



BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT 535  
1600 E. GOLF ROAD  
DES PLAINES, ILLINOIS

**ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING**

**APRIL 22, 2025**

**4:30 P.M.**

**BOARDROOM 1506**

## Mission, Vision, and Values Statements

### Mission

Oakton is the community's college. By providing access to quality education throughout a lifetime, we empower and transform our students in the diverse communities we serve.

### Vision

Dedicated to teaching and learning, Oakton is a student-centered college known for academic rigor and high standards. Through exemplary teaching that relies on innovation and collaboration with our community partners, our students learn to think critically, solve problems, and to be ethical global citizens who shape the world. We are committed to diversity, cultural competence, and achieving the equity in student outcomes.

### Values

*A focus on Oakton students is at the core of each of these values.*

- We exercise **responsibility** through accountability to each other, our community, and the environment.
- We embrace the **diversity** of the Oakton community and honor it as one of our college's primary strengths.
- We advance **equity** by acknowledging the effects of systemic social injustices and intentionally designing the Oakton experience to foster success for all students.
- We uphold **integrity** through a commitment to trust, transparency, and honesty by all members of the Oakton community.
- We cultivate **compassion** within a caring community that appreciates that personal fulfillment and well-being are central to our mission.
- We foster **collaboration** within the college and the larger community and recognize our interdependence and ability to achieve more together.

*Ratified by the Board of Trustees on March 21, 2017 and reaffirmed on September 17, 2024.*

### Land Acknowledgment for Oakton

Oakton is the community's college. We recognize that our community embodies a network of historical connections and contemporary relationships with Native peoples, families, students, and alumni. We continue to live and work on the traditional homelands stolen from many different Native peoples, including but not limited to the Bodéwadomi (Potawatomi), Ojibwe (Chippewa), Odawaa (Ottawa), Kiikaapoi (Kickapoo), Mamaceqtaw (Menominee), Myaamiaki (Miami), Thakiwaki (Sac and Fox) and Hoocągra (Ho-Chunk) nations. Others have settled and cared for this land from time immemorial. The land of our Des Plaines campus nurtured a large Potawatomi settlement along the Des Plaines River. This was a site of trade, travel, and gathering for many Native people. With the lush forests and vibrant river, these communities flourished in this beautiful land of biodiversity and reciprocity. These lands are still home to many Native people of many nations.

*Adopted by the Board of Trustees on December 13, 2022.*

### Anti-Racism Statement

Oakton is an anti-racist, inclusive, transparent institution; invested in and accountable to the communities we serve. We are committed to transforming all curricula, policies, structures and practices to dismantle and eliminate racism and other forms of oppression so all members of our community thrive. Through reflection, empowerment, and accountability to anti-racist people of color, we model the socially just and equitable transformation that we want to see in the world.

*Adopted by the Board of Trustees on February 15, 2022.*

### Neurodiversity Statement

Oakton College is committed to recognizing the neurodiversity of our community and developing equitable policies and procedures to enhance the Oakton experience for all students, employees, and community members.

*Adopted by the Board of Trustees on August 15, 2023.*

ILLINOIS PUBLIC  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
DISTRICT 535

MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
APRIL 22, 2025



1600 East Golf Road  
Des Plaines, Illinois 60016

Organizational Meeting  
4:30 p.m.  
Room 1506

## AGENDA

Call to Order and Roll Call

Pledge of Allegiance

Land Acknowledgement

Statement by the President

Comments by the Chair

## NEW BUSINESS

R      4/25-1      Resolution Declaring Results of April 1, 2025 Consolidated General Election,  
Community College District 535, Office of Trustee

Oath of Office – Seating of New Trustees

V      Adjournment *Sine Die*

R      Call to Order and Roll Call

R      4/25-2      Recommendation for Seating of Student Member of the Board of Trustees

V      Adjournment *Sine Die*

R      Call to Order and Roll Call

R      4/25-3      Resolution Organizing the Board of Trustees for the Term Commencing  
April 22, 2025

## ADJOURNMENT

STATE OF ILLINOIS       )  
                                      ) SS:  
COUNTY OF COOK        )

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT 535  
COUNTY OF COOK AND STATE OF ILLINOIS**

**RESOLUTION DECLARING RESULTS OF APRIL 1, 2025 CONSOLIDATED  
GENERAL ELECTION, COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT 535  
OFFICE OF TRUSTEE**

**“WHEREAS**, on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of April 2025, there was held in and for Community College District 535, an election for the purpose of electing three Trustees to serve on the Board for one six-year term each;

**WHEREAS**, it is the responsibility of the Cook County Clerk to canvass the election results 21 days following the election;

**WHEREAS**, the election authority has delivered the official Abstract of Votes to the local election for Community College District 535;

**WHEREAS**, the Board must meet to declare the results of the election and hold their organizational meeting within the time period of between 21 and 28 days following the election and that the term of the new trustees must commence at the organizational meeting held within 28 days following the election;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT 535, COUNTY OF COOK AND STATE OF ILLINOIS THAT:**

1. The election held on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of April 2025, was held in all respects as provided by law; and the returns of the election have been duly canvassed by the Cook County Clerk’s office and filed with the Secretary of the Board.
2. The Board finds that the following total votes were cast in Community College District 535 in favor of the following candidates:

STATE OF ILLINOIS       )  
                                      ) SS:  
COUNTY OF COOK        )

**ABSTRACT OF VOTES**

Votes were cast in the non-partisan election held on April 1, 2025, in Cook County, Illinois, to elect three individuals to serve one six-year term each on the Board of Trustees of Community College District 535, and we do hereby proclaim the results of the election as follows:

1. Three candidates named to serve one six-year term each received the number of votes ascribed opposite his/her name:

<b><u>NAME of CANDIDATE</u></b>	<b><u>NUMBER of VOTES</u></b>
<b>Wendy B. Yanow</b>	<b>31,172</b>
<b>Micah J. Eimer</b>	<b>24,654</b>
Rene Mandin	18,273
Michele Hays	17,079
<b>Marie Lynn Toussaint</b>	<b>27,436</b>
Cheryl Brown	21,661

2. We do hereby further certify and proclaim that as a result of the election, **Wendy B. Yanow**, **Micah J. Eimer** and **Marie Lynn Toussaint**, were each elected to serve a six-year term on the Board of Trustees of Community College District 535, County of Cook and State of Illinois.”

	<b><u>AYE</u></b>	<b><u>NAY</u></b>	<b><u>ABSENT</u></b>
Marie Lynn Toussaint, Chair	_____	_____	_____
Martha Burns, Vice Chair	_____	_____	_____
Theresa Bashiri-Remetio, Secretary	_____	_____	_____
Gail Bush	_____	_____	_____
Benjamin Salzberg	_____	_____	_____
William Stafford	_____	_____	_____
Wendy Yanow	_____	_____	_____

STATE OF ILLINOIS       )  
                                      ) SS:  
COUNTY OF COOK        )

**SECRETARY'S CERTIFICATE AS TO THE ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS**

I, Theresa Bashiri-Remetio, do hereby certify that on April 22, 2025, I served as the Secretary of the Board of Trustees of Community College District 535, County of Cook and State of Illinois, and in such capacity, I prepared the records of business transacted by the Board on that date.

I do hereby further certify that attached hereto is a true and complete copy of the Resolution titled:

**RESOLUTION DECLARING RESULTS OF ELECTION HELD APRIL 1, 2025**

which was adopted at a duly convened regular meeting of the Board on April 22, 2025.

This Certificate is executed at Des Plaines, Illinois this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of April 2025.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Theresa Bashiri-Remetio  
Secretary, Board of Trustees  
Community College District 535  
County of Cook and State of Illinois

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
COUNTY OF COOK

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of April 2025.

SEAL

\_\_\_\_\_  
Beatriz Sparks  
Notary Public

**Recommendation for Seating of Student Member of the Board of Trustees**

SECTION 1: An election for the Student Member of the Board of Trustees was held March 24-31, 2025. The election was conducted in all respects as provided by law and according to Policy 1005. The election was conducted online, using the Simply Voting software purchased by the Student Government Association. Currently enrolled students were provided a ballot via email and Simply Voting provided a secure method to permit students to vote from their computer or mobile device; 138 students cast ballots in the election.

The returns of the election have been duly canvassed by the Judges of Election. The student meets all qualifications for Trustees as specified in Policy 1004.

SECTION 2: The Board of Trustees declares that Chris AbiNader received 95 votes (77.9%) for the office of Student Member of the Board of Trustees. His opponent Akash Patel receiving 27 (22.1%) with 16 (11.6%) abstaining votes cast, thereby declaring Chris AbiNader the successful candidate to serve as the Student Trustee with a term commencing on April 22, 2025 and concluding at the Board of Trustees meeting in April 2026.

SECTION 3: This resolution shall be effective from and after its passage as provided by law.

Adopted this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of April 2025

AYES: \_\_\_\_\_

NAYS: \_\_\_\_\_

ABSENT: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Board Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Board Secretary

LC:bs  
4/2025

**Resolution Organizing the Board of Trustees for the Term Commencing April 22, 2025**

According to Board Policy 1011 and in conformance with the Illinois Public Community College Act, Chapter 110, Act 805, Section 3-8 (110 ILCS 805/3-8), the Board of Trustees of Community College District 535 elects its officers, comprised of a Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary, from its membership, and appoints a Treasurer—not a member of the Board—at its organizational meeting held in April. Board policy provides that each officer shall serve for a term of one year.

Also, at the organizational meeting, the Board establishes a calendar of meetings for the ensuing calendar year in accordance with 110 ILCS 805/3-8, to be made available to the public the following January in accordance with the Open Meetings Act, Chapter 5, Act 120, Section 2.03 (5 ILCS 120/2.03).

JLS:bs  
4/2025

**President's Recommendation:**

That the Board adopts the following resolution:

“WHEREAS, pursuant to College policy and in accordance with the Illinois Public Community College Act, as amended (110 ILCS 805/3-8), the Board of Trustees of Community College District 535 elects its officers comprised of a Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary, from its membership, and appoints a Treasurer, not a member of the Board, at its annual organizational meeting held in April.”



Nomination of Officers: The Chair will ask for nominations for each individual office.

Nominations for the Office of CHAIR of the Board;  
Nominations for the Office of VICE CHAIR of the Board;  
Nominations for the Office of SECRETARY of the Board;

“NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT 535, COUNTY OF COOK AND STATE OF ILLINOIS THAT:

1. The Board is hereby organized for the term commencing April 22, 2025.
2. The time and place for regular meetings of the Board for the calendar year 2026 shall be fixed as follows:

January 20, February 17, March 17, April 21, May 26, June 30, August 18, September 15, October 20, November 17, December 15.

Beginning at 6 p.m., in the Boardroom (1506) at Oakton College, 1600 E. Golf Road, Des Plaines, Illinois (unless otherwise indicated).

Proper notice and agenda will be posted as required by law.

3. All Board rules, policies, and procedures in effect during the previous year shall remain in effect.
4. Ms. Michele Roberts is hereby appointed Treasurer to serve at the pleasure of the Board for no additional compensation, provided that before entering upon his duties, the Treasurer shall execute and deliver to the Board a bond, as required by the Illinois Public Community College Act.”

# CERTIFICATION OF ORGANIZATION

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT 535

In accordance with the provisions of Illinois Revised Statutes, chapter 110 ILCS, paragraph 805/3-8, I do hereby certify that the \_\_\_\_\_ Board of Trustees was organized on April 22, 2025, with the following officers being elected:

\_\_\_\_\_, *Chair*

\_\_\_\_\_, *Vice Chair*

\_\_\_\_\_, *Secretary*

I further certify that the board has established its regular meeting schedule for calendar year 2026 being at \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_, such meetings to be held at \_\_\_\_\_.

The terms of office for the above-mentioned officers are for \_\_\_\_\_ years.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Chair, Board of Trustees

Date \_\_\_\_\_