

Renton Technical College
Board of Trustees Meeting
March 18, 2026

AGENDA ITEM: 1. CALL TO ORDER

SUBJECT:

BACKGROUND:

BOARD CONSIDERATION

Information

Action

Board Chair Cooper will carry out the Notation of Quorum and call the meeting to order.

RECOMMENDATION:

None.

Renton Technical College
Board of Trustees Meeting
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AGENDA ITEM: 2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

SUBJECT:

BACKGROUND:

The following meeting minutes are attached for approval by the Board of Trustees.

- A. February 18, 2026 – Special and Regular Meetings

BOARD CONSIDERATION	
	Information
X	Action

RECOMMENDATION:

Approval as presented.

Agenda Items

Information/Action/Presenter

I. SPECIAL MEETING

1. Call to Order

Vice Chair Bob Zappone called the meeting to order at 1:16 P.M. and noted a quorum.

2. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

3. Automotive Program Tour

4. Meetings

A. The next regular Board meeting is scheduled for February 18, 2026, at 3:00 P.M.

5. Adjournment

II. EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. At 2:10 P.M., an Executive Session was called to order for 45 minutes to review the performance of a public employee (RCW 42.30.110(1)(g)), in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. Executive Session was extended by 8 minutes.

2. The Executive Session concluded at 2:53 P.M.

3. Return to Open Session

III. REGULAR BOARD MEETING

1. Call to Order

Vice Chair Bob Zappone called the meeting to order at 3:08 P.M. and noted a quorum.

2. Adoption of Minutes

A. January 21, 2026 – Special and Regular Meeting

Trustee Norouzi introduced a motion to approve the minutes for the special and regular meeting held on January 21, 2026. Trustee Peschek seconded, and the motion carried.

3. Communications

A. General Information/Introductions

Vice Chair Bob Zappone introduced new Trustees Shana Peschek and Peter Aiau.

President Yoshiko Harden introduced Jordan Mellott, new Executive Assistant to the President / Secretary to the Board of Trustees.

Morenika Jacobs, Associate Dean of Enrollment Services & Registrar, introduced Zahra Joseph, new Credential Evaluator. Morenika also Introduced Evette Dean, new Enrollment Specialist.

John Henry Whatley, Executive Director of College Technology Services, introduced Kaylie Velazquez Becerra, new Technical Support Analyst.

B. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

C. Public Comments from the Audience

Marty Cooksey, math faculty, made public comment regarding the college budget.

D. Student Leadership

Odessa Paule, Umi Moalim, and Ruby "Rue" Pocasangre spoke about the Advocacy Day Trip that members of ASG attended. They went to Olympia and talked to Senator Conway and Representative Bergquist. They also spoke about the Lunar New Year event which occurred yesterday. There were over 150 attendees and there were lion dancers, food, and cultural activities. They announced an upcoming Black History Month event on Wednesday, February 25th from 1:00-3:00 P.M. Leonna Lee introduced Roe Harris, new VP.

E. Renton Federation of Teachers

Dr. Huma Mohibullah shared that she is in solidarity with everyone celebrating occasions like Black History Month, Lunar New Year, Lent, and Ramadan. Expressed excitement that we filled vacant trustee positions. Shared that the top priority of the union's agenda is ending the college's financial emergency and gave context to the topic for the new trustees. She stated that the financial emergency was declared in December 2024 and resulted in faculty and staff reductions, which she said impacted employees, programs, and students. She said the union believes the college is now financially stable and that the emergency should be lifted. Shared concerns about the justification for

continuing the emergency given a projected \$250,000 deficit and no anticipated personnel cuts, and raised questions about budget transparency, including revenue estimates and longterm- vacant positions. Dr. Mohibullah concluded by encouraging the Board of Trustees to consider lifting the financial emergency to restore stability and trust.

F. Written Communication Reports

None.

4. Discussion/Reports

Information

A. President's Report

President Harden

Dr. Harden began her report by welcoming the new trustees to the board and shared highlights since the last meeting, including being recognized as a community leader at the Garfield Teen Life Center Gratitude event and participating in legislative visits in Olympia with college leadership. She reported on the Spring AllCollege meeting, noting strong attendance, questions about college finances, and the goal of avoiding personnel cuts in the next fiscal year. She stated that, barring extraordinary circumstances, the college projects no personnel cuts over the next two fiscal years. Dr. Harden shared updates on her participation in statewide leadership efforts, including presenting at the Middle Leadership Academy and serving as chair of the WACTC Equity Committee. She also noted engagement with instructional leadership, attendance at the City of Renton Blue Ribbon luncheon, participation in the Strategic Equity Plan implementation meeting, and a visit to UW-Tacoma. She provided an enrollment update, reporting that overall enrollment is at 71% of the internal target for the year, with tuitionpaying- enrollment at 77% of target and -tuitionpaying FTE up 5% compared to the same time last year. She noted preparations for the new state allocation model beginning July 1. Dr. Harden also shared construction updates, including projects in Buildings I and L, and provided a legislative update, noting system priorities and that the college has accounted for an anticipated- 1.5-2% state funding reduction in the upcoming budget.

B. Financial/Budget Status

VP Jacob Jackson provided a financial and budget status update, noting that tuition revenue is reported to be approximately \$700,000 higher than last year, and fee revenue have also increased following fee adjustments made in collaboration with ASG. Enrollment revenue from Running Start and youth high school completion programs is reported as slightly lower than projected; however, Running Start enrollment is currently at approximately 180 students,

compared to a historical average of about 120, representing an unexpected increase. Enterprise revenue has increased, driven in part by ASG revenue associated with the S&A fee. Total revenue generated to date was reported at approximately \$32.0 million, compared to \$31.5 million at the same point last year. Total expenditures were approximately \$26.9 million, compared to \$26.2 million last year. The college is currently projecting approximately \$400,000 to reserves. Cash and investments were reported at approximately \$20.8 million. Capital and facilities updates included plans to send Building J out to bid next month, with construction anticipated to begin in July. The Building C refresh project is nearing completion, with an open house planned. Parking lot lighting upgrades in lots P6, P7, and P2 are also scheduled to occur soon.

5. Board of Trustees

Foundation Liaison Report

Carrie Shaw reported on behalf of the Foundation. She shared that the Foundation has been working hard to raise money and that they recently closed the McCarthy Bridge Grant. She reminded that the Foundation Gala is scheduled for March 7. She shared that this is the first year the gala has secured three premierlevel- sponsors: Invitation Homes, Amazon, and Boeing.

Legislative Action Liaison Report

Vice Chair Bob Zappone shared that he went to Olympia last month and they were told that there was no money available. Advocated for how much we need to maintain strong operations. Has heard that the legislative budget will be the same as what the government decides on. House budget should release next week. Bob encouraged folks to reach out to legislatures between sessions. Many people reach out during the session, but it's important to reach out between as well.

Community Advisory Committee Liaison Report

Trustee Jessica Norouzi shared that Executive Director Wade and Dr. Harden have been doing great work since last meeting. They are working on getting their Spring Meeting Scheduled.

6. Meetings

A. Regular Board Meeting – March 18, 2026

The next regular Board meeting is scheduled for 3:00 P.M. on March 18, 2026.

7. Adjournment

There being no further business, Trustee Peschek moved to adjourn the Board of Trustees meeting 4:06 P.M. Trustee Norouzi seconded, and the motion carried.

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AGENDA ITEM: 3. ACTION

SUBJECT:

BACKGROUND:

BOARD CONSIDERATION	
	Information
X	Action

- A. Tenure Advancements
 - a. First year to second year
 - i. Sharmin Barrera Plata (Early Childhood Education)
 - ii. Aishwarya Fadnavis (Construction Management)
 - iii. Gary Fowler (Culinary Arts)
 - b. Second year to third year
 - i. Kristin Ferguson (Library)
 - ii. Danielle Perkins (Nursing)
 - c. Third year to tenure
 - i. Olla Ibrahim (Academic/Career Counseling)

- B. Resolution No. 24-12-28 Resolution Declaring Financial Emergency

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve as requested.

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AGENDA ITEM: 4. COMMUNICATIONS

SUBJECT:

BACKGROUND:

- A. General Information/Introductions
- B. Correspondence
- C. Public Comments from the Audience
- D. Associated Student Government
- E. Renton Federation of Teachers
- F. Written (and video) Communication Reports

BOARD CONSIDERATION

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information

<input type="checkbox"/> Action

RECOMMENDATION:

None.



Administration and Finance Report
Renton Technical College Board of Trustees
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Financial Report

For month ending February, we are about 67 percent through the year. Revenue collection is about 80 percent. Tuition and fees are up about \$2M from February 2025. Scholarship and Student Loan Received is up \$1.4M from last year. We have drawn down \$24M this year compared to \$25.2M in state allocation last year.

Expenses are about 65 percent. Expenses are about \$31.2M through February compared to this time last year of \$31.4M last year. Salary and benefits are about \$25.5M, which is about \$500K less than this time last year.

Our ending cash and investment balances are about \$21.01M.

Business Office

- No updates

Food Services & Rentals

February Financial Summary

- **Bakery Revenue**
 - January Revenue: \$6,987.66
 - February Revenue: \$8,261.71
 - Increase: \$1,274.05 (18.23% increase)
- **Dining room Revenue**
 - January Revenue: \$3,173.00
 - February Revenue: \$5,298.34
 - Increase: \$2,125.34
 - Percent Increase: 66.98%
- **Cafeteria Revenue**
 - January Revenue: \$18,266.29
 - February Revenue: \$16,503.38
 - Decrease: \$1,762.91
 - Percent Decrease: 9.65%

- **Catering Revenue**
 - February 2025 Catering Revenue: \$27,628.29
 - February 2026 Catering Revenue: \$49,602.91
 - Increase: \$21,974.62
 - Percent Increase: 79.54%

Catering revenue for February 2025 was \$27,628.29, compared to \$49,602.91 in February 2026, representing an increase of \$21,974.62, or 79.54% growth year over year.

Facilities & Grounds

- **Maintenance**
 - Completing Building C renovation work
- **Custodial**
 - 1 vacant position
- **Grounds**
 - Battling beetles

Capital

Minor Capital projects for Current Biennium (2023-2025):

- **Building J 2/3 Floor Remodel**
 - Bid advertisement is scheduled for 03/12, with a bid open date of 04/07
- **2025-555 - Building L Conversion**
 - Waiting for notice to proceed
 - Lighting has been upgraded
- **2024-551 - Transformer Replacement project**
 - Waiting for new transformers to be delivered
- **2025-551 - Bookstore Conversion**
 - Bid open date is set for 03/11
- **Monument Sign**
 - City of Renton has approved the designs and issued permit
- **Building J Boiler**
 - Boiler has been installed waiting for some custom parts
- **Electric Charging Station Expansion**
 - Three dual head chargers will be added in front of N
 - Funding is coming from the Volkswagen Emission Settlement



College Technology Services

Winter Quarter

CTS has started year strong with a 92.89% customer satisfaction score (based on user surveys YTD). Team members have been participating with Action team tasks (SharePoint Relaunch) and Task Force project deliverables (Title II). This month SBCTC worked with RTC on a Civil Rights interview regarding Title II Accessibility. David Sooter (Associate Director of Technology Support Services) serves as RTC's IT Accessible Coordinator, helped answer questions and articulated the work RTC has been undertaking to meet the April 2026 compliance timeline. David also gave updates to Executive Cabinet and shared data and outcomes from a recent pilot project to help remediate thousands of documents to accessible standards.

Technology News & Updates

CTS has created a website for reporting IT related security concerns. There is a page on the RTC website for public facing viewers as well as an intranet site (SharePoint) for RTC employees. Havin this resource page will help strengthen our cyber security as well as give our community clear directions on how to report an IT concern.

C107 and C111 have had technology updates completed and are fully functional. These spaces now feature full hybrid capabilities and are currently being used.

C109/C110 is expected to be completed in April.

Technology Improvements

CTS completed network upgrades to the main campus and the RTC Guest Wi-Fi speeds have significantly increased.

The Nursing Lab instruction space and simulation equipment has been optimized and is fully functioning to its highest capacity.

Upcoming

C109/C110 technology set up

K Building complex computer replacements

Accessible Audio and Video (A/V) upgrades in the cafeteria multi-use space

Account security and password protection resource deployment

Communications and Marketing Report
Renton Technical College Board of Trustees
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ENROLLMENT MARKETING

Campaigns targeting spring enrollments and specific campaigns for Cybersecurity, Cloud Networking, and one-quarter certificate programs are underway.

CRM

Staff and administrators from C&M, Institutional Research, Student Services, and Instruction gathered for an on-site CRM training with two EAB Navigate reps. The goal was to teach others how to use features to gather and track student information, thereby growing enrollment and tracking success and areas for improvement.

COMMUNICATIONS and PROJECTS

- Drafting continuing message to legislators to advocate for our colleges and drafting campus budget messaging.
- Team members collaborated with the Foundation for collateral and publicity for the Student Success Gala.
- Developing materials and communication about the Equity Symposium.
- Continued development and production of Outreach material.
- Enhancing Guided Pathways on the RTC website.

NEWS and Web

New content included:

[Congressional funding will open doors to air and space jobs](#)

[New members joins RTC Board of Trustees](#)

SOCIAL MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS

- LinkedIn shows the best ROI for an organic channel: delivered 1,019 engagements (+506.5% year over year) with zero paid advertising, increasing followers by 27 %. LinkedIn now generates more engagements than Facebook and Instagram combined.
- FB's organic reach is declining as its algorithms change, but it performs well with sponsored posts.



Communications and Marketing Report
Renton Technical College Board of Trustees
March 18, 2026

- Instagram maintains strong organic engagement: 87.5% of Instagram views are organic (10,383 of 11,866). Engagements grew 73.4% YoY with very little paid support.
- Top posts: Lunar New Year, Capture the Flag, Students in Olympia

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Report
Renton Technical College Board of Trustees
March 18, 2026

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Council (DEIC)

The Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Council (DEIC) held a bonus meeting on Monday, March 9, 2026. DEIC meetings are scheduled for the second Monday of each month via Zoom — from 2:30 to 4PM. All DEIC committees host an additional one-hour meeting per month, for a committee commitment of 2.5 hours per month.

2025-2026 DEIC Spring Meeting Schedule

- Monday, April 13, 2026
- Monday, May 4, 2026

Below are updates from the Campus Climate & Data Equity Committee and the Professional Development & Training Committee:

Campus Climate & Data Equity

As required by [RCW 28B.10.147](#), Renton Technical College conducts regular campus climate assessments and listening sessions for students, faculty, and staff to inform institutional decision-making and equity efforts. For more information on RTC campus climate assessments, visit the [Campus Climate Assessment](#) website

The upcoming Campus Climate Survey is scheduled for Spring Quarter. The survey will be open to both employees and students. Results will inform continuous improvement efforts and next phases of implementation.

Professional Development & Training Committee

The Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Council's Professional Development & Training Committee will host the 2nd Annual Equity Symposium on Wednesday, March 25, 2026.

The Equity Symposium is a dedicated, equity-centered professional development day designed to engage all faculty and staff in advancing the goals of the Be the Place Strategic Equity Plan. The event aligns with [RCW 28B.10.145: Diversity, equity, inclusion, and antiracism—Professional development](#), which outlines statewide expectations for diversity, equity, inclusion, and antiracism training in higher education.

This year, we are honored to host Dr. Harvey Hinton III as this year's keynote address. Dr. Hinton is the founder of [Kuumba](#). Dr. Harvey Hinton III is a leadership expert, facilitator,

and thought partner with extensive experience supporting equity, wellness, and collective efficacy across higher education, nonprofit, corporate, and community-based settings.

A complete schedule of programs will be released the week of March 16.

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) – Division Updates

TRIO Student Support Services

- Dr. Lisa Hahn began her tenure as the inaugural Director of TRIO on Wednesday, March 4th. Dr. Hahn will provide strategic leadership for TRIO SSS, strengthen program development and compliance, and continue advancing student success initiatives that support persistence, retention, and completion. Additionally, will lead the TRIO Advisory Board.
- The TRIO Navigator interview concluded the first week of March and concluding reference checks. This position will serve as program support to the Director of TRIO with caseload management and program development.

Student Leadership & Programs

- Associated Student Government (ASG) Senate meetings continue biweekly from 2-3pm in the Unity Center and via Zoom. First meeting of spring quarter is scheduled for Tuesday, April 7, 2026.
- ASG continues in partnership with New Student Orientation. Planning is underway and is scheduled for Thursday, March 26 from 10am-12:15pm at the RTC Cafeteria and various locations. ASG facilitates a welcome activity to engage all incoming students and community building.
- February Event Highlights:
 - Lunar New Year Celebration – February 17
The event offered a community-centered celebration that honored cultural traditions, connection, and shared heritage. Participants came together to recognize and celebrate the spirit of Lunar New Year.
 - Black History Month Celebration – February 25
This celebration featured spoken word by Tina Nache Yarbrough, along with games, food, and community-building activities with over 120 in attendance.

Unity Center

- The Unity Center continues providing the campus community robust programming throughout the month February and March. Unity Center Peer Navigators are finalizing upcoming programming, which will be published at the start of spring quarter.

- From Awareness to Action: Your Role in Allyship (March 3)- In partnership with the Whites for Accountability employee affinity group, the program centered conversations about intersectionality and the importance of authentic allyship,
- Stay-A-Float This Quarter (March 10)- Final event of the quarter brought community together in time for finals with tips to finish the quarter strong and delicious root beer floats.
- RTC in partnership with Green River College and Highline College will host Students of Color Conference (SOCC) regional conference, April 30 & May 1, 2026. The conference shifted to an online format due to safety concerns with ICE in the state of Washington. More information will become available as changes are confirmed.



RTC Foundation Report Renton Technical College Board of Trustees March 18, 2026

Scholarships and Events

2026 Student Success Gala March 7th

Feedback from the sold-out event has been very positive. Overall preliminary numbers: raised \$145,000 – the largest amount for the Student Success Celebration to date! Fundraising goals for the auction, Fund-A-Dream and Table Hosts were exceeded. We fell short of our sponsorship “stretch goal” of \$80,000 but still brought in one of the highest amounts at \$66,500 including three new sponsors.

The Fund-A-Dream raised over \$50,000 for the McCarthy Bridge Grant – the largest amount for that grant since we started doing the Fund-A-Dream promotion in 2023.

The highlight of the evening was the Student Success Showcase video and introducing three of the four students who were featured in the video. Meka Kedir, Nursing, Melissa Nguyen, Central Service Tech, Joao Zenga, Cybersecurity, and Santiago Regalado, Construction Management. All these students received the McCarthy Bridge Grant which enabled them to transition from CCP courses to degree programs. The video is now posted on the RTC YouTube channel and can be shared through social media. Boeing Vice President of Production System & Operational Excellence for Boeing Commercial Airplanes, Manuel “Mani” Tiggs, accepted the 2026 Corporate Generosity Award and spoke about the importance of the RTC partnership. Boeing has provided around \$800,000 in direct funding and employee matching funds over the past two decades to support students.

Many thanks to Doris Martinez, Executive Director of DEI, who served as the evening’s emcee and to the Foundation Team, and to the Board, and the RTC staff who volunteered to make the evening a success.

Spring 2026 Scholarship Cycle

The Scholarship Committee awarded 170 students spring quarter scholarships for a total of \$235,000 in support. There were 239 eligible applicants – the highest number since before the pandemic. The high applicant number dropped our award rate to 71% – a few points below our minimum target of 75%. The award rate decreased due to a 41% increase in applicants and having less funds available through our named scholarships for 2026.

Spring McCarthy Bridge Grant

The Foundation awarded 15 grants for spring quarter. This is a one-time \$4,000 grant for students transitioning from College & Career Pathway courses to degree or certification programs. The grants are funded mainly through an invested gift from Mackenzie Scott beginning in 2022. The Foundation has awarded 53 grants by lottery, representing \$212,000 in support during the 2025-2026 academic year.



**Human Resources
Renton Technical College Board of Trustees
February 2026 Report**

The following personnel actions occurred during February 2026 and are presented for the Board of Trustees' information

AFT	Effective Date	Position	Department
WFSE	Effective Date	Position	Department
-Hires			
Phebe Pavelka	2/17/2026	WorkFirst Services Specialist	Workforce Education & Grants
Prof Tech	Effective Date	Position	Department
-Hires			
Sarah Pasillas	2/1/2026	Renton Promise Program Manager (<i>Position Change</i>)	Financial Aid
Zahra Joseph	2/17/2026	Credentials Evaluator	Enrollment Services
Exempt	Effective Date	Position	Department
-Hires			
Edith Flores De Pelayo	2/1/2026	Manager of Food Services (<i>Position Change</i>)	Food Services
Jordan Mellott	2/10/2026	Executive Assistant to the President / Board Secretary	Administration
RFT	Effective Date	Position	Department

	Monthly Total Hires	% of Diverse Hires YTD
Full-Time	3	73%
Part-Time	0	55%



Office of Innovation and Strategic Partnerships Report
Renton Technical College Board of Trustees
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Progress in February

February marked a month of continued progress across several key initiatives for (OISP). This included further strengthening existing partnerships with local community organizations and businesses, expanding our current Continuing Education offerings, and developing several exciting new non-credit courses currently running and planned for the upcoming spring quarter. In addition, we are finalizing plans to host a second Community Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting on campus to continue advancing the strategies and initiatives identified and discussed during the January inaugural kickoff.

Community Partnerships

Key partnership and engagement activities in February included:

- **RTC All-College Meeting Presentation:** In early February, the Office of Institutional Strategy and Partnerships (OISP) presented at the RTC All-College Meeting to provide faculty and staff with an overview of OISP's role and priorities, along with a call for cross-departmental collaboration. The presentation highlighted our approach to developing community partnerships and our goal of piloting innovative non-credit courses that could eventually lead to future for-credit programs and pathways.
- **Grant Support:** OISP is supporting grant initiatives across Instruction and Student Services, including a Microsoft AI-grant currently being led by the Instructional Division in partnership with the CITL Instructional Design team.
- **OISP Website Updates:** Work is underway to update the OISP website to highlight current community partners and add a partnership inquiry and recommendation process to help coordinate the strong interest in partnerships across campus.
- **Regional Housing Collaboration:** OISP participated in a regional housing consortium led by the King County Housing Authority and Renton Housing Authority focused on addressing affordable housing in RTC's service area. Housing affordability and availability remain significant barriers for many students. This effort also supports RTC's partnership with Vision House, which is expanding housing near campus and has already referred residents to RTC for winter quarter enrollment. OISP is exploring monthly information sessions with Vision House residents to increase awareness of RTC's credit and non-credit programs.
- **Industry Internship Exploration:** Dean Warren Taka and OISP met with Americans for Equity at their Bellevue campus to explore potential partnerships that could provide RTC students with paid and unpaid internships in the technology sector. Located in the WeWork Bellevue building, the organization collaborates with a range of regional technology companies and startups, creating potential pathways for students to gain valuable industry experience.

Continuing Education (CE)

Key Continuing Education initiatives and program developments in February included:

- **3D Civil Engineering Course Expansion:** Our newly launched *Intro to 3D Civil Engineering* course filled to capacity, demonstrating strong demand. In response, OISP will offer a second, more advanced course in the spring to support continued learning for the initial cohort and others interested in the program.
- **Customized Boiler Training Partnerships:** OISP is collaborating with the Western Washington Stationary Engineers Union and Tacoma Public Schools to deliver customized boiler training courses for their members and facilities staff. In addition, RTC will provide on-site boiler training for Marriott hotel maintenance staff this spring. These efforts represent an early expansion of RTC's corporate and contract training model, beginning with the trades and potentially expanding to additional sectors.
- **AI Bootcamp Development:** OISP has formally begun curriculum design and instructional planning for a non-credit AI Bootcamp. We are exploring partnership opportunities with Microsoft and Google to leverage existing training frameworks, industry expertise, and potential instructional resources rather than developing programming entirely from scratch. Initial offerings under consideration include:
 - An **AI/DevOps course** targeted toward IT professionals seeking to update or expand their skills, including those impacted by recent tech sector layoffs.
 - An **AI for Business Applications course** designed to help businesses and individuals adopt AI tools to improve operational efficiency and workflows. These courses will be designed to operate independently of RTC's existing network infrastructure while aligning with RTC's mission. If successful, they may inform the development of future credit certificates, degree pathways, or potential bachelor's-level programs.
- **Consumer Protection and Savings Courses:** Two new community-focused courses are being launched to provide practical financial benefits for participants:
 - **Consumer Protection:** Designed to help individuals recognize and avoid common scams, as well as better understand fair pricing and service practices related to vehicle maintenance and basic home repairs.
 - **Consumer Savings:** Focused on helping participants identify reliable strategies to save money on everyday expenses such as groceries, gas, utilities, and clothing. The course will also include a scholarship search session, providing accessible tools and resources to help individuals and their families identify and apply for scholarships at RTC and other institutions.

These courses will be offered at an affordable price point and are designed to help participants generate long-term financial savings—effectively providing a return on investment for those who enroll.

President's Community Advisory Committee (CAC)

Planning is underway for the President's Advisory Committee's second spring meeting, which will be hosted on-site at RTC. We are targeting a date in May and are finalizing meeting details and invitations this week.

Building on discussions from the previous meeting, the upcoming session will focus on aligning several overlapping initiatives currently underway at RTC and within the broader community. These include efforts such as the Renton Promise and the recent Ballmer Foundation proposal submitted by RTC. We were pleased to be invited by the Ballmer Foundation for a follow-up conversation to discuss two of the core initiatives outlined in our proposal in greater depth.

One of the key areas of focus moving forward is expanding allied health workforce capacity. With both the City of Renton and RTC working to support the expansion of healthcare services and jobs associated with Seattle Children's Hospital's presence in our service area, this presents a timely opportunity for the committee to explore collaborative strategies that strengthen healthcare career pathways and workforce development in the region.



Institutional Research and Effectiveness (IR&E)
Renton Technical College Board of Trustees
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Strategic Planning & Accreditation

- The **Strategic Equity Plan (SEP) Implementation Task Force continues** to meet twice monthly and is on track to complete its deliverables for Cabinet by the end of the academic year. Deliverables include a tool to assess alignment between operational unit plans and the SEP, a tracking system and process to monitor progress on strategic priorities, and a communications plan to keep the SEP visible and relevant to the campus community.
- **Strategic Priorities Progress Updates**
 - Guided Pathways Communication: Results from the All-College Guided Pathways Awareness Poll indicate strong overall awareness of the Guided Pathways framework, with many respondents familiar with the model itself and slightly fewer understanding how it is currently being implemented at RTC.

Question	n	Mean	SD	Min	Max
I am familiar with Guided Pathways.	102	3.81	1.26	1	5
I understand what Guided Pathways is designed to accomplish.	102	3.75	1.23	1	5
I understand how Guided Pathways is implemented at RTC.	102	3.24	1.28	1	5

- RTC New Programming: Instruction and IR&E staff presented new program opportunities to President Harden and VP Jackson. Two of the proposed programs will move forward to the next phase.
- Mandatory New Student Orientation & Advising: A pilot group is scheduled to launch for Summer/Fall registration to improve early student engagement and success. An NSO survey has been launched.
- Digital Literacy: The RTC Library hosts weekly digital literacy sessions, "Tech Help Tuesday".
- Data Culture: IR&E has developed a year-long data learning syllabus for Cabinet and a monthly campus data spotlight featuring engaging data insights. Learning Council is also planning a spring "Data and

Donuts” event to help faculty connect with and explore institutional data.

- Several **Campus Climate recommendations** are underway. Notable progress includes Recommendation #5 (SharePoint Relaunch), led by Technology Council and CTS, and Recommendation #8 (Leadership Development and Accountability), led by HR.
- A **Policy & Compliance Task Force** has been launched and is reviewing and prioritizing college policies to ensure alignment with state requirements, accreditation standards, and institutional values. The team is creating guidance for consistent policy interpretation and recommending a long-term governance structure that promotes transparency, reduces institutional risk, and supports accountability across the college. This work will also support Campus Climate Recommendation #4 (Policies Review).

Unit/Budget Planning

- For **FY27 budget planning**, the Resource & Planning Council has completed its review of all Cabinet-delegated requests and collaborated with budget managers to gather any necessary follow-up information. Voting is now complete, and the results have been forwarded to Cabinet for final decisions.

Student Learning & Assessment

- Members of the **Assessment Committee** are working individually with faculty to support completion of this year’s assessment activities. The goal is for all programs (excluding those in teach-out) to assess all program learning outcomes from the past two years, strengthening continuous improvement in instructional quality. Planning is also underway for the Spring Professional Development Day.

Data & Reporting

- The **IPEDS Spring Survey** cycle is underway.
- RTC has completed the **accountability requirements** for College Affordability and Transparency Center (CATC).
- With strategic indicators finalized for the remaining SEP years, **institutional data sources** are being consolidated to support a sustainable public-facing dashboard aligned with mission fulfillment and NWCCU standards.
- **Academic program data** are being compiled for the Renton Federation of Teachers (RFT) and to strengthen the annual program review process. This work supports the SEP priority of building a campus data culture and meets emerging state and federal accountability expectations.
- RTC staff are collaborating with **Renton School District** on data-sharing efforts to enhance student transitions to RTC.
- This month’s **Deans & Data** discussion focused on class waitlist data.

Systems & Process Improvements

- Efforts to increase adoption and effective use of EAB Navigate continue. On February 26, Communications and Marketing organized a day-long training with EAB staff for employees across campus to strengthen utilization of EAB tools in support of Guided Pathways and SEP priorities.
- The discovery phase for new onboarding software solutions is progressing through collaboration among CTS, IR&E, HR, and Instruction. This work aims to streamline the onboarding experience for all new employees—particularly adjunct faculty—and improve processes for hiring managers.

Ongoing Projects

- RTC participated in a five-college consortium **grant application** to help shape the framework for Workforce Pell implementation in Washington.
- In February, IR&E completed six **ad hoc data and research requests**.



Instruction Report
Renton Technical College Board of Trustees
February 18, 2026

Instruction Update

Winter Update from the Instructional Deans

This month, we have a team video with the instructional deans sharing a highlight from the Winter Quarter.

[Instruction Team Winter Report - https://youtu.be/7iBxjM45vew](https://youtu.be/7iBxjM45vew)



RENTON
TECHNICAL
COLLEGE®

Student Services

Renton Technical College Board of Trustees

March 6th, 2026

Guided Pathways goal progress

This year, one of the Guided Pathways goals, which is also a part of the Strategic Equity Plan, is to revise the advising process for new students to create a more intentional onboarding experience. The advising team will begin with a pilot in the spring for limited programs, then assess, modify and implement comprehensively in the next academic year. Objectives include teaching students how to use various tools, such as program maps and registration steps, which will be necessary skills each term of enrollment. Additionally, it will provide a check point for the student to ensure their program is correct, which has cascading impacts for their funding and registration. These efforts have included researching other colleges in the system, including campus visits, as well as incorporating best practices utilizing guidance from the Council for the Advancement of Standards (CAS) and the National Academic Advising Association (NACADA).

New Student Orientation (NSO) is also undergoing revision as another Guided Pathways goal and as a complementary program to new student advising. Historically, NSO has occurred the week before the new term begins. It is a comprehensive program containing a lot of information. Over time, NSO has been refined to reduce the “fire hose” effect for students, so as not to inundate them with more information that is necessary at that time or can be reasonably absorbed. With revisions to NSO, the planning is towards having an online program where students learn the critical information to support the step of enrolling, then the student completes new student advising, and then they experience Welcome Ravens Day. The Welcome Ravens Day will be the on-campus experience the week before the term starts where it is more focused on meeting classmates and faculty, getting familiar with their classroom(s) and campus, and accessing resources versus lots of task-based items that are best housed in the NSO program. The overarching premise is that students are completing tasks and learning how to navigate systems during the most salient points of their onboarding, all towards the goal of the student being informed and empowered for success as they move through their program of study.

As we pilot these programs, we are mindful of barriers or unintended impacts and will be closely assessing for these, making necessary adjustments.

Renton Technical College
Board of Trustees Meeting
March 18, 2026

AGENDA ITEM: 5. DISCUSSION/REPORTS

SUBJECT:

BOARD CONSIDERATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Information
<input type="checkbox"/>	Action

BACKGROUND:

- A. President's Report
Dr. Harden will provide a report subsequent to the February 18, 2026 Board meeting.

- B. Financial/Budget Status
Vice President Jackson will provide a report of the budget.

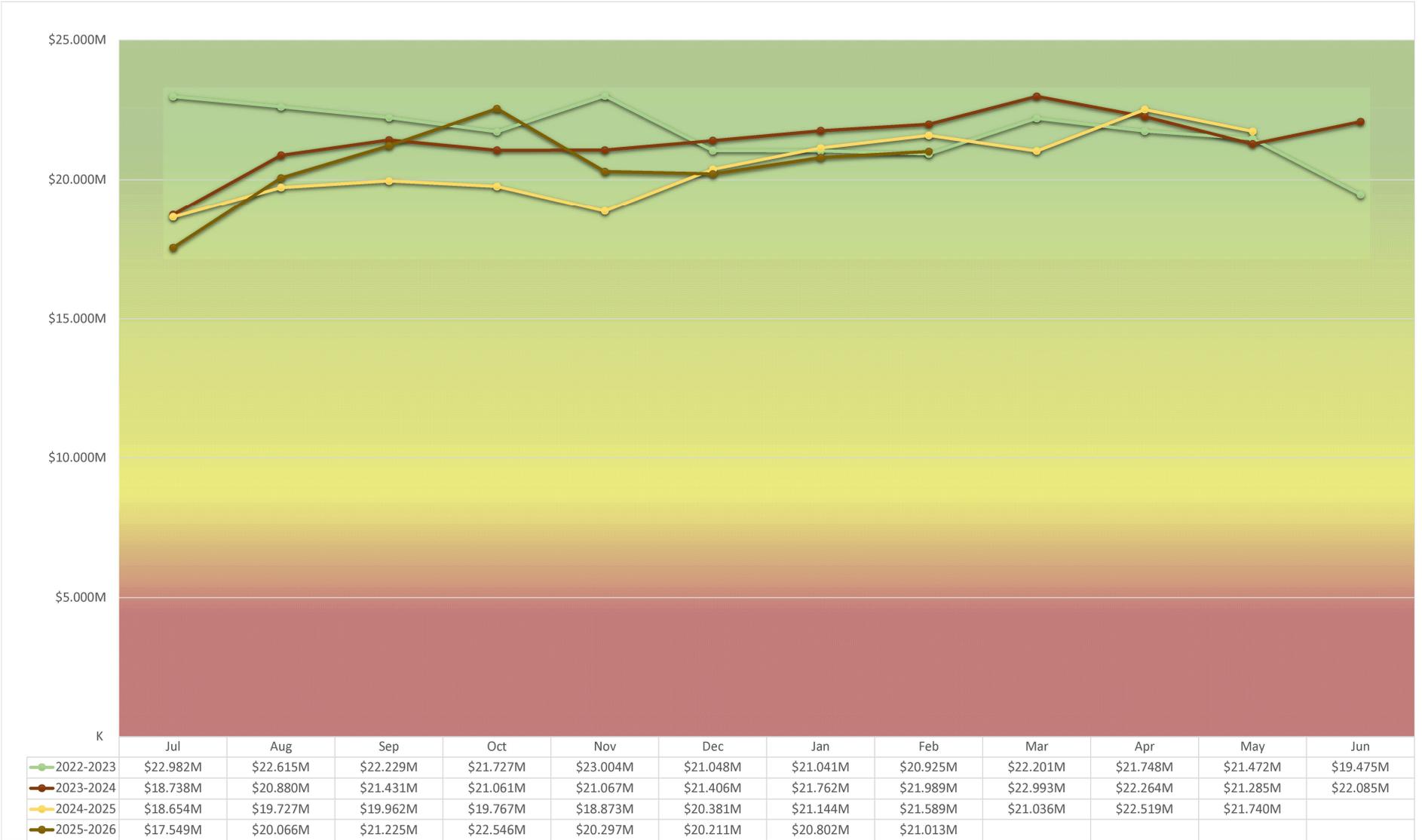
RECOMMENDATION:

None.

RENTON TECHNICAL COLLEGE
MONTHLY OPERATIONS REPORT
FISCAL YEAR 2025-26
For the Month of February 2026

	February 2026 - Actual	Year to Date - February 2026 - Actual	Prior Year to Date - February 2025 - Actual	Variance - Increase (Decrease)
Beginning Cash Balance	3,785,763	3,533,343	9,427,232	(5,893,889)
Add - Revenues:				
Tuition & Fees - Funds 060 148 149 561	3,044,913	11,858,653	9,652,764	2,205,889
Grants and Contracts	353,208	4,339,400	4,210,694	128,706
Student Government	246,399	960,785	785,348	175,437
Bookstore	43,522	117,686	90,175	27,511
Security/Parking	87,100	339,436	216,263	123,173
Culinary Arts - Food Services	45,580	486,135	572,757	(86,621)
Interest Income	63,392	405,199	432,999	(27,800)
Rental Income - Excluding 569	42,343	232,776	181,273	51,503
Scholarship and Student Loan Funds Received	696,853	9,796,881	8,414,695	1,382,186
Net Operating Revenues	4,623,310	28,536,951	24,556,968	3,979,984
Add - State Allocation				
State Allocation - VPA Expenses	3,388,270	23,314,947	24,253,994	(939,048)
Capital Allocation Fund 057	-	345,369	964,783	(619,414)
Capital Allocation Fund 060	55,672	119,176	20,336	98,840
Capital Allocation Fund 26C	157,044	312,806	-	-
Total State Funding	3,600,986	24,092,297	25,239,113	(1,146,816)
Total Revenues	8,224,296	52,629,249	49,796,081	2,833,168
Less - Expenses:				
Salaries	2,755,380	19,992,762	20,655,784	(663,022)
Benefits	836,941	6,554,998	6,490,849	64,148
Goods and Other Services	772,082	7,070,458	7,418,679	(348,221)
Cost of Goods Sold	29,559	195,068	194,729	339
Travel	2,496	80,552	107,578	(27,026)
Equipment	110,480	238,707	54,802	183,905
Financial Aid	400,853	11,046,324	9,760,808	1,285,516
Debt Service	-	132,120	129,806	2,314
Total Expenses	4,907,791	45,310,989	44,813,036	497,953
Net Operating Surplus (Deficit)	3,316,505	7,318,260	4,983,045	2,335,215
Other Sources (Applications) of Cash:				
Changes in Petty Cash; Accts. Receivable & Accts. Payable; Inventory	(2,854,941)	(4,737,441)	(4,786,417)	48,977
Decrease/ (Increase) in Investments & Bond Amortization	(41,611)	(1,370,033)	(357,025)	(1,013,007)
Payment of Bldg, Innovation Fee, and VPA Advance to State	(255,423)	(793,837)	(692,621)	(101,217)
Land Purchase	-	-	-	-
Total Other Sources (Applications) of Cash	(3,151,976)	(6,901,311)	(5,836,064)	(1,065,247)
Adjustments to Cash - Posting Errors	-	-	-	-
Ending Cash Balance	3,950,292	3,950,292	8,574,214	(4,623,922)
Add College Reserves:				
Local Government Investment Pool (LGIP)	12,806,780	12,806,780	10,316,541	2,490,238
Investment Bonds held in trust by US Bank	4,256,316	4,256,316	2,698,552	1,557,764
Total Reserves	17,063,095	17,063,095	13,015,093	4,048,002
Total Cash and College Reserves	21,013,387	21,013,387	21,589,307	(575,920)
	Actual %	Year to Date	Prior Year to Date	Variance
Total Current State Allocation	100%	32,528,073	34,415,596	(1,887,523)
Allocation Used - Year to Date	74%	24,092,297	25,239,113	(1,146,816)
Remaining State Allocation	26%	8,435,776	9,176,483	(740,707)

RTC Month End Cash and Reserves Balances - FYR 2223 to 2526



Renton Technical College
Board of Trustees Meeting
March 18, 2026

AGENDA ITEM: 6. BOARD OF TRUSTEES

SUBJECT: TRUSTEE REPORTS

BOARD CONSIDERATION	
X	Information
	Action

BACKGROUND:

- A. Foundation Liaison Report
The Foundation Liaison position is currently vacant.

- B. Legislative Action Liaison Report
Legislative Action Liaisons, Vice Chair Zappone, will provide an update on legislative action meetings and activity.

RECOMMENDATION:

None.

Renton Technical College
Board of Trustees Meeting
March 18, 2026

AGENDA ITEM: 7. MEETINGS

SUBJECT:

BACKGROUND:

BOARD CONSIDERATION

X Information

Action

- A. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees will be April 15, 2026.

RECOMMENDATION:

None.

Renton Technical College
Board of Trustees Meeting
March 18, 2026

AGENDA ITEM: 8. ADJOURNMENT

SUBJECT:

BACKGROUND:

BOARD CONSIDERATION

Information

X Action

RECOMMENDATION:

Motion required.