



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

- DATE:** Wednesday, January 21, 2026; 8:00 a.m.
- PLACE:** Glickman-Miller Hall, 1717 Euclid Avenue, Bonda Community Board Room, Cleveland, Ohio 44115; and via Zoom.
- PRESENT:** Board Chair Timothy J. Cosgrove; Trustees Nikki C. Byrd, Paul J. Dolan, Diane M. Downing, Ronald Johnson, Jr., Alan G. Starkoff, Taras Szmagala, Jr., D. Geoffrey Vince, and Vanessa L. Whiting; Community Board Member David M. Reynolds; Ex Officio Member Michael B. Klein; Student Trustees Skye Carlson and Abigail Blackburn; Faculty Representatives Dr. Carol Olszewski and Dr. Linda Quinn; President Laura Bloomberg; and Secretary to the Board of Trustees, General Counsel and Vice President, Legal Affairs and Compliance Sonali B. Wilson.

Others in attendance: Provost and Sr. VP of Academic Affairs Nigamanth Sridhar; Chief of Staff and Chief Administrative Officer Patricia L. Franklin; Chief Financial Officer Nicole Addington; VP of Student Belonging and Success, Tachelle Banks; VP of Athletics Kelsie Harkey; VP of Marketing and Communication Roy Gifford; Chief Information Officer Wesam Helou; Executive Director of Government Affairs, Caryn Candisky; VP of Enrollment Management, Randall Deike; Chief HR Manager, Douglas Dykes; VP, Advancement and Executive Director, CSU Foundation, Julie Rehm; Dean, College of Health and Deans' Representative to the Senior Leadership Team, Stephanie Brooks; and Assistant Board Secretary Heather A. Link.

Chair Cosgrove called the meeting to order at 8:08 a.m. and confirmed that a quorum was present. He reminded members that the meeting was being livestreamed on the CSU website for public viewing.

Chair Cosgrove called for a motion to approve the minutes of the November 20, 2025 Meeting; Trustee Downing provided the motion and Trustee Whiting seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by roll call.

REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Chair Cosgrove thanked members for their support of the University and for their meaningful participation at various events; Board members were actively present for the December commencements, the Ohio Trustees Conference, and other scheduled occasions. He noted that commencement is one of his favorite days of the year, and the ceremony serves as a proud reminder as to why the members are serving.

He reminded members that their financial disclosure forms are due to the State by May 15. If members need assistance, they should reach out to the Board Office.

Chair Cosgrove brought forth a resolution to posthumously recognize former Board chair and trustee, Michael Climaco. The Chair spoke about Mr. Climaco's impact, influence and guidance during his term, and shared collegial memories of the contributions made to Cleveland State, the City of Cleveland, and the State of Ohio.

Trustee Johnson moved the approval of the resolution; and Trustee Szmagala provided the second. The resolution was approved by roll call.

RESOLUTION 2026-01

MEMORIAL TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL L. CLIMACO

WHEREAS, the Cleveland State University community was saddened to learn of the passing of former trustee and Board Chair, Michael L. Climaco, on August 29, 2025, and pauses to honor a life devoted to public service, civic leadership, and the advancement of higher education; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Climaco was appointed to the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees by Governor George V. Voinovich on January 23, 1997, to a full-term ending May 1, 2006, and served the University with distinction, including tenure as Chair of the Board of Trustees during a period of consequential institutional leadership; and

WHEREAS, during his service as Board Chair, Mr. Climaco played a central role in the presidential search that resulted in the hiring of Michael Schwartz, helping to guide the University through a critical leadership transition and positioning Cleveland State University for continued growth and stability; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Climaco, a near-lifelong Clevelander, was elected to the Cleveland City Council at the age of 26 and served as majority whip during a pivotal era that helped lay the groundwork for transformational civic projects, including Tower City, Gateway, and the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, a proud graduate of Cleveland State College of Law and a member of its Hall of Fame, Mr. Climaco built a successful law practice, earned a reputation as a skilled litigator and trusted counselor, and later served as Special Counsel to the Ohio Attorney General and the Ohio Auditor of State; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Climaco actively and generously supported the College of Law and played a critical role in securing funding for the Law Library, helping to ensure the college's continued accreditation and strengthening its foundation for future generations of students; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Climaco remained deeply engaged with the community and organizations that he held dear, including St. Rocco's Catholic Church, the Freedom House, the Juvenile Diabetes Association, the Center for Intellectual Disabilities, and the Alzheimer's Association, among others; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Climaco was first and foremost a devoted family man and is survived by his beloved wife, Karen Climaco, his daughters, Christina and Cat, and his grandchildren, all of whom were the center of his life and the source of his greatest pride:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, on behalf of the Cleveland State University community, the Board of Trustees extends its sincere condolences to the family of Michael L. Climaco and honors his enduring legacy of service to the City of Cleveland, the State of Ohio, and Cleveland State University; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, Mr. Climaco will be remembered for his deep commitment to public service, his pride in his Italian-American heritage, his quick wit, his astute counsel, and for the lasting contributions he made to the governance and advancement of the University; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the Board recognizes that Mr. Climaco's legacy extends beyond his professional and civic accomplishments to the values, love, and example he imparted to his family, and to the generations of students whose lives were shaped by his dedication to higher education.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

President Bloomberg extended members good wishes for the new year and noted that the semester has started well with lots of activity.

She thanked members who participated in the annual Martin Luther King, Jr. breakfast ceremony that is co-hosted with Tri-C. She acknowledged especially meaningful programming and increased participation this year; and recognized the large team effort that made it possible.

Dr. Bloomberg discussed ongoing administrative efforts to support the priorities of the Cleveland State United strategic plan. There are plans underway to expand experiential and work-based learning and integrated undergraduate, graduate, and exploratory continuing education for

lifelong learning. The new Bachelor of General Studies (BGS) degree will provide opportunities for a degree and pathways for non-traditionally aged students (including credit for life experience). Ten students are currently enrolled, with a goal of 100 students by the Fall of 2027.

President Bloomberg reported on progress towards CSU's Talent-Industry Hub. The effort will enhance relationships with community partners and expand opportunities for prospective students. She highlighted examples of recent collaborative efforts with organizations and businesses in the region.

She thanked Provost Sridhar for leading the Hub's launch, and in recognition of this additional scope of responsibilities, she is recommending that Board members approve a title change for him to Executive Vice President and Provost.

CSU will host TEDx Cleveland State University, "Untangling Wonder," which will provide opportunities for students and the community to address Cleveland's most pressing social and economic challenges (October 2026).

President Bloomberg acknowledged student Trustees Blackburn and Carlson for their active participation in their academic programs, at meetings, and their involvement in a wide-range of campus opportunities.

President Bloomberg brought forth a resolution for consideration, to recognize VP Julie Rehm, for her leadership of Cleveland State's Office of Advancement and the CSU Foundation, since 2019.

Trustee Szmagala provided the motion; and Trustee Whiting supplied the second. The Board Secretary called the roll, and members unanimously approved the resolution with applause.

Chair Cosgrove congratulated Dr. Rehm on her retirement and presented her with a framed resolution. Faculty Representative Quinn noted, for the record, that the faculty representatives wholeheartedly agree with the recognition.

RESOLUTION 2026-02

RECOGNITION OF DR. JULIE REHM IN HER ROLE AS VICE PRESIDENT OF CSU ADVANCEMENT AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE CSU FOUNDATION

WHEREAS, Dr. Julie Rehm has been a stalwart supporter of CSU in her role as VP of Advancement and Executive Director of the CSU Foundation since 2019; and

WHEREAS, Julie has led the Advancement team to strengthen donor, foundation and alumni relations, which has resulted in record-breaking fundraising and historic gifts to the University, including: the Beth E. Mooney Center for Transformative Leadership; the naming of the realigned Levin College of Public Affairs and Education; the construction of the McCombs Family Plaza in recognition of the University's single largest gift from a donor; and the introduction of Ava, an Advancement team member powered by artificial intelligence; and

WHEREAS, under Dr. Rehm's leadership, the CSU Foundation and Cleveland State University renewed and updated their memorandum of understanding in 2023, to continue assistance in the development and advancement of CSU by raising and managing private resources that support the mission and priorities of the University, as well as by providing opportunities for students and a margin of institutional excellence unavailable with state funds; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Rehm cares deeply about the University and led her team to support the University's priorities and strategic vision, while championing Cleveland State's reputation in the region:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the University President, University Administration and the Board of Trustees express its gratitude and sincere appreciation to Dr. Julie Rehm for her many contributions and years of service to the Cleveland State University community and wishes her all the best in her future endeavors.

Chair Cosgrove thanked the President for her report, and noted that across campus, exciting initiatives are taking place; he appreciates that President Bloomberg provides a greater understanding of the wide range of planning efforts that are simultaneously underway.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS and STUDENT SUCCESS COMMITTEE UPDATE
and REPORT OF THE PROVOST

Committee Chair Whiting reported that the Committee met on January 15, 2026, and received a report from the Provost that included the SB1 implementation update and plans to engage members with the HB96 requirement of reviewing the University's general education courses.

The Committee received a report from the VP of Student Belonging and Success, that included a review of the student engagement dashboard. Dr. Banks presented the student persistence data and noted the collective work of CSU's academic coaches toward the goal of increasing that rate. She also reported on recent philanthropic gifts to the Division, including updated information on philanthropic budgets and the new guidelines for how student organizations may access funds.

The Committee was provided with government affairs updates for higher education at the State and Federal levels. CSU faculty members presented the committee with reports related to: personal reflections on the benefits of professional leaves/sabbaticals (Dr. Jessica Bickel and Dr. Geyou Ao); the Center for Civics, Culture and Society (Dr. Peter Koritansky, Director); and the College of Law's innovative Bar Preparation classes and opportunities (Co-Interim Deans Carolyn Broering-Jacobs and Brian Ray).

The Committee considered and approved several items, which are included for consideration on the Consent Agenda, including the reworked policy, "Regarding Animal on Campus."

Chair Whiting closed her report by noting that the Committee also met in Executive Session.

Provost Sridhar provided additional clarification on how persistence rates are calculated and the importance of CSU's improved data systems to track progress. He acknowledged the large team of people who are working with CSU's Talent Industry Hub, and the Hub's importance to help provide students opportunities to graduate with professional real-life experience.

Provost Sridhar will share the finalized SB1 implementation plan with members after it is submitted to the State.

Provost Sridhar reported that CSU is a part of a group that is a finalist for a transformation NSF Regional Innovation Engine grant (NEOSMART); the grant is designed to solve grand challenges by using regional resources and currently includes 100 partnering organizations.

Discussion with members included how persistence rates are measured, and what affect they have on graduation rates. He explained that various factors contribute to the rates, and if those factors are not understood, the rates can look misleading.

Chair Cosgrove thanked the Provost for the extraordinary work that is contributing to student success.

FINANCIAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE UPDATE and REPORT OF THE CFO

Committee Chair Starkoff reported that the committee met on January 15, 2026, and received updates from the CFO on financials as of November 2025; FY27 budget planning updates; University calculations that are considered in the SB6 Ratios; and a report on cash and investments.

The committee also heard reports on enrollment, capital projects that are underway, campus facilities, and the six-year State capital plan. The University's director of internal audit presented the Committee with open audit findings from the previous two fiscal years, updates on the FY26 audit plan, and required disclosures.

Chair Starkoff reported that the Committee also met in Executive Session.

CFO Addington reported that increased access and better data systems are contributing to better reporting systems, which provided a detailed and focused FY25 financial summary and analysis. At an upcoming meeting, she will present a forecast for the remainder of FY26 and will report on current enrollment data that will inform the budget process for FY27.

REPORT OF THE CIO

Chair Cosgrove announced that the University's technology transformation is underway and is now known as "CSU Compass." He called on CIO, Dr. Helou, and noted that Board members will receive regular meeting updates on the project status.

Chair Cosgrove further noted that CSU Compass is a university-wide initiative, and all members of the campus community will partner in the work.

CIO Helou noted that meeting materials were provided in advance, and because the efforts are extraordinarily important, it is important that members and administrators understand the work that is being undertaken, and that they support the messaging regarding the transformation. He asked for support to keep the efforts and energy ongoing to support full-campus buy in.

Dr. Helou presented the new branding around "CSU Compass" and introduced the leadership committee and team, noting a supportive collaboration right from the beginning of the process.

Executive Project Manager, Andrea Chudy, reported a strong commitment from campus partners and that phase one of the transformation is scheduled over the next 18 months. Members received information on the program launch, executive accountability and governance, and program scope. She will provide updates at future meetings on budget issues.

Chief Information Security Officer (CISO) Tony Mansoor reported that external security assessments and audits validate the effectiveness of CSU's program. Recent reviews have yielded no external findings, and all items identified in the internal audit have been fully remediated. He explained that, at present, the University's AI-powered cybersecurity solutions are meeting

challenges effectively. He updated members on the schedule for key projects regarding cybersecurity which are included in the technology transformation; key metrics for cyber will be reported regularly.

Discussion with members followed, regarding the decommissioning process, industry trends, tabletop exercises and identification of gaps. Members also suggested centering policies around people, and the need for tightened organizational discipline.

REPORT FROM THE STUDENT TRUSTEES

Student Trustees Carlson and Blackburn, who both study primarily in the Washkewicz College of Engineering, expressed appreciation for programming opportunities that allow them to experience different parts of campus from what they regularly see. For example, visiting the Arts Campus (Film and Media Arts) and participating in the MLK annual breakfast.

They reported on a Student Government initiative to provide a regalia cost reimbursement program for qualifying students. Both Trustee Blackburn and Carlson will attend the Ohio Student Trustee Conference in Columbus and are looking forward to hearing from the conference speakers.

They recently met with Dr. Melanie Gagich (facilitator of the newly launched AI Teaching and Learning Lab in the Academic Support Hub) and Chris Rennison (director of academic technologies within the Office of Instructional Excellence at Cleveland State University). They discussed faculty perspectives on artificial intelligence/emerging technologies and impacts for students.

Faculty Representative Quinn acknowledged the good report of the student trustees, and noted that along with the students, faculty are continuing to learn about artificial intelligence and emerging technologies as well. She suggests that students require their faculty to be clear about the expectations for the use of the technologies.

REPORT FROM FACULTY REPRESENTATIVES

Faculty Representative Olszewski presented her report in the framework of “A day in the life of CSU faculty - Dr. Us.” The story included regular interactions in a typical day, such as: building the class materials/lectures to teach students from different backgrounds and experiences; reaching out to current and potential students to enrich connections; holding regular office hours;

and much more. Dr. Olszewski added that faculty want to support enrollment and persistence efforts, and they want to work collaboratively with administration.

Faculty Representative Quinn agreed that faculty want to be partners of the administrative efforts underway, although there may be some feelings of “being informed, rather than consulted”. She noted that the Tutoring and Academic Success Center distributed information to faculty regarding notes and suggestions to assist with student success, and many faculty members have incorporated those suggestions. She also acknowledged CIO Helou for attending a recent Faculty Senate meeting and answering all questions from faculty, without judgement; that conversation was helpful and appreciated by the Senate.

Dr. Quinn also suggested that data sets that are presented to faculty partners be multi-faceted to include more in-depth detailed explanation. And that overall, student percentages are not only about statistics - results are meaningful as well. She noted that as faculty have better understanding of the issues and data, better partnerships and collaborations may be formed.

REPORT OF THE CSU FOUNDATION

Board member Klein reported that the CSU Foundation extended congratulations to VP Rehm on her retirement and recognized her many contributions by jointly donating \$40 thousand in her honor. The search process for her successor is underway, and he thanked members for participating in the discussion with candidates.

The Foundation’s endowment is currently at \$170 million and there are exciting upcoming plans for the year. He reminded members that CSU’s Giving Day is scheduled for February 26, and that the *Radiance: Recognizing the Promise* annual gala is scheduled for May 7. Long-time contributors to the University, Tom Hopkins (former CSU Foundation Chair) and Steve Percy (former CEO, BP America), will receive the President’s Medal at Radiance.

VP Rehm reported on FY26 attainment, pledges, and annual giving; she highlighted recent gifts that are secured and anticipated to the CSU’s Galleries, the Gund Living Learning Community, and the Washkewicz College of Engineering.

Chair Cosgrove thanked them for their report and acknowledged the worthy recognition of Mr. Hopkins and Mr. Percy; he reminded members that historically, the Board has had full participation at the important *Radiance* event.

CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Cosgrove stated that routine matters, or those recommended by committees and discussed previously, are considered on the Consent Agenda. He asked if there were any other items that Board members wished to discuss or remove; there were none.

Trustee Downing moved, and Trustee Whiting seconded, the motion to approve the following consent agenda items: Approval of New Degree Programs: Accelerated BA/MA, English and Accelerated BA/MA, History; Approval of Faculty Professional Leaves of Absence; Approval of Plan to Offer a Course on American Civic Literacy; Approval of Exemption Plan for the Course on American Civic Literacy; Approval of Policy Regarding Animals on Campus; Ratification of the Appointment of Nigamanth Sridhar as Executive Vice President; and Accepting Gifts and Pledges, 2nd Quarter.

Board Secretary Wilson called the roll, and the following resolutions were approved.

RESOLUTION 2026-03

**APPROVAL OF NEW DEGREE PROGRAM
ACCELERATED BA/MA, ENGLISH**

WHEREAS, the College of Arts and Sciences has proposed to offer the Accelerated BA/MA, English degree; and

WHEREAS, there is a demonstrated need for such a program in Northeast Ohio; and

WHEREAS, the proposed degree programs have been reviewed and approved by all appropriate faculty entities and academic administrators, including approval by the Faculty Senate at its meeting of December 3, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee has reviewed the proposed new degree program as submitted by the University Administration and recommends full Board approval:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees approves the Accelerated BA/MA, English Degrees to be housed in the College of Arts and Sciences.

RESOLUTION 2026-04

**APPROVAL OF NEW DEGREE PROGRAM
ACCELERATED BA/MA, HISTORY**

WHEREAS, the College of Arts and Sciences has proposed to offer the Accelerated BA/MA, History degree; and

WHEREAS, there is a demonstrated need for such a program in Northeast Ohio; and

WHEREAS, the proposed degree programs have been reviewed and approved by all appropriate faculty entities and academic administrators, including approval by the Faculty Senate at its meeting of December 3, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee has reviewed the proposed new degree program as submitted by the University Administration and recommends full Board approval:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees approves the Accelerated BA/MA, History Degrees to be housed in the College of Arts and Sciences.

RESOLUTION 2026-05

PROFESSIONAL LEAVES OF ABSENCE, AY2026-2027

WHEREAS, the individuals in the Professional Leaves of Absence Summary Report for the Academic Year 2026-2027 have been reviewed by the appropriate committees and administrators; and

WHEREAS, they have fulfilled the requirements for professional leave as set forth in Article 20 of the Agreement between Cleveland State University and the CSU Chapter of the American Association of University Professors, or in the case of the College of Law faculty, of Section 3344-11-09 of the CSU Faculty Personnel Policies; and

WHEREAS, the Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee has reviewed the proposed professional leaves of absence as submitted by the University Administration and recommends full Board approval:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees approves the granting of Professional Leaves of Absences for the academic year 2026-2027 to those individuals as outlined in the Summary Report.

RESOLUTION 2026-06

APPROVAL OF PLAN TO OFFER A COURSE ON AMERICAN CIVIC LITERACY

WHEREAS, Sec. 3345.382. of the Ohio Revised Code requires Cleveland State University to develop a course with not fewer than three credit hours in the subject area of American civic

literacy, which includes a study of the American economic system and capitalism, and that satisfies the following requirements:

- A. The course shall comply with the criteria, policies, and procedures established under section 3333.16 of the Revised Code.
- B. The course may be offered under the college credit plus program established under Chapter 3365. of the Revised Code.
- C. The course shall, at a minimum, require each student to read all the following:
 1. The entire Constitution of the United States.
 2. The entire Declaration of Independence.
 3. A minimum of five essays in their entirety from the Federalist Papers. The essays shall be selected by the department chair.
 4. The entire Emancipation Proclamation.
 5. The entire Gettysburg Address.
 6. The entire Letter from Birmingham Jail written by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
 7. The writings of Adam Smith, including a study of the principles written in The Wealth of Nations.
- D. Any student who takes the course shall be required to pass a cumulative final examination at the conclusion of the course that assesses student proficiency about the documents described in C.1. – C.7. above; and

WHEREAS, Sec. 3345.382 of the O.R.C. requires that beginning with students who graduate from Cleveland State University in the spring semester of the 2029-2030 academic year, Cleveland State University shall not grant a bachelor's degree to any student unless the student completes a course described in O.R.C. 3345.382(B); and

WHEREAS, Cleveland State University may require students to complete the course as part of the institution's general education courses of study; and

WHEREAS, the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees is required to adopt a resolution approving a plan to offer the course described in O.R.C. 3345.382(B); and

WHEREAS, the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees is required to adopt a resolution specifying the conditions under which the Cleveland State University president or designee may exempt a student from taking the course described in O.R.C. 3345.382(B); and

WHEREAS, this resolution replaces Resolution 2025-64 which was adopted by the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees on October 3, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee has reviewed this matter as submitted by the University Administration and recommends full Board approval:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees approves and adopts the Plan for a Course on the Subject of American Civic Literacy.

RESOLUTION 2026-07

APPROVAL OF EXEMPTION PLAN FOR THE COURSE ON AMERICAN CIVIC LITERACY

WHEREAS, Section 3345.382 of the Ohio Revised Code requires Cleveland State University to create a plan for a course on American Civic Literacy; and

WHEREAS, Section 3345.382 of the O.R.C. also requires that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees approve a resolution that allows the president or president's designee to exempt a student from this course requirement; and

WHEREAS, the Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee has reviewed this matter as submitted by the University Administration and recommends full Board approval:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees approves that the President or designee may exempt a student from the requirement to complete a course described in 3345.382(B), if the President or designee determines that the student has completed at least one of the following:

- (1) A course offered under the college credit plus program established under Chapter 3365 of the Ohio Revised Code that satisfies the content requirements described in 3345.382(B) and is approved by the Chancellor;
- (2) An advanced placement course and examination that satisfy the content requirements described in 3345.382(B) and are approved by the Chancellor, and the student receives a score of three or higher on that examination; or
- (3) At least three credit hours, or the equivalent, in a course in the subject area of American history or American government which includes the study of the documents described in divisions (B)(1) to (7) of this section. This exemption will not apply after the 2030-2031 academic year, in accordance with the statute.

RESOLUTION 2026-08

APPROVAL OF ANIMALS ON CAMPUS POLICY

WHEREAS, the current Animals on Campus Policy and Service Animal Policy were last revised in June 2016; and

WHEREAS, the University Administration has recognized the need for a revision to and streamlining of the Animals on Campus Policy, 3344-79-01 and 3344-79-02 to:

- Streamline all animal policies under one concise policy.
- Establish guidelines and procedures surrounding Emotional Support Animals.

- Align policy with the resident handbook and Student Code of Conduct.
- Add in a policy review cycle to ensure policies are updated on a regular basis.

WHEREAS, the University Administration recommends the proposed changes to the Animals on Campus Policy; and

WHEREAS, the draft policies were posted on the University's website for a 30-day comment period as required by the Board's rulemaking policy; and

WHEREAS, the Academic Affairs and Student Success committee has reviewed this matter as submitted by the University Administration and recommends full Board approval:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees approves the Animals on Campus Policy; and further instructs the University Administration to file the Policy with the Ohio Legislative Services Commission after the thirty-day comment period at which time said Policy shall become final, subject to any changes or revisions that are required or deemed necessary by the General Counsel.

RESOLUTION 2026-09

RATIFICATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF NIGAMANTH SRIDHAR AS EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT AND PROVOST

WHEREAS, Nigamanth Sridhar has served admirably as Senior Vice President and Provost of Cleveland State University since 2022; and

WHEREAS, in Fall 2025, President Bloomberg announced the creation of a Talent-Industry Hub, aligned with the goals of Cleveland State United, to expand experiential and work-based learning opportunities; and

WHEREAS, President Bloomberg has tasked Dr. Sridhar with launching the new Talent-Industry Hub and, in recognition of his prior accomplishments and the additional scope of responsibilities, has recommended that his title be changed from Senior Vice President and Provost to Executive Vice President and Provost; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Sridhar's salary will remain unchanged, and this action will result in no additional cost to the University:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees hereby ratifies the appointment of Nigamanth Sridhar as Executive Vice President and Provost.

RESOLUTION 2026-10

**ACCEPTING GIFTS AND PLEDGE PAYMENTS
2ND QUARTER, FY 2026
OCTOBER 1, 2025 TO DECEMBER 31, 2025**

RESOLVED, that the gifts and pledge payments totaling \$3,946,652 received by the Cleveland State University Foundation during the period October 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025 are hereby accepted with thanks; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the President is hereby directed to use these gifts subject to their terms and conditions.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chair Cosgrove moved for the Board to recess into Executive Session to discuss matters required by law to be kept confidential, to discuss imminent and pending litigation with the University General Counsel, and to discuss matters related to collective bargaining. Trustee Johnson seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken by the Secretary of the Board; voting in the affirmative were Ms. Byrd, Mr. Dolan, Ms. Downing, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Starkoff, Mr. Szmagala, Dr. Vince, Ms. Whiting, and Mr. Cosgrove. The motion carried.

Chair Cosgrove excused everyone except the voting trustees, President Bloomberg, ex officio member Klein, Community Trustee Reynolds, Assistant Board Secretary Link, and VP, General Counsel and Board Secretary Wilson. He noted that specific senior administrators and others would be called into the Session at the appropriate discussion times. These individuals included: Provost Sridhar, Ms. Franklin, Ms. Addington, Mr. Dykes, Dr. Helou, Mr. Campbell, Dr. Gifford, Ms. Tina Lee, Ms. Rachel Green, Ms. Tyler Eddinger-May, Mr. Jeric, and Mr. VandeVelde.

The executive session began at 10:19 a.m.

At 1:00 p.m., Chair Cosgrove announced that the Board had finished its business in Executive Session and was returning to its regular meeting.

Board Secretary Wilson reported for the record, that Chair Cosgrove left and recused himself for a portion of the executive session, from 12:28 p.m. to 12:58 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Asking if there were any other items of business to discuss, and hearing none, Chair Cosgrove thanked members and administrators for a productive and meaningful meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED ON MARCH 19, 2026

Sonali B. Wilson
Vice President of Legal Affairs and
Compliance, General Counsel and
Board Secretary

APPROVED ON MARCH 19, 2026

Timothy J. Cosgrove
Chair, Board of Trustees