

WESTERN TECHNICAL COLLEGE DISTRICT BOARD
Minutes of Regular Meeting
April 21, 2026

Mr. Hennessey, District Board Chair, called the regular meeting of the Board of Western Technical College District to order at 3:03 p.m. on Tuesday, April 21, 2026, at Western Technical College, Administrative Center, 111 7th St, Rm 408, La Crosse, WI. Board members present: R. Alderson, J. Dillin, C. Doering III, J. Felton, M. Greendeer-Rave, K. Hennessey, M. Wolf, and Roger Standford, President. Excused: K. Peterson M. Skarlupka

Notice of the meeting was posted publicly on April 16, 2026, at 2:53 p.m., and the agenda was distributed to interested people via the district's official newspaper (The La Crosse Tribune) and to other news media throughout the district, in compliance with Wisconsin Statutes, Sections 19.81-19.98.

Others present were J. Pintz, W. Hackbarth, A. Thornton, R. Hopkins, J. Heath, J. Lemon, J. Gamer, C. Heit, K. Reyburn, J. Schriener, M. Poellinger, and B. Kanable. (Western employees).

Motion Alderson, seconded by Doering, resolutions of commendations for 1. Kimberly Betthausen, Instructor, Business Technology, Academic Affairs (AA); 2. Laurie Ellefson, Instructor, Nursing Assistant AA; 3. Randal Hytry, Instructor, Electromechanical & Comp Eng Tech, AA; 4. Brian Kanable, Instructor, Automotive, AA; 5. Lisa Mikkelson, Instructor, Dental Assistant, AA; 6. David Reed, Instructor, Economics, AA. Motion carried. 6/0/0
attachments: a, b, c, d, e, f

Presentations included an update from Reyburn on our work with Achieving the Dream and the recent conference; board member Wolf shared her experience as well; an update from Heath on the presidential search; and an update from Hackbarth and Heit on FY 2026-27, which will be asked for approval at the June 2026 meeting. No action taken. *Wolf arrived at 3:15 p.m. Doering excused at 4:17 p.m.*

Motion Wolf seconded by Dillin that the Board approve the following consent items as presented: 1. Minutes: a. Mar 17, 2026, District Board Reg Meeting, 2. a. Vendors Over \$2,500-Mar 2026, b. Capital Project Reports-Mar 2026, c. General Revenue/Expense Report-Mar 2026, c. Dept Budget Sum-Mar 2026, d. Enterprise Srvcs Sum-Mar 2026. 3. Project Submission & Acceptances a. 2026-27 WACRO Leadership Grant, b. 2026-27 MedAide WAT Consortium Grant; 4 Policy a. F0110 Art on Campus (second read). Motion carried. 6/0/0

Roll Call: Motion Wolf, seconded by Greendeer-Rave to approve Resolution Authorizing the Issuance and Establishing Parameters for the Sale of \$3,000,000 General Obligation Promissory Notes, Series2026B, of Western Technical College District, Wisconsin. R. Alderson, Y; J. Dillin, Y; J. Felton, Y; M. Greendeer-Rave, Y; K. Hennessey, Y; M. Wolf, Y. Motion passed. 6/0/0

President's Report: President Stanford shared information on several end-of-year student celebrations and scholarship events, and an additional faculty celebration for S. Summerfield. The President also shared information on the July 14-15 State Board meeting here, 4/25 is Commencement, and the HSED/GED Graduation Celebration is on 5/14 at the Lunda Center.

District Board Chairperson's report: Chairperson Hennessey shared that Secretary of State Godlewski and Rep. Tara Johnson were on campus last week. Godlewski presented President Stanford with a commendation for his years of service to education. Reminder of Plus Delta feedback, if you have any.

4:50 p.m. Motion Felton, seconded by Dillin; Roll Call to close session: Alderson, Y; Dillin, Y; Greendeer-Rave, Y; Felton, Y; Hennessey, Y; Wolf, Y. Motion approved 6/0/0 to move to closed session. No action taken.

5:37 p.m. Motion Wolf seconded by Dillin to adjourn. Motion carried. 6/0/0.


 Ken Peterson, Secretary



Western Technical College

Resolution of Commendation to **Kimberly Betthausen**

Whereas, Kimberly Betthausen, Instructor of Business Technology, will retire from Western Technical College after 33 years of dedicated service to the College and the Western Technical College District; and

Whereas, Kim has been a student-centered instructor who built strong, supportive relationships with both students and co-workers, creating a welcoming environment where others felt valued and supported; and

Whereas, Kim demonstrated a deep commitment to student success, offering encouragement, guidance, and consistent support that made a lasting impact on those she taught; and

Whereas, Kim served as a mentor to new instructors, generously sharing her knowledge, helping others navigate the College, and contributing to a culture of collaboration and connection; and

Whereas, Kim brought honesty, humor, and a straightforward approach to her work, offering thoughtful perspective and support to colleagues in both professional and personal moments; and

Whereas, Kim's leadership, dedication, and genuine care for others have made her a trusted colleague, valued mentor, and respected member of the Western community; therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Western Technical College District Board expresses its sincere appreciation and special commendation to Kimberly Betthausen for her many years of dedicated service and meaningful contributions to Western; and be it

Resolved, that the Board, Administration, Faculty, Co-workers, and Students extend their warmest wishes to Kim for a joyful and well-earned retirement.

Western
Technical College

Roger Stanford, PhD, President/District Director

Kevin Hennessey, Board Chair

Adopted, approved, and recorded by the Western Technical College District Board on April 21, 2026



Western Technical College

Resolution of Commendation to **Laurie Ellefson**

Whereas, Laurie Ellefson, Instructor in the Nursing Assistant program, will retire from Western Technical College after 18 years of dedicated service to the College and the Western Technical College District; and

Whereas, Laurie has served as a knowledgeable and dependable instructor, consistently delivering a high-quality program and supporting student success; and

Whereas, Laurie has been recognized as a tough but fair leader who upheld high standards while supporting both students and colleagues; and

Whereas, Laurie demonstrated a willingness to embrace challenges, contribute as a strong team member, and build respectful and collaborative relationships across the College; and

Whereas, Laurie brought valuable expertise in instructional technology and played a key role in addressing program needs and supporting effective course delivery; and

Whereas, Laurie's professionalism, integrity, and steady leadership have made a lasting impact on students, colleagues, and the College; therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Western Technical College District Board expresses its sincere appreciation and special commendation to Laurie Ellefson for her years of dedicated service and contributions to Western; and be it

Resolved, that the Board, Administration, Faculty, Co-workers, and Students extend their warmest wishes to Laurie for a fulfilling, amazing, and well-earned retirement.

Western
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Roger Stanford, PhD, President/District Director

Kevin Hennessey, Board Chair

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Western Technical College

Resolution of Commendation to **Randal Hytry**

Whereas, Randal Hytry, Instructor of Electronic & Computer Engineering Technology, will retire from Western Technical College after 13 years of dedicated service to the College and the Western Technical College District; and

Whereas, Randal has been a student-centered instructor who brought depth, flexibility, and adaptability to his teaching, supporting students across multiple subject areas, including complex coursework such as AC/DC and Physics; and

Whereas, Randal consistently stepped in wherever needed, demonstrating a strong commitment to both student success and program continuity; and

Whereas, Randal worked alongside multiple faculty during periods of transition within the Electromechanical Technology and Electronic & Computer Engineering Technology programs, providing stability and continuity for students through collaboration and professionalism; and

Whereas, Randal brought a thoughtful perspective and a willingness to challenge existing approaches, contributing to meaningful discussions that strengthened outcomes for students and the program; and

Whereas, Randal's reliability, versatility, and steady presence made him a trusted colleague and a dependable contributor within the division; therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Western Technical College District Board expresses its sincere appreciation and special commendation to Randal Hytry for his years of dedicated service and contributions to Western; and be it

Resolved, that the Board, Administration, Faculty, Co-workers, and Students extend their warmest wishes to Randal for a fulfilling and well-earned retirement.

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Roger Stanford, PhD, President/District Director

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Western Technical College

Resolution of Commendation to **Brian Kanable**

Whereas, Brian Kanable, Instructor in the Automotive Technician program, will retire from Western Technical College after 36 years of dedicated service to the College and the Western Technical College District; and

Whereas, Brian has been a foundational figure in the Automotive Technician program, contributing to the success of generations of students, many of whom now serve as instructors and industry professionals; and

Whereas, Brian brought deep technical expertise, particularly in automatic transmissions and driveline systems, and emphasized the importance of precision, organization, and professionalism in all aspects of his teaching; and

Whereas, Brian approached teaching with energy and passion, creating an engaging learning environment where students understood both the complexity of the work and the expectations of the profession; and

Whereas, Brian demonstrated leadership through mentorship, community engagement, and long-standing partnerships, including his work supporting the Viroqua car care clinic; and

Whereas, Brian's commitment to continuous learning, resilience through challenges, and dedication to student success have left a lasting impact on the program and the College; therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Western Technical College District Board expresses its sincere appreciation and special commendation to Brian Kanable for his exceptional service and lasting contributions to Western; and be it

Resolved, that the Board, Administration, Faculty, Co-workers, and Students extend their warmest wishes to Brian for a well-earned and fulfilling retirement.

Western Technical College

Roger Stanford, PhD, President/District Director

Kevin Hennessey, Board Chair

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Western Technical College

Resolution of Commendation to **Lisa Mikkelson**

Whereas, Lisa Mikkelson, Instructor in the Dental Assistant program, will retire from Western Technical College after 21 years of dedicated service to the College and the Western Technical College District; and

Whereas, Lisa is known for her kindness, compassion, and genuine care for students and colleagues, creating a supportive and welcoming learning environment; and

Whereas, Lisa brought deep knowledge of dental assisting and program requirements, along with a strong commitment to helping students succeed and develop a passion for their profession; and

Whereas, Lisa built meaningful relationships across the College, offering support, encouragement, and a positive presence that made others feel valued and seen; and

Whereas, Lisa's thoughtful nature, sense of humor, and well-known ability to keep things running smoothly—even while searching for her glasses or sharing donuts with colleagues—have made her a cherished member of the Western community; therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Western Technical College District Board expresses its sincere appreciation and special commendation to Lisa Mikkelson for her years of dedicated service and contributions to Western; and be it

Resolved, that the Board, Administration, Faculty, Co-workers, and Students extend their warmest wishes to Lisa for a joyful and well-deserved retirement.

Western
Technical College

Roger Stanford, PhD, President/District Director

Kevin Hennessey, Board Chair

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Western Technical College

Resolution of Commendation to **David Reed**

Whereas, David Reed, Instructor of Economics, will retire from Western Technical College after 31 years of dedicated service to the College and the Western Technical College District; and

Whereas, David has been a student-centered instructor who worked diligently to help students succeed, consistently going the extra mile to support them throughout their educational journey; and

Whereas David built meaningful connections with students through his genuine, caring personality and his gift for bringing economics to life through stories and real-world examples; and

Whereas David embraced lifelong learning, continually adapting to changes in education and seeking new ways to engage students and strengthen his teaching; and

Whereas David has been a supportive and generous colleague, known for sharing his time, encouragement, and many stories of travel and adventure, including his climb to the summit of Mount Kilimanjaro; and

Whereas David's energy, kindness, and commitment to students and co-workers have left a lasting impact on the College community; therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Western Technical College District Board expresses its sincere appreciation and special commendation to David Reed for his many years of dedicated service and meaningful contributions to Western; and be it

Resolved, that the Board, Administration, Faculty, Co-workers, and Students extend their warmest wishes to David for a joyful and well-earned retirement filled with new adventures ahead.

Western Technical College

Roger Stanford, PhD, President/District Director

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