ATTACHMENT 10a

MOHAWK VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
UTICA AND ROME, NEW YORK
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
October 26, 2026 MEETING MINUTES

1. Call to Order

The meeting of the Mohawk Valley Community College Board of Trustees held in Plumley Complex, Room 150, of Mohawk Valley Community College, Rome, New York was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Chair Jerrard on Monday, October 26, 2026.

Members Present

Dana Jerrard
William S. Calli
Wendy Waters
Camille Kahler
David Mathis
Anthony (Tony) Colón
Elaine Falvo
Frank Dubeck

Members Excused

Anna D'Ambrosio
Minajla Ibrahimi, Student Trustee

2. Call for Conflicts of Interest

Chair Jerrard invited trustees to disclose any potential conflicts related to the October agenda items. No conflicts of interest were reported.

3. Chair's Report

Chair Jerrard opened the meeting by recognizing the College's 80th anniversary and reflecting on MVCC's longstanding commitment to transforming lives through education and serving the Mohawk Valley community. He also recognized and thanked Elizabeth Davis, MVCC Class of 2009 and owner of Lizzy's Cupcakery and Candies, for creating a custom cake in celebration of the College's 80th anniversary.

Chair Jerrard congratulated the faculty and staff and presented the Board of Trustees with the 2026 ACCT Northeast Regional Impact & Success Award. He concluded his report by congratulating Trustee Colón on his election as ACCT Secretary-Treasurer during the recent ACCT Leadership Congress.

Chair Jerrard then called for the Treasurer's Report.

4. Treasurer's Report

Executive Director of Budget & Finance Colin Mackey presented the Treasurer's Report. He reviewed the September 2026 financial reports, noting that overall revenues were tracking close to budget and expenditures remained below budget through September 30. Overall, the College's financial activity was tracking favorably to budget at this point in the fiscal year. Executive Director Mackey reported that the College's annual audit had begun, with auditors

commencing fieldwork. He also provided an update on the year-end adjustment entry approved by the Board in August, noting that the final adjustment was approximately $199,000.

5. Student Trustee Report
There was no Student Trustee Report.

6. Committees and Affiliations
Board committees are in the process of being scheduled for the academic year. Committee composition and dates will be shared to trustees.

Foundation
Executive Director of Institutional Advancement Deanna Ferro-Aurience reviewed the Foundation's 2025-26 Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), highlighting a strong year in fundraising, scholarship support, and direct support to the College. The Foundation raised approximately $3.6 million in cash and in-kind contributions, with cash giving increasing 21% over the previous year. While the overall number of donors declined slightly, alumni and first-time donor participation increased, and donor retention remained strong.

Scholarship support reached a record high of approximately $465,000, representing a 12.6% increase over the prior year, with increases in both the number of students receiving scholarships and the number of individual scholarship awards. The Foundation also provided a record approximately $744,000 in support to the College for scholarships, capital improvements, equipment, facility upgrades, and other institutional needs.

The Foundation also reported that its investment portfolio totaled approximately $13 million and provided an update on upcoming activities, including the MVCC Hall of Fame Reception and Ceremony, the Dental Hygiene Clinic and Program Ribbon Cutting, and the Board Holiday Gathering.

ACCT/NYCCT
Trustees reported on their participation in the 2026 ACCT Leadership Congress, Driving Change, Leading with Care: Where Vision Meets Compassion. Congress programming focused on issues affecting community colleges nationally, including effective board governance and leadership, technological change, evolving workforce and enrollment needs, institutional well-being, public policy and legal issues, and strategies to strengthen student and institutional success.

MVCC was also represented among the Congress presenters. President Randall VanWagoner, Board Chair Dana Jerrard, and Immediate Past Chair Wendy Waters presented 'The Future is Already Here: Leveraging AI to Elevate Board Discussion and Performance.' The Board congratulated Tony Colón again on his election as ACCT Secretary-Treasurer. Colón thanked the board for their support and Trustee David Mathis for his mentorship.

Trustee Wendy Waters, Chair of NYCCT, called attention to the NYCCT Chair's Report and resources provided by Todd McLees that were included in the Board materials. Chair Waters reviewed current NYCCT advocacy efforts and provided an update on activities planned in her role as Chair, including attending inaugurations of community college presidents and exploring opportunities to hold regional meetings across the state. She concluded by announcing SUNY Advocacy Day is scheduled for March 2.

SUNY/NYCCAP

President VanWagoner reported that he had reached out to Valerie Dent and Will Schwartz at SUNY for assistance with the Dental Hygiene program approval process and expressed appreciation for their support. He reported that the College recently received notification that the Governor had approved the program.

President VanWagoner also provided an update from the fall SUNY administrator meetings with Chief Academic Officers, Chief Student Officers, and the Faculty Council of Community Colleges. He noted concerns expressed across the system regarding the volume of current SUNY initiatives and associated reporting requirements.

7. **President's Report**

President VanWagoner reported that he would hold his first Campus Conversation the following day focused on annual planning and budgeting with the College community. He then reviewed the October KPI which focused on the College's commitment to providing accessible educational opportunities. The report highlighted affordability, student borrowing, Prior Learning Assessment, pathways from Free Fast Track programs into credit-bearing programs, and responsive course scheduling. MVCC's annual resident tuition of $5,480 remained approximately 3% below the SUNY community college average, while the College's most recent official three-year student loan cohort default rate was 1%. The report also established a baseline for Prior Learning Assessment activity, with transfer credit representing the largest source of previously earned credit. Additionally, approximately 17% of students who completed a Free Fast Track course between spring 2023 and fall 2025 subsequently matriculated into an MVCC degree or certificate program. Fall 2026 course scheduling data reflected an overall course fill rate of approximately 78%, with online courses having the highest fill rate at approximately 86%. Overall, the KPIs reflected the College's continued efforts to reduce financial barriers, recognize prior learning, provide alternative pathways into college, and offer flexible course options responsive to student needs.

College Senate

College Senate Chair Shahida Dar provided an update on recent Senate activities. At its October meeting, the Senate conducted a first reading of the Anti-Harassment and Anti-Discrimination Policy, reviewed details of the Strategic Enrollment Management Plan, and discussed dual credit courses. Chair Dar also reported that the Senate's POAR had been completed and submitted and highlighted ongoing work related to the Policy Tracker/Senate Dashboard and activities of Senate committees, including the Facilities and Safety Committee.

FCCC Plenary

MVCC FCCC Representative Associate Professor Derrick Stevens reported on the recent Faculty Council of Community Colleges (FCCC) Plenary and supplemented information provided in the Board materials. Plenary discussions included artificial intelligence policy and resource sharing, shared governance, SUNY Reconnect, adult learners, and SUNY's Vision 2030. Stevens reported that the FCCC is seeking campus endorsement of two resolutions related to artificial intelligence policies and the codification of academic freedom at community colleges. He plans to bring the resolutions before the College Senate for consideration at a future meeting. Stevens also noted that, in his role as MVCC's FCCC representative, he serves on the FCCC Academic Affairs Committee.

President VanWagoner concluded his report by asking for an executive session with no further action to discuss personnel matters.

8. Vice President Reports

There were no questions from the Board regarding the written reports submitted by the Vice Presidents. Dean of the Rome Campus Jennifer DeWeerth presented an update on activities and developments at the Rome Campus, including completion of the Dental Hygiene construction project, expansion of the BOCES high school partnership, and the addition of Biology and Chemistry course sections. Fall 2026 campus usage included 214 credit students and 86 high school students, for a combined total of 300 students. The report also highlighted increased student engagement, recruitment activities, workforce and community education programming, and continued community outreach through events such as Touch a Truck and Trick or Treat Street. Overall, the update reflected the Rome Campus's continued role in supporting academic and workforce programming, high school partnerships, student engagement, and broader community access

9. Discussion Item

AI Sensemaking

President VanWagoner shared two videos illustrating the growing capabilities and potential impact of artificial intelligence. The videos emphasized the importance of education, responsible use, and human agency in effectively engaging with AI. President VanWagoner noted the relevance of these considerations as the College continues its work to develop an institutional AI policy.

10. Consent Agenda

Attachment a.	Minutes of September 21, 2026 Board of Trustees Meeting
Attachment b.	Treasurer's Report
Attachment c.	Revised Capital Project Budget Increase: Academic Classrooms & Spaces Renovation and FMP Update C20178
Attachment d.	Kim Thurn, Coordinator Workforce Development
Attachment e.	Amend Staffing Plan: Julie Smith, Programmer Analyst
Attachment f.	Paige Roberts, Athletic Trainer
Attachment g.	Ryan Mahanna, Career and Employer Relations Specialist
Attachment h.	Amend Staffing Plan: Create Title Coordinator of Testing and New Student Orientation
Attachment i.	Amend Staffing Plan: Stephanie Lai, Coordinator – Center for Accelerated Pathways

A motion to approve Consent Agenda Items 10a-10i was made by Trustee Wendy Waters and seconded by Trustee Frank Dubeck.
Unanimously approved.

Motion for an executive session with no further action to discuss personnel was made by Vice Chair William S. Calli and seconded by Trustee Tony Colón.
Unanimously approved.

The Board of Trustees entered into executive session at 5:42 p.m.
The meeting reconvened at 6:11 p.m.

11. Adjournment
Motion was made by Vice Chair William S. Calli and seconded by Trustee Frank Dubeck to adjourn the meeting at 6:12 p.m. Unanimously approved.