



Clark College

Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Packet

Wednesday, June 11, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.

Location: Gaiser Hall, Room 213

Virtual Option:

[Zoom Link](#)

Meeting ID: 831 3722 6333

Passcode: 418803

Dial in: (253) 215-8782

Board of Trustee Regular Meeting Packet, June 11, 2025, at 5:00 pm

- I. Call to Order/Agenda Review – Chair Gideon
- II. Public Comment – Chair Gideon
Public comment will be limited to two minutes per speaker. Speakers must sign up by 4:55 PM on the day of the Board meeting. [Signup Link](#)
- III. Action Items/Consent Agenda – Chair Gideon
 - 1) Consent Agenda
 - a) May 28, 2025 - Work Session Minutes
 - b) May 28, 2025 - Regular Meeting Minutes
 - c) June 2, 2025 - Special Session Minutes
 - 2) FY 2025-26 College Budget
 - 3) FY 2025-26 Services and Activities Fee Budget
- IV. Constituent Reports
 1. ASCC – Gurraj Singh Dhami
 2. WPEA – Courtney Braddock
 3. AHE – Suzanne Southerland
- V. Student Speaker - Ann West
Bachelor of Arts in Human Services, Class of 2025
- VI. Reports from Board Members - Chair Gideon
- VII. President’s Report - Dr. Karin Edwards
- VIII. Next Meeting
The next Board of Trustees meeting is the Board Retreat, scheduled for Wednesday, July 23, 2025, starting at 8:00 a.m. at Boschma Farms, Room 206.
- IX. Executive Session
An Executive Session may be held for any allowable topic under the Open Public Meetings Act.

Pursuant to RCW 42.30.110 (1)(g), the Board shall convene an executive session to evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment or to review the performance of a public employee.
- X. Adjournment – Chair Gideon

Clark College

Board of Trustees Work Session Minutes

Wednesday, May 28, at 3:30 pm

GHL 205 and Zoom

In Attendance

Denise Gideon, Chair

Marilee Scarbrough, Vice Chair

Cristhian Canseco Juarez, Trustee

Suzanne Donaldson, Trustee

Jeanne Bennett, Trustee

Administrators

Dr. Karin Edwards, President

Dr. Terry Brown, Vice President of Instruction

Sudha Frederick, Vice President of Information Technology

Dr. Cecelia Martin, Associate Vice President of Planning and Effectiveness

Calen Ouellette, Clark College Foundation Chief Executive Officer

Dr. Darcy Rourk, Interim Vice President of Human Resources

Sabra Sand, Vice President of Operations

Dr. Mark Wahlers, Interim Vice President of Student Affairs

Other

Shelley Williams, Assistant Attorney General

Darci Feider, President's Office

Julie Taylor, President's Office

Brandon Johnson, IT

Call to Order/Agenda Review

Chair Gideon called the work session to order at 3:30 p.m.

Public Comment

No public comment.

College Budget

Sabra Sand, Vice President of Operations, presented a high-level overview of the 2025–26 draft college budget. The total projected operating budget is \$91,970,242, with \$1,388,679 in expenditure increases and the use of \$669,139 from the fund balance. Net revenue is projected to increase by \$719,540. Key considerations include federal financial aid changes, cost increases related to salaries, healthcare, and software, a 2.5% increase in Running Start rates, and a 3.3% tuition rate increase. The Governor recently signed the state budget, and allocation details from

the State Board are forthcoming. The budget remains an estimate and will change once the final state allocation is received.

ASCC S&A Budget

Dorji Damdul, ASCC Finance Director, presented the 2025–26 Services & Activities (S&A) budget. The committee received \$2,790,571 in funding requests and recommended a \$2,570,377 budget, based on a projected \$2,084,779 in fee revenue and the use of \$456,898 from the fund balance. The presentation highlighted two programs that were not funded: Aerospace and World Language Spanish. There is no change to the S&A fee rate, which remains at the 2020–21 level. Damdul noted increased student engagement.

Student Profile

Dr. Cecelia Martin, Associate Vice President of Planning and Effectiveness, and Dr. Mark Wahlers, Interim Vice President of Student Affairs, shared a high-level overview of the spring student profile. They reported a 13.8% increase in headcount from Spring 2023 to Spring 2025 and acknowledged Student Affairs and ODEI for their recruitment efforts. CCE enrollment for spring is 860.

Adjournment

Chair Gideon adjourned the work session at 4:41 p.m.

Clark College

Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, May 28, 2025

GHL 213 and Zoom

In Attendance

Denise Gideon, Chair

Marilee Scarbrough, Vice Chair

Jeanne Bennett, Trustee

Cristhian Canseco Juarez, Trustee

Suzanne Donaldson, Trustee

Administrators

Dr. Karin Edwards, President

Dr. Terry Brown, Vice President of Instruction

Sudha Frederick, Vice President of Information Technology

Dr. Cecelia Martin, Associate Vice President of Planning and Effectiveness

Calen Ouellette, Clark College Foundation Chief Executive Officer

Dr. Darcy Rourk, Interim Vice President of Human Resources

Sabra Sand, Vice President of Operations

Dr. Mark Wahlers, Interim Vice President of Student Affairs

Other

Shelley Williams, Assistant Attorney General

Darci Feider, President's Office

Julie Taylor, President's Office

Brandon Johnson, IT

Call to Order/Agenda Review

Chair Gideon called the regular Board of Trustees meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Public Comment

No public comment.

Action Items/Consent Agenda

- i. April 23, 2025 - Work Session Meeting Minutes
- ii. April 23, 2025 - Regular Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Trustee Bennett moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Trustee Canseco Juarez seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Constituent Reports

ASCC

Gurraj Dhami, ASCC President, reported strong student engagement this spring, including over 260 participants at the Spring Involvement Fair. ASCC chartered 14 clubs, placed 11 students on committees, and gathered campus feedback through the “Let Your Voice Be Heard” initiative. Social media outreach continues to grow, with 1,607 Instagram followers sharing resources and event updates. The Penguin Pantry distributed over 19,000 pounds of food in April.

WPEA

Courtney Braddock, WPEA Representative, reported on the WPEA and CCAHE Solidarity Celebration. WPTE & STEM Secretary Senior Stephanie Hall was recognized as the 2025 WPEA Member of the Year. Braddock stated that WPEA submitted a letter to President Edwards in support of state funding of the ratified 2025–2027 WPEA Higher Education Contract. The contract was not included in the final state budget signed on May 20. The budget outcome affects over 400 classified staff at Clark College, who will not receive scheduled cost-of-living adjustments in FY 2026. WPEA expressed concern about the lack of communication from leadership regarding advocacy efforts.

CCAHE

AHE did not give an oral report. A written document was received the day of the meeting and will be included in next month's Board packet.

Foundation

Calen Ouellette, CEO of the Clark College Foundation, reported on upcoming board leadership changes, with Debra Blom and Gabe Jacobson set to begin two-year terms as Chair and Vice Chair. He noted the renaming of the softball field to Raines Softball Field in recognition of a significant gift from the Raines family. Ouellette also shared that community interest in naming opportunities is growing. The Foundation is preparing to engage new graduates through Penguin Nation materials supported by a new data-sharing agreement.

Penguin Early College (PEC) Center

Dani DePuy-Grobbel, Associate Director of Dual Enrollment, gave an overview of the Penguin Early College (PEC) Center and Running Start program. She reported that Clark enrolled approximately 2,100 Running Start students in Fall 2023, with an additional 30–50 underage students, with 22% engaging in PEC Center services. The center provides academic support, mentorship, social programming, and basic needs resources. Students served through the center showed higher full-time enrollment, stronger academic performance, and greater BIPOC representation than the general Running Start population. DePuy-Grobbel highlighted recent initiatives such as peer mentoring, family support events, and K-12 partnerships. She outlined plans for expanded outreach, assessment, and orientation programming in the coming year.

Reports from the Board Members

Trustee Donaldson

Trustee Donaldson reported attending the Noche de Familia event on campus, the Board of Trustees budget meeting, and a one-on-one meeting with Dr. Edwards.

Vice Chair Scarbrough

Vice Chair Scarbrough reported attending the ACT Spring Conference and highlighted three key sessions: artificial intelligence, trustee support for presidents, and governance through policy. She also attended the Arts@Clark event at Art at the Cave Gallery, noting that the gallery owner is a former Clark College student and the event featured student and faculty artwork.

Trustee Bennett

Trustee Bennett reported attending the ACT Spring Conference and shared a key takeaway emphasizing the importance of staying focused on student success despite external challenges. She noted that the Cowlitz Indian Tribe was recognized as the ACT Partner of the Year. Trustee Bennett also expressed interest in seeing Clark College submit nominations for ACT awards in the future.

Trustee Canseco Juarez

Trustee Canseco Juarez reported attending the VCLI graduation ceremony held on campus and highlighted the organization's work in preparing leaders of color for service on local boards and commissions. He spoke about ongoing partnership opportunities between Clark College and community organizations. He also noted his attendance at the Heather McGhee event and extended well wishes to students and faculty as the quarter concludes.

Chair Gideon

Chair Gideon reported attending the Leadership Clark County event to celebrate Rhianna Johnson's receiving of the Community Impact Award following last month's board meeting. She also attended Black Family Night, which focused on increasing enrollment of Black families at Clark College, and praised the keynote speaker, Clarissa Hightower. Chair Gideon held a Chair/Vice Chair meeting with Dr. Edwards and attended the Heather McGhee event. She thanked students, faculty, and staff for their continued efforts as the academic year concludes.

Report from the President

President Edwards reported that Nate Humphrey has been named the next Executive Director of the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges. She shared updates on the BUILD leadership development program, including the graduation of 22 participants, and acknowledged ongoing legislative concerns related to proposed federal financial aid changes. She noted continued engagement with elected officials, including representatives from Senator Murray's and Congresswoman Gluesenkamp Perez's offices. Updates were also provided on the Vice President of Student Affairs search, recent economic development discussions through CREDC, and community engagement efforts, including the Heather McGhee event and the upcoming commencement ceremony. President Edwards confirmed that accessibility policy concerns raised at the last meeting were addressed and documented in the board packet.

Next Meeting

The Board of Trustees have scheduled a special session on Wednesday, June 2, 2025, starting at 1:30 pm. The Trustees and the College President will be virtual.

The next Board of Trustees work session and regular meeting are scheduled for Wednesday, June 11, starting at 3:30 pm.

Executive Session

Pursuant to RCW 42.30.110 (1)(g), the Board shall convene an executive session at 5:56 p.m. to evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment, or to review the performance of a public employee.

The Executive Session is expected to last until 6:30 p.m. No final action will be taken during the executive session.

The Executive Session under RCW 42.30.110 ended at 6:30 p.m. The board took no action during the Executive Session.

Adjournment

Chair Gideon adjourned the regular meeting at 6:31 p.m.

Clark College

Board of Trustees Special Session Minutes

Monday, June 2, 2025

PUB 257 and Zoom

In Attendance

Denise Gideon, Chair

Marilee Scarbrough, Vice Chair

Jeanne Bennett, Trustee

Cristhian Canseco Juarez, Trustee

Suzanne Donaldson, Trustee

Administrators

Dr. Karin Edwards, President

Other

Shelley Williams, Assistant Attorney General

Darci Feider, President's Office

Brandon Johnson, IT

Call to Order/Agenda Review

Chair Gideon called the Board of Trustees special session to order at 1:30 p.m.

Public Comment

No public comment.

Executive Session

Pursuant to RCW 42.30.110 (1)(g), the Board shall convene an executive session at 1:31 p.m. to evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment, or to review the performance of a public employee.

The Executive Session is expected to last until 2:40 p.m. No final action will be taken during the executive session.

The Executive Session under RCW 42.30.110 ended at 2:40 p.m. The board took no action during the Executive Session.

Adjournment

Chair Gideon adjourned the regular meeting at 2:45 p.m.



To: Dr. Karin Edwards, President
From: Sabra Sand, Vice President of Operations
Date: June 4, 2025
Subject: 2025-26 Budget

Background:

During the 2024-25 year, the college has seen state funded enrollments continue to increase in both traditional students as well as Running Start students. We are encouraged by these increases and are projecting them to continue for the 2025-26 year.

For the 2025-26 fiscal year, the College faced a projected deficit before tuition and Running Start rate increases of about \$669,000. At the same time, the college has an adequate fund balance, so we felt it prudent to hold steady and not implement any reductions or allocate additional funds. Our decision took into account the current state and federal budgetary climates, which both directly impact our students and our college budget. Tuition rates will increase slightly, along with Running Start reimbursements rates, reducing the reliance on fund balance.

Looking forward to the 2026-27 fiscal year, we will continue to use the Strategic Plan to drive future the budget decisions and provide alignment between strategic tenets and budget decisions. We are excited to use the key performance indicators to evaluate if additional funding and initiatives increase our metrics.

The 2025-26 budget is now ready for you to submit to the Board of Trustees on June 11. Key elements of this budget include the following:

- The College is projecting to serve 5,000 state-support FTES, up 57 from the 2024-25 budget.
- The College is projecting to serve 1,675 Running Start FTES, up 90 from the 2024-25 budget.
- Running Start reimbursement rates increased by about 2.5%; tuition rates increased by 3.3%.
- The College is funding a small portion of the new on-going cost by allocating approximately \$669,000 from the fund balance.

Recommendation:

I recommend approval of the College's 2025-26 operating budget per the attached documents:

- Page 1.** State Allocation & Projected Revenue: total budget of \$140,249,625 for all funds.
Page 2. 2025-26 Budget by Uses of Revenue illustrates the allocation of resources among the divisions of the College.

CLARK COLLEGE

2025-26

Sources of Funds

	Funded FTE's	2024-25 Base Budget	Funded FTE's	2025-26 Base Budget
STATE ALLOCATION				
General Fund	7,069	\$ 53,902,450	7,069	\$ 52,631,992
Worker Retraining	194	934,365	194	934,365
	7,263	54,836,815	7,263	53,566,357
TUITION				
Tuition - General	4,683	14,630,629	4,715	15,194,559
BAS Tuition	200	1,551,030	225	1,718,387
International	60	405,531	60	534,619
	4,943	16,587,190	5,000	17,447,565
OTHER				
Running Start	1,585	14,126,788	1,675	15,302,507
Use of Fund Balance		-		669,139
DEDICATED FUNDS				
Matriculation Fee		593,598		561,233
Continuing Education Fees		655,283		852,583
Resale Charges		269,864		269,864
Class Fees		2,331,511		2,451,373
Tech Fee		1,111,918		1,149,669
GED Testing Fees		11,045		-
Career Center Fees		1,700		-
Surplus Sale Revenue		15,326		15,326
Health Occupation Admissions		20,525		21,891
Transcript Services		20,000		500
		5,030,770		5,322,439
Subtotal (Operating)		90,581,563		92,308,007
OTHER FUND SOURCES				
Grant & Contracts		5,684,982		5,286,944
Internal Support Services		381,935		279,152
ASCC & Clubs		2,517,996		2,570,377
Bookstore		2,433,799		2,584,142
Parking		318,577		324,170
Auxiliary Enterprises		2,849,368		3,058,184
Student Financial Aid		23,880,085		28,415,085
Capital Projects		18,983,050		5,423,564
Subtotal		57,049,792		47,941,618
TOTAL COLLEGE BUDGET		\$ 147,631,355		\$ 140,249,625

Current year allocation updated with additional state allocation funding

CLARK COLLEGE
2025-26
Uses of Funds

	2024-25 Base Budget	2025-26 Base Budget	Change	% Change
Operating Budget				
Instruction	57,466,327	58,527,287	1,060,960	1.8%
Student Affairs	10,544,152	10,337,037	(207,115)	-2.0%
Operations	13,189,288	13,280,777	91,489	0.7%
Information Technology	4,388,233	4,425,984	37,751	0.9%
Human Resources	2,042,223	2,042,223	-	0.0%
Office of the President	895,626	895,626	-	0.0%
Diversity, Equity and Inclusion	1,202,236	947,804	(254,432)	-21.2%
Other:				
Salary/Benefit/Other changes to be allocated	853,479	1,851,270	997,791	
Subtotal	90,581,564	92,308,008	1,726,444	
Other Funds Sources				
Grant & Contracts	5,684,982	5,286,944	(398,038)	-7.0%
Internal Support Services	381,935	279,152	(102,783)	-26.9%
ASCC & Clubs	2,517,996	2,570,377	52,381	2.1%
Bookstore	2,433,799	2,584,142	150,343	6.2%
Parking	318,577	324,170	5,593	1.8%
Auxiliary Enterprises	2,849,368	3,058,184	208,816	7.3%
Student Financial Aid	23,880,085	28,415,085	4,535,000	19.0%
Capital Projects	18,983,050	5,423,564	(13,559,486)	-71.4%
Subtotal	57,049,792	47,941,618		
TOTAL COLLEGE BUDGET	147,631,356	140,249,626		

* Adjusted Base

Associated Students of Clark College
2025 - 2026 Services and Activities Fees Budget Handbook

Section 2: Summary of 2025-2026 S&A Fee Operating Budget

Revenues	2024-2025	2025-2026	Change
Services and Activities Fees	2,063,355	2,084,779	21,424
Use of Fund Balance	453,851	456,898	3,047
Athletics Administration	15,000	15,000	-
Clark Literary Journal: <i>The Swift</i>	-	200	200
Counseling & Health Center	5,000	5,000	-
Students of the American Dental Hygienists' Association	1,000	1,500	500
STEM-NERD Girls/Engineering	1,050	500	(550)
Theatre	5,000	6,500	1,500
Total Revenues	2,544,256	2,570,377	26,121

Expenses	2024-2025	2025-2026	Difference
Activities Programming Board (APB)	186,928	188,442	1,514
Aerospace and Robotics	74,555	-	(74,555)
Archer Gallery	33,745	35,648	1,903
Athletics Administration	123,019	137,020	14,001
Athletics Coaches	230,892	243,283	12,391
Athletics, Men's	180,689	209,345	28,656
Athletics, Women's	193,985	229,985	36,000
Child and Family Studies	122,657	150,982	28,325
Clark Art Talks	26,547	23,596	(2,951)
Clark Literary Journal: <i>The Swift</i>	21,144	21,410	266
Club Service Funding	6,500	3,500	(3,000)
Columbia Writer's Series	21,527	21,530	3
Counseling and Health Center	237,909	226,907	(11,002)
Discounted Fitness Passes	6,250	6,100	(150)
Iceberg	20,600	22,900	2,300
Instrumental Music	61,906	25,006	(36,900)
Intramurals	16,525	16,275	(250)
Model United Nations	33,560	34,020	460
Multicultural Student Affairs	151,220	107,447	(43,773)
Northwest Athletic Conference (NWAC) Travel	40,000	40,000	-
Orchestra	27,810	28,752	942
Pep Band	18,588	18,448	(140)
Phi Theta Kappa	54,908	61,276	6,368
Phoenix Art	28,705	30,415	1,710
Students of the American Dental Hygienists' Association (SADHA)	9,582	9,481	(101)
STEM NERD Girls/Engineering	24,075	25,500	1,425
Student Ambassadors	27,010	30,066	3,056
Student Government	120,641	121,735	1,094
Student IDs	22,300	22,250	(50)
Student Life	249,595	303,884	54,289
Theatre	85,090	94,150	9,060
Vocal Music	59,534	68,210	8,676
World Languages - Japanese	7,105	12,814	5,709
World Language - Spanish	19,155	-	(19,155)
Total Expenses	2,544,256	2,570,377	26,121



Clark College ASCC Board of Trustees Report June 2025

Presented by:

ASCC President Gurraj Dhami

Student Involvement & Campus Climate

ASCC Student Government recognizes the increase in student involvement with clubs and programs and in response will continue to create, support, and promote student involvement in ASCC clubs and programs, and events.

Activities to support this priority:

- ASCC Oswald Awards celebrated 149 students nominated by Faculty/staff.
- Spring Fest was held at Andersen Fountain. This event had 630 student participation. It offered music, games, food, and interactive activities that celebrated the end of the academic year.
- The Fall Guy (Daytime Movie) was a relaxed, midday movie showing at Gaiser Student Center on May 19th, with 70 students enjoying the film and social time.
- Llamazing Time with Llamas was held at Andersen Fountain on May 28th. This event drew 235 students who enjoyed feeding, petting, and taking photos with llamas, providing a unique stress-relief experience before finals.

Student Resource Access

The ASCC Student Government will advocate for the provision, allocation, and management of accessible resources for Clark students to ensure student success.

Activities to support this priority:

- ASCC's social media presence continues to grow, reaching 1,618 Instagram followers, helping disseminate essential resource information to students.
- In May, the Penguin Pantry distributed 18,950 pounds of food, supporting 413 students, 1,644 household members, totaling 1,134 visits.

Clark College State-Wide Initiatives

The ASCC Student Government understands the significance of partnering with state-wide groups such as Washington Student Engagement Network (WA-SEN) and the Washington Community and Technical Colleges Students Association (WACTCSA), so will develop outreach to state-wide groups to advocate for funding and the interests of Clark College students at the state level. Additionally, the ASCC Student Government recognizes the benefits in partnering with nearby colleges to increase community involvement and student engagement, so will build upon partnerships with nearby colleges, such as WSUV to provide students opportunities to engage in their college and community.

Activities to support this priority:

- No new updates to report at this time.

General Updates:

- ASCC Recruitment for 2025-2026: Recruitment efforts for the 2025-2026 ASCC team are underway. The Appointments Committee is currently reviewing candidates and conducting interviews to fill leadership positions for the upcoming academic year.

WPEA/UFCW Local 365, Clark College Unit

Board Report for June 2025

MEETINGS

WPEA Steward meeting on Mondays 11:30 AM

COMMUNICATION

Current contact for campus stewards:
wpeastewards@clark.edu

Representational Stewards

Angela Dawson	Nursing
Becky Lindsay	Dental Hygiene
Courtney Braddock	Accounting Services
Jillian Taylor-Valdez	Child & Family Services

Member Leaders

Jenny Shadley	Communications & Marketing
DJ Scates	Office of Instruction
Ryan Johnson	Nursing & Allied Health

WPEA Classified Staff Updates:

Report topics:

- Congratulations to the Class of 2025
- WPEA Higher Ed Contract Bargaining- College Leadership Advocacy

Congratulations to the Class of 2025:

The Clark College WPEA would like to congratulate the graduates of 2025! This time of year is so exciting to be able to see students that staff have worked with achieve their goals. We look forward to seeing students continue to impact the community even after their journey at Clark comes to an end.

WPEA Higher Ed Contract Bargaining- College Leadership Advocacy:

From Sabra Sand's most recent email regarding the upcoming fiscal state budget:

"It's disappointing that the final state budget did not include funding for the WPEA contract, though there was support and advocacy, the outcome is outside of our control."

While we would not argue that any leadership at the college makes the final decision on the state budget, college leaders such as the President and Board of Trustees' members have significant influence when speaking with state legislatures.

For example, during last year's legislative session, House Bill 2172 proposed to provide vacant state agency property be used by local government during a declared emergencies related to homelessness. A small piece of Clark's vacant property, along with other Vancouver properties, was being considered. Multiple Clark College Board of Trustee's members went to the legislature to testify in opposition of the bill. After that testimony, Clark College was no longer considered.

In contrast, during last summer's WPEA bargaining session, the WPEA came to Dr. Edwards and the Board of Trustee's multiple times, asking to support a COLA that would make a positive impact to our members lives and help stop the bleeding of classified staff that Clark College, and many other colleges, are feeling. The response was to include a request of 13% over the biennium for admin/exempt employees, specifically excluding classified staff. This number was never brought to the bargaining table by the college's bargaining representative. This is a pattern we've seen for over the last 20 years.

Quoting again from Sabra's email "We deeply value our classified employees and their continued vital contributions every day to the college and our community."

The history of where the college prioritizes its collective action and legislative muscle is not currently, nor has it been, used for our classified staff. And being ignored by our own president when asking for support is just another example of many.

When and how will classified staff be deeply valued by Clark College? When will we hear this sentiment at the bargaining table? How are you going to support Clark College's classified staff now that we are even further behind? We are asking you to walk the walk and not just give lip service.

We want to remind college leadership that our membership makes up nearly half of the employees at the college. We clean your classrooms and offices, we reconcile your budgets, we process student financial aid, we keep the campus safe, we ensure that your technology works, we keep the college grounds pristine. We are the faces our students and community see when they enter our campus. We know we matter, and we will continue to push for what we deserve. It is now your turn, Clark College Leadership, to show us we matter.

As we head back to the bargaining table, be involved and at the table. Push YOUR bargaining representative to represent your needs and how you deeply value your classified staff. Anything less is unacceptable.

As of June 3, 2025, we still have not received a response from Dr. Edwards regarding the letter that requested her to advocate for classified staff in Olympia. In fact, the only communication that we've seen from the President was a mention of "disappointment" that the final state budget did not include funding for our contract in the President's Weekly.

We've received many responses from members who are disturbed by this response. The messaging in this response completely lacks any responsibility on Clark College's end. The work to ensure our contracts are fully implemented go beyond the bargaining table and require advocacy at the legislature. We have not seen any advocacy from Clark College at the bargaining table or Clark College showing up in Olympia for classified staff. We would hope that Dr. Edwards would widely share her communication, both individual and as a community college President, to help our members see how we are deeply valued, and that the college is doing all it can to go to bat for us. But we have not seen any of these supposed communications.

We also want to dispel the assertion that Clark College does not have authority to make local compensation decisions for classified positions. For example, it was recently announced at Greys Harbor Community College, one of the college's that bargains at the WPEA Higher Education Coalition table, announced that as of July 1, 2025, all full-time classified staff would receive a \$1500 retention bonus, and all part-time classified staff would receive a \$750 retention bonus. This effort was made by Greys Harbor leadership to show goodwill to their classified staff, using local funds to help alleviate the gap in pay members would see in FY 2026. At Highline Community College, their leadership announced that they would be working to move all classified staff into higher classifications or up steps in their current pay ranges to make up the gap in pay that they would not be receiving in FY 2026.

The narrative that Clark College has no say is false. While the Office of Financial Management (OFM) is the representative at the bargaining table, the 13 colleges that make up the coalition pay over \$100,000 a quarter for OFM to represent the college in labor relations. OFM works for the college, NOT the other way around. This is just another way that the college has continuously skirted accountability regarding advocating for classified staff. We will not continue to allow this narrative to go on without push back. If OFM's representation does not represent the college's needs at the bargaining table, it is on the college to push back or find an alternative to labor relations work, potentially like college's that WPEA represents that do not utilize OFM. But without the college pushing back against how OFM represents them, it is hard to tell our members that OFM does not represent the college and its advocacy, or rather, their lack of advocacy, for classified staff.

It takes time and effort on leadership's part to ensure that classified staff are paid fairly. Something that Clark College leadership has not bothered to take the time to investigate. We consistently remind leadership how to properly advocate for us. And when something falls short, there is no accountability taken.

It is disappointing that Clark College does not put in the same amount of effort to take care of us as we do for our work and our students. The college will continue to harm Clark students if it neglects the staff that run so much of its operations. We need concrete solutions from our leadership on how to repair the damages classified staff have experienced from prior bargaining sessions and we need Clark College's advocacy for classified staff to be transparent.

As always, the Clark College WPEA leadership team is always available to meet with Clark College leadership to discuss next steps and hope that someday soon, college leadership actually take us up on that offer.

From: [Southerland, Suzanne](#)
To: [Feider, Darci](#)
Subject: Re: Clark College Board of Trustees Meeting: Wednesday, May 28, 2025
Date: Tuesday, May 27, 2025 7:36:15 PM

Hi Darci,

I hope you're doing well!

I didn't receive an email about my Board report this time. I appreciate your patience with the lateness of this report.

- State budget update, will support WPEA in their receiving their COLA in supplemental session.
- Heather McGhee - Grateful for her visit, interesting connection between her book and the state budget news.
- Communicated with Disability Access Center re: accommodations and clarifying expectations. Many thanks to DAC Director Megan Jasurda.
- Negotiations underway, RSI
- Hopes for Chair training during orientation week.
- Faculty Union Senate news - new Vice President and at least three new Senators, Member of the Year Award, Professor Michael Ceriello
- A note about Higher Education

Thank you Darci!

~Suzanne

Suzanne Southerland

Suzanne Southerland
Professor, CMST

President, CCAHE
Clark College

From: Feider, Darci <DFeider@clark.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, May 27, 2025 9:03 AM
Subject: Clark College Board of Trustees Meeting: Wednesday, May 28, 2025

This message is being sent to all staff and faculty.

In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, Clark College announces that the Board of Trustees will hold a work session on Wednesday, May 28, at 3:30 p.m. in GHL 205, followed by a regular meeting at 5:00 p.m. in the Ellis F. Dunn Community Room, Gaiser Hall, Room 213, and via Zoom.

Meeting Schedule

Work Session

- **Start Time:** 3:30 p.m.
- **Location:** Gaiser Hall, Room 205

Regular Meeting

- **Start Time:** 5:00 p.m.
- **Location:** Gaiser Hall, Room 213

Virtual Attendance

- **Link:** [Join Zoom Meeting](#)
- **Meeting ID:** 831 3722 6333
- **Passcode:** 418803
- **Dial In:** (253) 215-8782

Meeting Packets

[May 28, 2025, Work Session Packet](#)

[May 28, 2025, Regular Meeting Packet](#)

Public Comment:

Individuals wishing to provide public comment may use the [signup sheet](#) prior to the meeting. Public comments will be limited to **two minutes per speaker**. Signup for public comments will close at **4:55 p.m. on the day of the meeting**.

Note: Public comments will be conducted in the order in which speakers sign up.

Interpreting and real-time captioning will be provided via Zoom. If you have accessibility needs, please contact Darci Feider at dfeider@clark.edu.

Thank you,

Darci Feider

Senior Executive to the President

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