

Approved Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Alpena Community College Board of Trustees
Thursday, May 21, 2026
665 Johnson Street, Alpena, MI 49707

On Thursday, May 21, 2026, the Alpena Community College Board of Trustees held its regular monthly meeting in the Roger C. Bauer Board Room, 400 Natural Resources Center.

The meeting was brought to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chair John Briggs.

Trustees present in person: John Briggs, Teresa Duncan, Joseph Gentry II, Lisa Hilberg, Susan Stender, Florence Stibitz, and Tom Townsend. Absent trustees: none.

Also in attendance: Dr. Don MacMaster, ACC president; Denis (Jay) Walterreit, board secretary, and Alpena County Sheriff's Deputy Mike Lash.

After convening the meeting Chair Briggs announced a workshop session to hear details of the College's proposed Fiscal Year 2027 budget. Dr. Nick Brege, Vice President for Administration & Finance, went through a PowerPoint presentation detailing the expected revenues and expenses for the coming fiscal year.

After a short recess at the end of the workshop Chair Briggs reconvened the regular meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Trustee Townsend led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda

Trustee Stibitz made the motion to approve the agenda as presented; Trustee Stender seconded the motion. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion approved.

Approval of the Proposed Minutes of the April 16, 2026, Regular Meeting

Trustee Hilberg made the motion to approve the proposed minutes of the April 16, 2026, regular meeting; Trustee Duncan seconded the motion. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion approved.

Introduction of Guests and Public Comment

Guests attending the meeting in person were: Dr. Nick Brege, ACC administration; Dr. Paige Gordier, ACC administration; Nancy Seguin, ACC administration; Karen Bennett, ACC legal counsel; Reagan Voetberg, The Alpena News; Adam Keyes, ACC administration; Kurt Koneiczny, ACC administration; Lauren Mantlo, ACC administration; Mariel Carter; Kendra Lake; Patti Skinner; and Dawn Stone, ACC administration.

Guests attending via Webex were: Jess Haselhuhn, ACC staff; Alexis Young, ACC staff; Shawn Sexton, ACC faculty; Stephanie Collman; Kelly Lewis, ACC staff; Mary Eagan, ACC administration; Lisa Blumenthal, ACC staff; and Bob Tosch, community member.

Bob Tosch, Mariel Carter, Kendra Lake, Patti Skinner, Shawn Sexton, and Lauren Mantlo gave public comments.

Communication(s)

None.

Board Member and Subcommittee Reports

Trustee Duncan gave the following report on the ACC Foundation:

- This has been an incredibly busy time of year. We have presented the following awards:

Nursing Awards

- Jacquemin \$500 scholarship: Sarah Mulka
- Gouin \$1000 scholarship: Emma Meyer
- Malandrinis \$250 scholarship: Joshua Bristow
- Florence Nightingale (alumni award): Sally Jean Smith

All the pins for the Nurses Pinning Ceremony were provide by the ACC Foundation through the Taylor Agius Memorial Nursing Scholarship.

John M. Grant Front Runner Awards (\$500 awards)

- Hannah L. Grande
- Gabriel S. Trudeau

Fellows of the College

- Dr. Donald Newport
- Richard & Jeannine Boyce

Distinguished Graduate

- Donna Belusar
- John Berg fund requests continue to come in, including on the night of commencement.
- On Tuesday, May 19, the ACC Foundation Scholarship Committee awarded 110 scholarships in the first wave of awards. There are over 200 more awards to make between the Financial Aid Director and ACC Foundation Executive Director. We will open up a second round for scholarship applications in the summer to capture enrollees

who missed the first scholarship deadline. We will have a limited number of scholarships available, but there will be an opportunity for more financial assistance.

- The 31st Annual Robert M. Granum Scramble for Students will take place Saturday, July 18. We are in full planning mode and the office is very busy. Sponsorship flyers are going out soon, so please consider giving generously when you receive one. We would also love to have trustees golf or volunteer with us this year!

Student Report

None.

Faculty Report

None.

President's Report

President's Report to the Alpena Community College Board of Trustees
May 21, 2026

2026 Commencement Week Activities

On Wednesday, May 6, 2026, ACC held its Spring Semester Nurses Pinning Ceremony at 6:00 p.m. in Park Arena. This semester 11 LPN students and 22 RN students completed their programs of study. ACC invited alumni of the program back to campus to participate in this year's pinning ceremony. This was the third year the Florence Nightingale Award was presented; the award honors an outstanding alumnus of the ACC nursing program who has gone on to exemplify the qualities of the founder of modern nursing. This year's recipient was Sally Jean Smith.

Following are the nursing awards winners:

LPN:

1. Excellence in LPN Nursing Theory Award: Sarah Mulka (Alpena Campus)
2. Excellence in LPN Clinical Practice Award: Emily Martin (Alpena Campus) and Ava Gooch (Oscoda Campus)
3. LPN Classmate Appreciation Award: Tiffany Nelson (Oscoda Campus)
4. Judy Beyer Award: Sarah Mulka (Alpena Campus)
5. Barbara Jacquemin, BSN, RN \$500 Scholarship: Sarah Mulka (Alpena Campus)

RN:

1. Excellence in RN Nursing Theory Award: Joshua Bristow (Alpena Campus) & Emily Lockenour (Oscoda Campus)
2. Excellence in RN Clinical Practice Award: Emma Meyer (Alpena Campus)
3. Kathryn Riker Gouin \$1000 Scholarship: Emma Meyer (Alpena Campus)
4. Holistic Nurse Award: Joshua Bristow (Alpena Campus)
5. Helen Malandrinos \$250 Scholarship: Chelsea Marsh (Alpena Campus)

Thursday, May 7, 2026:

The Honors Breakfast was held at 9 a.m. at the APlex. This ceremony recognizes students who maintain a grade point average of 3.5 or better. Phi Theta Kappa, the community college honor society, and Sigma Zeta, the math honor society, recognize academically talented students. 102 candidates were eligible to participate in the Honors Breakfast this year and approximately 51 attended the Honors Breakfast.

The John M. Grant Front Runner Awards were presented at the Honors Breakfast. This award is given annually to a graduating male and female non-traditional student who has demonstrated unusual dedication in the pursuit of higher education. The two 2026 Front Runner Award recipients were Hannah Grande and Gabriel Trudeau.

This is the 11th year the Outstanding Student Awards have been presented at the Honors Breakfast.

ACC's 72nd Commencement Ceremony was held at 7:00 p.m. in Park Arena. The ceremony included the Commencement address, delivered this year by retiring ACC instructor Roy Smith. Other presentations include the Besser Awards, which are the highest recognition of academic achievement given at ACC, the Fellow of the College award, and the Distinguished Graduate award. 385 candidates are eligible to participate in the Commencement this year, up from 2025 (353). Approximately 150 students walked in the Commencement ceremony.

Jesse & Anna Besser Awards — The Besser Awards are the highest recognition of academic achievement given at Alpena Community College, and 2026 is the 54th year they were presented. This year's award winners were Valerie Binge and Charles Best.



Above: 2026 Besser Award winners Valerie Binge (second from left) and Charles Best (second from right). Also in the photo: Dr. Don MacMaster, ACC president, and Candie Dombrowski, Besser Company chief operating officer.

Fellow of the College — Each year the College recognizes someone who, through a sense of purpose, community concern and leadership, has enriched the educational, cultural and/or economic lives of the citizens of Northeast Michigan. This year's recipients were Richard and Jeannine Boyce, and Dr. Donald Newport. Mary Eagan, Executive Director of the ACC Foundation, presented the awards.

Distinguished Graduate — Another yearly Commencement activity is the presentation of the Distinguished Graduate Award, which is bestowed upon an ACC alumnus/ae who has impacted the world in their realm of expertise. This year's Distinguished Graduate Award was presented to Dr. Donna Belusar. Established in 1998 by the ACC Foundation, this award honors ACC graduates who have gone on to contribute to society through successful careers. Its recipients are examples of how a solid educational foundation from ACC can launch a lifetime of achievements. ACC Director of Alumni Relations Rob Enslin presented the award. The ceremony was livestreamed on the ACC YouTube page (<https://www.youtube.com/@alpenacc>). Links to the live stream can be found in the ACC homepage (www.alpenacc.edu) and ACC's Facebook page.

Esports Champions at ACC

By Allen Telgenhof, Athletic Director

The ACC esports team claimed the NECC Division VIII Rocket League national championship Tuesday night, outlasting Fanshawe College's FUEL squad in a seven-game series that came down to a Charlie Best goal 15 seconds into overtime of the deciding match.

The Lumberjacks took the championship series 4-3 in a back-and-forth final that saw ACC build a 3-1 lead, watch Fanshawe force a winner-take-all Game 7, and then close it out in dramatic fashion behind Best, Isaac Zocco, and Max McCarty.

Best, who plays under the gamertag Chuckles7557, opened the series by leading the Lumberjacks to a 2-1 victory in Game 1, finishing with a team-high 454 score and two goals. Fanshawe answered in Game 2, taking a 1-0 overtime decision in a defensive battle that exposed how tightly matched the two teams would be.

Game 3 belonged entirely to ACC. The Lumberjacks rolled to a 4-1 win, with Best posting a remarkable 670 score and four goals in the most lopsided match of the series. Game 4 followed with another 2-1 ACC victory, this time keyed by Zocco (gamertag Dazoc), whose 452 score and two goals gave the Lumberjacks a commanding 3-1 series lead.

Fanshawe refused to fold. Behind strong play from snipermcgee5, profit, and SP4ZZY, the FUEL squad took back-to-back 2-1 decisions in Games 5 and 6 to even the series at three games apiece and force a deciding Game 7. Zocco posted 485 in Game 5 and Best added 408 in Game 6, but Fanshawe's balanced attack carried both contests.

That set the stage for a Game 7 that lived up to every bit of the moment. The two teams battled to a tie in regulation before Best ended it just 15 seconds into overtime, sending the ACC team into celebration as national champions. Best finished the clincher with 487 points and two goals. Zocco added 410 with a goal and an assist. McCarty (gamertag NeatWall3) contributed 390 with a goal and two assists.

The championship caps a dominant inaugural season in the NECC for the Lumberjacks, who finished with an 11-2 overall record. ACC went 5-2 in Division VIII East regular season play, swept their playoff bracket 3-0 to claim the East title, and then ran the table at nationals with three straight wins to capture the crown.

What makes the run all the more remarkable is the timeline. First-year coach Aaron Guitar didn't take over the program until after the fall semester was already underway, leaving him to build a roster, install a system, and prepare the team for

NECC competition all on a compressed schedule. The result was a national championship in his very first season behind the bench.

Guitar is no stranger to ACC athletics — he is a Lumberjack alumnus who played baseball during his time on campus, and he currently serves as an assistant baseball coach and athletic office coordinator in addition to leading the esports program.

Best, Zocco, and McCarty are all dual-sport athletes who also compete on the ACC baseball team that Guitar helps coach.

Lumberjacks athletics congratulates Coach Guitar and the entire esports program on bringing home a national championship in its first year competing in the NECC.



Above: ACC esports national champions (from left) Charlie Best, Max McCarty, Isaac Zocco, and Coach Aaron Guitar.

Postsecondary Success Data at ACC

The Center for Educational Performance and Information (CEPI) recently released its annual postsecondary success rate report. The report rates the 28 community colleges and three tribal schools on completion rates and successful transfer to a 4-year institution. The graph below shows ACC benchmarked against its community college peers across a 6-year longitudinal cycle.

Rate Year	ACC Place
Rate Year 2	1st
Rate Year 3	1st
Rate Year 4	2nd
Rate Year 5	5th
Rate Year 6	4th

Progress on Major Projects

Construction continues at the new College Park Apartments building.



Pavers are being removed in front of the World Center for Concrete Technology and the Electrical Power Technology Center in preparation for laying new sidewalks and entryways.



Power poles have been installed along Woodward Avenue to connect ACC's new solar array to the power grid.



Action Items

2.982 Labor Contract with the Alpena Community College Faculty Council MEA/NEA

The following resolution was proposed by Trustee Gentry and seconded by Trustee Townsend:

The Alpena Community College Board of Trustees approves the 2026-30 labor contract with the Alpena Community College Faculty Council MEA/NEA as presented.

Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion approved.

2.983 Labor Contract with the Alpena Community College Educational Support Professionals MEA/NEA

The following resolution was proposed by Trustee Townsend and seconded by Trustee Stibitz:

The Alpena Community College Board of Trustees approves the labor contract with the Alpena Community College Educational Support Professionals MEA/NEA on which tentative agreement has been reached and ratification by the union has been accomplished.

Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion approved.

2.984 Tuition and Fees Rate for Fiscal Year 2027

The following resolution was proposed by Trustee Stibitz and seconded by Trustee Townsend:

The Alpena Community College Board of Trustees approves the following tuition rate changes for Fiscal Year 2027 effective with Fall Semester 2026.

Tuition	From	To
In-District Tuition (per contact hour)	\$159.00	\$165.00
Out-of-District Tuition (per contact hour, applicable to students from the rest of Michigan, all other states, and foreign countries, with the exception of dual-enrolled and early college students, whose high schools are all charged In-District Tuition)	\$253.00	\$262.00

Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion approved.

2.985 Fiscal Year 2027 Administrative Salary Schedule

The following resolution was proposed by Trustee Duncan and seconded by Trustee Hilberg:

The Board of Trustees approves the proposed Administrative Salary Schedule for Fiscal Year 2027 and authorizes the president to issue contracts to all affected parties in accordance with their performance at the College.

<u>Level</u>	<u>Positions</u>	<u>Lower End</u>	<u>Upper End</u>
A	Director of Alumni Relations; Assistant Controller/Payroll Manager; Director of Oscoda Campus; Director of Student Life Activities & Campus Housing; Simulation Lab Manager	\$60,875	\$95,212
B	Director of the Wellness Center; Director of Learning Technology; Director of Workforce Development Grants; Director of the RE-EIED Grant	\$66,894	\$102,431
C	Executive Director of ACC Foundation; Director of Admissions; Controller; Director of TRiO Talent Search; Director of Facilities Management; Director of Financial Aid; Director of Human Resources; Director of Information Technology; Director of Public Information & Marketing; Registrar; Dean of Workforce Development; Director of Nursing; Director of Institutional Research	\$78,298	\$114,309
D	Dean of Students	\$93,080	\$130,230
E	Vice Presidents	\$125,736	\$164,975
F	President	\$169,321	\$210,528

Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion approved.

2.986 Solar Array Fence Bids

The following resolution was proposed by Trustee Stibitz and seconded by Trustee Stender:

The Alpena Community College Board of Trustees approves Northern Fence of Commerce Township, Michigan, as the solar array fence installation contractor at a cost not to exceed \$96,675.

Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion approved.

2.987 Solar Array Fiber Internet Backbone Connection Bids

The following resolution was proposed by Trustee Gentry and seconded by Trustee Hilberg:

The Alpena Community College Board of Trustees approves Lakeshore Fiber, LLC, of Canton, Michigan, as the fiber installation contractor at a cost not to exceed \$101,686.12.

Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion approved.

2.988 Power Purchase Agreement with Alpena Power Company

The following resolution was proposed by Trustee Stibitz and seconded by Trustee Hilberg:

The Alpena Community College Board of Trustees approves the proposed Power Purchase Agreement with Alpena Power Company. The agreement will have an initial five-year term and include automatic one-year renewals after the initial term unless terminated in accordance with the Power Purchase Agreement.

Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion approved.

2.989 Nursing Computer Labs Equipment Bids

The following resolution was proposed by Trustee Duncan and seconded by Trustee Gentry:

The Alpena Community College Board of Trustees approves the purchase of computer equipment and furniture for a nursing computer lab from CDW-G for a cost not to exceed \$59,812.70.

Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion approved.

Financial Report

General Fund Year-to-Year Actual Comparison through April 2026

- Property tax receipts total \$3,534,908, up \$183,647 from April 2025 due to taxable value adjustments.
- Tuition and fee revenue totals \$7,593,523, an increase of \$342,680 year-over-year, driven by higher Fall semester billable contact hours.
- State aid is consistent with last year and aligns with expected timing.
- Federal aid is lower due to timing. Last year included MPSC solar grant indirect cost recovery in April; this year's transfer from the Restricted Fund is delayed, creating a temporary variance.
- Interest income is lower than last year due to reduced interest rates and lower cash balances related to construction reimbursement timing. The Federal Reserve has reduced the federal funds rate by 0.75 basis points compared to the same period last year.
- Instructional Support expenses decreased due to internal staffing shifts and the associated benefit plan costs.
- Student Services expenses increased due to contractual wage adjustments and higher athletic waivers.
- Institutional Administration expenses increased due to filling the previously vacant Foundation Executive Director position, higher legal costs, and increased insurance premiums.
- Physical Plant expenses have risen slightly, primarily due to higher snow removal costs and contractual wage adjustments. Additional costs include the required installation of elevator door restrictors under the updated State Elevator Code.
- Activity through the first ten months shows a net income of \$2,338,439.

General Fund Comparative Income Statement Year-to-Date through April 2026

- All categories remain within acceptable ranges for this point in the fiscal year, except as noted above.

General Fund Month-to-Month Comparison through April 2026

- All Month-to-Month comparisons are tracking as expected, except as noted above.

Personnel Report

New hires, terminations, and status changes from April 2 to May 6, 2026.

New Hires:

- Christopher Kauffman, Transferred from Adjunct – Industrial Technology to FT Faculty – Utility Technology Technician, effective 08/01/2026.

Re-Hires:

- None.

Transfers:

- None.

Resignations:

- Alex Gorton, Director of Learning Technology, effective 03/27/2026.
- Sharlene Kozlowski, ESP Health Fitness/Activities Technician, effective 05/05/2026.
- Jillian Seguin, ESP Learning Technology Technician, effective 05/07/2026.

Terminations:

- None.

Inactive:

- None.

Retirements:

- None.

Name Changes:

- None.

Position Name Changes:

- None.

Gifts and Grants Report

This report reflects the following activity for pledges and gifts received by the ACC Foundation for the month of April 2026.

Total Donors: 61

Number of Gifts: 102

New Gifts: \$18,560.49

Board Discussion

Chair Briggs asked the trustees to consider moving the date of the August regular board meeting to accommodate Trustee Duncan's schedule. After discussion the trustees agreed to move the meeting date to Tuesday, August 18.

The next regular board meeting will be held on June 18, 2026. The meeting will begin at 6:00 p.m. and immediately go into closed session to conduct the president's evaluation. The regular part of the meeting will begin at approximately 7:00 p.m. Chair Briggs asked President MacMaster to forward his two evaluation documents to Secretary Walterreit for distribution to the trustees prior to the meeting.

New Business

None.

Suggested Future Agenda Items

None.

Next Regular Meeting

The next regular board meeting will be on Thursday, June 18, 2026. The meeting will start at 6:00 p.m. and immediately go into closed session to conduct the president's evaluation. The regular part of the meeting will begin at approximately 7:00 p.m. The meeting will be held in the Roger C. Bauer Board Room, Room 400 of the Charles R. Donnelly Natural Resources Center.

Adjournment

The regular meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:
Denis J. Walterreit,
Secretary of the Board of Trustees
(989) 358-7215