

NEW JERSEY COUNCIL OF COUNTY COLLEGES
MONDAY, JUNE 15, 2026 6:00 PM
VIA ZOOM

MINUTES

I. WELCOME

The meeting was called to Order at 6:00 p.m. - Reading of Public Announcement

In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act of the State of New Jersey, advance notice of this Public Meeting of the Council was posted on the Council website on June 2, 2026, and the annual meeting notice was transmitted to the Secretary of State.

ATTENDEES:

<u>College</u>	<u>President</u>	<u>Board Chair</u>	<u>Board Alternate/ Other Trustees</u>
Atlantic Cape	Barbara Gaba		
Bergen	Eric Friedman	Dottie Blakeslee	Sheetal Ranjan
Brookdale	David Stout	Barbara Horl	
Camden	Lovell Pugh Bassett		Jessica Purnell
Essex	Augustine Boakye	Arnold Lewis	
Hudson	Lisa Dougherty		
Mercer			Scarlett Rajski
Middlesex	Mark McCormick		Chrissy Buteas
Morris	Anthony Iacono		
Ocean	Pamela Monaco		
Passaic	Jackie Kineavy		
Raritan			Michael Goldberg
Rowan at Burlington			
Rowan at South Jersey	Brenden Rickards		
Salem	Michael Gorman		Dot Hall
Sussex	Cory Homer		
Union	Margaret McMenamin		Brian Campbell
Warren			

There were 23 voting members of the Council present during the business meeting, constituting a majority and quorum.

Council Staff: Aaron Fichtner, Catherine Starghill, Megan Swieconeck, Linda Scherr, Maria Heidkamp, Jacob Farbman, and Mikal Jenkins.

Special Guests: Jamie Segal (UCNJ), Joanie Coffaro (Middlesex), and Maris Lown (UCNJ)

1. Introduction and Announcements- Chair Jessica Purnell

II. Business

2. Approval of Minutes

By motion of Barbara Gaba, and seconded by Margaret McMenamin, the minutes of the of February 16, 2026 Executive Committee meeting; February 23, 2026 Council meeting; February 26, 2026 Council meeting (to record electronic vote); March 16, 2026 Executive Committee meeting; April 20, 2026 Executive Committee meeting; May 6, 2026 Executive Committee meeting (to record electronic vote); and May 18, 2026 Executive Committee meeting were approved without amendment.

3. Acceptance of Council Financial Statements

By motion of Barbara Horl, and seconded by Tony Iacono, the Council accepted the financial statements for February 2026, March 2026, and April 2026.

4. Report on Temporary Investments

The Council currently keeps its cash reserves in an account with Spencer Savings Bank. The Council is also enrolled in the NJ Cash Management Fund. As of May 31, 2026, the Council's NJ Cash Management Fund holdings are \$3,181,242.

5. Action: Adoption of the NJCCC Bylaw and Policy Amendments

-Noticed to Council Membership on May 19, 2026

By motion of Barbara Horl, and seconded by Tony Iacono, the Council adopted the NJCCC Bylaw and Policy Amendments.

6. Action: Approval of the NJCCC FY2027 Budget

-Noticed to the Council Membership on May 14, 2026

By motion of Augustine Boakye, and seconded by Eric Friedman, the Council FY2027 Operating Budget was approved.

7. Action: Use of Reserve Funds: Communications

By motion of Mark McCormick, and seconded by Chrissy Buteas, the Council approved the use of \$40,000 of Council Reserves to engage a communications strategy firm, selected through a competitive request for proposal process, to develop a communications strategy for the Council.

8. Action: FY2027 Chapter 12

By motion of Barbara Horl, and seconded by Augustine Boakye, the Council approved the FY2027 Chapter 12 Allocation.

9. Action: Update FY2026 Chapter 12

By motion of Eric Friedman, and seconded by Cory Homer, the Council approved the FY2026 Chapter 12 Allocations.

III. Strategy

10. FY2027 State Budget and Legislative Updates

Heidkamp reported that we have had over 30 meetings with key legislators. Everyone supports the ask, but all conveyed that this is a difficult budget cycle. Senator Cryan and Assemblywoman Sweeney introduced resolutions to increase community college operating aid by \$10 million. We are working to obtain additional sponsors for these resolutions. Presidents and trustees can help by reaching out to their legislators and asking them to sign on to these resolutions.

11. Other Business

Meeting Adjourned.