



Board of Trustees

August 7, 2026
9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Board Advance

The Starting Gate at GreatHorse
128 Wilbraham Road, Hampden, Massachusetts

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|--|-------------------------------|
| 1. Call to Order | Melissa Alvarado, Board Chair |
| 2. Opening remarks | Melissa Alvarado, Board Chair |
| a. Board Chair Vision | |
| b. Goals and objectives for 2026-2027 | |
| c. Review of Committee Restructure | |
| d. Strategic Plan Update | |
| 3. Welcome & Introductions | Dr. Linda Thompson, President |
| a. Institutional Focus | |
| b. New Senior officers | |
| c. Organization Restructure | |
| d. Afternoon Conversation | |
| e. Open discussion | Board Members |
| 4. Advance the Region | |
| a. Welcome & Introductions | Dr. Linda Thompson, President |
| b. The State of Higher Education: Nation, Commonwealth, | Noe Ortega |
| c. and Western Massachusetts Region | |
| d. Economic Drivers, Workforce Needs, and the Role of | Aaron Vega |
| Higher Education in Western Massachusetts | |
| 5. Items for Discussion | |
| a) Facilitated Discussion- envisioning the future, | Dr. Christina Royal |
| potential shared opportunities, academic programs, CO-OP | |
| 6. Adjournment | |