

MINUTES
STATE BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION
Regular Meeting
April 24, 2025

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the State Board of Higher Education (SBHE) was convened both in-person at the Community College of Allegheny County, and virtually via MS Teams on Thursday, April 24, 2025. Public notice of the meeting was made in accordance with the Sunshine Act. The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Dr. Cynthia Shapira, Chair.

II. ROLL CALL

Ms. Lubna Mian, Chief of Staff, performed a roll call. A quorum of members was present as follows:

Ms. Diane Acri (Designee for Hon. Jesse Topper)	Dr. Kara Laskowski
Dr. Ann Bieber	Mr. Kenneth Long
Hon. Jay Costa	Dr. Cheryl McConnell
Mr. Sean Eden	Dr. Pedro Rivera
Hon. Wayne Langerholc	Dr. Cynthia Shapira
Ms. Marylouise Esten	Ms. Andrea Shirk
Ms. Angela Fitterer (Designee for Dr. Carrie Rowe)	Dr. Michael Wade Smith
Ms. Carol Momjian (Designee for Sec. Walker)	Mr. Michael G. Warfel
	Mr. Kevin Washo
	Ms. Bobbie Jo Zapor

Absent: Dr. Brenda Allen, Hon. Peter Schweyer, and Ms. Skyler Wrubleski

III. WELCOME REMARKS BY THE CHAIR AND HOST INSTITUTION

Dr. Shapira thanked President Quintin Bullock and the Community College of Allegheny County for hosting the public hearing.

President Bullock spoke on behalf of students, faculty, and staff to welcome the State Board of Higher Education. He highlighted the recent opening of CCAC's Center for Education, Innovation, and Training and the college's more than 130 academic and career programs, especially its leadership in the fields of healthcare, cybersecurity, automation, advanced manufacturing and culinary arts.

IV. PUBLIC DISCUSSION OF DRAFT STRATEGIC PLANNING GOALS

Dr. Shapira then introduced the draft strategic plan, followed by a presentation and robust public discussion of six draft strategic planning goals led by Dr. Kate Shaw, Executive Director.

V. APPROVAL OF BYLAWS

Dr. Shapira introduced Mr. Kevin Washo, Chair of the Bylaws Committee, who provided a history of the development process and introduced three sequential sections for consideration:

- A. Powers and duties of the Board
- B. Functioning of the Board

C. Staff and conflict of interest.

A motion to approve the bylaws was made by Ms. Marylouise Esten and Dr. Ann Bieber

VOTE: All were in favor as indicated by unanimous voice vote.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion to approve the minutes of the March 27, 2025, meeting was made by Ms. Angela Fitterer and Mr. Kevin Washo.

VOTE: All were in favor as indicated by unanimous voice vote.

VI. UPDATE BY COMMITTEES AND PBFC

Dr. Shapira introduced the respective committee chairs and requested their reports.

Performance Based Funding Council

Chair: Hon. Jesse Topper

Ms. Diane Aciri, on behalf of Rep. Topper, reported that the council is continuing to review funding models and provide the report of recommendations by April 30.

Transfer of Authority

Chair: Dr. Ann Bieber

Dr. Bieber reported that the committee met with a subcommittee of the State Board of Education to review potential areas for transfer and will be submitting a list of recommendations in consultation with the SBE to the full SBHE for its consideration and eventual transmittal to the General Assembly.

Postsecondary Data

Chair: Mr. Kenneth Long

An update will be submitted at the next regular Board meeting.

VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE

Dr. Shaw alerted the board to new members of the SBHE leadership team:

- Ms. Carrie Amann, Director of Economic and Workforce Development, formerly the Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Workforce Development Association.
- Dr. Greg Kienzl, Director of Information Systems and Strategic Analysis, formerly Director of Data and Impact Management at the University of Pittsburgh.
- Mr. Steve Esack, Director of Public and Legislative Affairs, currently Press Secretary and Legislative Liaison at the Public School Employees Retirement System.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Dr. Shapira adjourned the meeting at 3:10 p.m.