

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF MIDDLESEX COLLEGE

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 18, 2026

The scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees of Middlesex College was held at 8:30 a.m. in the Dorothy K. Power Boardroom located on the Edison campus and on Zoom. Board members present were: Mmes. Buteas, Delgado, Madhukar, and Roman, and Messrs. Anderson, Finkelstein, Oras, Paluri, Raja, Sica and Taffet. Ms. Ruiz was absent. Also present were President McCormick, General Counsel Mr. Hoffman, Vice Presidents Ms. Coffaro, Dr. Herron, Dr. Laureano, Dr. Miller, Human Resources Executive Director Ms. Stephen, Facilities Management Executive Director Mr. Deak, Information Technology Executive Director Mr. Mattaliano and Assistant Secretary Ms. Roa.

In compliance with the “Open Public Meetings Act” of the State of New Jersey, adequate notice of this meeting was provided as follows:

- (a) On November 17, 2025, advance written notice of this meeting was posted in the lobby of Chambers Hall and the College Center.
- (b) On November 17, 2025, advance written notice of this meeting was emailed to the Home News Tribune and The Star Ledger.
- (c) On November 17, 2025, a copy of this advance notice of the meeting was filed with the Clerk of the Middlesex County Board of County Commissioners.
- (d) On November 17, 2025, a copy of this advance notice was filed with the President of Middlesex College.
- (e) Any individual who has requested notice of this meeting has been forwarded a copy of the notice of such meeting.

MINUTES

Mr. Taffet moved, seconded by Mr. Anderson, to adopt the minutes of the February 18, 2026 Board of Trustees regular meeting.

After discussion, the motion was approved.

PRESENTATION

Ms. Lyn Stephen, Executive Director of Human Resources updated the Board on the changes that have occurred in HR. She reported that HR has undergone a significant transformation over the past six months, shifting from a transactional, process-focused unit to a strategic partner across the institution. She reported that the HR Department has evolved from a “department of rules” to a “department of results,” focusing on empowering employees, enhancing organizational effectiveness, and contributing to student success.

COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS FROM THE TRUSTEES

Mr. Anderson thanked Ms. Stephen for her presentation and emphasized that Human Resources is foundational to the campus culture at Middlesex College. He noted that the team's efforts in recruiting and retaining strong employees positively reflect on the Board, leadership, and overall campus, and expressed confidence that employees are well supported.

Mr. Taffet emphasized that HR serves as the first line of defense, playing a critical role in fostering culture, trust, and credibility with employees. He highlighted the importance of investing time and energy into supporting staff and developing future talent such as their student worker, Scarlet Espinal. He commended the HR team for taking this responsibility seriously.

Mr. Paluri stated that HR is the heart of any organization and noted that the 0.8 attrition rate is unheard of in any industry. He inquired as to whether this figure included both voluntary and involuntary turnover. Ms. Stephen commented that it includes both.

Ms. Roman thanked the HR team for an impressive and insightful presentation. She emphasized the importance of cross-department collaboration and engagement in fostering alignment across the organization. She also highlighted the value of team-building efforts, employee engagement, and HR's involvement with students and campus activities, noting that these efforts demonstrate a strong commitment despite the department's demanding workload.

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Dr. Miller reported that this month includes four resolutions and provided a supporting rationale.

Mr. Anderson moved, seconded by Ms. Madhukar, for adoption of Resolutions 1 through 4.

1. WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of Middlesex College (hereinafter referred to as the "Board") and NJ Office of the Secretary of Higher Education (hereinafter referred to as "OSHE") have entered into a contract for the operation of a project entitled HIGHER EDUCATION FACILITIES TRUST FUND BOND ACT (HEFT) for the period commencing pending issuance of the Bond; and

WHEREAS, a proposal HIGHER EDUCATION FACILITIES TRUST FUND BOND ACT (HEFT) has been submitted by the College administration and agreed to by the OSHE in the amount of \$3,756,400; and

WHEREAS, R.S. 18A:64A-12J grants the Board the power to enter into contracts which it deems necessary and advisable with the State of New Jersey or any of its political subdivisions; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that the operation of a project entitled HIGHER EDUCATION FACILITIES TRUST FUND BOND ACT (HEFT) is consistent with the philosophy and purpose of the College,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

- a. The Board approves the proposal for the project entitled HIGHER EDUCATION FACILITIES TRUST FUND BOND ACT (HEFT) as submitted by the administration of Middlesex College to the OSHE for the period commencing pending issuance of the Bond in the total amount of \$3,756,400.
- b. The Board herein ratifies the contract executed by the College President and/or his designee to implement the project.

2. WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of Middlesex College (hereinafter referred to as the "Board") and Middlesex County Department of Community Services, Office of Aging and Disabled Services (hereinafter referred to as "the County") have entered into a contract for the operation of a project entitled AREA PLAN CONTRACT FOR ELDERLY, CAREGIVER, AND OLDER RELATIVES OF MIDDLESEX COUNTY for the period commencing January 1, 2026 and concluding December 31, 2026; and

WHEREAS, a proposal AREA PLAN CONTRACT FOR ELDERLY, CAREGIVER, AND OLDER RELATIVES OF MIDDLESEX COUNTY has been submitted by the College administration and agreed to by the County in the amount of \$30,000; and

WHEREAS, R.S. 18A:64A-12J grants the Board the power to enter into contracts which it deems necessary and advisable with the State of New Jersey or any of its political subdivisions; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that the operation of a project entitled AREA PLAN CONTRACT FOR ELDERLY, CAREGIVER, AND OLDER RELATIVES OF MIDDLESEX COUNTY is consistent with the philosophy and purpose of the College,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

- a. The Board approves the proposal for the project entitled AREA PLAN CONTRACT FOR ELDERLY, CAREGIVER, AND OLDER RELATIVES OF MIDDLESEX COUNTY as submitted by the administration of Middlesex College to the County for the period commencing January 1, 2026 and concluding December 31, 2026 in the total amount of \$30,000.
- b. The Board herein ratifies the contract executed by the College President and/or his designee to implement the project.

3. WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of Middlesex College (hereinafter referred to as the "Board") and New Jersey Community College Consortium for Workforce and Economic Development (hereinafter referred to as "NJCCC") have entered into a contract for the operation of a project entitled NEW JERSEY PATHWAYS TO CAREER OPPORTUNITIES for the period commencing January 1, 2026 and concluding December 31, 2026; and

WHEREAS, a proposal NEW JERSEY PATHWAYS TO CAREER OPPORTUNITIES has been submitted by the College administration and agreed to by the NJCCC in the amount of \$26,000; and

WHEREAS, R.S. 18A:64A-12J grants the Board the power to enter into contracts which it deems necessary and advisable with the State of New Jersey or any of its political subdivisions; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that the operation of a project entitled NEW JERSEY PATHWAYS TO CAREER OPPORTUNITIES is consistent with the philosophy and purpose of the College,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

- a. The Board approves the proposal for the project entitled NEW JERSEY PATHWAYS TO CAREER OPPORTUNITIES as submitted by the administration of Middlesex College to the NJCCC for the period commencing January 1, 2026 and concluding December 31, 2026 in the total amount of \$26,000.
 - b. The Board herein ratifies the contract executed by the College President and/or his designee to implement the project.
4. WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of Middlesex College (hereinafter referred to as the "Board") and Community Foundation of New Jersey (hereinafter referred to as "CFNJ") have entered into a contract for the operation of a project entitled NJ FOOD FUND ESSENTIAL SERVICES GRANT for the period commencing January 1, 2026 and concluding December 31, 2026; and

WHEREAS, a proposal NJ FOOD FUND ESSENTIAL SERVICES GRANT has been submitted by the College administration and agreed to by the CFNJ in the amount of \$14,700; and

WHEREAS, R.S. 18A:64A-12J grants the Board the power to enter into contracts which it deems necessary and advisable with the State of New Jersey or any of its political subdivisions; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that the operation of a project entitled NJ FOOD FUND ESSENTIAL SERVICES GRANT is consistent with the philosophy and purpose of the College,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

- a. The Board approves the proposal for the project entitled NJ FOOD FUND ESSENTIAL SERVICES GRANT as submitted by the administration of Middlesex College to the CFNJ for the period commencing January 1, 2026 and concluding December 31, 2026 in the total amount of \$14,700.
- b. The Board herein ratifies the contract executed by the College President and/or his designee to implement the project.

After discussion, the motion was approved.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Maltino reported that this month includes eight resolutions and provided a supporting rationale.

Mr. Taffet moved, seconded by Mr. Anderson for adoption of Resolutions 1 through 8.

- 1. WHEREAS, The College is authorized to obtain goods or services and participate in cooperative pricing systems available pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:64A-25.9 and 25.11a of the County College Contracts Law, and N.J.S.A. 52:34-6.2b(3) applicable to the College;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the following contract(s) be authorized under the provisions of cooperatives currently in effect for purchases exceeding the quote threshold of \$8,980.00:

<u>COOPERATIVE</u>	<u>CONTRACT NUMBER</u>	<u>COMPANY</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AWARD</u>
ESCNJ	22/23-08	Falcon Group c/o Business Furniture	Cybersecurity and Supply Chain computer lab furniture funded by the Securing Our Children's Future grant	\$51,950.00
JPC	FY25JPC-28	Henry Schein	General supplies for Dental Hygiene	\$15,000.00
JPC	FY25NG-32	Thomas Scientific	Biology lab supplies	\$20,000.00

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NJ Edge	EMSS-19-002	NJ Edge	Migration of Crown Castle internet line to new pole due to Mill Road construction	\$44,496.00
NJSC	25-COMG-94102	Miller Knoll c/o Business Furniture	Cybersecurity and Supply Chain computer lab furniture funded by the Securing Our Children's Future grant	\$4,048.90
NJSC	25-COMG-94141	Exemplis c/o Business Furniture		\$49,988.80
NJSC	25-COMG-94139	Datum c/o Business Furniture		\$14,999.11
NJSC	25-COMG-94158	KI c/o Business Furniture		\$5,456.00
NJSC	26-GNSV2-121789	Johnson Controls	Fire panel monitoring, detection, and repairs	\$10,000.00
SOURCE	112624-KBA	Marshall Machinery	Rotary broom, attachments, and parts for Kubota RTVs	\$16,000.00

- (1) ESCNJ – Educational Services Commission of New Jersey
- (2) JPC – New Jersey Council of County Colleges Joint Purchasing Consortium
- (3) NJ Edge – New Jersey Edge Consortium
- (4) NJSC – New Jersey State Contract
- (5) SOURCE – Sourcewell Cooperative

2. BE IT RESOLVED, That based on the recommendation of the Director of Purchasing and the Chief Financial Officer, awards be authorized to the following vendors pursuant to a fair and open process:

- a. Bid 26-13 for the Physical Education Center gymnasium ductwork insulation supply and installation project from a total of four (4) bids received:

TM Brennan, Hamburg, NJ for the not-to-exceed amount of \$122,600.00, which includes the base bid of \$102,600.00 plus contingency of \$20,000.00.

- b. Quote 10951 for the printing and mailing of the 2026 Open House postcard from a total of four (4) quotes received:

Hummel Printing, Union, NJ for the not-to-exceed amount of \$15,150.00.

3. WHEREAS, In accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:64A-25.14, Middlesex College publicly advertised and solicited Bid 26-12 for the Physical Education Center Gymnasium

Acoustic Wall Panel Removal and Replacement project; and

WHEREAS, Ten (10) bids were received on the opening date of February 26, 2026; and

WHEREAS, The College has determined that it is in the best interest of the College to reject all bids in order to revise the specifications related to the alternate and unit pricing to clarify the scope and volume to be supplied; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees of Middlesex College hereby rejects all bids received for Bid 26-12, and further authorize the Director of Purchasing to rebid the specified project.

4. WHEREAS, The College has a need to obtain goods and services as Business Entity Disclosure contracts pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 and N.J.S.A. 18A:64A-25.5.a.; and

WHEREAS, The Director of Purchasing has determined and certified in writing that the value of each acquisition exceeds \$17,500.00; and

WHEREAS, The vendors will complete and submit Business Entity and Political Contribution Disclosures certifying that the vendors have not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the State of New Jersey / County of Middlesex in the previous one year, and that the contract will prohibit the vendors from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That based on the recommendation of the Director of Purchasing and the Chief Financial Officer, contracts be authorized to the following vendors, contingent upon receipt of the completed disclosures for the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026, unless otherwise stated:

- a. Entech Engineering Inc., Reading, PA for electric panel surveys of select college buildings for the not-to-exceed amount of \$15,500.00.
 - b. Staffbase Inc., New York, NY for intranet and employee experience platform including configuration, development, and implementation for the not-to-exceed cost of \$71,415.07 for the period of June 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027, plus a one-time implementation fee of \$24,000.00 with optional renewals through June 30, 2028 and June 30, 2029 for the not-to-exceed cost of \$74,985.00 and \$78,735.11, respectively, subject to the annual availability and appropriation of sufficient funds necessary to meet the extended obligation.
5. BE IT RESOLVED, That based on the recommendation of the Director of Purchasing and Inventory and the Chief Financial Officer, the following contract amendments be made for the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026:

- a. Carolina Biological Supply, Burlington, NC for additional biology lab supplies in accordance with JPC contract FY25JPC-28:

Previous Contract Amount	\$18,500.00
Amendment #1	<u>10,000.00</u>
New Contract Amount	<u>\$28,500.00</u>

- b. D&E Window and Door, Lebanon, NJ for a reduction in the award in accordance with Bid 26-7 for the cancellation of the work associated with the Library door scope:

Previous Contract Amount	\$142,885.00
Amendment #1	<u>- 34,192.00</u>
New Contract Amount	<u>\$108,693.00</u>

- c. Dell Marketing, Round Rock, TX for an increased cost for laptops and chromebooks in accordance with New Jersey State Contract 24-TELE-71883 funded by the Equipment Leasing Fund:

Previous Contract Amount	\$43,244.00
Amendment #1	<u>4,407.00</u>
New Contract Amount	<u>\$47,651.00</u>

- d. Stark Tech Services, Buffalo, NY for additional parts and labor associated with repairs and replacements in accordance with Bid 26-1R:

Previous Contract Amount	\$164,900.00
Amendment #2	<u>16,764.00</u>
New Contract Amount	<u>\$181,664.00</u>

- e. Storr Tractor, Branchburg, NJ for additional parts and attachments for grounds equipment in accordance with ESCNJ contract 22/23-12:

Previous Contract Amount	\$15,000.00
Amendment #1	<u>10,000.00</u>
New Contract Amount	<u>\$25,000.00</u>

6. BE IT RESOLVED, That based on the recommendation of the Executive Director of Facilities Management and the Chief Financial Officer, payment be authorized to the following firms:

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- a. Epic Management, Inc., Piscataway, NJ for construction management services in conjunction with the following four (4) projects; Physical Education Center Renovations, Physical Education Center HVAC, Billy Johnson Hall RTU Replacement and Chambers Hall Renovations in the amount of \$20,872.96.

Contract Amount	\$250,475.40
Previous Payments	20,872.96
Payment #43 for multiple projects	<u>20,872.96</u>
Balance	<u>\$208,729.48</u>

- b. Imperial Construction and Electric, Elizabeth, NJ for construction services in conjunction with the Reconfiguration of the interior of Chambers Hall in the amount of \$115,568.70.

Contract Amount	\$3,957,832.12
Previous Payments	3,842,263.42
Payment #20 (FINAL)	<u>115,568.70</u>
Balance	<u>\$ 0.00</u>

- c. Northeastern Interior Services, Little Falls, NJ for construction services in conjunction with the College Center, Edison Hall, Johnson Learning Center & Raritan Hall Restroom Renovation project in the amount of \$149,092.81.

Contract Amount	\$1,774,615.00
Previous Payments	1,443,065.61
Payment #9	<u>149,092.81</u>
Balance	<u>\$ 182,456.58</u>

- d. Safeway Contracting Inc., Union, NJ for construction services in conjunction with the Roof Replacements for the Bookstore, Library, Instructional Resource Center and Gateway projects in the amount of \$138,341.40.

Contract Amount	\$1,040,514.00
Previous Payments	902,172.60
Payment #7 (FINAL)	<u>138,341.40</u>
Balance	<u>\$ 0.00</u>

- e. Starlite Productions International Inc., Moorestown, NJ for construction services in conjunction with the Performing Arts Center stage rigging replacement project in the amount of \$7,763.40.

Contract Amount	\$573,729.00
Payment #1	<u>7,763.40</u>
Balance	<u>\$565,965.60</u>

- 7. BE IT RESOLVED, That based on the recommendation of the Chief Financial Officer, payment be authorized to the following firm:
 - a. Lerner David, LLP, Cranford, NJ for specialty legal services in conjunction with the College’s Intellectual Property and trademark registration in the amount of \$267.00.

8. WHEREAS, The Board of Trustees of Middlesex College and the County of Middlesex entered into an Inter-Local Agreement for the implementation of a project entitled the Middlesex County Community, Innovation, and Opportunity Strategic Investment Plan (“CIO Project”), and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 18A:64A-12J grants the Board of Trustees the power to enter into contracts which it deems necessary and advisable with the State of New Jersey or any of its political subdivisions, and

WHEREAS, The County of Middlesex invoiced Middlesex College for capital costs associated with the CIO Project;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees of Middlesex College authorizes the issuance of reimbursements to the County of Middlesex in the not-to-exceed amount of ten million dollars (\$10,000,000.00).

After discussion, the motion was approved.

HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Ms. Stephen reported that this month includes 29 recommended items in total. A summary of the action items are listed below.

Mr. Oras moved, seconded by Ms. Roman, for adoption of all resolutions in the categories of Hires, Change of Status, Separations, and Miscellaneous.

A.	<u>Hires</u>	<u>Recommendations</u>
	Administrative	1
	Support Staff	5
B.	<u>Change of Status</u>	<u>Recommendations</u>
	Administrative	4
	Faculty	7
	Support Staff	1
	Grants	1
C.	<u>Separations</u>	<u>Recommendations</u>

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Administrative	1
Faculty	2
Confidentials	1
Grants	2

D.	<u>Miscellaneous</u>	<u>Recommendations</u>
	Administrative	3
	Faculty	1

A. HIRES

ADMINISTRATIVE

1. Name: Iqra Sajjad
Department: Marketing and Communications
Title: Assistant Web Developer
Salary: \$67,967
Effective: 4/16/2026

SUPPORT STAFF

- Name: Jay Dickinson
Department: Facilities Maintenance
Title: Plumber - Mechanic I
Salary: \$62,000
Effective: 3/16/2026
- Name: Meyer Gallagher
Department: Library and Tutoring Services
Title: Library and Learning Center Assistant
Salary: \$42,129
Effective: 5/18/2026
- Name: Andres Lopez
Department: Facilities Maintenance
Title: Senior Electrician
Salary: \$85,615
Effective: 4/1/2026
- Name: Megan Mitchell
Department: Information Technology
Title: Coordinator of Media Services
Salary: \$54,307
Effective: 4/1/2026
- Name: Hilda Regalon Bullain
Department: Student and Enrollment Services

Title: Temporary, Student Records Evaluator
 Salary: \$50,783
 Effective: 2/23/2026 - 6/30/2026*
 * Change in start date

B. CHANGE OF STATUS

ADMINISTRATIVE

1. Name: Timothy Hack
 Department: Liberal Arts
 Title: Dean of Liberal Arts
 Salary: \$136,984
 Effective: 3/2/2026
2. Name: Michelle Ramirez-Cruz
 Department: Educational Opportunity Fund
 Title: Temporary EOF Advisor
 Salary: \$63,109
 Effective: 1/17/2026*
 * Never started position
3. Name: Nicholas Serra
 Department: Information Technology
 Title: Desktop Administrator
 Salary: \$67,967
 Effective: 3/16/2026
4. Name: Mirta Tejada
 Department: Academic Operations and Strategic Initiatives
 Title: Dean. Academic Operations and Strategic Initiatives
 Salary: \$121,363
 Effective: 3/2/2026

FACULTY

1. Name: Keith Bosler
 Department: Mathematics
 Action: Approval of Sabbatical Leave
 Effective: Spring 2027
2. Name: Terrence Corrigan
 Department: History and Social Sciences
 Action: Approval of Sabbatical Leave
 Effective: Fall 2026
3. Name: Gina Leoniy
 Department: Business and Computer Science

- Action: Approval of Sabbatical Leave
Effective: Spring 2027
4. Name: Iryna Pavlyuk
Department: Mathematics
Action: Approval of Sabbatical Leave
Effective: Fall 2026
5. Name: Shannon Pullaro
Department: Business and Computer Science
Action: Approval of Sabbatical Leave
Effective: Fall 2026
6. Name: Stefanie Rufo
Department: Natural Sciences
Action: Approval of Sabbatical Leave
Effective: Spring 2027
7. Name: Stephanie Serrano Vera
Department: ESL, Languages and Cultures
Action: Approval of Sabbatical Leave
Effective: Spring 2027

SUPPORT STAFF

1. Name: Konstantinos Barkas
Department: Custodial Services
Title: Boiler Custodian-Second Shift
Salary: \$42,000 + \$3,132 = \$45,132
Effective: 2/2/2026

GRANTS

1. Name: Jennifer Jones
Department: Workforce Development
Action: \$500/Month Stipend – Additional Responsibilities
Effective: 2/1/2026 – 6/30/2026

C. SEPARATIONS

ADMINISTRATIVE

1. Name: Richard Cole
Department: Registration
Action: Retirement
Effective: 3/31/2026

FACULTY

1. Name: Agnes Azzolino
Department: Mathematics
Action: Deceased
Effective: 2/16/2026
2. Name: Lafayette Smith Jr.
Department: Counselling and Student Wellness
Action: Retirement
Effective: 2/28/2026

CONFIDENTIALS

1. Name: Pragna Vyas
Department: Business Office
Action: Termination
Effective: 3/6/2026

GRANTS

1. Name: Sandra Bottoni
Department: County Career Initiatives
Action: Non-Renewal
Effective: 3/31/2026
2. Name: Jennifer Kwok
Department: Academic Advising, Career and Transfer Services
Action: Resignation
Effective: 3/13/2026

D. MISCELLANEOUS

ADMINISTRATIVE – LEAVE OF ABSENCE

1. Name: Gina Vilchez
Department: Human Resources
Action: Unpaid Leave
Effective: 3/5/2026 – 5/13/2026

ADMINISTRATIVE MISCELLANEOUS – CERTIFYING OFFICER TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT

WHEREAS, The State of New Jersey, Division of Pensions requires the identification of a Certifying Officer for the Public Employee's Retirement System (PERS) location 1-00201;

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Teacher's Pension and Annuity Fund (TPAF) location 2-30940; and the State Police and Firemen's Retirement System (PFRS) location 3-75700; and

WHEREAS, the employee designated as the Certifying Officer for the College's PERS, TPAF, and PFRS pension plans is out of the office on an extended leave; and

WHEREAS, the College wishes to appoint a temporary Certifying Officer to perform those functions in the employee's absence, returning to their prior duties after the Certifying Officer returns from their leave; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That **Anny Lantigua Jaquez**, Acting Manager, Total Rewards and Employee Experience, be appointed to represent the College as the Certifying Officer for the College's PERS, TPAF, and PFRS pension plans.

ADMINISTRATIVE MISCELLANEOUS – RETIREMENT

WHEREAS, **Richard Cole**, has faithfully served Middlesex College from April 20, 2009 to March 31, 2026; and

WHEREAS, he has performed his duties and responsibilities capably and loyally;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees accepts the voluntary retirement of **Richard Cole** as of March 31, 2026; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board recognizes the significant contributions of **Richard Cole** during his years of service to Middlesex College and extends its best wishes to him on his retirement.

FACULTY MISCELLANEOUS – RETIREMENT

WHEREAS, **Lafayette Smith**, has faithfully served Middlesex College from July 1, 1999 to February 28, 2026; and

WHEREAS, he has performed his duties and responsibilities capably and loyally;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees accepts the voluntary retirement of **Lafayette Smith** as of February 28, 2026; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board recognizes the significant contributions of **Lafayette Smith** during his years of service to Middlesex College and extends its best wishes to him on his retirement.

After discussion, the motion was approved.

GENERAL

Mr. Taffet moved, seconded by Mr. Paluri, for adoption of Resolution 1.

1. WHEREAS, Middlesex College's Mission focuses on access to a quality and affordable education along with a creating a welcoming environment for all students; and

WHEREAS, the College recognizes that a consistent approach with other governmental units with regard to cooperation with federal authorities as they enforce laws helps to promote a welcoming environment focused on the safety of all; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of New Jersey issued Executive Order No. 12 dated February 11, 2026 which provides that "except as authorized by a judicial warrant or judicial order, Executive Branch departments and agencies shall not permit or consent to federal immigration officers entering, accessing, or using non-public areas as a staging area, processing location, or operations base of State property for the purpose of facilitating federal enforcement of civil immigration law;" and

WHEREAS, the County of Middlesex adopted a policy by Resolution 26-268-R entitled "Middlesex County Policy Prohibiting Civil Immigration Enforcement By Homeland Security's Immigration And Customs Enforcement And U.S. Customs And Border Protection Agents On Middlesex County Property", a copy of which is attached hereto; and

WHEREAS, the Resolution states that the Policy shall apply to all County Employees, contractors and agents of County departments, agencies, authorities, boards and commissioners, including Middlesex College and the Middlesex County Magnet Schools; and

WHEREAS, the Middlesex College Police Department, consistent with the County of Middlesex and its law enforcement agencies continue to uphold the rule of law and due process as guaranteed in the New Jersey and Federal Constitutions, including support of the "Immigrant Trust Directive," No. 2018-6 issued by the Attorney General of the State of New Jersey, which ensures the effective interactions and policing between all local, county and state criminal law enforcement and federal civil immigration enforcement, whole promoting the public safety of all New Jersey residents; and

WHEREAS, Middlesex College Administration has reviewed the County Policy and recommends that the College should cooperate with the County and maintain alignment with the County Policies and recommendations discussed in Resolution 26-268-R as it manages daily operations on College property as set forth in the attached Resolution; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board accepts the College Administration's recommendation that the College align its internal protocols for managing operations on College property with the Policies and Recommendations set forth in the attached County Resolution.

After discussion, the motion was approved.

MARKETING AND PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Chair Christine Buteas reported that significant progress has been made in updating advertising and recruitment campaigns. The new campaign is engaging and received strong feedback from the committee. She added that the team did a fabulous job and reported that new content will soon be launched across multiple media outlets.

REPORT OF COUNSEL

No report.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

Dr. McCormick reported that the College continues to actively engaging students during the second half of the academic year through cultural celebrations, hands-on learning, and a record-setting transfer fair. The institution continues to recognize faculty contributions and student achievements, including honor society inductions through Phi Theta Kappa. The college also honors its community by remembering long-serving faculty and celebrating alumni impact. Looking ahead, preparations are underway for accreditation with the Middle States Commission on Higher Education and for Community College Month which occurs in April each year. He also added that the Middle States Vice President Kathy Feith joined us today as the College's liaison from Middle States to begin preparations for the 2028 self-study.

COMMENTS FROM THE COUNTY

Sandy Castor, Department Head of Economic Development thanked Ms. Stephen and the Human Resources team for their work. She highlighted the strong partnership between the County and the College, particularly HR's support in hiring for Workforce Development Programs serving adults, dislocated workers, as well as opportunity youth programs. She commended the positive impact of HR's recent improvements on the County workforce initiatives.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Buteas reported on the successful Life Sciences event held at the College. She emphasized the County's leadership in the industry and commended Dr. McCormick and the college team especially Facilities, Catering, and Media Services for their professionalism, and seamless execution, even with last-minute adjustments. The event, which included a visit from Governor Sherrill, showcased the team's excellence in hosting high-level events and strong collaboration.

FINAL REMARKS

Dr. McCormick reminded everyone to mark their calendars for Commencement which will be held on May 11, 2026 and Casino Night, June 4, 2026.

The meeting adjourned at 9:18 a.m.

ROBERT P. SICA
SECRETARY

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