

**North Central State College
Board of Trustees' Meeting
April 22, 2026**

I. CALL TO ORDER

This meeting was held in a hybrid format with some participants attending in-person in the Board Room (165-Fallerius) and others online via Zoom. Trustee participation was eight in person and none online.

Board Chair, Ms. Linda Nelson called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and asked all to rise and join her in reciting the pledge of allegiance followed by the Global ENDS Policy for North Central State College.

II. ROLL CALL

The Secretary, Mr. Stephen Williams, called the roll.

Present:

Ms. Kristin Aspin
Dr. Dwight McElfresh
Ms. Elisabeth Morando
Ms. Linda Nelson
Ms. Duana Patton
Mr. Steven Stone
Mr. Patrick Williams
Ms. Kimberly Winkle

Absent:

Mr. Mark Masters

III. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

President Diab introduced: Mr. Tom Prendergast, Executive Director for Strategic and Institutional Transformation; and Ms. Jessica Gribben, President & CEO of the Richland Area Chamber

IV. FOCUS OF THE MEETING – Ms. Linda Nelson

Ms. Linda Nelson explained that the focus of the meeting tonight includes an Owners Connection opportunity, consent agenda items and regular agenda items. The meeting will also include customary elements such as governance training and a report on community activities.

V. BOARD-OWNERSHIP ACTIVITY – Dr. Dorey Diab

- Owners Linkage: Ms. Jessica Gribben, President and CEO of the Richland Area Chamber of Commerce & Economic Development

Dr. Dorey Diab introduced Ms. Jessica Gribben, President and CEO of the Richland Area Chamber & Economic Development Group. Following her introduction, Ms. Gribben, presented an overview of the organization’s mission, structure, programs, and regional economic development initiatives. The presentation highlighted the Chamber’s 125-year history, recognition as the 2023 Ohio Outstanding Chamber of the Year, and its role as a leading business advocacy and economic development organization in north central Ohio. Ms. Gribben reviewed the organization’s shared vision of fostering thriving communities, businesses, and workforce opportunities through collaboration and strategic partnerships. She outlined the missions of the Chamber, the Richland Community Development Group (RCDG), and the Mansfield-Richland Area Educational Foundation, emphasizing efforts to support business growth, workforce development, leadership training, entrepreneurship, and community advancement.

The presentation detailed the Chamber’s committee structure, sector engagement activities, leadership and educational programming, and community enhancement initiatives, including beautification projects, arts and culture partnerships, young professional development, and regional leadership programs. Ms. Gribben also reviewed RCDG economic development responsibilities, including business attraction, retention and expansion services, workforce pipeline development, talent attraction strategies, training grant coordination, infrastructure and housing initiatives, and administration of local and state incentive programs. Additional discussion focused on the organization’s partnerships with JobsOhio, Team NEO, the Area 10 Workforce Development Board, educational institutions, and business stakeholders to strengthen regional economic competitiveness.

Ms. Gribben provided an overview of organizational staffing, business advocacy activities, and signature annual events designed to promote networking, professional development, and community engagement. The presentation concluded with a summary of the Chamber’s communication and outreach efforts, including publications, newsletters, surveys, digital communications, and social media engagement, reinforcing the organization’s commitment to supporting local businesses, advancing economic growth, and investing in the long-term success of the Richland County community.

VI. OSU-MANSFIELD ADVISORY BOARD REPORT – Ms. Linda Nelson

Board Chair, Ms. Linda Nelson announced that the next OSU-M Advisory Board meeting is scheduled for May 21, 2026, and that Trustee, Ms. Kristin Aspin has volunteered to serve as the NCSC Board Representative for that meeting.

VII. PRESIDENT’S REPORT – Dr. Dorey Diab

A. Student Organizations Update

A report was provided regarding recent student organization and academic engagement activities across campus. Student Government and the TRIO program continue to sponsor programming and student support initiatives, with particular focus on assisting students and families as the semester concludes. Recognition was given to faculty member Justin Tickhill for leading “Tickhill Tuesdays,” a tutoring initiative supporting biology students in historically challenging coursework areas, which has received positive student feedback.

An update was also shared regarding the college's Phi Theta Kappa chapter, noting continued membership growth and ongoing leadership development activities. Each Friday, the organization hosts guest speakers from leadership and community organizations, including Chris Heiner, Cindy Wood of The Ohio State University, and Dan Varn of United Way. It was further announced that Jesse Halfhill will be recognized as the college's first All-Ohio Academic Team, first-team honoree in several years, with acknowledgment support to be provided by Representative, Marilyn John.

Additional discussion highlighted activities within the college Honors program, including an upcoming poster exhibition featuring 18 student research projects with participation from 17 faculty members. The exhibition is scheduled for April 29 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., with the final location still under review due to ongoing campus construction activities.

B. Foundation Update

President, Dr. Dorey Diab delivered the Foundation report summarizing current fundraising, scholarship, and workforce training activity. Total foundation contributions have exceeded the established annual goal, with approximately \$485,000 received against a target of \$442,000.

Facility rental revenue also surpassed projections, reaching approximately \$41,000 compared to the \$37,000 goal. Additional non-credit workforce training activity has generated approximately \$28,000 to date.

The report further noted that approximately \$258,000 in scholarship award offers have been extended to students, with final utilization figures pending student acceptance and enrollment activity. An update was also provided regarding the employee scholarship campaign, which has generated more than \$4,700 in contributions from college employees in support of student scholarships and educational assistance initiatives.

C. Monitoring Report: Executive Limitations Policy – Asset Protection (04-70)

Dr. Dorey Diab explained that the monitoring report discussion is continuing with going over the six Ends policies and the 10 Executive Limitations.

ASSET PROTECTION (EXECUTIVE LIMITATIONS)

Policy No. 3357:13-04-70

The CEO will not cause or allow corporate assets to be unprotected, inadequately maintained or unnecessarily risked or improperly used.

The CEO will not

4.71 Allow board members, staff, and the organization itself to be inadequately insured against theft, casualty, and liability losses.

4.72 Unnecessarily expose the organization, its board or staff to claims of liability.

4.73 Make any purchase: (a) wherein normally prudent protection has not been given against conflict of interest; (b) of over \$20,000 without having obtained comparative prices and quality.

4.74 Allow intellectual property, information and files to be exposed to loss or significant damage.

4.75 Receive, process or disburse funds under controls that are insufficient to meet the board-appointed auditor's standards.

- 4.76 Compromise the independence of the board's audit or other external monitoring or advice. Engaging parties already chosen by the board as consultants or advisers is unacceptable.
- 4.77 Invest or hold operating capital in insecure instruments, including uninsured checking accounts and bonds of less than AA rating at any time, or in non-interest-bearing accounts except where necessary to facilitate ease in operational transactions.
- 4.78 Endanger the organization's public image, credibility, or its ability to accomplish Ends.
- 4.79 Create or purchase any subsidiary corporation.

The Board Chair (since the board act as one) and key administration personnel (CEO, CFO, Controller, and Foundation Director) are insured for \$1.3 million each. Also, all Board members are covered under the "Pillar Liability Policy" (which includes legal and employment practices) up to \$5,000,000 with a \$10,000 deductible.

We are very diligent in protecting the institution and minimizing its risk for exposure and liability through continuous review of situations that arise with the Attorney General's Office. However, we can't control what actions others may take. We review purchases with an eye on eliminating any conflict of interest. Major purchases are made through vendors that are approved by the state and placed out for bids and comparative process and quality for those equal to or more than \$50,000 for goods, and more than \$100,000 for services.

The Board is aware that we do not do typical university research to warrant for example applying for patents and protect that type of intellectual property. Due to a tremendous global increase in electronic viruses, "spam" and "phishing" attacks (some are referring to this as a "global digital pandemic" in an era of cyberattacks and ransomware facilitated by cryptocurrency), our IT department has been able to thwart thousands of attempts on our systems. We continue to enhance firewall cyber security protection, back-up server capabilities to save our files mostly to the cloud, perform disaster recovery, maintain business continuity, and prevent information from being exposed to loss or damage. The board is aware of our systems thwarting a major cyber-attack on our systems that did not get through. We now have a 24/7 surveillance by an outside agency. Yet, this remains a major concern despite all of our efforts especially when our federal and state governments, and even security and financial companies, get hacked regularly from other governments.

State-approved auditors have been performing their responsibilities while maintaining their independence with no interference from college personnel. This has been proven by the financial audits that have been without any findings. Over the past year, the Office of the Auditor of State conducted an audit of co-located campuses, including community colleges and regional campuses of universities. They continue to follow up on implementation of their recommendations including the Federal Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act with regard to privacy of consumer financial information. We hired an outside consultant to help us implement this process.

We hold no operating capital in insecure instruments, including uninsured checking accounts and bonds of less than AA rating at any time, or in non-interest-bearing accounts. With the increased reserve, we split the cash saving amounts between Park National bank (>\$5M) and STAR Ohio (>\$1M) to earn better interest. One piece of evidence is the high monthly cash-on-hand.

The college's public image and credibility have been generally strong, as evidenced by the many accolades that the college received and many publications in the newspaper and the electronic media. This is

especially true recently after getting Achieving the Dream Leah Meyer Austin National Award, including a financial award of \$100,000; and a Digital Holistic Student Support grant of \$550,000

The College has no subsidiary corporation.

D. College Updates / Other

The President also provided an update regarding national and institutional strategic planning efforts associated with the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) and the Ohio Association of Community Colleges (OACC). Discussion focused on AACC's emerging "Strategic Compass for 2035" initiative under the leadership of Dr. DeRionne Pollard, newly appointed Chief Executive Officer of AACC. The President summarized the framework's major themes, including data-informed governance, student agency and lifelong learning, workforce and civic ecosystem development, innovation, leadership formation, and national advocacy for community colleges. He noted that the framework remains in draft form and is being refined through national listening sessions, stakeholder feedback, and collaborative engagement with community college leaders across the country.

Additional remarks highlighted the college's recent national webinar presentation recognizing the institution's selection as a recipient of the Leah Meyer Austin Award. The President reviewed the college's long-term participation and leadership within Achieving the Dream since 2005, including designation as a Leader College and Leader College of Distinction. Data presented during the webinar demonstrated significant institutional progress in student success outcomes, including increased course completion rates, improved fall-to-fall persistence, and growth in three-year graduation rates. The President also discussed expanded focus on post-graduation outcomes, including employment, wage growth, economic mobility, and community impact, consistent with evolving national higher education accountability measures.

The presentation further addressed institutional initiatives supporting affordability, student completion, workforce development, and technology integration. Examples included reductions in student loan dependency through tuition assistance programs, replacement of traditional developmental education models with co-requisite support systems, expanded use of eight-week course formats, and integration of artificial intelligence and data systems to improve student engagement and decision-making. The President also highlighted partnerships with healthcare, manufacturing, K-12, economic development, and governmental organizations to strengthen workforce pipelines, dual enrollment opportunities, broadband access, and community vibrancy initiatives.

In closing, the President reflected on the institution's culture of continuous improvement and student-centered leadership, emphasizing that institutional success depends upon collaboration, adaptability, data-informed decision-making, and a sustained commitment to student completion, employment outcomes, and regional economic advancement. Appreciation was expressed to faculty, staff, institutional researchers, and Achieving the Dream coaches for their contributions to the college's national recognition and ongoing progress.

VIII. REQUIRED APPROVALS AGENDA – Ms. Linda Nelson

CONSENT AGENDA

The Chair, Ms. Linda Nelson, presented the Consent Agenda and called for any items that should be removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion. On a motion by Dr. Dwight McElfresh and seconded by Mr. Patrick Williams and passing unanimously, the following items were approved.

A. Approval of Minutes for March 25, 2026 “Regular Meeting”

B. Consideration of Approval of Status Change – R-2026-13

**CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF
STATUS CHANGES**

R-2026-13

STATUS CHANGE

BE IT RESOLVED: by the Board of Trustees that the following staff members are hereby awarded the following status change:

BEGINNING March 30, 2026

Julie Ihrig

- *Julie Ihrig will move from Academic Liaison, Health Sciences to Lead Academic Liaison. Expanded duties to provide lead support for advising coordination and lead advising initiatives.*

BEGINNING March 30, 2026

Rebecca Palmer

- *Rebecca Palmer will move from Staff Accountant, Accounts Payable to Senior Staff Accountant. Advancement to Senior Staff Accountant enhances departmental capacity, supports continuity and provides a pathway for expanded responsibilities in support of future succession needs.*

C. Consideration of Approval of Employment of College Personnel – R-2026-14

**CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF
EMPLOYMENT OF COLLEGE PERSONNEL**

R-2026-14

NEW HIRES

BE IT RESOLVED: by the Board of Trustees that the following faculty and staff members are hereby employed at the dates stipulated below:

BEGINNING April 6, 2026

Mikayla Ruscin, Part Time Substitute, Child Development Center

BEGINNING April 6, 2026

Jazmine Spayde, Part Time Substitute, Child Development Center

BEGINNING April 6, 2026

*Leigh Gribble, Part Time Center Support Assistant, Crawford Success Center
California Coast University, Associate of Science, Healthcare Administration*

BEGINNING April 13, 2026

*Morgan Lee-Barton, Academic Systems Specialist
Northwestern University, Bachelor of Arts, English, Environmental Policy and Culture*

EXPLANATIONS OF NEW HIRES FOR RESOLUTIONS R-2026-14

Mikayla Ruscin is hired as Part Time Substitute for Summer 2026.
Jazmine Spayde is hired as Part Time Substitute for Summer 2026.
Leigh Gribble is hired as Part Time Center Support Assistant to replace Amy Van Voorhis.
Morgan Lee-Barton is hired as Academic Systems Specialist to replace Tiffany Detillion.

D. Consideration of Approval of Professional Growth Recognition – R-2026-15

**CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF
COLLEGE PERSONNEL PROFESSIONAL GROWTH RECOGNITION**

R-2026-15

Tiffany Hoff has completed a Child Development Associate Credential Certificate.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: *by the Board of Trustees that the appropriate monetary recognition is added to base salary effective March 30th in accordance with the policy adopted under resolution 1991-30 for “Professional Growth Recognition.”*

Adrianna Moore has completed a Child Development Associate Credential Certificate.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: *by the Board of Trustees that the appropriate monetary recognition is added to base salary effective March 30th in accordance with the policy adopted under resolution 1991-30 for “Professional Growth Recognition.”*

REGULAR AGENDA

**A. Consideration of Approval for the Conferral of the Honorary Degree of Bachelor of Applied
Science – R-2026-16 – Dr. Dorey Diab**

**CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL FOR THE CONFERRAL OF THE HONORARY DEGREE OF
BACHELOR OF APPLIED SCIENCE TO
KAREN A. STOUT**

R-2026-16

WHEREAS: *upon the recommendation of the president with the approval of the board of trustees the honorary degree of associate of applied science, applied business or Bachelor of Applied Science will be*

awarded to those outstanding individuals who have distinguished themselves within the community, as well as with North Central State College, and

WHEREAS: honorary degrees are typically awarded to a living individual who has achieved extraordinary distinction in a career that has affected the lives of others, particularly through scholarly achievement, through public service, or through philanthropy, and

WHEREAS: by awarding honorary degrees, North Central State College recognizes outstanding individuals whose accomplishments are of such excellence that they provide inspiration to our graduates, and in honoring such individuals, the College is honored as well, and

WHEREAS: as President and Chief Executive Officer of Achieving the Dream, Dr. Karen A. Stout has led a national movement across more than 300 community colleges to advance equitable student success and economic mobility, championing evidence-based, student-centered strategies that strengthen completion, align education with workforce needs, and expand access to meaningful career opportunities; and

WHEREAS: Dr. Karen A. Stout has displayed the level of exemplary achievement deemed worthy of the singular recognition conveyed by the conferral of an honorary degree from North Central State College.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that the North Central State College Board of Trustees takes pleasure in conferring upon Karen A. Stout the Honorary Degree of Bachelor of Applied Science, honoris causa, as part of the May 8, 2026 North Central State College Commencement Ceremony in accordance with the policy adopted under Resolution 1978-08 for "Honorary Degrees."

ACTION TAKEN: Ms. Duana Patton moved for approval resolution R-2026-16 Conferral of an Honorary Degree. Mr. Patrick Williams seconded the motion, and the item was approved with a unanimous vote.

B. Consideration of Approval of Nominations for the 2026 Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) Equity Awards – R-2026-17 – Dr. Dorey Diab

**CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF NOMINATIONS FOR THE
2026 ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY COLLEGE TRUSTEES (ACCT) EQUITY AWARDS**

R-2026-17

WHEREAS: the Board of Trustees of North Central State College believe it is fitting and proper to recognize the outstanding efforts and contributions of individual trustees, College Faculty and Staff when appropriate, and

WHEREAS: such recognition for special service to the college and the community can be bestowed through nomination for state, regional and national awards, as such opportunities arise.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that the North Central State College Board of Trustees, takes pleasure in submitting the following nominations for the 2026 ACCT Equity Awards: Ms. Sara Rollo for the Faculty Member Award and Mr. Steven Stone for the Trustee Award.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the Board authorizes Board Chair, Ms. Linda Nelson to cause the associated letters of support to be written on behalf of the North Central State College Board of Trustees.

ACTION TAKEN: Ms. Elisabeth Morando moved for approval resolution R-2026-17 Nominations for the 2026 ACCT Equity Awards. Mr. Patrick Williams seconded the motion, and the item was approved with a unanimous vote.

C. Treasurer’s Report for March 31, 2026 – Dr. Dorey Diab

In Ms. Lori McKee’s absence, Dr. Dorey Diab presented the Treasurer’s Report for the period ending March 31, 2026. He stated that revenues for the month totaled \$864,081. Expenditures were \$1,641,447 leaving a deficit of \$777,365. Year-to-date revenues totaled \$23,245,883. Year-to-date expenditures totaled \$13,671,970 leaving an excess of \$9,573,914. The Month End Investment Balance for March 2026 was \$15,022,146 (\$3,327,961 in Star Ohio and \$11,694,185 in Park National Bank). Dr. Diab described the trends that are demonstrated by the Tracking of the Monthly Cash Flow feature as well as the dashboard indicators.

ACTION TAKEN: Ms. Kimberly Winkle moved for approval of the Treasurer’s Report for the period ending March 31, 2026. Mr. Steven Stone seconded the motion, and following some brief discussion, the item was approved with a unanimous vote.

IX. POLICY GOVERNANCE

A. Discussion of Agenda Planning – Ms. Linda Nelson

1. 2025-2026 Annual Calendar/Agenda

Board Chair, Ms. Linda Nelson called for a preview of the 2025-2026 Annual Calendar/Agenda for the upcoming months of May, June, and July 2026.

2. Review of Actionable Items.

Board Chair, Ms. Linda Nelson reviewed the listing of Actionable Items which included:

- a. Distribute VIP Tickets for Graduation Ceremony to Trustees planning to attend.– This item will be addressed later in the agenda.
- b. Board Members interested in attending the Ohio Academic Team celebration (April 23rd): Confirm attendance with Steve as soon as possible for table arrangements: This item was addressed prior to the April meeting.
- c. Coordinate attendance for interested board members at the North Central Workforce Alliance (NCWA)10-year celebration (April 15): This item was addressed prior to the April meeting

- d. HB96: General Education Curriculum Review: This item will be addressed at the appropriate time in the future.
- e. HB96: General Education Curriculum Changes: This item will be addressed at the appropriate time in the future.
- f. Refer qualified candidates to Dr. Diab for the open Foundation Executive Director position. (if known): On going until position is filled
- g. At the next OACC meeting, inquire about details and virtual options for Trustee Training at the Ohio Trustee Conference and report back to the board: Item will be addressed at the May 2026 meeting.

3. Community Connections.

Dr. Dwight McElfresh

Dr. McElfresh shared information regarding recent outreach and partnership discussions with leadership representatives from Samaritan Hospital. Discussion focused on recent organizational leadership changes, including the appointment of a new Director of Community Involvement, who was described as actively engaged in strengthening community outreach efforts. It was noted that participation opportunities with local civic organizations have resumed, including a recent presentation to the local Lions Club following a multi-year absence.

Additional discussion highlighted continued collaboration between the college and hospital leadership, including positive feedback from the Director of Nursing regarding the performance of North Central State College students participating in clinical and nursing-related experiences. The partnership was described as positive and supportive of continued collaboration opportunities. Further comments referenced discussions with leadership associated with a Link-n-Learn Opportunity initiative in Ashland, with receptiveness expressed toward future partnership and engagement efforts.

Ms. Elisabeth Morando

Ms. Elisabeth Morando shared a personal experience related to nursing care, noting that two nurses involved in a same-day surgical procedure for a friend were graduates of North Central State College. She described both as highly professional and competent, and relayed that they spoke positively about the education they received and how quickly they were able to secure employment after graduation which reinforced her impression of the college's workforce value and the strong career outcomes for its nursing graduates.

B. Board Policy Governance Training (IAW 02.70) – Ms. Linda Nelson

1. Ms. Kimberly Winkle led the discussion of Rehearsal Scenario 3.7 “CEO Evaluation and Compensation. Can They Be Done Fairly?”

In this Scenario: The board is extremely anxious regarding CEO evaluation and compensation decisions. It wishes to be objective and fair and wonders if it has a system to accomplish this. What should it do?

2. Policy Governance Policy Review (IAW 02.14) – training includes a continuing review, refresher, and reassessment of current Policy Governance policies. Ms. Duana Patton led the discussion and review of Governance Process policies 2.7, 2.8, & 2.9. The Board concurred that all policies are all still relevant and still accurate as reviewed.
3. Reflections on 1st Quarter 2026 Self-Assessment Survey (January – March 2026)

The Board Self-Assessment Survey results reflected a generally strong and positive evaluation of board performance and adherence to governance practices. Most categories, including agenda focus, planning effectiveness, participation, respectful engagement, decision-making aligned with Carver policy, and support for the President’s reasonable interpretation of board policy, were rated favorably or at the highest expectation level. There were no substantive negative trends reported, with only limited variation in responses on one item regarding meeting attentiveness.

Overall comments highlighted appreciation for external input, including a briefing from the OSU Advisory Board, along with recognition of board leadership and member contributions. Several acknowledgments were made, including appreciation for presenters, recognition of a retirement, and thanks to individuals who contributed to educational and learning agenda items. The overall tone of the feedback suggested a board that views itself as functioning effectively, with strong alignment between stated governance expectations and actual practice.

X. BOARD CHAIRPERSON REPORT- Ms. Linda Nelson

A. Financial Disclosure Statement Filing Deadline is May 15, 2026

Ms. Linda Nelson reminded Trustees that financial disclosure statements are due soon. Trustees should take whatever action they need to ensure that they are filed by the deadline date.

B. Follow-up from NCO Hall of Excellence (April 16, 2026 – Ralph Phillips Conf. Ctr.)

The discussion reflected strong positive feedback on the Hall of Excellence event held on April 16. Board members and attendees described it as well executed and impactful, particularly highlighting the student speaker and the way the event showcased the institution’s mission and outcomes to the broader community. The student presentations were noted as especially strong, reinforcing confidence in the quality of students being prepared.

Several comments emphasized appreciation for staff efforts in organizing the event, along with recognition of the overall professionalism of the program. There was also mention of the Archer family and the continued recognition of their legacy, including appreciation for related materials and acknowledgment of their long-term impact.

Overall, the conversation centered on pride in the event's execution, gratitude toward staff, and the value of highlighting student achievement and institutional impact.

C. Leader Richland Commitments (May 14, 15 & 18) with 7th & 8th Grade Boys

The discussion focused on planning and logistics for upcoming Leader Richland sessions, with confirmation that speakers and guiding questions were prepared and ready for implementation. Participants reviewed scheduling details, including start times and check-in procedures, and clarified attendance expectations and arrival logistics for those involved. Additionally, it was noted that there is strong participation this year, including a record number of 7th and 8th grade boys.

D. ODHE Trustee Conference (September 10, 2026) and Trustee Training Requirements

The discussion focused on upcoming trustee training requirements from the Ohio Department of Higher Education and related logistics for compliance in 2026. Members noted that final guidance has not yet been released, but the training is expected to be delivered through the Ohio Learns platform, which will require trustees to have an Ohio ID account for access.

There was general encouragement for trustees to establish Ohio ID accounts in advance to ensure readiness once the system is fully implemented. It was noted that the structure and expectations for training are still evolving, with some uncertainty about how requirements will be satisfied, particularly for those who do not attend the in-person trustee conference on September 10. Participants discussed broader concerns about the clarity and administrative burden of the new requirements, including how different institutional types may be affected and how prior training models, including virtual options, might be recognized. Despite the uncertainty, there was a shared sense that guidance is still developing and that advocacy efforts are ongoing to ensure the requirements are practical and achievable. The conversation also included reference to ethics training completion, with a reminder about accessing the online module and ensuring the completion certificate is properly saved as proof of participation.

E. Upcoming Events:

Graduate Picnic & Graduation - The discussion focused on upcoming graduation-related events and logistics. Trustees and staff reviewed details for the graduate picnic scheduled for Thursday, May 7 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., with the location still planned at the Byron Kee Center. They also confirmed details for the formal commencement ceremony on Friday, May 8 at 7:00 p.m.

Ticket distribution for graduation was addressed, with assurance that there are more tickets available than seats, allowing flexibility for attendees who are uncertain about their ability to attend. Several participants indicated they might attend depending on scheduling conflicts, including personal commitments, and were encouraged to take tickets in advance to avoid last-minute coordination issues.

Overall, the conversation centered on final preparations, attendance planning, and ensuring trustees and guests have access to graduation events while maintaining flexibility for changing schedules.

X. MEETING EVALUATION (IAW 02.16)

Board Chair, Ms. Linda Nelson, called for discussion on tonight's meeting:

Trustees noted good attendance and appreciation for the Link-n-Learn activity with Ms. Jessica Gribben from the Mansfield Area Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development.

XI. TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING


The next Regular meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for Wednesday, May 27, 2026, in the Gorman Room (165-Fallerius).

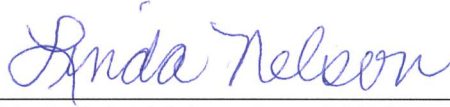
XII. ADJOURNMENT

The Chair called for any additional business requiring Board action.

ACTION TAKEN: As there was no further business requiring the Board's consideration, the Board Chair, Ms. Linda Nelson, declared the meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:


Mr. Stephen R. Williams, Board Secretary


Linda S. M. Nelson, Board Chair