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Atlantic Technical College and Technical High School
School Advisory Council/School Advisory Forum Joint Meeting

Minutes-January 27, 2026

Members: Quorum Met. Neeta Rancourt, Neila Atkinson, Rochelle Williams, Dulce Barrios, Logan Whitaker, Laila Jones, Laura Marcondes, Aly Petion, Laila Jones, Carol Lindred, Tammy Triollo, Hallema Collier(designee).

Attendees: Brian Bush, Cathy Castelli, Kimberly JnBaptiste, Vicky LaPorte, Simeka Love, Rhonda Matos, Rebecca Miller, Brian Norris, Miladys Puddie, Tammy Clabo, Felicia Starke.

Call to Order:

A meeting of the Atlantic Technical College & Technical High School Advisory Council was held in Room 122 of Atlantic Technical College on January 27, 2026. Director Neeta Rancourt called the meeting to order at 8:10 AM. Dulce Barrios will record minutes for this meeting.

Minutes:

Laura Marcondes motioned for approval the minutes of November 4, 2025, with no corrections. **Laila Jones** seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously.

Tammy Triollo motioned to approve the SAC Funds (4,415.66), and the motion was seconded by **Logan Whitaker**, Motion was approved unanimously.

Rochelle Williams motioned to approve the SAC Funds proposal for T-shirts \$1,427.42, and the motion was seconded by **Dulce Barrios**. Motion was voted unanimously.

Laura Marcondes motioned to approve the SAC Funds proposal for Tiger Soft Keychain \$474.27, and the motion was seconded by **Ali Petion**. Motion was voted unanimously.

Agenda:

1. Welcome and Introductions (Director Neeta Rancourt)
2. Director's Update (*Neeta Rancourt*) ATC has earned the highest level of Magnet Excellence, becoming the 26th Magnet School. This achievement, in addition to previously becoming certified demonstration magnet, is credited to the outstanding work of the students, staff, and faculty. The only school in Broward with this distinction. Graduation Ceremony will likely return to the Broward Center, with an official announcement expected later this week. Graduation is planned for June 3rd at 2:00 P.M. Each graduate should expect a minimum of four tickets, though extra tickets will likely require an application process and may be limited. The school is conducting a Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment to gather feedback from industry partners for program improvement and an upcoming Perkins Grant. Early results show employers expect major workforce growth and strongly value soft skills-communications, professionalism, problem solving, adaptability, and digital literacy-while noting deficiencies in these areas among entry-level workers. Emerging industry trends include AI/automation, cybersecurity, and advanced diagnostics, hybrid/EV technology, and virtual/augment training. Partners recommend more internships, apprenticeships, certifications, and industry involvement in program design. Soft skills are already embedded in programs, supported by tools like Florida Ready to Work, career services workshops, freshman camp, and schoolwide initiatives. Discussion emphasized the importance of soft skills not only for students but also for staff, and how employers assess them during hiring. Although the district is under a hiring and travel freeze, their workforce-funded positions

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are still allowed to be filled. ATC is trying to hire three teaching positions- practical nursing, automotive, and avionics (to restart that program) as well as some food service positions. The high school side faces challenges, but currently no one is leaving, which helps maintain stability.

3. SAF Update (T. Triollo) No update to report.
4. Collection Development Plan update (C. Castelli) High school recently completed the Progress Monitoring 2 (PM2) FAST assessment, which is administered three times a year. Their goal was for 78% of 9th and 10th grade students to score a level 3 or higher. The latest result exceeded this goal, with 80% of 9th graders and 84% of 10th graders meeting the benchmark. These outcomes, along with historical data, will help guide expectations for the PM3 testing in May.
5. Student Comments
 - a. *Ali Petion* (BPA) Assisting members in getting ready for the States Leadership Conference. Providing students with current information regarding competitions and test-taking strategies. Initiating donut sale activities in collaboration with members. Coordinating plans for the BPA “Suckers 4 Love” initiative. Ensuring members remain informed about BPA announcements through Remind and social media platforms.
 - b. *Logan Whitaker* (Machining) Students recently participated in the Skills USA competition, where several teams-including automotive, architecture, and machining- qualified for the state level. Preparations are ongoing for the upcoming senior exhibitions, with a strong emphasis on attention to detail to ensure strong presentation. Additionally, students participated in the field trip experiences: a visit to Linker & Pitman, where they learned about electric reels used in deep-sea operations, and a visit to ATI, a facility specializing in metal 3D printing.
 - c. *Laila Jones* (Health Science) Last HOSA meeting, members made sock cupcakes with socks and ChapStick to donate. Next meeting will focus on HOSA activities, competitions, and scholarship. Students registered for competitions have completed their required testing. Health Science Tech seniors are finishing their display boards for next week’s senior expo, and juniors in the program have begun their semester work. PN students celebrated their pinning ceremony on January 8th.
 - d. *Laura Marcondes* (Student Government Association) This year’s midyear field trip will take students to Island of Adventure. Students will depart from the school promptly at 6:00 A.M and expect to return to the ATC campus by 9:30 P.M. Spirit week will take place from Monday, January 26th-January 30th. The daily themes include Y2K Day, Anything but a backpack, Lilo & Stitch Day, Heroes vs. Villains, and color Wars. This year’s Powerpuff Game will feature Seniors/Sophomores Versus. Freshmen/Juniors.
6. Assistant Directors’ Updates
 - a. *Vicky Laporte*— School has been recognized as one of the top nine Schools of Excellence and will receive an award at an upcoming conference. The highlighted strong academic performance, noting that winter EOC results surpassed district and state averages across all subjects. The school also earned an award for outstanding attendance in the first quarter. Magnet applications are up compared to the previous year, with 383 applicants and 244 eligible students across grades 9-12, meaning a lottery will likely be required. Teachers from four districts high schools on the 4X4 block schedule are collaborating to create Pacing Guides that align instructions across schools. Infinite Scholarship Fair, students received valuable information about variety of available scholarships. This event offered seniors an excellent opportunity to learn about financial aid resources and next steps, supported by the BRACE advisor. FAU campus visit, students toured the campus, gained exposure to the college environment, and attended a girls’ basketball game, which added an enjoyable

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component to the trip. Upcoming activities include Spirit Week, the Day of Service and Love on February 13, 2026, and a School Advisory Forum meeting on March 4, 2026.

- b. *Brian Bush*— The medical Assisting and EKG programs earned 100% industry certification pass rates, with students completing three certifications. Clinical Medical Assistant, EKG Technician, and Phlebotomy Technician-giving them highly marketable, tangible skills. He also highlights the success of the Patient Care Assistant program at Dave Thomas, which has provided meaningful opportunities for students who are often working through academic challenges. The Practical Nursing students recently participated in a pinning ceremony, celebrating their completion of one of the most rigorous programs, with 100% completion rate and upcoming NCLEX exams.
 - c. Tammy Clabo-Culinary Arts coordinated large catering events throughout the holiday season. Construction projects are progressing: the major campus project is expected to be completed by October 2026, the new intercom system is about 75% finished, and renovations for three bathrooms are around 90% complete. The high school clinic project is on hold pending answers to outstanding questions. The canopy area that collapsed a few years ago returned to Risk Management for further review.
 - d. James Payne-SkillsUSA regionals had 1,818 students compete across Miami-Dade, Palm Beach, and Broward. Our students earned multiple gold, silver, and bronze medals in programs like Automated Manufacturing, Carpentry, Automotive Service Tech, Baking & Pastry, and Drafting. Marketing Department is updating school website and social media with new program videos-starting with Business, IT, Tech Trades, and Auto. Engagement is strong, with 1,200 views on our recent SkillsUSA Instagram post.
 - e. Brian Norris- The Office Student Affairs increased campus tours, with about 36 adults attending the most recent one. Serge Treyger has expanded marketing efforts and is bringing more high schools to campus. The winter semester began smoothly, and an upcoming “Claim Your Future” field trip will bring junior high IT students to visit. Transition Into Employment program has resumed, including travel-training on the Tri-Rail to help students explore job opportunities and transportation resources. Additionally, STAR Awards were presented to recognize our hardworking students, accompanied by a monetary contribution from Wrightway Protection and a tribute to former ATC job coach Jeff Wright.
 - f. Jean Vilus-The PM Course 1 cohort will begin on the 29th, and the PCA cohort commenced on the 21st. The Under Johnson Foundation has approved their matching gift submission, and as a result, the NFL will match the Foundation \$10,000 contribution-bringing the total approximately \$20,000.
12. Business and Economic Development Update (*Nicole Wills*) CareerSource Broward shared several workforce updates, highlighting a 4.2% unemployment rate, increasing rental costs, an average hourly wage of \$32.71, and strong growth in fields such as data science and cybersecurity. The organization is developing an AI Playbook to support small and medium-sized employers and is seeking feedback from educational institutions on how to better prepare students for the changing job market. Tech Step Fridays—a fun, line-dancing-based program designed to build social and essential workplace skills—will hold its next session on February 13. Additional upcoming events include the February 19 Festival and the Spring Career Fair on April 16 (9:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.), which is expected to feature approximately 80 participating companies. High school students can also earn service hours by serving as “tech steppers” during the ATC Open House on April 6.
13. Business Highlight – No highlight at this time
14. SESIR Update (*Brian Bush*) – The campus had three unusual security incidents recently after many years without any: a non-student was found carrying a concealed firearm, a student was caught with a vape, and another student unintentionally brought a knife to school in a bag. No one was ever in danger, and everything was handled quickly. Things have since returned to normal.

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16. Announcements (*Simeka Love*) – Jean Mason received a \$500 Coconut Creek grant. Senior Exhibition on February 4th, 9–11 AM, inviting partners to attend or judge. Incoming freshmen camp will be funded and is set for July 27–30, with math assessments and enrichment programs offered throughout the school year.

17. Adjournment (*Simeka Love*) – See below.

Meeting Adjournment:

Motion: Dulce Barrios motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 AM. Motion seconded by Neeta Rancourt. Motion passed unanimously.

Submitted by,

Dulce Barrios, Secretary

Approval Date: 3/31/2026