

**FORT SCOTT COMMUNITY COLLEGE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES – SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
June 11, 2026 – 12:00 p.m.
Ellis Fine Arts Building**

The Board of Trustees of Fort Scott Community College, Fort Scott, Kansas, met in special session on June 11, 2026, at the Ellis Fine Arts Building at 12:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Ronda Bailey, Chad Cosens (via telephone), Marilyn Hoyt, Chad McKinnis, Doug Ropp, Destry Brown

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: President Dr. Jack Welch, Clerk Lindsay Hill, Gina Shelton, Dr. Larry Guerrero, Vanessa Poyner, and members of the faculty, staff, and public.

Call to Order

Chair Doug Ropp called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. with a roll call of the Board members by the Clerk.

2.0 Flag Salute & Invocation
Completed.

At 12:03 p.m., Trustee Destry Brown entered the meeting.

3.0 Leadership Reports & Updates

3.1 Academics – Vice President of Academic Affairs, Dr. Larry Guerrero

Dr. Guerrero reported that the EMT program would return to 11 credit hours and announced the hiring of Jody Stewart as Director of Nursing. He presented a customized Executive Enrollment Report and Enrollment Funnel Report, noting that approximately 60% of student-athletes were currently enrolled and that athletics represented the majority of students reflected in the current enrollment numbers. Trustees discussed obtaining high school enrollment data from the College's 11-school service area to better anticipate future enrollment trends. Dr. Guerrero noted that the current report does not yet include STARS students, as most will enroll during the fall semester.

3.2 Advancement – Dean of Advancement, Lindsay Hill

Ms. Hill provided updates regarding the Gordon Parks Museum, the transition of logistics operations under the Maintenance Department, the closure of the campus bookstore, Foundation activities.

3.3 Athletics

Athletic Director Dave Wiemers was not present.

3.4 Finance – CFO/Vice President of Finance & Operations, Gina Shelton

Ms. Shelton reviewed financial updates, including county tax collections, the upcoming July mill levy certification, investment of approximately \$3 million until state aid distributions are received, completion of the bank reconciliation process, accounts receivable collections, ARPA purchases including a transportation van, mini excavator, fuel tank and fuel through TIPS, plans to reduce leased vehicles, and implementation of a new campus large purchase request form.

3.5 Student Services – Vice President of Student Affairs, Vanessa Poyner

Ms. Poyner provided Student Services updates which included housing and contract that will come to the board next month with Fort Scott Nazarene Church to allow our students living in Garrison Apartment to park in their parking lot for a donation given by the college.

Trustee Brown left the meeting at 12:37 p.m.

Trustee Brown returned to the meeting at 12:39 p.m.

3.6 Grant Updates – Dean of Advancement, Lindsay Hill

Ms. Hill provided updates regarding the ARPA Grant, FRAME Grant, Patterson Family Foundation Grant, and the Rural Postsecondary Students grant.

3.7 Presidential Update

President Welch reviewed the June 10 Executive Team Retreat, executive goals, organizational restructuring, enrollment management moving under Academic Affairs, enhanced campus culture initiatives within Student Affairs, positive State of FSCC survey feedback, and the partnership with USD 234 and the community theater for productions at the Ellis Fine Arts Building.

4.0 Review of June 15 Agenda Items

The Board reviewed and discussed upcoming action items for the June 15, 2026 regular Board meeting, including the consent agenda, contracts, Reserve Unencumbered Fund Balance Policy, Remote Work Policy, workers' compensation agreement, certification of the mill levy, the proposed CTE Development Coordinator position, and the President's contract. No action was taken.

Trustee McKinnis left the meeting at 12:57 p.m.

Trustee McKinnis returned to the meeting at 12:59 p.m.

5.0 Personnel

Doug Ropp moved that the Board recess into executive session until 1:15 p.m. in Classroom 139 with President Dr. Jack Welch present.

Chad McKinnis seconded. Motion approved 6-0.

Destry Brown moved that the Board return to open session at 1:15 p.m. Ronda

Bailey seconded. Motion approved 6-0.

Doug Ropp moved that the Board recess into executive session until 1:36 p.m. with President Dr. Jack Welch and Dr. Larry Guerrero present.

Marilyn Hoyt seconded. Motion approved 6-0.

Marilyn Hoyt moved that the Board return to open session at 1:36 p.m.

Ronda Bailey seconded. Motion approved 6-0.

Trustee Chad Cosens left the meeting at 1:39 p.m.

6.0 Board Member Training

President Dr. Jack Welch conducted Board training regarding legislative advocacy.

7.0 Adjournment

Marilyn Hoyt moved that the meeting be adjourned.

Chad McKinnis seconded. Motion approved 5-0.

The Board adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

Board Chair: _____

Date: _____

Attest:

Clerk, Board of Trustees _____

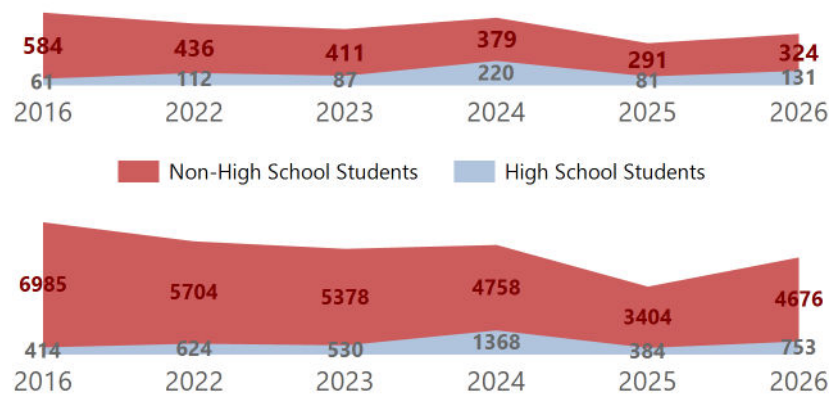
Date: _____

Executive Enrollment Report

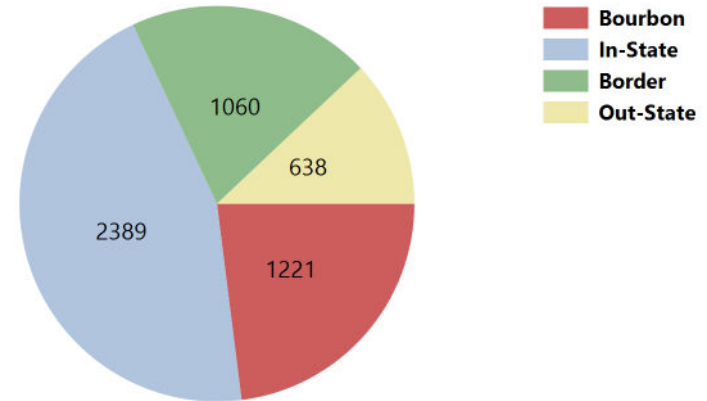
By Date / By Term: 06/08/2026 / 2026 FA

Academic Year	Term	By Date	Headcount	Credit Hours	FTE	FTE Change	FTE % Change
2016	FA	6/8/2016	645	7399.00	493.27		
2022	FA	6/8/2022	548	6328.00	421.87	-71.40	-14.47%
2023	FA	6/8/2023	498	5908.00	393.87	-28.00	-6.64%
2024	FA	6/8/2024	599	6126.00	408.40	14.53	3.69%
2025	FA	6/8/2025	372	3788.00	252.53	-155.87	-38.17%
2026	FA	6/8/2026	455	5429.00	361.93	109.40	43.32%

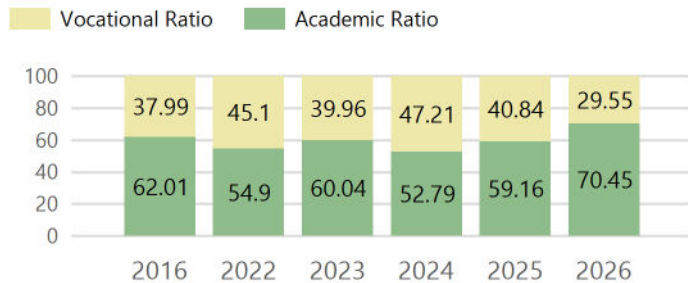
High School Student Enrollment (Top: Headcount) (Bottom: Credit Hours)



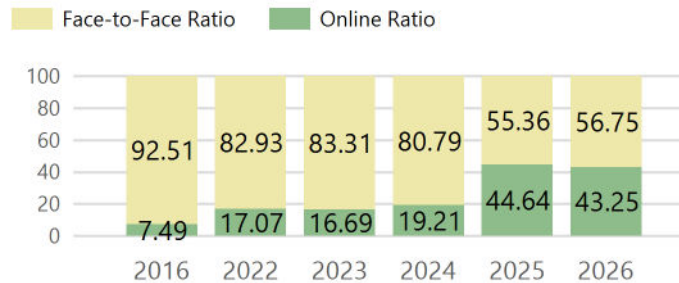
2026FA Credit Hours by Residency



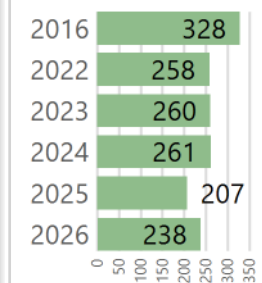
Academic/Vocational Trend (based on credit hours)



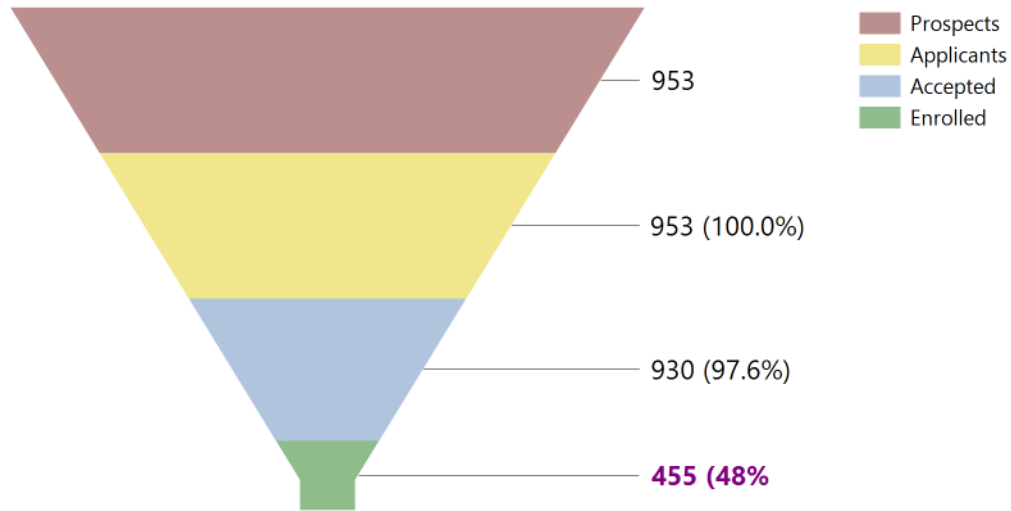
Face-to-Face/Online Trend (based on credit hours)



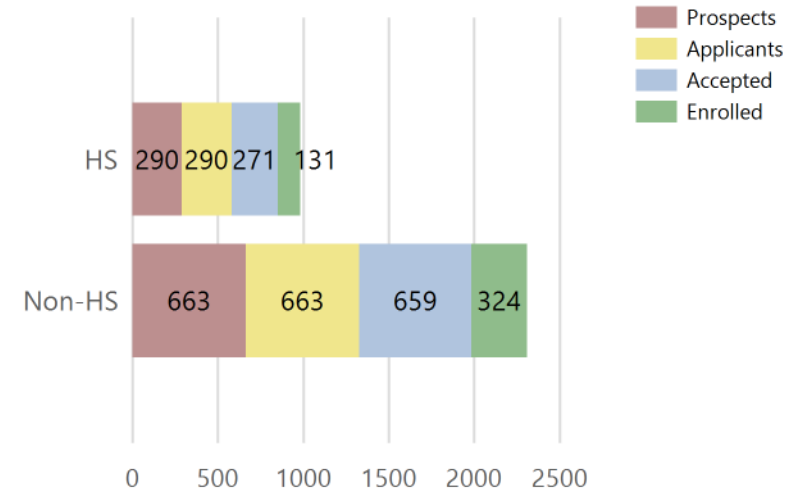
Credit Sections per Year



Funnel Chart



High School/Non-High School



Gordon Parks Museum

Monthly Report Update/Events May 2026

Please Note: This report does not include all-current job duties, projects, meetings, and events.

- Work on Archives and Collections.
- Working on planning for the Gordon Parks Celebration is Oct 1 -3, 2026. The Honorees are Victor Goines and Maryemma Graham. The Learning Tree Award Recipient is Marion Stepps
- Gordon Parks Museum Board met on May 5, 2026.
- Provided Tour for CHC/ SEK Staff on May 8. 17 people total.
- Had Celebration Planning Meeting on May 14.
- Approximately 50 visitors came in the museum during the FSCC Graduation on May 15.
- Cottey College P.E.O. Toured the museum on May 21. 12 People Total
- Had Celebration Planning Meeting on May 28.
- Kirk Sharp received the Mayor's Citizenship award during the Annual Fort Scott Chamber Awards Dinner, May 29.

*We had 101 visitors walk in and with a combination of tours, presentations, Wayman Chapel AME Commemorative Park and any other events, we had 161 visitors from all over the nation and the world in May.

City and State where some of the May visitors come from

Fort Scott, KS
Gulfport, MS
Bowling Green, OH
Phoenix, AR,
Austin, TX
Providence, RI
Kansas City, KS
Mission, KS
Leavenworth, KS
Weston, MO
Durham, NC

Seattle, WA
Overland Parks, KS
Lawrence, KS
Wichita, KS
Bel Aire, KS
Leadville, CO
New Orleans, LA
Las Crucis, NM
Bronx, NY
Olathe, KS
Rockford, IL `

New York, NY
Dallas, TX
Fairplay, MO
Eldorado Springs, MO
Scranton, KS

Others did not list where they were from.

FORT SCOTT COMMUNITY COLLEGE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES TRAINING: Thursday June 11, 2026

Legislative and Advocacy Update
Board Development Session

Purpose:

To provide trustees with a brief update on legislative issues impacting community colleges and discuss how board members can effectively advocate for Fort Scott Community College.

Legislative Advocacy

State and federal decisions directly impact:

- College funding
- Student financial aid
- Workforce development initiatives
- Capital improvement funding
- Concurrent enrollment opportunities
- Community college regulations and reporting requirements

As trustees, your role is not political. Your role is educational. Legislators need accurate information from local leaders about how decisions affect students, taxpayers, employers, and communities.

Current Legislative Topics Impacting Community Colleges

Kansas Community Colleges continue to focus on:

1. State Funding Stability
Community colleges depend on state appropriations to help offset operating costs. Continued advocacy is needed to ensure funding keeps pace with inflation, workforce demands, and enrollment growth.
2. Workforce Development
Kansas employers continue to seek skilled workers in healthcare, manufacturing, agriculture, transportation, technology, and skilled trades. Community colleges remain the primary workforce training provider for many of these industries.
3. Student Affordability
Programs such as the Kansas Promise Scholarship and other financial aid initiatives help students access higher education while reducing debt.
4. Performance and Accountability Measures
The state continues to evaluate performance-based funding models and student success metrics. Colleges must demonstrate outcomes while ensuring access and opportunity for all students.
5. Capital and Infrastructure Needs
Aging facilities and technology infrastructure remain challenges throughout higher

education. Continued investment is essential to maintaining safe and effective learning environments.

How Trustees Can Advocate Effectively

1. Tell the FSCC Story
Use facts and examples that demonstrate:
 - Student success
 - Workforce impact
 - Economic development contributions
 - Community partnerships
2. Build Relationships Before You Need Them
Regular communication with legislators creates trust and understanding. Effective advocacy occurs year-round, not only during legislative sessions.
3. Focus on Students
The most effective advocacy highlights how policy decisions affect students and families rather than institutional interests alone.
4. Speak with One Voice
While individual perspectives may differ, unified messaging strengthens the college's credibility and influence.

Advocacy Talking Points for FSCC

- FSCC provides affordable access to higher education.
- FSCC is a significant workforce development partner for Southeast Kansas.
- FSCC contributes to local economic growth and community vitality.
- FSCC serves traditional students, adult learners, high school students, and workforce trainees.
- Continued investment in community colleges produces measurable returns for Kansas communities and employers.

Discussion Question

What is one success story, program, or student achievement at FSCC that you believe legislators should hear more about?

Key Takeaway

Legislators make decisions based on information and relationships. Trustees serve as trusted community leaders who can help communicate the value of Fort Scott Community College and ensure our students, employees, and communities have a voice in the policymaking process.