

**BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION
REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION**

NO.: BHE 26-37

BOARD DATE: February 10, 2026

APPROVAL OF BRISTOL COMMUNITY COLLEGE MISSION AND VISION STATEMENTS

MOVED: The Board of Higher Education hereby approves the request of Bristol Community College to revise the College's mission and vision statement to read as follows:

Mission Statement

Bristol Community College transforms lives through education and workforce training, empowering every learner to achieve success. Guided by purpose and connected by community, we foster innovation, lifelong learning, and contribute to the economic growth of our region.

Vision Statement

Educating Minds. Enriching Lives. Strengthening our Communities.

The Board further authorizes the Commissioner to forward the same to the Secretary of Education, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 15A, Section 7.

VOTED: Motion adopted by the BHE on 2/10/2026.

Authority: Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 15A, Sections 7, 9(f), 9(l) and 22(l); BHE By-Laws, Article I, Section 3 and Article III.

Contact: Richard Riccardi, Sc.D., Deputy Commissioner for Academic Affairs and Student Success

Background

Bristol Community College Mission and Vision Statements

The Board of Higher Education (BHE) is responsible for reviewing and approving institutional mission statements. M.G.L. c. 15A, §9(e) and §22[n].

Bristol Community College began a review of its mission and vision statements because of the comprehensive and collaborative review process conducted as part of the development of the college's new Strategic Plan. Through extensive engagement with faculty, staff, students, trustees, and community partners, Bristol determined that its current mission and vision statements should be updated to clearly reflect Bristol's evolving role in advancing education, workforce development, and community impact across Southeastern Massachusetts.

Current and New Mission and Vision Statements

Bristol's current Mission Statement reads as follows:

Bristol Community College provides an accessible, innovative and inclusive education that prepares students to navigate and succeed in our ever-changing world.

Bristol's proposed Mission Statement, which was approved by the campus Board of Trustees on October 6, 2025, reads as follows:

Bristol Community College transforms lives through education and workforce training, empowering every learner to achieve success. Guided by purpose and connected by community, we foster innovation, lifelong learning, and contribute to the economic growth of our region.

Bristol's current Vision Statement reads as follows:

Advancing a vibrant, diverse community through education, learner by learner.

Bristol's proposed Vision Statement, which was approved by the campus Board of Trustees on October 6, 2025, reads as follows:

Educating Minds. Enriching Lives. Strengthening our Communities.

Rationale for Change

The proposed Mission and Vision Statements better align with the college's strategic priorities and their commitment to transforming lives through accessible, innovative, and purpose-driven learning experiences. The proposed statements also capture the college's mission-centered identity and its integral role in supporting student success, workforce readiness, and regional vitality. Finally, the proposed statements will serve as a foundation for Bristol's new Strategic Plan and will guide institutional decision-making, resource allocation, and program development in the years ahead.