

NTC DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

DATE: TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2026

TIME: 12:00 PM LUNCH | 1:00 PM MEETING CALL TO ORDER

LOCATION: NORTHCENTRAL TECHNICAL COLLEGE – ROOM D100, 1000 W. CAMPUS DRIVE, WAUSAU, WI 54401 AND VIA [ZOOM](#)

WEBINAR ID: 886 1515 1877 | PASSCODE: 837718

CALL TO ORDER

- A. Compliance with Open Meetings Law (Wis. Stat. 19.81-19.88)
- B. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
- C. Public Comment

Public Comment periods are not considered to be public hearings or a forum for public debate. No person may speak more than once to an issue or for a period longer than three (3) minutes. Individuals wishing to speak during this period must complete the sign-in form at the meeting location no less than fifteen (15) minutes prior to the start of the meeting. The total amount of time devoted to public comment at any given meeting will not exceed thirty (30) minutes unless extended by a majority vote of the Board.

WTCS STATE OFFICE UPDATE

- A. Wisconsin Technical College System State Office Update – Layla Merrifield, President

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE UPDATE

- A. Student Representative Update – Thomas Schwartz

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Approval of Minutes from August 11, 2026, Board of Trustees Regular Meeting

ACTION ITEMS

- A. Approval of Tax Levy 2026-2027 – Chet Strebe

CONSENT VOTING AGENDA

- A. Approval of Consent Voting Agenda Including:
 - a. Annual Purchasing List – Fiscal Year 2025-2026
 - b. Designation of Assistant, Associate and Deputy Directors
 - c. Receipts + Expenditures
 - d. Personnel Changes

BOARD DEVELOPMENT

- A. Board Dashboard: 2025-2026 Year-End Report – Darren Ackley + Andy Nelson

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

- A. President's Report
 - a. Comments from Informational Update
- B. Chairperson's Report
 - a. WTC DBA Fall Meeting Update – Paul + Renae
 - b. UWSP at Wausau Ribbon Cutting Ceremony: Wednesday, October 28, 2026 at 10:00 am in the Advising + Transfer Center
 - c. WTCS Capitol Visit/Legislative Advocacy Day: Wednesday, January 13, 2027 in Madison
 - d. Next Regular NTC Board Meeting: Tuesday, December 1, 2026
- C. Information
 - a. Save the Date: NTC Mid-Year Graduation Ceremony – Saturday, December 12, 2026 at 10:00 am at the Grand Theater
 - b. Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
 - c. Upcoming Meetings + Events
 - d. Good News

CLOSED SESSION (IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE ABOVE OPEN MEETING)

- A. Adjourn the Board into Closed Session pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes Section 19.85(1)(c) for the purpose of personnel consideration.

OPEN SESSION

- A. Reconvene the Board into Open Session to confirm any action deemed necessary as a result of the Closed Session.

MEETING ADJOURN

Note: Meetings of the Northcentral Technical College District Board are held in compliance with Wisconsin's "Open Meetings Law".

Mission: Northcentral Technical College enriches our communities by providing high quality learner and employer focused educational pathways that transform lives.

NORTHCENTRAL TECHNICAL COLLEGE

TOPIC SUMMARY SHEET

Date: October 13, 2026

Topic: Tax Levy 2026-2027

Policy: Presidential Expectations 1.1 - The President, in execution of his/her duties, shall not cause or allow any practice, activity, decision or organizational circumstance which is either irresponsible or in violation of commonly accepted business and professional ethics, or that results in failure to be accredited by the Higher Learning Commission.

Interpretation: To avoid violation of commonly accepted business and professional ethics NTC will follow §38.16 of the Wisconsin Statutes, "District Tax Levy; revenue limit; property tax relief aid. (1) Annually by October 31, or within 10 days after receipt of the equalized valuations from the department of revenue, whichever is later, the district board may levy a tax on the full value of the taxable property of the district for the purposes of making capital improvements, acquiring equipment, operating and maintaining the schools of the district, and paying principal and interest on valid bonds or notes now or hereafter outstanding as provided in s. [67.035](#)." Under §38.16(3)(be) Wis. Stats., "no district board may increase its revenue in the 2014-15 school year or in any school year thereafter by a percentage that exceeds the district's valuation factor, except as provided in pars. [\(bg\)](#) and [\(br\)](#)." Under §38.16(3)(bg)(1) Wis. Stats., "[t]he limit otherwise applicable to a district board under this subsection is increased by an amount equal to the amount of any refunded or rescinded property taxes paid by the district board in the year of the levy as determined by the department under [§74.41](#)." For tax years beginning in 2019, §79.096 Wis. Stats. reduces the District's operational levy authority by "an amount equal to the property taxes levied on the items of personal property described under §70.111(27)(b) for the property tax assessments as of January 1, 2017." And, for tax years beginning in 2025, §79.0965 Wis. Stats. reduces the District's operational levy authority by "an amount equal to the property taxes levied on the items of personal property described under §70.111(28)(a) for the property tax assessments as of January 1, 2023." And In May of each year, the Wisconsin Department of Revenue (DOR) shall certify payment to the District in an amount equal to the levy reduction and the Department of Administration (DOA) shall remit such payments to the District.

Data/Results: The District Board sets the official property mill rate for fiscal 2026-2027 at the October meeting based on the District's valuation factor as provided by the DOR in accordance with §38.16 Wis. Stats. In June 2026, the Board approved the 2026-2027 operating budget of \$62,428,303 with an operational mill rate of 0.41422, a debt mill rate of 0.62000, and a total mill rate of 1.03422. Today's proposed total mill rate of 0.99692 is below the Board-approved budgeted mill rate.

The DOR's equalized property valuations for the NTC District increased by 8%, with a total mill rate decrease of 3%. Under §79.096 Wis. Stats., the District will remove \$459,605 for certain personal property value from the 2026-2027 operational levy, to be received directly from the DOA in May 2027.

Total state operating revenue is the sum of the operating tax levy, property tax relief aid, and personal property tax aid. Overall, the 2026-2027 District operational levy will increase by \$276,063 and the

operational mill rate will decrease to 0.376924 from last year's 0.39744. The District's share of State of Wisconsin Property Tax Relief Aid will remain the same at \$14,630,553, with no additional property tax levy shift to State of Wisconsin Property Tax Relief Aid. Further decreases include a change in personal property tax aid of \$3,229 and prior and current year refunded/rescinded property taxes of \$762. These operating tax levy decreases will be offset by the Net New Construction levy increase of \$310,477, calculated using the DOR's valuation factor of 1.17335% for the District.

The 2026-27 District debt levy will equal or exceed District debt payments for the fiscal year.

Levy Category	2025-2026 Levy Amount	2025-2026 Mill Rate	2026-2027 Proposed Levy	2026-2027 Proposed Mill Rate	Mill Rate % Change
Operations	\$11,405,607	0.39744	\$11,681,671	0.37692	-5.162%
Debt Service	\$18,079,589	0.63000	\$19,215,245	0.62000	-1.587%
Total Levy	\$29,485,196	1.02744	\$30,896,916	0.99692	-2.970%

2026-2027 Proposed Mill Rates are less than budget.

Property Tax on \$100,000 Home	Amount
2025-2026	\$102.74
2026-2027	\$99.69
Decrease	(\$3.05)

Agenda Category: Regular Voting Agenda

Proposed Motion: The Northcentral Technical College District Board approves the reduced total tax levy mill rate of 0.99692 for fiscal year 2026-2027.

I, your CEO, certify that the information contained in this report is true as of October 13, 2026.

Dr. Joanne Worden

NORTHCENTRAL TECHNICAL COLLEGE

TOPIC SUMMARY SHEET

Date: October 13, 2026

Topic: Annual Purchasing List – Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Policy: Presidential Expectations 1.1 – The President, in execution of his/her duties, shall not cause or allow any practice, activity, decision or organizational circumstance which is either irresponsible or in violation of commonly accepted business and professional ethics, or that results in failure to be accredited by the Higher Learning Commission.

Interpretation: To avoid violation of commonly accepted business and professional ethics NTC will follow the Wisconsin Technical College System Administrative Rule TCS 6.05(2)(h), "Require an annual review, based on a report that aggregates multiple purchases of similar goods, supplies, and services of all procurements to determine if a more competitive procurement process should be used in succeeding years. The district board shall take formal action on this report, and such action shall be reflected in the district board's proceedings."

Data/Results: This is the annual requirement for review of purchases. The provided list is prepared for 2025-2026 review. The list is a summary of purchases of similar goods, supplies or services by vendors not selected through the Request for Proposal (RFP) process. The list does not include utility purchases or postage which does not require the competitive bid process as these are sole source providers and NTC cannot get the service elsewhere. Purchases estimated to be over \$50,000 are competitively bid based on the WTCS Financial Accounting Manual Procurement requirements. The purchases on this list will be analyzed and competitive bids obtained if expenses warrant such during 2026-2027.

Agenda Category: Consent Agenda

Proposed Motion: Motion is included with Consent Agenda.

I, your CEO, certify that the information contained in this report is true as of October 13, 2026

Dr. Gianni Worden

NORTHCENTRAL TECHNICAL COLLEGE

PURCHASING REPORT BY SUPPLIER

FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026

SUPPLIER	AMOUNT	NOTES
Wausau Area Chamber of Commerce, Inc	\$85,000.00	Two payments were made to the Chamber - \$5,250 annual membership and \$85,000 payment to reimburse the Chamber for equipment purchased through suppliers identified using a state contract (UW Contract 22-5174) for the Powerhouse Project. NTC provided financial and installation support, while the Chamber retains ownership of the equipment and responsibility for maintenance. The payment represents a pass-through reimbursement under the partnership agreement.
River Country Coop	\$75,032.10	Fuel purchases are being reviewed separately by fuel type. Ag Center fuel spending totaled \$56,303.10; we are evaluating whether this reflects a one-time increase due to increased diesel/fuel costs or an ongoing volume needs to determine the appropriate procurement approach for future purchases. Feed and nutritionist spending of \$148,547.15 is covered under IFB 25-00000-01. Total spend to River Country Coop was \$223,579.25.
Apple Store	\$67,079.93	Verification is pending with Apple representative to confirm whether our account can align with a NASPO contract.
RDM Industrial Products Inc	\$64,606.00	Original custom order totaled \$35,187 and was supported by three vendor quotes. A subsequent purchase order was issued to obtain the correct items after errors were identified in the original order, which brought the combined total to \$64,606.
Sysco Food Services of Baraboo	\$51,404.89	Verification is pending to confirm whether our account is aligned with Sourcwell Contract #040522-SYC for Food Products & Distribution.

NORTHCENTRAL TECHNICAL COLLEGE

TOPIC SUMMARY SHEET

Date: October 13, 2026

Topic: Designation of Assistant, Associate and Deputy Directors

Policy: Presidential Expectations 1.1 - The President, in execution of his/her duties, shall not cause or allow any practice, activity, decision or organizational circumstance which is either irresponsible or in violation of commonly accepted business and professional ethics, or that results in failure to be accredited by the Higher Learning Commission.

Interpretation: To avoid *violation of commonly accepted business and professional ethics* NTC will follow Wisconsin statute 19.41 through 19.59 **Wisconsin's Code of Ethics for Public Officials and Employees** "...Annually the board is required to designate public officials and employees holding a position "designated as assistant, associate or deputy district director of a technical college."

Data/Results: The following resolution has been prepared for board consideration:

Resolved that for the purposes of Wisconsin's Code of Ethics for Public Officials and Employees, subch. III of ch. 19, the Northcentral Technical College District Board has designated the following positions deputy, associate, or assistant district directors and indicated its understanding that the current occupants of those positions and their successors to those positions are state public officials to whom Wisconsin's Ethics Code applies and officials required to file a Statement of Economic Interests: President, Chief Operating Officer, Vice President of Student Services, Marketing + Regional Campuses, Vice President for Learning + Provost, Vice President of Strategic Planning + Government Relations, Vice President of Business + Technology, and Vice President of Human Resources, Facilities + Risk Management.

Persons in the positions listed above are: Jeannie Worden, Darren Ackley, Sarah Dillon, Emily Stuckenbruck, Katrina Felch, Chet Strebe and Cher Vink.

Proposed Motion: Motion is included with Consent Agenda.

I, your CEO, certify that the information contained in this report is true as of October 13, 2026.



NORTHCENTRAL TECHNICAL COLLEGE

TOPIC SUMMARY SHEET

Date: October 13, 2026

Topic: Receipts & Expenditures

Policy: Presidential Expectations 1.1 - The President, in execution of his/her duties, shall not cause or allow any practice, activity, decision or organizational circumstance which is either irresponsible or in violation of commonly accepted business and professional ethics, or that results in failure to be accredited by the Higher Learning Commission.

Interpretation: To avoid violation of commonly accepted business and professional ethics NTC will follow Wisconsin statute 38.12 District Board Duties (2) "...All expenditures exceeding \$2500 shall be approved by the district board." Also, in compliance with Wisconsin statute 38.12(4) District board duties, "The publication proceedings shall include a statement of receipts and expenditures in the aggregate."

Data/Results: The following Status of Funds listing receipts and expenditures including operating transfers in the aggregate is included for informational purposes as of **August 31, 2026** (preliminary).

F1-F7 Revenue: \$11,623,889.71

F1-F7 Expense: \$15,387,565.98

Proposed Motion: Motion is included with Consent Agenda.

I, your CEO, certify that the information contained in this report is true as of October 13, 2026.

Dr. Jennie Worden

NORTHCENTRAL TECHNICAL COLLEGE

TOPIC SUMMARY SHEET

Date: October 13, 2026

Topic: Personnel Changes

Policy: Presidential Expectations 1.1 - The President, in execution of his/her duties, shall not cause or allow any practice, activity, decision or organizational circumstance which is either irresponsible or in violation of commonly accepted business and professional ethics, or that results in failure to be accredited by the Higher Learning Commission.

Interpretation: NTC will follow Wisconsin Statute 38.12 (3) "The district board shall employ and fix the compensation..." and Wisconsin Statute 118.22 (2) "...No teacher may be employed... except by a majority vote of the full membership of the board. Nothing in this section prevents the modification or termination of a contract by mutual agreement of the teacher and the board."

Data/Results: A request is made to approve the following personnel changes:

New Hires:

- Julie Schroder – Academic Advisor
- Karlee Westrich – Faculty, Veterinary Technician
- Jade Roth Zeise – Administrative Assistant, Alternative High School
- KayCe Miller – Custodian, General
- Megan Koester – Supervising Clinical Veterinarian, Small Animal
- Casey Venzke – Faculty, Diesel Technology
- Kristine Kuklinski – Custodian, General
- Alexandra St Bernard – Technician, Biomedical Lab
- Chanda Cook – Assistant, Dental Sterilization
- Nathan Bychinski – Faculty, Culinary Arts

Resignations:

- Sara Bartelt – Associate Dean, Liberal Arts, Education & General Studies
- Markel Happli – Specialist, Workday IT Help Desk
- Sandie Shorey – Administrative Assistant, Health Sciences & Academic Excellence
- Frank Rohl – Manager, Community Safety Simulation Center Operations
- Tony Her – Supervisor, Security
- Ethan Cattnach – Career Coach
- Julia Barwick – Specialist, Student Services & K12
- Kaya Greenwood – Specialist, Student Records & CPL
- Billy Leggett – Faculty, CDL
- April McHugh – Faculty, Human Services
- Debbrah Bialecki – Custodian, General

Separations:

- Jessica Katcher – Academic Advisor
- Howard Pulkowski – Faculty, CDL

Proposed Motion: Motion is included with Consent Agenda.

I, your CEO, certify that the information contained in this report is true as of October 13, 2026.

Dr. Jeanie Worden