



Board of Trustees Meeting - THURSDAY - JUNE 18, 2026 Minutes

Youngstown State University - Board of Trustees

6/18/2026 10:00 AM EDT

Board Meeting Room, Tod Hall

Attendance

Present:

Members: Charles T. George, Anita A. Hackstedde, M.D., Sergul Erzurum, Joseph J. Kerola, Richard Fryda, Jocelyne Linsalata, Michael A. Peterson, Allen L. Ryan, Jr., J.D., Eric Spiegel (remote), Sterling Williams, Nadia Zarbaugh, Jeffery Kollar, Bill Johnson

Guests: Betty Jo Licata, Ph.D., Ronald Shaklee, Ph.D.

A. Call to Order

Chair George called the 405th meeting of the Board of Trustees of Youngstown State University to order. Trustees, guests, and attendees were asked to rise and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. Roll Call

Chair George requested Secretary Hackstedde call roll. Present were Chair George, Secretary Hackstedde, Vice Chair Kerola, Trustee Erzurum, Trustee Fryda, Trustee Linsalata, Trustee Lyden, Trustee Peterson, Trustee Spiegel (via remote from Florida), Trustee Williams, Trustee Ryan, Jr., Student Trustee Jeffery Kollar, Student Trustee Zarbaugh, and President Johnson. A quorum was confirmed.

C. Proof of Notice of Meeting

Secretary Hackstedde confirmed that written notice of the meeting was timely provided to all trustees, student trustees, national/global trustees, and President Johnson, in accordance with Article Two, Section One of the Board's Bylaws. Notice was also published on the Board website and distributed to media.

D. Disposition of the Minutes for the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the Board meeting held March 19, 2026, were approved as presented.

E. Presentations/Recognitions

Chair George requested that new and reappointed trustees be sworn in for membership on the Board. Secretary Hackstedde administered the Oath of Office to Trustee Laura A. Lyden and to Student Trustee Jeffery T. Kollar.

1. Oath of Office - Laura A. Lyden

 [Laura Lyden - Oath of Office.pdf](#)

 [Laura Lyden - Official Appointment.pdf](#)

2. Oath of Office - Jeffery T. Kollar

 [Jeffery Kollar - Oath of Office.pdf](#)

 [Jeffery Kollar - Official Appointment.pdf](#)

F. Report of the President of the University

President Johnson reported that Youngstown State University continues to build momentum and foster community engagement. The University continues to receive tremendous excitement from the Steubenville community; the YSU Steubenville open house held in April garnered community-wide interest and was well attended. The University is receiving \$3.5 million in additional capital budget appropriations, which will be used to address building modifications and purchase additional laboratory equipment. Additionally, the University is expanding its effort to understand the workforce needs of employers that hire YSU graduates. The University recently facilitated a tour and information-sharing session at the Excellence Training Center with representatives of Kimberly-Clark, which is constructing a large, state-of-the-art manufacturing operation in the region. As for University athletics, President Johnson stated that the University is extremely proud of the honors and recognition bestowed on its programs, and even more proud of the performance of its student-athletes, who continue to set records both in the classroom and in their sports.

G. Reports of the Committees of the Board

The Board considered via Consent Agenda all resolutions the Committees of the Board recommended for approval. Chair George confirmed all trustees had reviewed the resolutions from each Committee as listed on the Board agenda. No trustee requested additional review time or a separate vote on any resolution. Trustee Williams moved to approve the resolutions presented by the Consent Agenda as seconded by Trustee Peterson. A roll call vote was held. All trustees called upon voted yes.

Motion:

Motion moved by Sterling Williams and motion seconded by Michael A. Peterson.

The motion passed unanimously upon roll call vote.

1. Finance and Facilities Committee

- a. Resolution to Approve Purchase of Misbranded and Cultivated-Protein Food Products Policy, 3356-3-17

 [Resolution to Approve - Purchase of Misbranded and Cultivated-Protein Food Products.pdf](#)

 [NEW 3356-3-17 Purchase of Misbranded and Cultivated-Protein Food Products.pdf](#)

- b. Resolution to Modify Sensitive Information/Information Security Policy, 3356-4-13

 [Resolution to Modify - Sensitive Information-Information Security.pdf](#)

 [CLEAN 3356-4-13 Sensitive Information-Information Security.pdf](#)

- c. Resolution to Approve the Annual Operating Budget for FY 2027

 [Resolution to Approve - the Annual Operating Budget for FY27.pdf](#)

 [Budget FY27.pdf](#)

2. Academic Excellence and Student Success Committee

- a. Resolution to Modify The Authority to Establish a Student Code of Conduct Policy, 3356-8-01

 [CLEAN 3356-8-01 Authority to Establish and Enforce a Student Code of Conduct.pdf](#)

 [Resolution to Modify The Authority to Establish a Student Code of Conduct Policy, 3356-8-01.pdf](#)

- b. Resolution to Modify The Student Code of Conduct Policy, 3356-8-01.1

 [CLEAN - 3356-8-01.1 The Student Code of Conduct.pdf](#)

 [Resolution to Modify The Student Code of Conduct Policy, 3356-8-01.01.pdf](#)

- c. Resolution to Modify Recognition, Publication, and Support of Employee Degrees Policy, 3356-7-24

 [CLEAN 3356-7-24 Recognition, Publication, and Support of Employee Degrees.pdf](#)

 [Resolution to Modify Recognition, Publication, and Support of Employee Degrees Policy, 3356-7-24.pdf](#)

- d. Resolution to Approve Accreditation Status

 [HLC Institutional Status and Requirements Report - June 2026.pdf](#)

 [Appendix A1: Accreditation Status Report - June 2026.pdf](#)

 [Resolution to Approve Accreditation Status Report.pdf](#)

- e. Resolution to Approve External Degree Program Evaluations

 [Appendix C: External Degree Program Evaluations Report - June 2026.pdf](#)

 [Resolution to Approve External Degree Program Evaluations Report.pdf](#)

- f. Resolution to Approve HB 96: Student Record Preservation Plan

 [YSU Student Records Preservation Plan and Custodian of Student Records Designation Agreement.pdf](#)

 [KSU Student Records Preservation Plan and Custodian of Student Records Designation Agreement.pdf](#)

 [Resolution to Approve HB 96 Student Record Preservation Plan.pdf](#)

- g. Resolution to Approve HB 96 Online Program Manager Contract

- [!\[\]\(effbd7993c63c039a58fd3395789cf3f_img.jpg\) Appendix E: Online Program Manger \(OPM\) Report - June 2026.pdf](#)
 - [!\[\]\(144980d038f2541d7b588a8a9132bd70_img.jpg\) Resolution to Approve HB 96 Online Program Manager Contract.pdf](#)
 - h. Resolution to Approve Annual Program Elimination Review with Update on Waivers
 - [!\[\]\(c4ce2d477989700c971cf3d240ad9283_img.jpg\) Annual Program Elimination - June 2026.pdf](#)
 - [!\[\]\(5013555a72072875cb154b597e002a46_img.jpg\) Resolution to Approve Annual Program Elimination Review with Update on Waivers.pdf](#)
 - i. Resolution to Approve HB 96 Annual Report
 - [!\[\]\(bf2038c114ec21ea58ad011774351c98_img.jpg\) ODHE Annual Report - June 2026.pdf](#)
 - [!\[\]\(1ad0c3425edfa4762c2f20e33e3e5bbf_img.jpg\) Resolution to Approve HB 96 Annual Report.pdf](#)
 - j. Resolution to Approve Program Changes
 - [!\[\]\(74d2fc5645add84f8511beb934060048_img.jpg\) Program Changes - June 2026.pdf](#)
 - [!\[\]\(ddc5533caa0187e636e3d3234e0983a3_img.jpg\) Resolution to Approve Program Changes.pdf](#)
 - k. Resolution to Approve Courses/Curricular Changes
 - [!\[\]\(7c207f8f59385c6dd11f9d9bdc7a0d1d_img.jpg\) Courses/Curricular Changes - June 2026.pdf](#)
 - [!\[\]\(57a1bf910af99362b80b3ac4f2eecbac_img.jpg\) Resolution to Approve Courses/Curricular Changes.pdf](#)
 - l. Resolution to Approve SB 1 Syllabi Compliance Report
 - [!\[\]\(6b114000ab07dda576e2920e2dc838fa_img.jpg\) ODHE Syllabi Compliance Report - June 2026.pdf](#)
 - [!\[\]\(9129a6a4a4b11facb5cf665660eef788_img.jpg\) Resolution to Approve SB 1 Syllabi Compliance Report.pdf](#)
 - m. Resolution to Approve ODHE Completion Plan
 - [!\[\]\(7cbd4924d31aa4c46df484d5c5bf4696_img.jpg\) ODHE Completion Plan - June 2026.pdf](#)
 - [!\[\]\(b3461332979d340882fda628798720af_img.jpg\) Resolution to Approve ODHE Completion Plan.pdf](#)
- 3. Institutional Engagement
 - a. Resolution to Modify Affiliated Organizations Policy, 3356-5-03
 - [!\[\]\(5dc380853f1779b9d7a8d6fbbcdbb357_img.jpg\) 3356-5-03 Affiliated Organizations Resolution.pdf](#)
 - [!\[\]\(2894a5ead456ff0145f35b01b4a6c7df_img.jpg\) 3356-5-03 CLEAN Affiliated Organizations.pdf](#)
- 4. University Affairs Committee
 - a. Resolution to Modify Title IX Sexual Harassment Policy, 3356-2-05
 - [!\[\]\(6b9cc5709aff55a0cbbb7dd78fcf3ba1_img.jpg\) Resolution to Modify - Title IX Sexual Harassment.pdf](#)
 - [!\[\]\(cd4202444435d9e729cdf801e3403cf4_img.jpg\) CLEAN 3356-2-05 Title IX sexual harassment.pdf](#)
 - b. Resolution to Modify Fringe Benefits and Fee Remission, for Excluded Professional/Administrative Employees Policy, 3356-7-30

-  [Resolution to Modify - Fringe benefits and fee remission, excluded professional-administrative employees.pdf](#)
-  [CLEAN 3356-7-30 Fringe benefits and fee remission, excluded professional-administrative employees.pdf](#)
- c. Resolution to Modify Supplemental Pay from Externally Funded Grants, Sponsored Agreements and Contracts for Faculty and Professional/Administrative Staff Policy, 3356-7-48
 -  [Resolution to Modify - Supp. Pay Ext. Funded Grants, Sponsored Agreements & Contracts Faculty & PA Staff.pdf](#)
 -  [CLEAN 3356-7-48 Supplemental pay from externally funded grants, sponsored agreements & contracts for Fac. & PA.pdf](#)
- d. Resolution to Authorize Conferral of Emeritus Status for Faculty and Administrators
 -  [Resolution to Authorize - Conferral of Emeritus Status for Faculty & Administrators.pdf](#)
 -  [Conferral of Emeritus - Faculty 2026.pdf](#)
 -  [Conferral of Emeritus - Administrators 2026.pdf](#)
- e. Resolution to Ratify Personnel Actions
 -  [Resolution to Ratify - Personnel Actions.pdf](#)
 -  [Faculty - Personnel Actions Summary 4.15.2026.pdf](#)
 -  [Faculty - Personnel Actions 4.15.2026.pdf](#)
 -  [Professional Administrative - Personnel Actions Summary 4.15.26.pdf](#)
 -  [Professional Administrative - Personnel Actions 4.15.26.pdf](#)
 -  [Athletics - Personnel Actions Summary 4.15.2026.pdf](#)
 -  [Athletics - Personnel Actions 4.15.26.pdf](#)
 -  [Supplemental Pay & Secondary Appts. - Personnel Actions Summary 4.15.26.pdf](#)
 -  [Supplemental Pay & Secondary Appts. - Personnel Actions 4.15.26.pdf](#)
- f. Resolution to Approve the Interim Appointment of the Vice President for Legal Affairs and General Counsel
 -  [Resolution to Approve - the Interim Vice President for Legal Affairs and General Counsel.pdf](#)

 [Position Description - G. Morgione, Interim Vice President for Legal Affairs and General Counsel.pdf](#)

 [Resume - G. Morgione.pdf](#)

- g. Resolution to Approve the Appointment of the Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students

 [Resolution to Approve - the Appointment of the VP Student Affairs-Dean of Students-Ombudsperson.pdf](#)

 [Position Description - J. Polkabl Byers, VP for Student Affairs-Dean of Students-Ombudsperson.pdf](#)

 [Resume - J. Polkabl Byers.pdf](#)

5. Executive Committee

- a. Resolution of Conferral for Honorary Degree - Laura A. Lyden
(Recommended in March; Conferred In June)

 [Resolution to Authorize the Conferral of an Honorary Degree - Laura Lyden FINAL.pdf](#)

- b. Resolution to Approve the Date, Time and Place for the Next Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees

 [Resolution to Approve the Date, Time, and Place for the Next Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees 9-17-26 FINAL.pdf](#)

H. Communications, Memorials, and News Updates

President Johnson reported the following memorials:

- Dale Burkhouse – Brother of Sharyn Zembower, Director, IT Customer Services. Passed away March 17, 2026.
- Anna May Hatch – Mother of Janine Cox, STEM Dean’s Office. Passed away March 17, 2026.
- Joseph A. Latessa, Jr. – Father of Michael Latessa, Director of the Rich Center. Passed away March 20, 2026.
- George J. Guarnieri – Father of Dana Lantz, Executive Director Equal Opportunity and Human Resources. Passed away March 26, 2026.
- Janet L. O’Connell – Mother of Danny O’Connell, Director, Support Services. Passed away March 27, 2026.
- Hilton H. Drake – Stepfather of First Lady, LeeAnn Johnson. Passed away April 2, 2026.
- Patricia “Patty” Seachman – Retired YSU Assistant Budget Director. Passed away April 12, 2026.
- Norma J. Hermick – Mother of Terri Orlando, Budget Officer for Academic Affairs. Passed away April 14, 2026.
- Dr. Katelyn M. Williams – Daughter of Rick Williams, Associate Director, Veteran’s Affairs. Passed away April 25, 2026.
- Carmen W. Sepulveda, – Sister-in-Law of Mary Clare Sepulveda, YSU employee in Facilities. Passed away April 29, 2026.
- Thomas S. Bridge – YSU Network Architect/IT employee. Passed away May 6, 2026.
- Gordon G. Frissora – Retired YSU Faculty Member; Criminal Justice. Passed away May 22, 2026.

- Carl A. Nunziato – The Youngstown State University Veterans Resource Center on Wick Avenue was named in honor of Carl A. Nunziato, YSU alumni, attorney, civic leader and decorated Vietnam War veteran. He is the co-founder of the Youngstown chapter of the Governor’s Subcommittee for Barrier Free Architecture. He worked tirelessly to prevent the closure of the YSU ROTC program in the early 1990s, and he established the Carl Nunziato Scholarship that provides tuition or room and board assistance for eligible ROTC cadets. He had served on the board of the YSU Foundation since 2008. Passed away June 10, 2026.

I. Unfinished Business

The Board did not consider any unfinished business.

J. New Business

The Board considered no items of new business.

K. Chairperson’s Remarks

Chair George opened the Board’s annual presentation of the Heritage Awards, remarking that the Heritage Award is the University’s highest honor presented to individuals for their contributions to the success of Youngstown State University.

L. Heritage Award Recognition

President Johnson presented the Heritage Award to Betty Jo Licata, Ph.D., Dean Emerita of the Williamson College of Business Administration, and to Ronald Shaklee, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus of Geography. Dr. Licata served the University from 1995 until her retirement in 2021, returning in 2024 to serve as Interim Dean of the Williamson College of Business Administration. President Johnson recognized Dr. Licata for providing steady, experienced leadership and for paving the way for thousands of business students and faculty to succeed. Dr. Shaklee served the University from 1987 until 2021 as an assistant professor, associate professor, and professor, as well as chairperson of the Department of Geography, and as Director of the University Scholars and Honors Program. President Johnson noted how Dr. Shaklee brought creativity, innovation, and humor both to the classroom and to the educational programs he oversaw. Chair George thanked both recipients, noting that the Board was pleased to recognize them for serving the University at such a high level.

M. Dates and Times of Upcoming Regular Meetings of the Board

The Board will hold its next meeting Thursday, September 17, 2026, at 10:00 AM. The tentative date of the Board’s final meeting of the year is Thursday, December 10, 2026.

N. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:02 AM.