

Agenda Items

I. STUDY SESSION

1. Call to Order

Board Chair Tim Cooper called the Study Session to order at 1:11 P.M. and noted that a quorum was present.

2. Executive Session

At 1:15 P.M., Chair Cooper announced that the Board would convene an Executive Session to review the performance of a public employee and to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency the potential of litigation pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) and (i). The Executive Session was scheduled for 45 minutes and extended by five minutes. The Board returned to Open Session at 2:05 P.M.

3. SEP Presentation

Executive Director Doris Martinez and Director Lia Homeister provided an update on implementation of the Strategic Equity Plan (SEP). The presentation included progress toward strategic indicators, establishment of five-year targets, development of a new Guided Pathways Equity Impact measure, and recommendations from the SEP Implementation Task Force. Discussion focused on integrating SEP priorities into college operations, improving employee engagement, promoting data-informed decision making, and aligning strategic work with student success outcomes.

4. Adjournment

Trustee Zappone moved to adjourn the Study Session. Trustee Norouzi seconded, and the motion carried unanimously. The Study Session adjourned at 2:52 P.M.

II. REGULAR BOARD MEETING

1. Call to Order

Chair Cooper called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 3:06 P.M. and noted that a quorum was present.

2. Adoption of Minutes

Trustee Zappone moved to approve the minutes of the May 20, 2026 Board Meeting. Trustee Norouzi seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

3. Communications

A. General Information/Introductions

There were no introductions.

B. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

C. Public Comments from the Audience

There were no public comments.

D. Student Leadership

ASG Vice President Row provided updates on student leadership activities and preparations for commencement. Applications for student committee positions have been completed, and plans are underway for upcoming student events. Roe also informed the Board that several student leaders will graduate this year and shared commencement updates.

E. Renton Federation of Teachers

Dr. Huma Mohibullah reported on the successful completion of negotiations and implementation of high-demand funding provisions. She highlighted continued collaboration with instructional leadership through Instruction Strong meetings and discussed efforts to identify resources that support instruction and student success.

F. Written Communication Reports

Chair Cooper asked about scholarship application trends. Carrie Shaw reported that enrollment fluctuations and reduced contributions from a recurring donor contributed to lower scholarship funding availability this year.

4. Action Items

A. FY27 Budget Report

Vice President Jacob Jackson presented the proposed Fiscal Year 2027 operating budget. The proposal reflects increases in state allocation revenue, enrollment growth, compensation adjustments, and planned investments in programs and personnel. Trustees discussed long-term financial projections, reserve utilization, return on investment for new programs, and equipment replacement planning. Trustee Zappone moved to approve the FY27 Budget. Trustee Peschek seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

B. Quid Pro Quo with RTC Foundation

VP Jackson presented an amendment to the agreement between Renton Technical College and the RTC Foundation. The amendment increases funding to support a Director of Development position and expanded legislative engagement activities. Trustee Norouzi moved to approve the Quid Pro Quo with RTC Foundation. Trustee Zappone seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

C. Prof Tech Contract

Vice President Lesley Hogan presented the negotiated collective bargaining agreement between Renton Technical College and the Renton Professional Technical Association. The agreement includes salary schedule changes, updates to contract language, and professional development enhancements. Trustee Zappone moved to approve the Renton Professional Technical Association 2026-2029 Contract. Trustee Norouzi seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

D. RFT High Demand MOU

VP Hogan presented the High Demand Wage Provision Memorandum of Understanding for the Renton Federation of Teachers. The agreement provides compensation adjustments for designated high-demand instructional areas. Trustee Norouzi moved to approve the Renton Federation of Teachers High Demand Memorandum of Understanding. Trustee Zappone seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

E. FY27 Student and Activities Budget

Director of Student Life Le'Onna Lee presented the proposed Student and Activities Budget for Fiscal Year 2027. The proposal includes increased support for student programs, clubs and organizations, student wages, and student engagement activities. Trustee Zappone moved to approve the Fiscal Year 2027 Student Leadership Budget. Trustee Norouzi seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

F. Tenure Advancement

i. Advancement from Second to Third Year Status

After considering the recommendation of the tenure review committee and all other recommendations, Trustee Norouzi moved that Jingxia (Selinda) Shi be promoted from second to third year status. Trustee Zappone seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

5. Discussion/Reports

A. President's Report

President Yoshiko Harden provided a year-end report highlighting successful tenure-track faculty hiring, enrollment growth of approximately eight percent over the previous year, progress on campus construction projects, and continued development of workforce and student support initiatives. She also provided updates regarding federal and state budget developments, trustee recruitment efforts, and accomplishments achieved during the academic year.

6. Board of Trustees

A. Foundation Liaison Report

Trustee Shana Peschek provided a brief update regarding Foundation activities and ongoing fundraising efforts supporting Renton Technical College students.

B. Legislative Action Liaison Report

Vice Chair Bob Zappone provided an update regarding state legislative activities and issues impacting community and technical colleges.

C. FY27 Election of Officers

Trustee Norouzi moved to nominate Trustee Zappone as Chair of the Renton Technical College Board of Trustees effective July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027. Trustee Cooper seconded, and the motion carried unanimously. Trustee Norouzi thanked Chair Cooper for his leadership and guidance throughout the year.

Trustee Cooper moved to nominate Trustee Peschek as Vice Chair of the Renton Technical College Board of Trustees effective July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027. Trustee Norouzi seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

D. FY27 Appointment of RTC Liaisons

The Board appointed Trustee Zappone as the Representative to the Legislative Advocacy Committee, effective July 1, 2026, and extending through June 30, 2027.

The Board appointed Trustee Norouzi as Liaison to the Renton Technical College Foundation Board, effective July 1, 2026, and extending through June 30, 2027.

The Board appointed Trustee Cooper as Liaison to the Community Advisory Committee, effective July 1, 2026, and extending through June 30, 2027.

7. Meetings

The next regular Board meeting is scheduled for September 16, 2026.

8. Adjournment

Trustee Zappone moved to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Norouzi seconded, and the motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 5:26 P.M.