Minutes of the Vermont State Colleges Board of Trustees' Meeting held Monday, June 8, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. at vsc.edu/botzoom APPROVED

The VSC Board of Trustees met on Monday, June 8, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. at VTSU Castleton 49 College Drive, Castleton, VT, room 1787, Campus Center and at www.vsc.edu/botzoom.

Trustees present: Lynn Dickinson (Chair,) Megan Cluver (Vice Chair, 9:23 a.m.) Marc Mihaly (Secretary), David Silverman (Treasurer,) Gwen Bailey-Rowe (online, 9:45 a.m.), Betsy Ide Bloomer, Kamryn Devero (10:08 a.m.) David Durfee, Bob Flint (online), John Kascenska, Sue Zeller, Coleen Bruyette

Absent: Janette Bombardier, Shirley Jefferson, Phil Scott

Chancellor: Elizabeth Mauch

Presidents:
David Bergh, VTSU
Joyce Judy, CCV
Sherry Kollman, VTSU (incoming)

Other Attendees:
Nolan Atkins, VTSU Provost
Kelley Beckwith, VTSU VP of Student Success
Mary Brodsky, Dean of People and Culture
Sarah Chambers, IT support (online)
Jamia Danzy, VTSU Dean of Students
Kayla Dewey, Executive Assistant
Ernie Fernandez, VTSU Director of Institutional Advancement
Barb Flathers, Manager of VTSU President's Office Operations (online)
Preston Garcia, VTSU Faculty
Wilson Garland, Chief Information Officer
Barry Harte, Interim Chief Financial Officer
Ed Hasenohr, community member
Helen Mango, honoree
James Masland, honoree
David Mook, VTSU part-time faculty
Maurice Ouimet, VTSU Dean of Enrollment
Lori Philips, VTSU Director of Conference and Events
Hannah Reid, VTSU VP of Marketing and Enrollment
Scott Roper, VTSU faculty
Sharron Scott, Chief Financial and Operating Officer
Toby Stewart, Controller
Tom Sullivan, Workday Program Director
Patty Turley, General Counsel
Andy Vermilyea, VTSU faculty
Meg Walz, Deputy Chief Information Officer
Rick Williams, VTSU Director, Lyndon Upward Bound (online)
Paul Yoon, VTSU Chief Culture and Compliance Officer

Yasmine Ziesler, Special Assistant to the Chancellor

1. Call to Order

Chair Dickinson called the meeting to order at 9:09 a.m.

2. Comments from the Public

David Mook expressed concern with the focus of the Online Acceleration Project. He acknowledged that online classes were needed but urged the board to focus on filling in-person spaces over building remote options.

3. Approval of the minutes

Trustee Zeller moved and Trustee Bloomer seconded the motion to approve the minutes of March 9, 2026. The motion was approved unanimously.

4. Resolution honoring former Trustee James Masland

Chair Dickinson read the resolution summarizing the breadth of his service and honoring former Trustee James Masland. Mr. Masland remarked on the value of civic service and teamwork to deliver for the public. He expressed gratitude for the experience and that it had been an honor to serve on the board.

Trustee Durfee moved and Trustee Kascenska seconded the motion to approve Resolution 2026-006 Honoring the Service of Trustee Jim Masland. The motion was approved unanimously.

5. Faculty emeritus status: Helen Mango

Chair Dickinson invited President Bergh to introduce the nomination. President Bergh shared that Dr. Mango was nominated for her exemplary teaching, research, and service both to the university and wider community. He expressed his confidence that she would continue to serve and reflect well on the university. Chair Dickinson read the resolution summarizing her work and contributions.

Trustee Silverman moved and Trustee Bloomer seconded the motion to approve to approve VTSU Faculty Emeritus for Helen Mango. The motion was approved unanimously.

6. VTSU Tribute Scholarship

Trustee Dickinson moved and Trustee Silverman seconded the motion to approve the VTSU Tribute Scholarship. The motion was approved unanimously.

Chancellor Mauch introduced the interim Chief Financial Officer, Barry Harte, and incoming VTSU President, Sherry Kollman, who were both present at the meeting.

The board went into recess at 9:29 a.m. The board resumed at 9:44 a.m.

7. Committee reports
    a. Nominating Committee

Chair Dickinson reported that the committee met on June 1st to discuss board officer and Audit & Risk Management Committee elections. The committee voted to make the following nominations to the full board, all of which were re-elections of current roles: officer nominees for Megan Cluver (Vice Chair), Marc Mihaly (Secretary), David Silverman (Treasurer), and nominations for members of the Audit & Risk Management Committee: Sue Zeller, David Durfee, Gwen Bailey-Rowe, Bob Flint, David Silverman.

Trustee Dickinson moved and Trustee Bloomer seconded the motion to elect Megan Cluver as Vice Chair, Marc Mihaly as Secretary, and David Silverman as Treasurer for a term June 8, 2026 to the 2027 Annual Meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

Trustee Dickinson moved and Trustee Mihaly seconded the motion to elect the following for members of the Audit & Risk Management Committee: Sue Zeller, David Durfee, Gwen Bailey-Rowe, Bob Flint, and David Silverman for a term June 8, 2026 to the 2027 Annual Meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

    b. Audit & Risk Management Committee

Chair Dickinson invited Trustee Zeller to provide the report. Trustee Zeller reported that the committee met on May 11th and reviewed the FY2026 Audit Planning with our external auditor, Withum; they reviewed and voted to recommend approval by the board of the Written Information Security Program (WISP); and received an update on the nation-wide Canvas outage and security breach that affected VSC.

Trustee Zeller moved and Trustee Bruyette seconded the motion to approve the Written Information Security Program (WISP) as drafted in the packet. The motion was approved unanimously.

    c. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee

Chair Dickinson invited Trustee Zeller to provide the report for the committee's May 4th meeting. Trustee Zeller called on VTSU Chief Culture and Compliance Officer, Paul Yoon, to describe the educational presentation from Vermont State Executive Director of Racial Equity, Xusana Davis, regarding racial equity work in the State and in relation to recent activity from the White House. Trustee Zeller noted the presentation was available on YouTube.

    d. Education, Personnel & Student Life Committee

Chair Dickinson invited Trustee Cluver to provide the report. Trustee Cluver reported that the committee met on May 4th and voted to recommend a number of items to the board including updates to Policy 101; awarding faculty emeritus status to Dr. Helen Mango (as acted upon earlier in the meeting); and approval of Dr. Alexandre Strokanov as a VSC Faculty Fellow for the 2026-2027 academic year.

Trustee Cluver moved and Trustee Bloomer seconded the motion to approve the updates to Policy 101. The motion was approved unanimously.

Trustee Kascenska moved and Trustee Silverman seconded the motion to approve VSC faculty fellow status for Dr. Alexandre Strokanov. The motion was approved unanimously.

Additionally, Trustee Cluver reported that the CCV commencement ceremony had occurred the weekend prior, which was an inspiring event showcasing the profound and positive impact of the community college for its students.

e. Executive Committee

Chair Dickinson reported that the Executive Committee met on March 30th, May 4th, and May 18th, discussed a proposed FY2027 Board of Trustees Schedule, adjustments to the by-laws to include an attendance policy, and held executive sessions related to the employment of public employees.

Chair Dickinson moved and Trustee Silverman seconded the motion to keep executive pay consistent with other system increases and focus on fair and sustainable wages for VSC employees. The motion was approved unanimously.

Trustee Zeller moved and Trustee Cluver seconded the motion to approve the FY27 Board of Trustees schedule. The motion was approved unanimously.

f. Finance & Facilities Committee

Chair Dickinson invited Trustee Silverman to provide the report. Trustee Silverman reported that the committee met on April 13th and May 11th to review and vote to recommend a number of items to the full board.

1. Item 1: creation of the Cheryl Krull Marsden Scholarship Fund

President Bergh remarked that this was an incredibly generous scholarship made more special because of the connection to Trustee Bombardier. Chair Dickinson recalled how Trustee Bombardier cared for her late sister and assisted in the creation of this generous new scholarship.

Trustee Silverman moved and Trustee Durfee seconded the motion to create the Cheryl Krull Marsden Scholarship Fund. The motion was approved unanimously.

2. Item 2: creation of the Lane Family Scholarship Fund and the Ryan C. Delena Student Expedition Fund

President Bergh described these two new Funds and expressed his appreciation for the donors' commitment to VTSU endeavors.

Trustee Dickinson moved and Trustee Zeller seconded the motion to create the Lane Family Scholarship Fund and the Ryan C. Delena Student Expedition Fund. The motion was approved unanimously.

3. Item 3: liquidation of the Lyndon Upward Bound quasi-endowment

Trustee Silverman invited President Bergh to provide background on the request. President Bergh explained that this fund was established with the intention of having funds available for bridge use if needed and the institution has identified this as the appropriate time to move the funds out of the restricted quasi-endowment status. President Bergh and VP Beckwith answered questions from the Trustees.

Trustee Silverman moved and Trustee Cluver seconded the motion to liquidate the Lyndon Upward Bound quasi-endowment. The motion was approved unanimously.

Chair Dickinson welcomed the new student trustee, Kamryn Devero, who is a rising junior studying on the VTSU Johnson campus.

4. Item 4: modifications to the Helen Guild Fund, the Bill and Susan Blair Future Teacher/Educator Endowment, Edgerton Education Endowment, and Mary Negron Student Emergency Fund.

President Bergh described changes to these existing endowments, which are primarily to update terminology and align with VTSU academic programs.

Trustee Silverman moved and Trustee Zeller seconded the motion to modify to the Helen Guild Fund, the Bill and Susan Blair Future Teacher/Educator Endowment, Edgerton Education Endowment, and Mary Negron Student Emergency Fund. The motion was approved unanimously.

Trustee Silverman reported the committee recommended that the board approve Resolution 2026-004 Banking & Investment with the following modification to the first Resolved statement: "RESOLVED, That the Chancellor and/or Chief Financial Officer or formal designee of the Chief Financial Officer, are authorized to do the following". Trustee Silverman described the Resolution as a regular document required for business purposes, with the suggested modification in direct recognition of the interim nature of the new CFO appointment.

Trustee Silverman moved and Trustee Mihaly seconded the motion to approve Resolution 2026-004 Banking & Investment as modified. The motion was approved unanimously.

Trustee Silverman reported that the committee recommended that the board approve the FY2027 System-Wide Operating Budget. CFOO Scott acknowledged that while the budgets are not balanced, each institution has made significant progress and has many plans to bring these budgets into balance over time. The current budget deficit will be covered by system-wide reserves.

Trustee Silverman moved and Trustee Mihaly seconded the motion to approve the FY2027 System-Wide Operating Budget. The motion was approved unanimously.

Trustee Silverman reported that the committee recommend the approval of the CCV Northern Lights Grant. President Judy described this long-standing grant through which CCV supports professional development for early childhood educators in the State. CCV has received this grant for many years, and this year it is at the threshold requiring Board approval,

Trustee Silverman moved and Trustee Kascenska seconded the motion to approve creation of the CCV Northern Lights Grant. The motion was approved unanimously.

Trustee Silverman concluded by commending Ms. Scott for her work as Chief Financial and Operating Officer. He remarked how she approached the challenges head on bringing needed order and discipline to the financial reporting process at a critical time. He remarked that she had built a strong, resilient system to ensure decisions will be informed by solid numbers moving forward.

8. Update on the online acceleration project per Resolution 2026-003

Chair Dickinson invited incoming VTSU President Sherry Kollman to provide the update. Dr. Kollman shared that for the past several months they had been working on building the infrastructure to support a successful online operation. She emphasized that the intention is to build online learning while simultaneously supporting the in-person student experience with a focus on expanding accessibility. She shared that VTSU had posted for a Vice President of Digital Learning position and was reviewing other staffing needs for the project. She reported that her team was developing key metrics to monitor progress and measure success, and that they planned to launch a marketing campaign to promote new online programs. Dr. Kollman thanked VP of Marketing and Enrollment Hannah Reid and VP for Admissions and Enrollment Services Maurice Ouimet for their hard work on this project.

9. Updates from the CCV and VTSU presidents

Chair Dickinson invited CCV President Joyce Judy to provide an update on CCV. President Judy reported that CCV graduation recently occurred and that it was an inspiring and well-attended event. She reported that spring enrollment was up over the prior year and that CCV had received three significant grants aimed at supporting inmate transitions out of corrections, expanding rural healthcare by building more LNA programs, and providing funds to support students engaged in STEM internships.

VTSU President David Bergh acknowledged the VTSU senior leaders who were present for the meeting and announced that the Castleton football team had confirmed a long-term affiliation with a Massachusetts-based conference providing security to that program. He reported that the U.S. Education of Secretary Linda McMahon toured the Williston campus the prior week to review the programs based on that campus and had been impressed with the caliber of the facility and initiatives to directly meet Vermont's workforce needs. He expressed optimism with the early enrollment reports for fall admissions. President Bergh described preparations for an accreditation visit planned for early next year, and that there were some significant leadership transitions at the University. He expressed appreciation for his time with Dr. Kollman who starts as the new president on July 1.

10. Update from the chancellor

Chair Dickinson invited Chancellor Mauch to provide the update. With the transformation timeframe formally coming to a close, Chancellor Mauch spoke about plans to shift focus toward the next steps for the system. To further build systemness across VSC, she was developing a strategic framework, which would focus on workforce and economic engagement; student success and academic innovation; infrastructure modernization; and access and affordability.

11. Workday project update

Chair Dickinson invited Chief Information Officer Wilson Garland to provide the update. Mr. Garland introduced Tom Sullivan, who would be serving as the program director for implementation of the student Workday components. Mr. Garland reported that the finance, HR, and payroll components were close to launching and that they would soon turn their attention to launching the student component, which is a much larger endeavor. The launch of the finance, HR, and payroll components is a culmination of over a year of hard work with contributions from 100 VSC staff members. There is excitement at reaching this significant milestone. Teams are working to training staff across the system on how to use the new platform and preparing service teams to provide customer support through the transition. Mr. Garland also reviewed details of the project budget and responded to questions from the Trustees.

12. Other business

There was no other business.

The board went into recess for lunch at 12:16 p.m. and exited at 1:26 p.m.

13. Executive session on employment of a public employee and facilities

At 1:26 p.m. Chair Dickinson moved and Trustee Bruyette seconded the motion for the VSC Board of Trustees to enter executive session, pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(1)(E) and (F) because premature general public knowledge would place the VSC at a substantial disadvantage to discuss civil litigation and receive confidential attorney-client communications, pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(2) to discuss real estate, pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(3) to discuss the employment of a public employee and 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(6) to discuss records which are exempt from the public records act. Along with the members of the Board present at this meeting, in its discretion, the Board invited the Chancellor, General Counsel, incoming VTSU President, and the VTSU VP of Marketing and Enrollment to attend. The motion was approved unanimously.

The board exited executive session at 3:29 p.m.

Trustee Bruyette moved and Trustee Mihaly seconded the motion to reappoint Joyce Judy as president of the Community College of Vermont with the standard president appointment terms. The motion was approved unanimously.

14. Adjourn

The board adjourned at 3:30 p.m.