

MINUTES



8:00 a.m. Saturday, February 11, 2023

Call to Order

Salute to the Flag

Open Public Meetings Statement

Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, I hereby announce that adequate notice of this meeting has been provided, as required by said Act, which notice was filed with the County Clerk, posted in the vestibule of the County Courthouse and sent to the Courier Post and South Jersey Times on Monday, January 30, 2023.

Roll Call

	Present	Absent
Commissioner Konawel	X	
Deputy Director Simmons	X	
Commissioner Jefferson	X	
Commissioner DeSilvio	X	
Commissioner Barnes	X	
Commissioner DiCarlo	X	
Director DiMarco	X	

Changes to the Agenda

Public portion on agenda items only (time limit of five (5) minutes per person, per public portion).

OPEN

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Commissioner Konawel			X			
Deputy Director Simmons	X		X			
Commissioner Jefferson			X			
Commissioner DeSilvio			X			
Commissioner Barnes		X	X			
Commissioner DiCarlo			X			
Director DiMarco			X			

Comments: N/A

CLOSE

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Commissioner Konawel			X			
Deputy Director Simmons	X		X			
Commissioner Jefferson			X			
Commissioner DeSilvio			X			
Commissioner Barnes		X	X			
Commissioner DiCarlo			X			
Director DiMarco			X			

Comments: N/A

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION

**DIRECTOR DIMARCO
DEPUTY DIRECTOR SIMMONS**

Discussion of the proposed 2023 Gloucester County budget: Overview, Operating, and Capital.

Administrator Bruner made the following statement:

In early 2022, this Board took the first step towards re-establishing a singular focus and a revived the independence of THE GLOUCESTER COUNTY INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY AND THE SPECIAL SERVICES SCHOOL DISTRICT. Board members were appointed and the new separate boards launched. This was significant to prepare for a new post pandemic world in education. That was the 1st step.

The 2nd step was to task Dr. Fred Keating from July 1 to present, with studying all three educational facilities (GCIT, SSSD, RCSJ) with focus on the following:

- Review of Institutional Vision / Mission Statements

- A comprehensive analysis of each entity’s Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT)
- A summary, including recommendations, for the design of a mutually supported Educational System/Consortium

Dr. Keating is well respected in all areas of this study as he has been the Sup’t of the Special Services School, Sup’t of the Gloucester County Institute of Technology, and is the current President of RCSJ.

Crucial to this examination were the ongoing discussions and interviews with County Administration; Educational Leadership of the Institute of Technology and the Special Services School District; and the Leadership of Rowan College of South Jersey.

The Board of Commissioners and its Administration have been made aware of some challenges that the pandemic exacerbated in 2020. Some of the challenges were:

- Declining enrollment at Rowan College of South Jersey
- Underfunding by the State of New Jersey to the Gloucester County Institute of Technology over the years during significant demand and growth
- Declining enrollment at the Gloucester County Special Services School District

As each entity evaluates how to best meet these challenges, the Board of Commissioners and the Leadership of our academic partners have initiated some very worthwhile projects for the betterment of our students and the county:

- Built the Rowan School of Osteopathic Medicine and 4 major clinics (Rowan Institute of Special Needs, Primary Care, Pain Management, Pediatrics)
- Built and Re-locating the Gloucester County Job Training Center
- Completed the Upgrade and Deferred Maintenance of the GCIT and SSSD buildings
- Building a new Allied Health Building to open in 2023
- Building a new Advanced Manufacturing Building to open in 2023
- Breaking ground on a new Long-term Disabled Housing Project – The Residence at South College Drive in the Spring/Summer of 2023

As we continue to make investments in our educational infrastructure to support the future needs of our students, Dr. Keating’s studied:

1. The Establishment of an appropriate Education structure for the future – The Gloucester County Educational Consortium
2. The Establishment of an ongoing Oversight and Transition Committee comprised of County and all Education Institution representatives
3. Define Governance of each autonomous entity
4. Properly allocate “shared employees”
5. Properly identify shared service opportunities
6. Instruct each Educational Entity to perform a needs assessment
7. Engage each entity in performing a 3-year strategic plan
8. Focus on the appropriate enrollment management plan
9. Forge appropriate partnerships in preparation for future student needs

Thank you Dr. Keating for your time, energy, and focus with this very important transition to prepare our students for post pandemic readiness.

Please take this opportunity to address the Board on the current and future of our 3 Educational School Systems.

Dr. Keating addressed the board.

Public portion (time limit of five (5) minutes per person, per public portion)

OPEN

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Commissioner Konawel			X			
Deputy Director Simmons	X		X			
Commissioner Jefferson			X			
Commissioner DeSilvio			X			
Commissioner Barnes		X	X			
Commissioner DiCarlo			X			
Director DiMarco			X			

Comments: N/A

CLOSE

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Commissioner Konawel			X			
Deputy Director Simmons	X		X			
Commissioner Jefferson			X			
Commissioner DeSilvio			X			
Commissioner Barnes		X	X			
Commissioner DiCarlo			X			
Director DiMarco			X			

Comments: N/A

Before adjourning, Commissioner Barnes asked the Commissioners if they had any other questions or concerns regarding the budget, as now was the time to raise them. There were no additional questions asked.

Adjournment

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Commissioner Konawel			X			
Deputy Director Simmons	X		X			
Commissioner Jefferson			X			
Commissioner DeSilvio			X			
Commissioner Barnes		X	X			
Commissioner DiCarlo			X			
Director DiMarco			X			

Comments: N/A