



Attachment 3 – a.

**MILWAUKEE AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGE DISTRICT BOARD
MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN
February 24, 2026**

CALL TO ORDER

The regular monthly meeting of the Milwaukee Area Technical College District Board was held in Open Session on Tuesday, February 24, 2026, and called to order by Chair Case at 4:02 p.m. in the Board Room, Room M210, at the Downtown Milwaukee Campus of Milwaukee Area Technical College.

ITEM 1 a. ROLL CALL

Present: Lauren Baker; Erica Case; Mark Foley; Citlali Mendieta-Ramos; Waleed Najeeb (virtual); Gale Pence.

Excused: Supreme Moore Omokunde

ITEM 1 b. COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN MEETINGS LAW

Discussion Chair Case asked if proper notice of the meeting had been given in compliance with the Wisconsin Open Meetings Law.

Ms. Elizabeth Schultz, board liaison, confirmed proper notice was given.

ITEM 2. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Ms. Anabelle Chavez, community member, spoke on the topic of the closing of the Multicultural Center.

Mr. Carlos Aranda, counselor, MATC, spoke on the topic of the closing of the Multicultural Center.

ITEM 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3 a. Regular Board Meeting: January 27, 2026

Motion It was moved by Director Foley and seconded by Director Pence to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting on January 27, 2026.

Action Motion approved.

ITEM 4. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

- 4 a. **Bills January 2026**
- 4.b. **Financial Report January 2026**
 - i. Second Ellen and Joe Checota Scholarship Program
- 4 c. **Human Resources Report**
- 4 d. **Procurement Report**
- 4 e. **Construction Report**

Motion It was moved by Director Najeeb and seconded by Director Pence to approve the Consent Agenda.

Action Motion approved.

ITEM 5. BOARD ACTION ITEMS

Action Items

- 5 a. **Resolution (F0393-02-26) Authorizing the Sale of \$1,500,000 General Obligation Promissory Notes, Series 2025-2026I of Milwaukee Area Technical College District, Wisconsin.**

Motion It was moved by Director Mendieta-Ramos, seconded by Director Pence, to approve Resolution (F0393-02-26) Authorizing the Sale of \$1,500,000 General Obligation Promissory Notes, Series 2025-2026I of Milwaukee Area Technical College District, Wisconsin.

Action Motion approved, the roll call vote being as follows:

Ayes: Foley, Mendieta-Ramos, Najeeb, Pence, Baker, and Case - 6

Noes: None.

- 5 b. **Resolution (F0394-02-26) Authorizing the Issuance of \$1,500,000 General Obligation Promissory Notes, Series 2025-2026J of Milwaukee Area Technical College District, Wisconsin.**

Motion It was moved by Director Foley, seconded by Director Mendieta-Ramos, to approve Resolution (F0394-02-26) Authorizing the Issuance of \$1,500,000 General Obligation Promissory Notes, Series 2025-2026J of Milwaukee Area Technical College District, Wisconsin.

Action Motion approved, the roll call vote being as follows:

Ayes: Mendieta-Ramos, Najeeb, Pence, Baker, Foley, and Case - 6

Milwaukee Area Technical College District Board

February 24, 2026

Page 3

Noes: None.

5 c. Resolution (F0395-02-26) to Approve Single Audit Report

Motion It was moved by Director Foley, seconded by Director Pence, to approve Resolution (F0395-02-26) to Approve Single Audit Report.

Action Motion approved, the roll call vote being as follows:

Ayes: Najeeb, Pence, Baker, Foley, Mendieta-Ramos, and Case - 6

Noes: None.

ITEM 6. REPORTS – MONTHLY

6 a. Chairperson’s Report

Discussion Chairperson Case shared the following report:

- Chairperson Case and Directors Foley and Pence attended the Association of Community College Trustees National Legislative Summit in Washington, D.C. where they met with congressional representatives and their staff to advocate for the college.
- A half-day board retreat is scheduled for February 27 at 8:00 a.m. in the Board Room at the Downtown MATC Campus.
- A public hearing of the MATC District Board Appointment Committee was held on February 13 at the Downtown Campus District Boardroom to appoint replacement board positions for School District Administrator and Additional Member.
 - Dr. Katrice Cotton was appointed to represent the Board position of School District Administrator Dr. Cotton is currently serving as the Superintendent of the School District of Brown Deer. With a career spanning thirty-seven years, she has developed expertise in strategic planning, budgetary oversight, and K-12 organizational leadership.
 - Charlotte Hayslett was appointed as an additional member. Ms Hayslett currently serves as the Chairwoman of the Board of Commissioners for the Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee and is the founder of Professionally Me Consulting, where she advises businesses on scalable workforce practices.
- A public hearing of the MATC District Board Appointment Committee was held on February 13 at the Downtown Campus District Boardroom to appoint board positions for expiring members for School District Administrator, Employer Member with 15 plus

Employees and Employer Member with 15-plus Employees/Manufacturing.

- Dr. Katrice Cotton was appointed to represent the Board position of School District Administrator.
- Dr. Waleed Najeeb was appointed to represent Employer Member with 15 plus employees.
- The candidate for the Employer Member with 15-plus Employees/Manufacturing withdrew from consideration and a new search is underway.
- District Boards Report
 - Director Foley provided the District Boards Association report.

6 b. President's Report

Discussion Dr. Cruz shared the President's Report. Highlights included:

- The college celebrated Black History Month with events throughout the month, including a community luncheon, a mental health session, a campus blood drive, and school-wide t-shirt day. The month concludes with the annual Black History Month Banquet.
- The downtown campus hosted a naturalization ceremony on February 6. Dr. Cruz was honored to welcome the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Office, representatives from the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Wisconsin, and the new citizens and their families. The ceremony, led by U.S. Magistrate Judge Nancy Joseph, who administered the oath of allegiance, concluded the naturalization process for immigrants originating from over 31 countries.
- On February 6, the Oak Creek Campus co-hosted a successful MMAC Council of Small Business Roundtable event with Director Gale Pence, which was an opportunity to have influential business leaders on campus to see the college's labs and the ECAM facility.
- The second annual Jamar Shaw Scholarship was presented to MATC Entrepreneurship student Kalyn Harris on February 9 at the Downtown Campus. The scholarship was established in memory of Jamar Shaw by his mother, Katina Shaw, and the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) Council 333. Dr. Cruz was joined at the presentation of the award by Katina Shaw, the Milwaukee Brewers and LULAC Council President Fela Salinas.
- The Asian Affinity Group held a Lunar New Year celebration on February 17 at the Downtown campus for all MATC students, staff, faculty and the community.
- Dr. Cruz was recently appointed to the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors for the Wisconsin Public Policy Forum (WPPF). This non-partisan organization plays a vital role in the state by conducting independent, in-depth research on critical public policy

issues and providing objective analysis to policymakers, community leaders, and the public. This appointment reflects his commitment to engaging with and contributing to organizations that are essential to the future prosperity of Wisconsin.

- MATC's CareerHub hosted a "Career Fair Edition" Fashion Show on February 18 at the Downtown Campus Student Lounge. The goal of the event was to boost student confidence and provide practical fashion advice to help with the transition from campus to careers.
- The MATC Foundation facilitated a strategic visit with the General Consul of Germany on February 20. This meeting, which included key leaders from Workforce Solutions and Institutional Effectiveness, focused on advancing education and workforce development initiatives that directly benefit MATC students and the Milwaukee economy.
- The MATC men's basketball team is heading into the NJCAA Region 4 Tournament on a 20-game winning streak, finishing the regular season with a 27–3 record and number five ranking in the nation (NJCAA Division II). The Stormers will be hosting the NJCAA Region 4 Semifinals on February 26 at 7:00 p.m. vs. Prairie State College.
- The MATC women's basketball team also begins postseason play this week, competing in the Region 4 Women's Basketball Division II Midwest District B Tournament, hosted by Rock Valley College. MATC earned the No. 10 seed in the 16-team combined bracket and will open on the road against No. 7 Oakton.

6 c. Treasurer's Report

Discussion Director Gale Pence provided the monthly Treasurer's Report.

6 d. District Student Senate Report

Discussion MATC student William Musoke provided the District Student Senate Report.

6 e. Quarterly Legislative Update

Discussion Ms. Ramie Zelenkova, partner, Hubbard Wilson & Zelenkova, LLC provided the quarterly legislative update.

ITEM 7. BOARD MONITORING

7 a. Review of Board Self-Evaluation Instrument

Discussion Chairperson Erica Case led the discussion on the board's self-evaluation instrument.

7 b. Advisory Councils

Discussion Dr. Phillip King, executive vice president, was joined by Barb Cannell, executive dean, Academic Systems and Integrity, and Gabe Schauf, instructor, Serve Pathway, presented on advisory councils.

ITEM 8. NEW BUSINESS

Director Baker asked for further conversations related to the hiring issues she raised at the January meeting.

Director Foley asked for more information regarding an item in the Legislative Report.

ITEM 9. FUTURE EVENTS/ ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. February 27, 2026, MATC District Board Half Day Retreat, 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., Downtown Milwaukee Campus Board Room (M210)
- b. March 24, 2026, MATC District Board Meeting, 4:00 p.m., Downtown Milwaukee Campus, Board Room (M210).

ITEM 10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Kowochich

On behalf of Board Secretary Waleed Najeeb

* This meeting may be conducted in part by telephone. Telephone speakers will be available to allow the public to hear those parts of the proceedings that are open to the public.

** Action may be taken on any agenda item, whether designated as an action item or not. Agenda items may be moved into Closed Session for discussion when it becomes apparent that a Closed Session is appropriate under Section 19.85 (c) of the Wisconsin Statutes. The board may return to Open Session to take action on any item discussed in Closed Session.

Reasonable accommodations are available through the ADA Office for individuals who need assistance. Please call 414-297-6719 to schedule services at least 48 hours before the meeting.