

Montgomery Community College
President's Cabinet
Agenda
October 20, 2026

Present:

Dr. Chad Bledsoe, Jeanette McBride, Dr. Natalie Winfree, Dr. Hunter Smith, Dr. Amy Frieary, Dr. Carol Marshall, Cody Starling, Josh Hussey, Kelly Morgan, Korrie Ervin, Ricardo Romero, Susanna Kornegay, Touger Vang, Taylor Mitchell (optional), Nicole McRae (optional) - virtually, and Rene Perryman

The meeting began at 8:35 a.m.

The following items were presented for Cabinet approval and approved:

- Great Fall Showdown in Room 267 and Employee Halloween Costume Contest – October 29, 2026.
- Sip Sip Hooray! (Mobile Campus Cart) – November 12, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.
- Snow Much Fun Gift Exchange – December 15, 2026, following the Christmas Crawl lunch.

Dr. Winfree presented a draft of a New Student Club Application. Requirements include having an advisor for at least one year and establishing a mission and bylaws. Cabinet members discussed dissolving clubs after one full year of inactivity. The application was approved with minor changes and will be posted on the website.

Dr. Amy Frieary presented a teacher's request for a student to bring live chickens into a classroom for a presentation the following week. The request was denied because of the lack of relevance to the associated assignment.

Cabinet members discussed the Career Exploration Event, which will bring 315 middle school students and five buses to campus on Thursday, October 22, 2026. Cabinet agreed to block both sides of the parking lot in front of the Early College entrance to ensure student safety and provide space for the buses.

Dr. Carol Marshall discussed moving the Open House date to accommodate both fall students and those registering for spring. Employees will be required to attend the event on November 5, 2026, from 4:00–7:00 p.m. The NC Cooperative Forestry Division will also hold its annual catered supper in the multipurpose room that evening.

Dr. Hunter Smith announced changes in responsibilities within the President's Office. To increase MCC's social media exposure, Susanna Kornegay will promote the College through short-form videos on Instagram and Facebook.

Korrie Ervin will assume the Foundation Director's financial management responsibilities, along with institutional research reporting. Mrs. Ervin's new title will include Coordinator of Advancement Operations. Rene Perryman will handle special projects.

Kelly Morgan announced that copies of the Annual Report are now available.

Ricardo Romero reminded Cabinet members of the Montgomery County Biz Meetup, scheduled for October 29, 2026, at Sacred Grounds Coffee in Mount Gilead. Five downtown Venture Facilitators will represent Continuing Education and support business development and downtown revitalization efforts.

Dr. Marshall shared the following updates:

- Priority registration began on October 19, 2026. Dr. Marshall's team now has the full course schedule and will continue building the remaining sections.
- Success Navigators have completed their midterm outreach to students, including registration reminders and advising guidance. Jessica is also monitoring the transition of second-year students to their program advisors. The program advisors have been responsive and are working with students to coordinate meeting times.
- Financial Aid awarded 20 Montgomery Scholarships and 57 Foundation Scholarships for the 2026–2027 academic year.
- Dr. Marshall worked with Cody and Jonathan to improve the graduation application and the graduation-related sections of the website. Beginning in fall 2026, all students will submit graduation applications through Self-Service. The CCP graduation application has been removed from the website.
- The graduation team created a dedicated email address for graduation inquiries, graduation@montgomery.edu, which is now active and posted on the website.

Dr. Winfree announced that offers have been made for the Dean of Instruction, Curriculum Compliance, and Assistant to the VP of Instruction & Student Services/Instructional Data Manager positions.

Cody Starling announced that Phase 2 of the outdoor camera project will begin the following day. Mr. Starling requested videos and photographs for the website's home page.

Amy Goodwin reminded Cabinet members that Open Enrollment is underway and ends October 30, 2026. She asked members to remind employees to make any changes before the deadline.

The meeting adjourned at 9:27 a.m.

Action Items

- Staff Senate is requesting approval on the following events: (flyers in 2026-10-20 Cabinet Meeting folder)
 1. Great Fall Showdown Rm 267 / Employee Halloween Costume Contest – October 29th
 - Staff & Faculty Senate Events (approved via email) -
 2. Sip Sip Hooray! (Mobile Campus Cart) - 9:00 AM – November 12th - approved
 3. Snow Much Fun Gift Exchange on December 15th following The Christmas Crawl lunch - approved

Discussion Items

- New Student Club Application (may need approval) (in the 2026-10-20 Cabinet Meeting folder)

Announcements

- Career Exploration Event – Bus Parking; 315 students!
- MCC “More Than A” Open House
- Presidents division update

Calendar of Events

[illegible]

General Updates

President's Office

President

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Foundation

- Thank you to everyone who supported Viva Las Vegas this year; it was a great success. We had loads of fun.
- Clays for Education is scheduled for November 6, at Hyatt Farms in Polkton NC. If you know anyone who wants to participate, please let me know or send them my email.

Grants Update

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Marketing and Public Relations

Annual Reports are here, please take one!

- Spring 2027 TrailGuide underway

Instruction and Student Services

Vice President of Instruction and Student Services

- Dean of Instruction – Curriculum Compliance
- Instructional Data Manager
- All OCR tasks have been completed and submitted

Arts and Sciences

- The Mental Health Awareness Button Contest winner's button will be handed out tomorrow during the Fall Festival. 21 students submitted a design for the contest.
- The engineering program meeting had a total of 10 prospective students attend to learn more about the program on Friday, October 16.

Career and Technical Services

- Kevin Lamonds' class is working with Ashley Hernandez in Room 1629 for an EMS project.
- MCC's Forestry Club delivered an impressive performance across multiple events, earning some top honors and demonstrating the strength of its hands-on training program. The team's results included:

- **First place** honors in Archery went to Camden Brown. First place in Men's Singlebuck went to Charlie Kearns. First place in Women's Crosscut went to AJ Abbott and Alanna Gloster.
- **Second Place** Men's Pole Climb went to Charlie Kearns. AJ Abbot places second in Women's Bolt Split. Women's Singlebuck second place finisher was Alanna Gloster. Ridge Meadows, Mark Knipp, Eric Millson and Alanna Gloster placed second in Quiz Bowl.
- **Third place** winners include Alanna Gloster for Orienteering, with third place for Pulp Toss for Accuracy went to Ridge Meadows, AJ Abbott, Eric Millson, Camden Brown, Andrew Neilsen and Mark Knipp.
- The MCC Forestry Club has been invited to NCSU 88th Annual Rolleo Timbersports Competition at the Schenck Forest in Raleigh NC.

Continuing Education

Small Business Center

- **Entrepreneur Success:** SBC client Phil McNutt continues to gain momentum with The Gilded Lantern Co. following participation in the Statewide Startup Showdown. His inaugural Murder Mystery Dinner at Lake House Tavern on October 28 has sold **49 of 50 available tickets**, demonstrating successful movement from entrepreneurial concept to a revenue-generating community venture.
- **Agricultural Entrepreneurship:** The recent Agricultural Summit served **26 participants**, including representatives from Economic Development, Cooperative Extension, and **13 local farms and agriculture-related businesses**, strengthening connections between agriculture, entrepreneurship, and workforce/economic development.
- **SBC Counseling Growth:** Remote guest counselor activity increased from **5 clients in August to 12 in September**, representing seven additional prospective businesses receiving entrepreneurial support. Services have also expanded through a guest counselor supporting Spanish-speaking entrepreneurs.
- **Community & Business Engagement:** The Montgomery County Biz Meetup is scheduled for October 29 at Sacred Grounds Coffee in Mount Gilead. Five Downtown Venture Facilitators will represent Continuing Education and support business development and downtown revitalization efforts.
- **Pitch It! Montgomery:** Marketing is being developed for the upcoming entrepreneurship class/competition. The Trail Guide will include registration information and a local business success story highlighting Uwharrie Reserve and its connection to entrepreneurship, tourism, and rural economic development.
- **Business of Art Initiative:** The NCECA "Business of Art" concept received encouragement from the State System Office to advance through MCC's internal approval process. The initiative

would connect MCC's pottery programming with entrepreneurship education and SBC services, creating a pathway between the creative arts and small-business development.

- **STARworks/Forestry Collaboration:** Discussions are beginning between the Forestry Program and STARworks regarding a potential wood-drying kiln business opportunity, creating an intersection among education, manufacturing, entrepreneurship, and community economic development.
- **STARworks/Hospitality Initiative:** SBC/Continuing Education is continuing discussions with STARworks and subject-matter expert Dani Black to evaluate three proposed approaches and identify a path toward food production and revenue generation before the end of the fiscal year.
- **Masterminds Business Cohort:** The cohort continues with strong participation and support through the Pinnacle Bank partnership. Recent engagement with Marla Couthard and John Shaw provided participants with connections to county tourism and economic-development initiatives.
- **Fraud Prevention Training:** Following a request from Dr Bledsoe, SBC explored a Fidelity Bank security and fraud-prevention program for small businesses and received State System Office approval from Anne Shaw to offer the program.

Customized Training & Apprenticeships

- Currently have 8 different training classes scheduled that will be held through December within the Mohawk Industries NCEdge Customized Training Project
- Conducted a Project Needs Assessment with Alandale Knitting in Troy. Working with Regional Director building an NCEdge Customized Training Project for them.
- Have built a relationship with another local industry and are starting conversations on a NCEdge Customized Training Project. Have a plant tour scheduled this week.
- Have currently held two Budget 365 classes and have three scheduled and designing more.
- Assisting in the planning, marketing and facilitation of Leadership Montgomery
- Serving on planning committee for Open House Event. The ConEd Department is installing an information bulletin board outside the ConEd Suite. There will be a ConEd Information Station at the event.
- Continuing conversations for apprenticeships with MCS and CTE Programs and Allied Health. Working with Dean Romero with NCWorks funding availability to support these initiatives.
- Partnering with SBC Director aligning her available service services to the Montgomery County manufacturing community, since all these businesses are also small business businesses.
- Having regularly scheduled meetings with Economic Development Director Savannah Gooch to stay updated on Montgomery County economic development activity.
- Meet with Montgomery County TDA Director along with SBD Director and Director of Short-Term Program on possible training opportunities.
- Hosted Made in Montgomery Event; 5 local Manufacturers and 3 workforce partners participated.

College & Career Readiness:

- **HSE Student Success:** Over the past two weeks, two students have earned their HSE diplomas. Additionally, a former Eckerd student who completed four of the five required HiSET subject tests with us successfully passed his final exam in Fayetteville.
- **Day HSE Class and New Course Offering:** We are temporarily pausing the Day HSE class for the remainder of the year. In its place, Diana will begin offering a Spanish-language Technology Skills class this Thursday. We anticipate having approximately 8–12 active students enrolled in the course.
- **Budget Preparation:** With assistance from Dusty, I have reviewed the budget forms and am working to ensure all required documentation will be completed and uploaded to Moodle prior to the October 21st deadline.
- **Post-Testing and HiSET Testing:** We have maintained a consistent testing schedule, offering post-testing sessions on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. HiSET testing continues to be held on Tuesdays, with consistent student participation. Maria has been overseeing TABE testing, while I have been responsible for proctoring HiSET exams.
- **Staffing and Departmental Workflow:** I am working to maintain attendance tracking, approvals, and other essential departmental responsibilities following Sarah's departure. Looking ahead, I would like to discuss the possibility of transitioning Maria into the CCR Coordinator role, potentially on a part-time basis initially. This would allow her to assume greater responsibility for coordinating daily operations and maintaining consistent departmental workflows. We could then explore hiring an additional proctor to help manage testing responsibilities and provide the support needed to keep the department operating efficiently.

Health and Human Services

- The Annual Red Cross Blood Drive in honor of Cody will be Monday, November 2 from 9am – 2pm.
- The next MA to Nursing Bridge meeting with colleges across the NCCCS system will be held November 16 from 10am – 3pm on campus.
- We have received a call from NCBON Dr. Lewis praising all the hard work that went into the report that was submitted on Tuesday, October 13. We have one minor correction to make, and we will send that one this week. Once she reviews that last correction, we will receive our official report.
- We are still waiting on the tables and chairs for the Nursing Lab.

Amazing report from the Board of Nursing. None of the issues claimed in the BON complaint were found to be substantiated.

Student Services

Dr. Marshall shared - Priority registration began on October 19. My team now has the full course schedule and will continue building the remaining sections.

Success Navigators have completed their mid-term outreach to students, including registration reminders and advising guidance. Jessica is also monitoring the matriculation of second-year students to

their program advisors. The program advisors have been responsive and are working with students to coordinate meeting times.

Financial Aid awarded 20 Montgomery Scholarships and 57 Foundation Scholarships for the 2026–2027 academic year.

I worked with Cody and Jonathan to improve the graduation application and flow of the website as it relates to graduation. Beginning Fall 2026, the CCP graduation application has been removed from the website, and all students will submit their graduation application through Self-Service.

The graduation team has created a separate email for all graduation inquiries; that is now active and live on the website. Named graduation@montgomery.edu

Administrative Services

Administration/Finance

Jeanette McBride Budgets are available on self-service for budget managers. Contact Dustin Caviness for access. Copies are also available via email.

Facilities

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Technology

- Phase 2 of Camera Project starts tomorrow Wednesday 10/21/2026
- Core switch cutover is ready. Will try to do over a weekend
- Canvas Migration moving very well
- Updated Video Clips/Photos for Website

Learning Resources

- Updates – new Integrated Library System – ExLibris – ongoing
- Reminder – Textbooks Adoption due – Friday, October 30, 2026, at 3:00 PM

Human Resources

- CDP Due September 30, 1:1 Due October 30 (Does this give enough time, or prefer to spread out further in the future?)