RARITAN VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 18, 2026

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I. Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Raritan Valley Community College was held on Tuesday, August 18, 2026, in person and via Zoom Webinar. Board of Trustees Chair Zenon Christodoulou called the Regular Board of Trustees meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and made the following statement in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act of the State of New Jersey:

"ADEQUATE NOTICE OF THIS MEETING HAS BEEN GIVEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE "OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT" OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY."

II. Swearing-In of New Board of Trustees Alumni Representative Michael Enzo Gaspar by Judy Verrone, Esq.

Judy Verrone, College Counsel, swore in new Alumni Representative Michael Enzo Gaspar to the Board of Trustees. Enzo graduated in May with an Associate of Science Degree in Health Sciences. While at RVCC, he was active in campus life, serving as president of the Filipino PEACE Club and a senator of the Student Government Association. He was also a member of Phi Theta Kappa, the honor society for two-year colleges, and worked as a student worker for the College's Student Life office. Additionally, he volunteered for the Bradley Gardens Rescue Squad as an EMT and is an active member of The Vine's Church in Raritan.

Enzo will be continuing his education this fall at Kean University, where he plans to pursue a Bachelor's Degree in Public Health. Chair Christodoulou welcomed Michael Enzo Gaspar to the Board of Trustees and said he looks forward to working with Enzo in his new role.

III. Roll Call

The roll call was taken as follows:

Present:
Members: Caren Bateman, Terence Byrd, Dr. Zenon Christodoulou, Enzo Gaspar, Michael D. Goldberg, Roger Locandro, Howard Opdyke, Margaret Sullivan, Dr. Helena A. Swanicke, James A. Von Schilling

Absent:
Members: Roger A. Jinks, Nidhi Makhija, Adam Shain, Juan Torres
Also in attendance: Michael J. McDonough, President; Judy Verrone, Esq., College Counsel; and members of the College community.

A quorum was present.

IV. Agenda Items

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes

   A. June 30, 2026 Regular Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

   Motion:
   Motion moved by James A. Von Schilling and motion seconded by Caren Bateman. The Regular meeting minutes of August 18, 2026, were approved by voice vote.

2. Reports from the President and Chair

   President Michael McDonough announced that Raritan Valley Community College has been recognized as the "Best Community College in New Jersey" by WalletHub. This ranking is based on a comprehensive analysis of 18 key factors used to evaluate community colleges nationwide. President McDonough thanked the RVCC community for their contributions to this achievement. He also emphasized that, as the Fall semester approaches, preparations are in full swing for students' return on September 2, 2026.

   Dr. McDonough took a moment to recognize two retirements listed on the Education Committee agenda, John Trojan and Michael Marion. President McDonough acknowledged Mr. Trojan's considerable years of service to the college as Vice President of Finance and Facilities. He shared that Mr. Trojan cared deeply about the college and his colleagues and felt it was an honor and a gift to work in a place he loved.

   President McDonough then spoke about Michael Marion, the Executive Director of the RVCC Foundation, who will retire on December 31, 2026. He commended Mr. Marion for his remarkable impact on the RVCC Foundation, highlighting his exceptional talents and dedication. Mr. Marion has been a steadfast advocate for student advancement and has profoundly influenced the Foundation's culture through his outstanding efforts.

3. Committee Reports

   A. Finance Committee

   Trustee Caren Bateman reported on behalf of Finance Committee Chair Roger Locandro.

   Resolution #1-FY27 Treasurer's Report

   Trustee Bateman reported on the Treasurer’s Report (Resolution #1-FY27) for the period 06/01/26 through 07/31/26.

   Motion:
   Motion moved by Dr. Zenon Christodoulou and motion seconded by James A. Von Schilling. The Treasurer's Report (Resolution #1-FY27) was approved by voice vote.

Regular Meeting Action Items

Trustee Bateman then presented Consent Agenda Resolutions #2-FY27 through #16-FY27. Resolution #17-FY27 was withdrawn prior to the Finance Committee Meeting.

Administrative Resolutions

Please note that Resolution #3-FY27 Appointment of Commissioners to Somerset County Joint Insurance Fund has been corrected.

Resolution #2-FY27 Backup - Vouchers Aug 18 2026

Resolution #3-FY27 Appointment of Commissioners to Somerset County Joint Insurance Fund REVISED

Campus Infrastructure

Resolution #4-FY27 Replacement of the College Center Chilled Water Pump - Pay to Play

Resolution #5-FY27 Equipment, Hardware, and Supplies 2026-2027 - Pay to Play

Resolution #6-FY27 Emergency Mold Remediation at the Optical Clinic - Pay to Play

Resolution #7-FY27 Furniture for the Human Resources Suite

Resolution #8-FY27 Emergency Chiller Line Repairs

Resolution #9-FY27 Paving of the RVCC Visitors' Parking Lot

Resolution #10-FY27 Pool Maintenance Services 2026-2027 - Pay to Play

Resolution #11-FY27 Bathroom Renovations

Resolution #12-FY27 Concrete Balcony Repairs and Restoration

Resolution #13-FY27 Electrical Services for the New RVCC Modular Building

Resolution #14-FY27 Emergency Roof Repairs

Resolution #15-FY27 Interior Wayfinding Signage

Athletics

Resolution #16-FY27 Live Streaming Services for RVCC Athletic Events 2026-2029 - Pay to Play

Education

WITHDRAWN - Resolution #17-FY27 Tool Kits for the Automotive Technology Program - Pay to Play

Motion:

Motion moved by Dr. Zenon Christodoulou and motion seconded by Michael D. Goldberg. Resolutions #2-FY27 through #16-FY27 were approved by voice vote.

B. Strategy and Vision Committee

Trustee Michael Goldberg, Chair of the Strategy and Vision Committee, reported that the committee met earlier today to discuss metrics for quantifying and qualifying the new Strategic Plan goals through 2030. Trustee Goldberg mentioned that a dashboard will be available on the website soon. He also thanked Darren Smith, Executive Director of Institutional Effectiveness, and Provost Dr. Karen Bearce for their informative session.

C. Educational Programs and Services Committee

Committee Chair James Von Schilling reported that the Committee met earlier in the day to review Consent Agenda Resolutions #18-FY27 through #22-FY27. Trustee Von Schilling reported that the committee discussed the challenges community colleges face in offering four-year degrees.

1. Action Items

Resolution #18-FY27 Human Resources Action Report for August 18, 2026

Resolution #19-FY27 FY2026/2027 Reappointments, Second Year & Beyond Faculty, Librarians, Counselors and Teaching Assistants (UPDATED August 2026)

Resolution #20-FY27 FY2026/2027 Reappointments, First Year Teaching Faculty, Librarians, Counselors and Teaching Assistants (UPDATED August 2026)

Resolution #21-FY27 Reappointments, Second Year and Beyond - CORRECTION

Resolution #22-FY27 Status Change- Administrator to Full-time Tenure Track AY 2026-2027 Faculty Appointment Motion:

Motion:
Motion moved by Michael D. Goldberg and seconded by Caren Bateman. Resolutions #18-FY27 through #22-FY27 were approved by voice vote.

D. Governance, Policy & Presidential Evaluation Committee

Committee Chair Caren Bateman reported that the Governance, Policy, and Presidential Evaluation Committee met earlier in the day.

1. Campus Safety Update

Trustee Caren Bateman reported that the Campus Safety Report for the period from June 17 through July 30, 2026, was discussed by the Committee and subsequently provided to the full Board of Trustees via the OnBoard portal.

2. Action Items

Resolution #23-FY27 Appreciation of Service: Victor Komosinski, Alumni Representative to the Board of Trustees

Board of Trustees Chair Dr. Zenon Christodoulou read Resolution #23-FY27, which recognized the dedication and hard work of Victor Komosinski, the former Alumni Representative to the Board of Trustees. Chair Christodoulou also extended his best wishes to Mr. Komosinski as he embarks on his new endeavors.

II. Old Business

III. New Business

IV. Public Comment

Chair Christodoulou read the following statement into record:

"The Board will take any comments from the public at this time. The Board will not respond to comments made, and speakers are limited to two minutes. Public Comment will not exceed 40 minutes in total."

Victor Komosinski, the former Alumni Representative to the Board of Trustees, addressed the board with heartfelt appreciation. He expressed sincere gratitude for the honor of serving over the past year, highlighting the invaluable opportunity to learn about college governance and effective leadership. In closing, he wished the college continued success in the years ahead.

V. Adjournment

There being no further business to bring before the Board, the Regular Meeting adjourned at 4:28 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Annette LaCanna
Manager, Executive Office and Secretary to the RVCC Board of Trustees