

President's Cabinet Meeting Minutes

July 14, 2025

1. Student Guest: Teresa Duncan and George Meghabghab introduced Cole Smith, a rising 9th grader who just completed the Cyber Camp in Oak Ridge. Cole told the group that his favorite part of the camp was looking at maps of current cyber attacks. He is considering cyber defense as a possible career. He said the hardest part of the camp was the exercise where campers had to find hidden information. He found out about the camp from his father who works at Y-12. George pointed out that students are much more aware of the cyber landscape now than when the camps began six years ago. Now he has added the use of AI to show its growing influence.
2. Banner 8/9 SSB Update: Keri Phillips reported that test pages for Banner 9 SSB Finance, Employee, and General were rolled out today. The transition to Banner 9 is required since soon Ellucian will no longer support Banner 8. During the fall, both instances will live side-by-side to help smooth the transition while we learn the new system, and Banner 9 Student and Faculty are set for spring 2026 roll out. Keri will get some faculty to test it out this summer. She can add specific links to things that faculty access the most. Banner 9 allows for links to multiple calendars that users can subscribe to (for example, Athletics, Student Activities, Princess Theatre, Academics). The system also has a strong search feature.
3. RSCC/TCAT Harriman Partnership: TCAT Harriman President Chris Ayers joined Cabinet to brainstorm about potential ways that the two institutions might partner when their new campus is completed next door to RSCC. They will begin moving into the facility in summer 2026 and begin classes fall 2026. Marsha Mathews suggested that President Ayers meet with her and David Webb to lay out the best route to create a walkway between the campuses. Both institutions desire for TCAT students to feel welcome at RSCC and participate in a variety of activities and resources, such as athletics, food services, and student activities. President Ayers indicated that as many as 100 students on any given day might come to Roane State for lunch. He and Diane Ward discussed the potential to utilize the Mechatronics equipment in the Library building through an updated Mechatronics/Industrial Maintenance program. President Ayers and President Whaley will continue to lobby for changes in financial aid regulations that prevent TCAT graduates from receiving aid to move on to enroll in an Associate degree program. President Ayers also mentioned the four acres adjacent to Roane State's Morgan County campus that he had originally hoped to purchase for his truck driving program but now has a proposal in draft stages for a small two-classroom/flex lab building.

4. TBR Meeting Update: Dr. Whaley reported that TBR has requested that we combine the meeting with a ribbon cutting for the new campus, since the Regents will all be in attendance. We will try to get as many General Assembly and Campaign Cabinet members to attend as possible. A January 2026 event will now be a “grand opening.”
5. Safety/Security Update: Marsha Mathews reported that “crisis event” teams have been set up based upon the survey employees completed in RaiderNet. Each team has a designated team lead (and alternates) and a list of members. Some teams have already met to discuss their responsibilities and procedures in the event of a crisis. As teams hold their meetings, they will also come and report to President’s Cabinet. Marsha also reported that the employee badging committee will meet weekly. She has been informed that employees will be able to send in their photos electronically; however, they will need to follow specific instructions regarding background, etc.
6. Enrollment Update: Doug Wallace reported that the seven-day average, excluding dual enrollment/Middle College is +5%HC/+3% FTE. He also reported that dual enrollment and Middle College enrollment has begun to increase substantially after a slow start. Success coach appointments are up 28%. Summer enrollment is up; which is a traditional pre-cursor for fall. Given all of these factors, Doug is projecting an increase of 4%-6%.