

**FLORENCE-DARLINGTON COUNTY COMMISSION
FOR TECHNICAL EDUCATION
November 18, 2025
4:30 p.m.**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Leroy Robinson
Missy Jay
Clint Moore
Ershela Sims via WebEx
Wanda James
Paul Seward

ABSENT:

Meredith Taylor
Kevin Etheridge
Hood Temple
Goz Segars

OTHERS ATTENDING:

Jermaine Ford
Terry Dingle
Tyron Jones
Debbie Cheeks
Karen Lee
Andrew Golden
Kim Lutz
JoAnn Mack
Sheryl Love

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Florence-Darlington County Commission for Technical Education was called to order at 4:40 p.m., by Mr. Clint Moore Chairman, who stated the media had been notified in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act Statement, Section 30-4-80- (e). Chair Moore welcomed Commissioners and guests in attendance.

II. INVOCATION

Mr. Terry Dingle delivered the Invocation.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Seward, seconded by Dr. Robinson, that the minutes of the September 30, 2025, be approved. The motion carried.

IV. SACSCOC ACCREDITATION POST REVIEW

Chair Moore recognized President Ford, who gave a brief overview of the SACSCOC Site Visit. Dr. Ford thanked everyone associated with the SACSCOC visit and noted that the accreditation visit was very successful. Dr. Ford introduced Professor JoAnn Mack, to reflect on the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP), which is "Advising in Motion" (AIM). Professor Mack stated that she had been selected as the QEP Director and that the QEP is a five-year plan. The focus of the QEP is enhancing advising to improve student retention for first-time, full-time freshman. Professor Mack stated that the Visiting Committee was pleased with the plan and offered positive feedback to the QEP Committee. Dr. Ford recognized Mr. Terry Dingle, Vice President of Human Resources and Organizational Development, to give an historical update of prior SACSCOC Accreditation visits compared to the most recent.

V. FINANCE COMMITTEE

Chair Moore stated that the Finance Committee had met at 4:00 p.m. prior to this meeting. The Finance Committee reviewed and accepted the September 31, 2025, Finance Report. Chair Moore recognized Dr. Debbie Cheek, Vice President of Finance and Administration, for a financial update to the Commission.

Dr. Cheek referred the Commissioners to the financial statements in their meeting packets. This reflects the first quarter of the fiscal year. Our revenue summary this year is currently at \$20,330,248 compared to last year \$18,607,019. Please note that the local appropriation is a timing issue and that the Darlington County local funds do not flow through the Darlington County School District, but directly monthly as collected to the College. Dr. Cheek stated that the Expense Summary reflected the current expenses were \$10,579,978 compared to last year of \$9,648,136. Dr. Cheek noted that the net summary at this time was \$9,750,270.

VI. ACADEMIC AFFAIRS & STUDENT SERVICES COMMITTEE

Chair Moore recognized Ms. Missy Jay, Commissioner, for an update from the Academic Affairs & Student Services Committee. Ms. Jay stated that the committee met on November 5, 2025, via WebEx to review an update of the Policy 70-46 Smoking Policy. Ms. Jay stated that the update to the smoking policy designates the college as a smoke free and tobacco free environment. The Academic Affairs & Student Services Committee recommended that Policy 70-46 Smoking be submitted to the entire Commission for approval.

A motion was made by Mr. Seward, seconded by Dr. Robinson to approve the Policy 70-46 Smoking policy as updated. The motion carried.

VII. FDTC FOUNDATION

Chair Moore recognized Ms. Sheryl Love, Executive Director Educational Foundation, for a Foundation update. Ms. Love stated that the Legacy Ball was held Thursday, November 13, 2025, and was successful in raising more money than the previous two years. She noted that there were new donors and more participation in the auctions. Ms. Love stated that earlier in the month, an inaugural "Donor/Scholarship Luncheon" was held and was very successful in bringing donors and scholarship recipients together. Mr. Seward and Ms. Jay attended the luncheon and gave their thoughts about the luncheon. Ms. Love gave a financial update of the Foundation.

VIII. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Chair Moore recognized President Ford for an update. Dr. Ford stated that his report would be brief. At this time, Dr. Ford introduced Mr. Andrew Golden, Director of Marketing and Strategic Communications, to give an update on the New Signage Project. Mr. Golden stated that new updated signage has been placed across the campus. The signage project has been an ongoing process and now is at 90% completion with 120 new signs installed. This will make the campus more navigable for students and visitors. Part II to the project will be updating and replacing internal signs in the buildings.

Dr. Ford gave an update on enrollment. Currently, the Spring 2026 headcount is 2202 compared to Spring 2025 headcount of 1843, which is a 19.5% increase. The Spring 2026 FTE is 1449 compared to Spring 2025 FTE of 1162, which is a 24.7% increase.

Dr. Ford stated that each year we celebrate the Administrative Assistants on their day and this year he wanted to celebrate bosses on the Bosses' Day for the leaders of the College. They were treated with a luncheon at the Florence Country Club and Mr. Demetris Wright of Georgia Pacific was the keynote speaker.

Dr. Ford noted that he, Dr. Cheek, and Mr. Taylor recently met about the Facility Master Plan. At the last 2025 Area Commission Retreat it was noted that the Commission would be presented a finished Facility Master Plan for review at the Annual April 2026 Retreat and is on track to be completed on schedule.

Dr. Ford stated that each fall FDTC has the annual Family Night/BBQ and is always well attended by employees with their families. Each year it continues to grow and Dr. Ford invited the Commissioners to please bring their families and join the fellowship.

Dr. Ford announced that the Christmas Celebration is December 11th, at 6:00 p.m. at Osbornes and look forward to seeing you. It is always a wonderful event.

IX. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Chair Moore noted that the 2026 Area Commission Meeting Date Schedule has been uploaded to your Boardable packet and a hard copy has been distributed to you for review. Chair Moore reviewed the dates with the Commissioners. He noted that April 23/24/2026 dates that are listed for the Area Commission Retreat will not work for the chosen consultant, Dr. Mary Spilde. Chair Moore reviewed dates in April and May that Dr. Spilde could be available. After a brief discussion and calendar review, it was decided to schedule the retreat on Thursday, April 16, 2026, and notify Dr. Spilde.

There being no further business, Chair Moore requested a motion for adjournment.

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Seward, seconded by Dr. Robinson that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary, Ms. Missy Jay

Date Approved