was provided by the Institutional Research department and is used for pricing. Chair Aljahmi asked how 12,000 FTE equates to 22,000 licenses. President Gonko explained FTE (Full Time Equivalent) of our student population. President Gonko discussed students who overlap from one semester to another while also allowing for new student enrollment. The entirety of the student population is not always a 1:1 that follows throughout the entire year and we must account for that.

Trustee Bazzi asked about the ten-year contract. As he looked at other institutions using D2L he found they had five- and eight-year contracts. He asked where the ten-year contract came from. Dan Murray explained that when they requested bids, they asked all vendors to submit pricing for

three-, five-, and ten-year contracts. As it takes over two years to move from Moodle to D2L, the longer term makes sense.

Trustee Sobh asked what the notice requirement is for the auto renewal. Mr. Murray stated this was not discussed as they were just trying to lock in an option of having some price assurance with two five-year terms as opposed to one ten-year term. Mr. Murray explained if we only choose a five-year agreement, we would have no idea what a second five-year contract would cost. Having a two five-year agreement gives us a price assurance.

Trustee Mozip inquired as to what guarantee the College would have if D2L went out of business and we need to move to another system. Does this constitute a breach of contract on the College's part if D2L stops providing services? Dan Murray responded that there is standard cancellation for cause in the contract. Also, our Legal department will review the contract to make sure the College is protected.

Trustee Mozip asked Vice President Moss Ferguson her opinion on the ten-year contract. Vice President Moss Ferguson responded that this contract was sent to specialized outside Counsel to review. Outside Counsel was not in favor of a ten-year contract due to the ever-changing landscape of technology. However, they did recommend we enter into a five-year contract, in part because of the amount of time needed to ramp up the process. Vice President Moss Ferguson also addressed the earlier mention of a cancellation before renewal. There is a clause in the contract that states parties must provide at least 60 days of written notice prior to renewal. Vice President Moss Ferguson stated she is never in favor of auto renewal options in contracts and removes them before finalizing.

Trustee Zahr expressed concern that D2L has the option to pull out of the contract with 60+ days of notice to the College. He would like to see D2L have the requirement of two years notice if they choose to pull out. Vice President Moss Ferguson will add additional language that D2L must provide the College with written notice of two years if D2L wants to cancel the contract.

Chair Aljahmi stated that if the Board approves the proposed contract containing two five-year terms, instead of going with the original ten-year contract, it increases the cost by about \$261,000. The Board discussed and agreed that the extra cost provides the College with some security.

Chair Aljahmi asked President Gonko to clarify the role of Purchasing in this situation. President Gonko explained that the College has a Purchasing Policy. The role of the Board, as outlined by the Policy, is to approve a dollar amount and give the College authority to go forward and negotiate a contract. The actual negotiation of the contract terms is delegated to the College. This would be Purchasing, the Vice President of Finance or their designee and the President's Office. We can make notes of the Board's requests and will take

them back to D2L for negotiations. However, tonight we can move forward with voting on the new proposed two consecutive five-year term contract and dollar amount.

Trustee Mozip stated he is in favor of the revised contract that gives the College two consecutive five-year terms. Trustee Mozip stated he has researched this company, and they are handling large universities such as New York University, which has over 154,000 students. Trustee Mozip feels confident that this will be a transformational change to move to a new system and it will take a long time, not just the 18 months to ramp up, but also the training of instructors and students. Trustee Mozip also stated he would be comfortable with the initial ten-year contract if a clause were added that if D2L fails to deliver the product to students the College can cancel. This will save the College \$261,000.

Trustee Sobh indicated that the original contract only allows for a material breach of contract for us to cancel. He prefers the two consecutive five-year term contract as this gives the College more flexibility. Also, Trustee Sobh believes that in following the Purchasing Policy, the Board is here to approve the term and the financial aspect.

Chair Aljahmi stated that he feels more comfortable with the revised contract of two consecutive five-year terms. He feels the extra \$261,000 is worth the peace of mind. Trustee Bazzi agreed.

Motion to suspend the current motion for Board Report #4798 New Learning Management System, offered by Trustee Petlichkoff, supported by Trustee Zahr, passed with a unanimous vote attached.

Motion to rescind the Board's approval of the New Learning Management System (LMS), Board Report #4794 as presented at the December 15, 2025, Board of Trustees meeting offered by Trustee Bazzi, supported by Trustee Petlichkoff, passed with a unanimous vote attached.

Move to discuss and possibly approve a contract award to D2L for a ten-year agreement, structured as two consecutive 5-year agreements, totaling \$2,334,028.76 for the implementation, hosting, and support of a D2L Brightspace learning management system offered by Trustee Petlichkoff, supported by Trustee Sobh, passed with a unanimous roll call vote attached.

BOARD ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

4. FY2026 Mid-Year Budget Adjustment

Director of Financial Planning & Analysis, Michael Takach

Move to approve the Fiscal Year 2026 Mid-Year Budget Adjustment as

presented in Board Report #4793 at the December 15, 2025, Board of Trustees meeting.

VII. BOARD OF TRUSTEES BUSINESS

A. Acknowledgements of Correspondence

None

B. Board Committee Reports

- Chair Aljahmi asked Ms. Tracye Davis to assist in providing an update on the Presidential Search. Chair Aljahmi asked Ms. Davis to talk about the process and the timeline. Chair Aljahmi stated he recently looked at the application portal and found we have 72 applications submitted. The application deadline is January 30. The Advisory Committee's goal is to select a certain number of candidates to interview. Once the Advisory Committee interviews applicants, they will bring 3-4 finalists to the Board for a vote. It is up to the Advisory Committee to decide the finalists that should be brought to the Board. Chair Aljahmi stated that each person on the Committee gets one vote, this includes the subcommittee Board members. The goal is for each member to rate the candidates and make a recommendation. Trustee Zahr asked who creates the criteria that will be used in the rating of applicants. Trustee Petlichkoff stated that the search firm created the criteria and that Committee members are already in the process of using the tool and reviewing applications. Once done, the Advisory Committee will meet again to discuss which applicants to advance as semi-finalists. Trustee Petlichkoff stated the Committee will choose 8-10 applicants to interview over a two-day period. Of those 8-10 applicants, the Committee will choose finalists to present to the full Board. Chair Aljahmi stated that the names of the semi-finalists will not be made public. This was the search firm's requirement in perpetuity. The names of the finalists will be made public.

Ms. Davis explained semi-finalist interviews take place on February 20 and 21. Ms. Davis stated that the Advisory Committee hopes to be able to discuss the applicants at the end of the day February 21. The week of March 9 or 16 the Committee will interview semi-finalists and set the recommendations for the finalists. The Board will interview the finalists on an agreed upon date. At the March 9 P-12 Board meeting, the Board will receive a list of semifinalists and their application packages. The Board will accept the recommendation of the Advisory Committee. Semi-finalist names will not be made public as the applicants have an expectation of privacy. This must be done before the Advisory Committee can hold the semi-finalist interviews. If Board members have questions or want to converse, they must move to a closed session. Alternatively, the Board could hold a special meeting prior to

the Board meeting.

Chair Aljahmi stated that his expectation, Ms. Davis's expectation, and the search firm's expectation is that this information will only be brought to the full Board for information. The Board will trust the Advisory Committee's recommendation and there will not be a need for Board member discussions. Chair Aljahmi asked the Board if they were all in agreement. Trustee Zahr clarified that, as he understands it, the Board must approve the list of finalists that will be brought to the Board. Trustee Sobh asked if Board members can view the semi-finalist interviews. Ms. Davis stated that the interviews are recorded. The Board can view the interviews of semifinalists who advance to the finals. Chair Aljahmi stated he hears the Board is in agreement.

Chair Aljahmi stated that all Board members will be given access to the applicant portal after January 30 and will be free to read through the applications. Chair Aljahmi stated that the Board agreed a President will be announced by April 10. Ms. Davis stated that per the Open Meetings Act, a President cannot be formally named until 30 days after the last interview of finalists. Trustee Zahr asked if this means Board members cannot talk to any of the finalists after the last interview as this would be considered a continuation of their interview. Ms. Davis deferred to Legal Counsel as she was not sure of this answer. For the immediate, Ms. Davis recommended finalists not be contacted for further conversation as this is also a time when the search firm is conducting their due diligence. Chair Aljahmi and Trustee Petlichkoff explained that follow up questions should not be asked of candidates after the interviews. This would be unfair to the other finalists. Trustee Zahr looked up the Open Meetings Act that speaks to this 30-day window. He stated he understands it to say that "The governing Board must wait at least 30 days before voting on the final selection in an open session after the Committee identifies final candidates." Trustee Zahr stated he does not interpret this to mean after final interviews. This is what he meant by "what triggers the 30 days". He understands that the 30 days starts from the time the Board publicly states, "these are the finalists". Vice President Moss Ferguson verified. Chair Aljahmi restated that the Board should not talk to individuals. Trustee Zahr stated now understands about the 30 days.

Chair Aljahmi stated the Committee had a discussion regarding the Code of Conduct. Chair Aljahmi stated that he and Trustee Zahr had a discussion as Trustee Zahr is the only person who has not signed the Code of Conduct. Trustee Zahr stated he agrees with all the items in the Code of Conduct except the item that states "Trustees may not contact one another, committee members, or candidates with the intent to influence voting for or against any specific presidential candidate. Any attempt in advocacy, persuasion, intimidation, or vote influencing communication should be avoided." Trustee Zahr stated he does not know how any enforcement of these things would work. Also, there are three people on the Advisory Committee. By nature of the work of the Committee, discussions will arise

about the candidates and who is the most qualified. Trustee Mozip stated that he understands this item to mean that no politicking should take place outside the Committee. When the Committee is in a meeting, discussion of candidates is just part of the work of the group. Trustee Zahr stated he does not understand this item to read the way Trustee Mozip understands it.

Trustee Petlichkoff agreed there is no actual enforcement of the Code of Conduct. People abide by their integrity and sense of moral responsibility to adhere to it. Trustee Petlichkoff further stated that no person outside of the Committee should try to influence any Committee member regarding presidential candidates. The Code of Conduct is meant to prevent that kind of influence being injected into the Committee's work. Chair Aljahmi agreed and expressed his desire to protect the integrity of the presidential search. There is a restriction on the Presidential Sub Committee as well. Trustees on the subcommittee should not contact any Committee member to try to influence their vote. Chair Aljahmi asked Trustee Zahr if he feels it is acceptable for Trustee Zahr to call Advisory Committee members and talk to them about candidates. Trustee Zahr stated he agrees with Chair Aljahmi that this would be wrong. However, Trustee Zahr feels the item in the Code of Conduct does not speak to this.

Trustee Sobh stated that we could adjust the language and have everyone sign the document again or create an addendum. We can either carve out the specific definition of "Trustees" to be Trustees in their Board capacity versus their Advisory Committee capacity." "We can also specify that these discussions should only take place within an official Advisory Committee meeting." Trustee Zahr stated that if the wording was "A Trustee should not contact Committee members outside of any meeting" then this is something with which he agrees.

Trustee Zahr asked if Trustees contacting each other to discuss candidates would still apply after the finalists are announced. Chair Aljahmi stated yes and that he believes we should let the process choose the best candidate. He does not believe Trustees should call each other and tell them who to vote for. We want the best qualified President for our College. We should let the interview process dictate who is the best candidate, not Trustees politicking to choose their person. Chair Aljahmi feels that each person should vote for the person they believe is best suited for the position. Trustee Zahr stated he thinks it is fine to have the point of view that when the list of finalists is made public any Board member should be able to discuss the finalists with another Board member. Trustee Mozip stated that he believes, after the finalists are publicly announced, that the Board should do business as usual. This should be the same as any other Board item the Trustees discuss. Trustee Zahr agreed.

Trustee Petlichkoff cautioned that Trustees could be treading a thin line with the Open Meetings Act if they go around to each Trustee discussing finalists.

The last time we hired a president, all the conversations for and against finalists was held at a public meeting before the Board voted. That is where conversations were held to “influence” other Board members.

Trustee Sobh stated that if Trustees do not contact each other with the intent to persuade or intimidate as a way to sway their vote but only voice their choice, this is not a violation of the Open Meetings Act.

Trustee Zahr disagrees with Chair Aljahmi that Trustees should not contact one another even after the finalists are made public. Chair Aljahmi stated he believes the idea of the Open Meetings Act allows the Board to discuss publicly and be transparent in trying to justify a candidate that fits the criteria. It allows the public to see the Board’s thought process. Chair Aljahmi stated that the full Board agrees that no one should contact the Advisory Committee. He asked the Board, as far as the finalists, if they should leave this to the Open Meetings Act.

Chair Aljahmi stated his understanding of the Code of Conduct was to protect the integrity of the presidential search, so no one gets the position based on influence. Chair Aljahmi asked for a suggestion as to how they could modify the Code of Conduct verbiage. Trustee Zahr stated, “Trustees should not contact members of the Advisory Committee outside of official meetings.” Trustee Zahr agrees with Trustee Mozip that after the finalists are announced publicly, discussion restrictions are not needed. If discussions do not violate the Open Meetings Act, he feels discussing a finalist with another Trustee is acceptable. Trustee Zahr stated he believes the verbiage should all be replaced with “Trustees should not contact members of the Advisory Committee outside of official meetings with the intent of voting for or against any specific candidate.” There should be no restrictions on how Trustees contact each other besides the Open Meeting Acts. Chair Aljahmi stated he wants to include a restriction that Trustees cannot meet or talk to finalists. He believes the impact and integrity of the presidential search is at stake.

Vice President Moss Ferguson shared language that could be used: “Outside of their appointed duties during their scheduled meetings as members of the Presidential Search Advisory Subcommittee or the Board of Trustees respectively, Trustees should not communicate with one another or Committee members or candidates with the intent to influence voting for or against any specific presidential candidate. Any attempt at advocacy, persuasion or other vote influencing communication should be avoided. The Presidential Search Advisory Subcommittee should convene during their meetings and Board of Trustees should hold their discussions and make decisions on presidential search candidates during their scheduled meetings in accordance with the Open Meetings Act.” Vice President Moss Ferguson stated that this language is sanctioned under the Open Meetings Act. Trustee Zahr stated he feels this should not apply after the finalists are publicly announced. He would not feel comfortable signing the document if

it indicates he cannot contact another Trustee to try to convince them of his point of view in accordance with the Open Meetings Act.

Vice President Moss Ferguson stated there is a fine line in court holding about this topic and what the intent is and what is discussed. Vice President Moss Ferguson stated this is a gray area and she advised that the Board not get into it, especially when it comes to voting. If a Trustee calls another Trustee and lists all the qualities of the candidate he/she wants and the phone call results in a decision being made, this could be out of alignment with the Open Meetings Act. If a decision is made, then it is Board business and it has been conducted outside a public meeting. Even if it is only the two Trustees voting the same way. Trustee Petlichkoff shared her concern of how the OMA could be violated if Trustees talk with each other about this even one at a time. Trustee Petlichkoff stated that the rest of the Board understood the intentions of the Code of Conduct and all were willing to sign the document as they felt this was important to preserve the integrity of the process. Trustee Petlichkoff feels that this decision carries a big impact on someone to lead the College.

Trustee Mozip stated he has the same understanding as Trustee Zahr. This is a major decision for the College. Members of the community are very interested and very invested and will be contacting the Board and want to express their point of view. After the search committee declares the finalists, Trustee Mozip feels this becomes like any other Board agenda item.

Chair Aljahmi disagreed with Trustee Mozip. He feels that if a Trustee wants to talk to him and influence him about a particular candidate, then in accordance with the Open Meetings Act, this discussion should take place during a Board meeting. He feels that choosing a president is different than voting on something like the D2L contract. The search for a president involves candidates and goes through an interview process and the Board should abide by this. Influencing a Trustee is different. You might have your mind set on a particular candidate but then someone contacts you to influence you to vote for a candidate who they think is the best or with whom they have a relationship. People and candidates have called Chair Aljahmi to meet with him to talk about his choice. He tells them, due to the Code of Conduct, he cannot meet with them. Trustees signed the Code of Conduct in good faith to make sure this process is done ethically and with integrity, not to find loopholes, so Trustees can do what they normally do.

Chair Aljahmi stated there is nothing we can do to enforce the Code of Conduct, but Trustees should trust their ethics and integrity. Chair Aljahmi stated we trust Trustees to avoid doing what is prohibited. We are asking Trustees to do the right thing and choose what is best for the College and choose the right person based on qualifications not based on relationship.

Trustee Petlichkoff explained that Trustees will have the opportunity for discussions, but these must take place at a full Board meeting and be open to the public.

Trustee Zahr stated he is fine with everything in the Code of Conduct except being able to talk with other Trustees about the candidates after the finalists have been made public. He wants to be able to discuss business as usual.

Trustee Sobh stated that the problem is in saying “without violating the Open Meetings Act” is so open to interpretation and this is the harshest extent of following the Open Meeting Act by eliminating all conversation. We are not doing this to limit speech; we are doing this to avoid all legal risks and consequences. We don’t want to jeopardize this process, we don’t want an unfair process, and we don’t want anyone to question the Board’s credibility or decisions. That’s what we are trying to avoid. Trustee Sobh stated he is comfortable with not restricting the language, but everyone on the Board took an oath to adhere to the responsibilities and duties to do what is best for the College, to follow the Open Meetings Act. Trustee Sobh asked the Trustees if any of them feel confident enough in themselves that they are not going to violate and jeopardize this process. He asked if any Trustee had objections to this. He reminded the Board that they are entrusted to the College and community to adhere to the rules and policies in the best interest of the College. Trustee Sobh stated the one stipulation that Trustees cannot contact each other regarding the finalists could be removed.

Chair Aljahmi stated that the Board can remove that stipulation, but he wants to leave in the verbiage about not contacting the finalists and that the Trustees should not talk to Advisory Committee members outside of a regular meeting.

Ms. Davis will make these adjustments to the Code of Conduct and send the document to the Trustees for signature. She reminded the Board that this document must be signed before they can have any access to the candidate portal.

C. Requests for Information and/or Future Agenda Items

- Chair Aljahmi asked President Gonko for the enrollment numbers pre-COVID compared to where we are today. He is interested in knowing if the College is back to where we were.
- Trustee Zahr asked about the possibility of students having the opportunity to take part in any aspect of Student Success Center project. This would be a good opportunity for our students to intern and get some hands-on experience. President Gonko stated that our construction firm is open to doing this. We have not talked about it in the context of credit hours yet, but they are very open to having student involvement in the project. President Gonko will find the information and send to the Board.

- Trustee Mozip requested that the Board receive a balance sheet with the College financial information. Trustees used to receive this in their packets at the monthly Board of Trustees meeting. President Gonko will look into this.

D. Board Member Commentary

- Trustee Mozip wished students and everyone a great start to the semester.
- President Gonko thanked Trustee Mozip for serving as Chair of the Board last year. A plaque with a gavel was presented to him in recognition of his service to the Board.

VIII. FUTURE MEETING DATES

- A. Monday, February 9, 2026, **P-12** Board of Education Meeting, 7:00 p.m. at the Administrative Service Center in the Frank Franchi Board Room.
- B. Monday, February 16, 2026, **HFC** Board of Trustees Policy Committee Meeting, 6:00 p.m. at the Administrative Services and Conference Center in the Cabinet Conference Room.
- C. Monday, February 16, 2026, **HFC** Board of Trustees Meeting, 7:00 p.m. at the Administrative Services and Conference Center in the Rosenau Board Room.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Motion offered by Chair Aljahmi was unanimously approved by those members present that the meeting be adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Amer Zahr, Secretary