

March 11, 2026 | Western Dakota Technical College | Pennington County Room

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Western Dakota Technical College prepares students to be highly-skilled professionals through accessible, career-focused programs to improve their lives, while adapting to community workforce needs and positively impacting our economy.

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The Western Dakota Tech Board of Trustees met on Wednesday, March 11, 2026, at 11:30 AM, at the Western Dakota Tech campus in the Pennington County Room. The meeting was also available virtually via Teams. The board trustees in attendance included: Kirk Easton, Curt Pochardt, Jeff Rieckman, Mike Roesler, Andy Scull, and Dr. Steve Willard. Absent: Lynn Kendall, Andrea Powers, and Linda Rabe. WDTA leadership staff attending included: Dr. Kendra Ericson, Tiffany Howe, Kathi Maxson, Kelly Oehlerking, and Debbie Toms (virtual). Others present included: Jill Elder, Missy Ginsbach, Matt Greene, Andrew Kapelewski, Jonathan McCoy (Ex Officio), Bryan Mitchell (Ex Officio), Katy Urban (RCAS Representative), Pam Stillman-Rokusek, and Noelle Simmons.

## Board Development 11:30 AM

Prison Education Program – Jill Elder, Compliance Officer

Jill Elder presented on the status of the [Prison Education Program](#).

## Board Meeting 12:00 PM

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman WILLARD called the meeting to order at 12:05 PM with a call to order and roll call.

### 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

RIECKMAN moved to approve the agenda, seconded by SCULL. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

### 3. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Chairman WILLARD asked if any trustee had potential conflicts. None were disclosed.

### 4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were made.

### 5. APPROVAL ITEM: CONSENT AGENDA

*Board Members are reminded to ask for additional information as part of their preparation for the board meeting and before the meeting starts.*

- a. [Minutes from February 11, 2026 Meeting](#)
- b. [Bills to Pay](#)

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda by EASTON, seconded by RIECKMAN. Motion by EASTON amended to approve Consent Agenda items a. and b. only, and to remove item c., Surplus List, from the Consent Agenda and move it to item #6. Seconded by SCULL. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

### 6. SURPLUS LIST

Motion to approve the Surplus List by ROESLER, seconded by RIECKMAN. MOTION CARRIED 5-1, with POCHARDT voting nay.

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7. **EX OFFICIO MEMBER UPDATES**

- a. Foundation – Foundation Board Chair, Jonathan McCoy, shared the [monthly update](#) from the Foundation and highlighted the joint meeting and the Executive Director position.
- b. Faculty Representative – Bryan Mitchell reported on the recent campus events, upcoming events, and the hiatus for the HVAC program.
- c. RCAS Representative – Katy Urban reported on the Bond RCAS is pursuing and high priority items RCAS would focus on, and the junior kindergarten program.
- d. Student Representative – Absent

8. **FINANCE REPORT**

- a. [Personnel Disclosure per SDCL 6-1-10](#)

Kathi presented the monthly financial report. The monthly personnel disclosure was shared.

9. **ACADEMIC UPDATES**

- a. Informational – HVAC/Refrigeration Technology program is on hiatus beginning in the 2026–27

Tiffany shared background information on the rationale for the program hiatus for 2026-27. A curriculum change is working through the approval process to update from a 2-year to 1-year program.

- b. APPROVAL ITEM – [New Program Proposal Gunsmithing](#)

Tiffany provided an overview of the program proposal. Motion to approve by SCULL, seconded by EASTON. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

- c. APPROVAL ITEM – [Business - Entrepreneurship Program - Off-Site Location for Department of Corrections](#)

Tiffany provided an overview of the off-site location request. Motion to approve by SCULL, seconded by POCHARDT. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

10. **PRESIDENT REPORT**

President Ericson provided updates on legislative matters, campus updates, vetting committee and board appointments, and the proposed board of trustees meeting schedule and July retreat.

Discussion ensued regarding the potential need for committees to address specific topics. Further review and decision on the 2026-27 meeting schedule is tabled for the April 8 meeting. A potential joint meeting with the Foundation Board on April 8 will be explored.

11. **AGENDA ITEM SUGGESTIONS FOR NEXT MEETING**

The preliminary FY27 Budget will be shared in the April meeting and the 2026-27 board meeting schedule will be reviewed. An update on partnerships/collaborations with other institutions of learning will be shared.

12. **NEXT MEETING DATE**

April 8, 2026 | 11:30 AM | Pennington County Room

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13. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

ROESLER moved, seconded by POCHARDT, to enter Executive Session at 1:35 PM, per SDCL 1-25-2(4) Preparing for contract negotiations or negotiating with employees or employee representatives. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

The Executive Session concluded at 2:37 PM.

14. **ADJOURNMENT**

SCULL moved, seconded by RIECKMAN to adjourn at 2:37 PM. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.



Board Chair