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Atlantic Technical College and Technical High School

School Advisory Council/School Advisory Forum Joint Meeting

Minutes - MaY 12, 2026

Members: Quorum Met. Sandra Welch, Neeta Rancourt, Neila Atkinson, Dulce Barrios, Laura Maracondes, Aly Petion, Laila Jones, Carol Lindgred, Cindy Mercado, Felicia Starke, Kimberly Johnbaptiste, Rhonda Matos, Rochelle Williams

Attendees: Brian Bush, Hallema Collier, Vicky LaPorte, Simeka Love, Tammy Clabo, Brian Norris, Jim Payne, Catherine Castelli, Nicole Willis, Rebecca Miller, Vedra Roker

Call to Order:

A meeting of the Atlantic Technical College & Technical High School Advisory Council was held in Room 122 of Atlantic Technical College on May 12, 2026. Chair Neeta Rancourt called the meeting to order at 8:07 AM. Dulce Barrios will record minutes for this meeting.

Minutes:

Laura Maracondes motioned for approval the minutes of March 31, 2026, with no corrections. **Neila Atkinson** seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously.

Agenda:

Welcome and Introductions (Commissioner Sandra Welch)

Director's Update (N. Rancourt) – Appreciation was extended to all members for their service throughout the year, recognizing their participation in both the School Advisory Council and the Institutional Advisory Committee. Staff Appreciation Week was celebrated the previous week, and the current week focuses on recognizing external partners and students. An upcoming Spirit Airlines Career Transition Day was announced for Friday, May 15, 2026, aimed at supporting displaced employees with retraining opportunities and potential adjunct instructor recruitment, including a need for an avionics instructor. An update was provided on the ATC Arthur Ashe expansion, which is nearing completion. Plans are underway to relocate departments and prepare new program offerings, with a goal of launching in August, though timelines remain tight. Budget remains stable, with only minor adjustments, a slight decrease on the high school side and a small increase on the post-secondary side, neither of which is significant. High school enrollment is projected to remain strong, while post-secondary funding is based on a three-year average and shows a small, non-impactful decline in certain areas like apprenticeship and on-the-job training. Overall, these fluctuations do not negatively affect the budget. In fact, the total budget shows an apparent increase of about \$2.3–\$2.4 million; however, \$1.4 million of that is due to a change in funding distribution for district-wide software (now funded upfront instead of reimbursed). Excluding that adjustment, there is still nearly \$1 million in actual growth on the workforce side, which is considered positive.

1. Student Comments

- a. *Ali Petion* (BPA) Business Professionals of America had 23 students qualify and travel to Nashville, Tennessee to compete at the nation leadership conference May 6th-11th.
- b. *Laila Jones* (Health Science) In preparation for clinical rotations, the Pharmacy Technician and Dental Assisting programs had the opportunity to visit with our clinical partners. The EKG Technician Program achieved a 94% certification pass rate. For the High School Practical Nursing Program, the licensure pass rate currently stands at 80% for Atlantic Technical College, with two students still pending testing, and 92% for Coconut Creek Technical Academy (CTA).

- c. *Laura Marcondes* (Student Government Association) Yearbooks have arrived. A yearbook signing event is scheduled for Thursday, May 14, 2026, and beverages and snacks will be provided. Planning for the Tech Tiger Invasion is currently in progress. Additionally, SGA members are discussing plans and ideas for the next school year.

2. Assistant Directors' Updates

- a. *Vicky Laporte*-- Progress monitoring data, which supports adding a second reading class next year. Our 10th grade had a 94% pass rate with no Level 1 scores, while 9th grade had a 90% pass rate, with some students needing additional support. These students will be scheduled for reading classes when possible or receive targeted pull-out support from our literacy coach to prepare for retesting. We also had strong representation at the National ProStart Conference, where our program was recognized as a Top Nine school and a student earned a \$1,000 scholarship. Enrollment projections are approximately 638 students, with active waitlists that continue to grow as we reassess based on testing data. Additionally, we are seeing increased enrollment from charter and private schools, along with continued student recognitions such as the Straight A Breakfast, Military Children's Day, Academic Signing Day, and our PE teacher being honored at the District Staff of Character Awards.
 - b. *Brian Bush*— ATC serves students across three campuses with day, evening, and Saturday programs. Despite the challenge of reaching everyone, we made a strong effort to show appreciation. Saturday group enjoying activities, ATC items, and snacks. We also hosted a statewide Saturday training for adult education teachers from Broward, Palm Beach, and Miami, using a mini-conference format with rotating sessions. Additionally, through our new partnership with Dave Thomas Education Center, two students received Seminole State Foundation scholarships and will begin the hemodialysis program this fall.
 - c. *Tammy Clabo*- we are currently undergoing extensive construction, which has brought about a great deal of activity across our campus. In addition to numerous SMART projects, we are also managing several school and district initiatives.
 - d. *James Payne*- Opportunity for Employment (Spirit). We are currently seeking qualified individuals for employment opportunities, including instructor positions. Recruitment efforts are being promoted through social media platforms as well as partnerships with CareerSource, the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance, and other community organizations.
 - e. *Brian Norris*- Transition Into Employment (TIE) will host its End-of-Year Achievement Celebration on May 20th and 21st. Students who are aging out of the program will be recognized and honored during this special event.
 - f. *Jean Vilus*-- Seven students successfully earned their GED. The Practical Nursing (PN) Pinning Ceremony is scheduled for May 28th at 12:30 p.m. The second floor is currently being packed and cleaned in preparation for upcoming transitions. Efforts are ongoing to increase enrollment in both day and night GED and ESOL programs. Additionally, students participated in a pre-college field trip, during which three campuses were visited.
3. **Business and Economic Development Update (*Nicole Willis*)**- On April 16, 2026, we hosted a successful Spring Career Fair with over 75 companies. Thank you to all staff and volunteers for their support. LinkedIn headshots were also offered with great participation. Our employability workshops continue regularly, providing students with hands-on job readiness activities. We also participated in the development of an AI Playbook to support businesses in using AI effectively. Construction Ready visited our technical programs, and next Thursday May 21, 2026, we will host the Leadership North Broward group for a campus tour. Lastly, I will be presenting a scholarship to a high school student joining our PM program next year.
 4. **Business Highlight** – No highlight at this time
 5. **SESIR Update (*Brian Bush*)** – No incidents to report

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6. **Announcements (Commissioner Sandra Welch)** – Graduation will be held on Wednesday, June 3, 2026, at 2:00 PM at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts. Our ASIN Nursing Program recently received full accreditation for six years with no reporting requirements—a significant achievement. We thank Dr. Hart and all those involved. The CODA accreditation decision for the Dental Program is still pending, with a response expected in June. Additionally, we are preparing for the Culinary Arts program accreditation through the American Culinary Federation, with the next phase scheduled for October.
7. **Adjournment (Commissioner Sandra Welch)** – See below.

Meeting Adjournment:

Motion: **Laura Marcondes** motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:53 AM. Motion seconded by **Aly Petion** Motion passed unanimously.

Submitted by,

Dulce Barrios, Secretary

Approval Date: