

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
**January 26, 2026**

Call to Order: Chair Thompson called the board meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., and the following members answered roll call:

Brian Duncan	Danelle Burrs
Margaret Tyne	Sam Ramirez
Student Trustee, Madison Krum	Tom Demmer

Excused: Lisa Wiersema

SVCC Staff: President, Dr. David Hellmich  
Vice President of Academics and Student Services, Dr. Jon Mandrell  
Vice President of Advancement, Dr. Lori Cortez  
Vice President of Business Services, Kent Sorenson  
Director of Facilities, Rich Groleau  
Director of Human Resources, Megan Kuhn  
Director of Research and Planning, Aaron Roe  
Board Assistant, Peggy Eshleman  
Dean of Business, Career, and Technical Education, Sasha Logan  
Dean of Student Services, Jennifer Schultz

Consent Agenda: It was moved by Member Duncan and seconded by Member Ramirez the Board approve the consent agenda. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Krum advisory vote: aye. Motion carried.

President's Report: Dr. David Hellmich acknowledged the passing of Ronald F. Coplan, a former member of the Board of Trustees and a Foundation Director, who passed away on November 18, 2025, and the passing of Randy Tompkins, a former employee in the facilities department, who passed away on December 31, 2025.

Dr. Jon Mandrell reported on House Bill 1312, an Illinois law providing protections for students, employees, and visitors to the college during civil immigration enforcement activities, and he showed Sauk's [Immigration Enforcement](#) webpage.

Dr. Hellmich invited Aaron Schupbach-Roe to provide an enrollment update for the spring semester. Aaron overviewed community colleges as a whole before providing a detailed SVCC report, including an 8% increase in credit hours on the first day of classes. He pointed out an increase in credit hours from in-district high school students, particularly dual credit students. The total credit hours increase as of today is 9.5%.

Dr. Hellmich asked Kent Sorenson to report on tuition and fees as well as budget matters. Kent detailed the tuition pricing philosophy and compared increases of our peer groups and bordering districts. An increase of \$9.00 per credit hour will be proposed for FY27. Kent answered the Trustees' questions.

Reports/Comments from Board Members and the SVC Foundation:

Student Trustee Madison Krum reported on recent spring semester happenings, including FREE Caricatures by Kevin Berg and the recent Interactive Animal Show. She previewed upcoming events, including John Cassidy, the Balloon Guy; Spring Sauk Fest; Valentine's Celebration; Lunch with the Cabinet; and Wes Woodson.

Foundation Report: Dr. Lori Cortez reported on the Points of Pride – the 5-Star Chapter status of SVCC's Phi Theta Kappa chapter, the strong voices of the student panel heard at Spring Kick Off, the increasing Spring 2026 enrollment, and the 100,000 volunteer hours SVCC *Impact Program* students have contributed to our local communities.

Lori reported First National Bank of Amboy donated \$15,000 to the *Impact Program*, and an anonymous donor will match up to \$10,000 in donations to the program.

ICCTA Report: Chair Thompson had no report as there was no meeting but reported the National Legislative Summit is coming up in February and we will have information to report on that event at the next meeting.

Board Policy *203.01 Duties and Responsibilities of Administrative and Confidential Personnel* – Second Reading:

It was moved by Member Tyne and seconded by Member Burrs the Board approve revisions to *203.01 Duties and Responsibilities of Administrative and Confidential Personnel* as presented for a second reading. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Krum advisory vote: aye. Motion carried.

Board Policy *401.01 Personnel Classifications and Definitions* – Second Reading:

It was moved by Member Duncan and seconded by Member Ramirez the Board approve the revisions to *401.01 Personnel Classifications and Definitions* as presented for a second reading. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Krum advisory vote: aye. Motion carried.

Board Policy *505.01 Gifts, Grants, and Donations* – First Reading

It was moved by Member Ramirez and seconded by Member Tyne the Board approve the revisions to *505.01 Gifts, Grants, and Donations* as presented for a first reading. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Krum advisory vote: aye. Motion carried.

Administrator Appointment – Vice President of Information and Planning:

It was moved by Member Burrs and seconded by Member Ramirez the Board approve the appointment of Aaron Schupbach-Roe as the Vice President of Information and Planning beginning January 19, 2026, at an annual base salary of \$109,116. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Krum advisory vote: aye. Motion carried.

Faculty Appointment – CEO and Agriculture:

It was moved by Member Duncan and seconded by Member Ramirez the Board approve the appointment of Emily Brooks as an Assistant Professor I of CEO and Agriculture beginning August 14, 2026, at an annual base salary of \$51,582.34. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Krum advisory vote: aye. Motion carried.

Adjournment:

Since the scheduled business was completed, it was moved by Member Duncan and seconded by Member Burrs the Board adjourn. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Krum advisory vote: aye. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

Next meeting:

The next regular meeting of the Board will be at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, February 23, 2026, in the Riverview Conference Room.

Respectfully submitted,

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Margaret Tyne, Secretary