

**HENRY FORD COLLEGE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SPECIAL MEETING
March 2, 2026**

I. CALL TO ORDER

A special meeting of the Henry Ford College Board of Trustees was called to order on Monday, March 2, at 7:05 p.m. at the Henry Ford College Administrative Services and Conference Center in the Rosenau Board Room. The following Board of Trustees were present: Trustees Ali Bazzi, Patrick D'Ambrosio, Adel Mozip, Mary Petlichkoff, Nasri Sobh, Amer Zahr and Chair Jamal Aljahmi.

II. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

- Halima Mohuiddin, community member and parent of prospective student, addressed the Board about the Presidential Search.
- Eric Rader, President of Local 1650, addressed the Board about the Presidential Search.
- Michael Hill, full-time faculty, addressed the Board about the Presidential Search.
- Lynn Boza, President of the Adjunct Faculty Organization, addressed the Board about the Presidential Search.
- Joel Geffen, full-time faculty, addressed the Board about the Presidential Search.

III. CALLING FOR A CLOSED SESSION PER OMA MCL 15.268(1)(f) TO REVIEW AND CONSIDER THE CONTENTS OF AN APPLICATION FOR EMPLOYMENT OR APPOINTMENT TO A PUBLIC OFFICE IF THE CANDIDATE REQUESTS THAT THE APPLICATION REMAIN CONFIDENTIAL and TO CONSIDER MATERIAL EXEMPT FROM DISCUSSION OR DISCLOSURE BY STATE OR FEDERAL STATUE, PER OMA MCL 15.268(1)(h)

Trustee Zahr discussed the Presidential Search process and making sure it is done with transparency. Chair Aljahmi discussed the Presidential Search process and his desire to get the best candidate for the College. Trustee Petlichkoff discussed the Presidential Search process, the integrity of the College and the students who come from the Metropolitan area. Trustee Bazzi discussed that the decisions he has made are in the best interest of the College. Trustee Mozip concurred with Trustee Bazzi. Trustee Sobh discussed the Presidential Search process, the expected confidentiality, and the integrity of the process. After doing a thorough review, he is confident in the process and everything that has transpired. Trustee D'Ambrosio discussed the Presidential Search process, trust, integrity and doing what is right for the College.

Motion offered by Trustee Zahr, supported by Trustee Sobh, to go into closed session pursuant MCL 15.268(1)(h) to consider material exempt from discussion or disclosure by state or federal statute, passed with a unanimous roll call vote attached.

Special Board of Trustees meeting suspended at 7:53 p.m.
Special Board of Trustees meeting resumed at 9:10 p.m.

Motion offered by Trustee Sobh, supported by Trustee D'Ambrosio, to add agenda item, "Discuss and Vote on Potential OMA Issues During the HFC Presidential Search process", passed with a unanimous roll call vote attached.

IV. DISCUSS AND VOTE ON POTENTIAL OMA ISSUES DURING THE HFC PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH PROCESS

Chair Aljahmi shared that the Board discussed some issues regarding the OMA and the Advisory Search Committee. These issues can be cured.

Trustee Sobh discussed the candidate interviews being held in person rather than asynchronously. The Advisory Committee followed the recommendation of the Board of Trustees. At the last Board meeting, the Board agreed they did not need to do a motion on this and moved on.

Motion offered by Trustee Mozip, supported by Trustee D'Ambrosio, that the Board accept their recommendation of holding the semi-finalist interviews in person for the Advisory Committee members, passed with a unanimous roll call vote attached.

Trustee Sobh discussed the decision of the Board that interviews be recorded so Trustees could view and make informed decisions. The Board had agreed Trustees could view these in the presence of the College's Search Liaison or a member of Human Resources must be discussed in an open meeting. Trustee Zahr discussed that the Subcommittee decided to limit the manner and time that Trustees could watch the interviews. He shared that he is against having the Search Liaison or Human Resources be present when Trustees watch the interviews. Trustee Petlichkoff discussed the tight timeline and the recent breach. Academic Search was concerned that there would be too large a gap in approving finalists.

Chair Aljahmi asked Vice President Moss Ferguson to give a legal opinion on the availability of the interview videos as this could create a privacy issue for the candidates. Vice President Moss Ferguson declined to give a legal opinion as this discussion is just part of the decision-making process.

Trustee Petlichkoff called the question.

Motion offered by Trustee Sobh, supported by Trustee Petlichkoff, that the decision for the Trustees to view candidate interviews in the presence of the College's Search

Liaison or member of Human Resources, passed with the following roll call vote attached; Ayes: Trustees Bazzi, D'Ambrosio, Mozip, Petlichkoff, Sobh, Aljahmi (6); Nays: Trustee Zahr (1)

Motion offered by Trustee Mozip, supported by Trustee Petlichkoff, that the Board approve Trustees having access to view recordings of candidate interviews until February 27, 2026.

Trustee Zahr had a point of inquiry and asked if the Board is able to approve a viewing deadline date that has passed.

Vice President Moss Ferguson stated there is a question to the search firm as to the availability of the interviews. The date of February 27 may be moot if access is still available now.

Trustee Zahr asked to amend the motion to indicate the Trustees can have access to the candidates full file until the end of the process.

Motion offered by Trustee Mozip to amend the motion to allow Trustees access to the interview videos until a president is appointed.

Vice President Moss Ferguson provided a point of clarification. Academic Search maintains the applicants' materials including the interview videos. These are not kept in the possession of HR. Chair Aljahmi asked Ms. Tracye Davis, Search Liaison, to discuss the availability with Academic Search.

Motion offered by Trustee Zahr, supported by Trustee Bazzi, to extend the meeting 15 minutes, passed with a unanimous roll call vote attached.

Vice President Moss Ferguson stated that the question to make the interviews available to Trustees has been submitted to Academic Search. We are awaiting an answer.

Motion passed with a unanimous roll call vote attached.

Motion offered by Trustee Sobh, supported by Trustee Petlichkoff, that Trustees have access to the applicant portal to view applicant materials until a president is appointed, passed with a unanimous roll call vote attached.

Vice President Moss Ferguson stated that the names of the Committee members are published on the Presidential Search website. Trustees can discuss members by name.

Trustee Sobh discussed the appointment of a substitute for one of the Trustee's Committee member.

Trustee Petlichkoff shared that her Community member dropped out due to a family issue on January 13, 2026, which was the date of an introductory Advisory Search Committee meeting. Missing this meeting would not affect applicants as Committee members did not have access to the applicant portal until January 14, 2026. When Trustee Petlichkoff found this out, and the Committee wanted to have an equal representation of community members on the Committee, Trustee Petlichkoff asked, and the Committee agreed, to select another person from the list of applicants to be her choice of a Community member. At that time, she understood that she was the only Trustee who did not have a community member representative on the Committee. Trustee Petlichkoff's selection was able to move into the process seamlessly as they were at the very beginning of the process. The candidate portal was not opened to Committee members until January 14, 2026. Chair Aljahmi added that this person (Trustee Petlichkoff's substitute choice) did not participate in the semi-finalist interviews as she missed one day and was told she could no longer participate on the Committee.

Trustee Zahr discussed the timeline for committee members to be added to the Committee.

Motion offered by Trustee Mozip, supported by Trustee Bazzi, to extend the meeting by 15 minutes, passed with a unanimous roll call vote attached.

Trustee Zahr stated there was another Trustee whose community member did not show up to the first meeting. Trustee Zahr believes that person was never given the opportunity to add a substitute person. Trustee Mozip clarified that they did reach out to the Trustee. Trustee Bazzi explained that his first community member choice never attended the first meeting. Trustee Bazzi's 2nd, 3rd and 4th choices were selected by others and were already on the Committee. Trustee Bazzi was satisfied and chose not to add a community member.

Trustee Zahr stated that his choice for a community member had been attending the meetings but informed the Committee a few days before the semi-finalist interviews (scheduled February 20 & 21) that she could not attend the second day of semi-finalist interviews due to a death in the family. She was told she could no longer participate in the search process as she would miss the first day of interviews. Trustee Zahr stated that he was not given the opportunity to choose a replacement community member. Chair Aljahmi stated that by missing the first day of the interviews, this person would not be able to give a fair assessment of the candidates.

Motion offered by Trustee Sobh, supported by Trustee D'Ambrosio, to approve the appointment of search committee member Leslie Herrick as Trustee Petlichkoff's choice for community representative. Passed with the following roll call vote attached; Ayes: Trustees Bazzi, D'Ambrosio, Petlichkoff, Sobh and Chair Aljahmi (5); Nays: Trustees Mozip and Zahr (2)

Motion offered by Trustee Sobh, supported by Trustee Mozip, to approve all the Advisory Search Committee members from all the groups outside the community members that the Board discussed and selected. Passed with the following roll call vote attached; Ayes: Trustees Bazzi, D'Ambrosio, Mozip, Petlichkoff, Sobh and Chair Aljahmi (6); Nays: Trustee Zahr (1)

Trustee Sobh stated this concludes the cure portion of the agenda.

Chair Aljahmi stated that Trustee Bazzi created an alpha numeric system to assign new ID's to the finalists who will be voted on tonight. No names will be mentioned as the finalists are not official until they have been contacted and accept their finalist position.

Motion offered by Trustee Petlichkoff, supported by Trustee Sobh, to approve candidate W95 as a finalist in the Presidential Search. Trustee Zahr stated he will be voting no on all finalists presented for approval tonight. He feels the process undertaken by the Advisory Search Committee should have been done publicly.

Motion offered by Trustee Mozip, supported by Trustee Petlichkoff, to extend the meeting by 15 minutes, passed with a unanimous roll call vote attached.

Motion passed with the following roll call vote attached; Ayes: Trustees Bazzi, D'Ambrosio, Mozip, Petlichkoff, Sobh and Chair Aljahmi (6); Nays: Trustee Zahr (1).

Motion offered by Trustee D'Ambrosio, supported by Trustee Petlichkoff, to approve candidate L88 as a finalist in the Presidential Search passed with the following roll call vote attached; Ayes: Trustees Bazzi, D'Ambrosio, Mozip, Petlichkoff, Sobh and Chair Aljahmi (6); Nays: Trustee Zahr (1).

Motion offered by Trustee Petlichkoff, supported by Trustee Sobh, to approve candidate E73 as a finalist in the Presidential Search passed with the following roll call vote attached; Ayes: Trustees Bazzi, D'Ambrosio, Mozip, Petlichkoff, Sobh and Chair Aljahmi (6); Nays: Trustee Zahr (1).

Motion offered by Chair Aljahmi, supported by Trustee Bazzi, to approve candidate A93 as a finalist in the Presidential Search passed with the following roll call vote attached; Ayes: Trustees Bazzi, D'Ambrosio, Mozip, Petlichkoff, Sobh and Chair Aljahmi (6); Nays: Trustee Zahr (1).

Motion offered by Trustee Mozip, supported by Trustee Petlichkoff, to approve candidate T38 as a finalist in the Presidential Search passed with the following roll call vote attached; Ayes: Trustees Bazzi, D'Ambrosio, Mozip, Petlichkoff, Sobh and Chair Aljahmi (6); Nays: Trustee Zahr (1).

V. ADJOURNMENT

Motion offered by Chair Aljahmi and adopted unanimously by those members present that the meeting be adjourned at 10:03 p.m.



Amer Zahr, Secretary