



State board must approve Spalding as RCCC president

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The State Board of Community Colleges will consider approving Carol Spalding as the next president of Rowan-Cabarrus Community College on Friday.

RCCC trustees announced Spalding, open campus president of Florida Community College in Jacksonville, was the most qualified candidate for its presidency on June 9. But that selection was contingent upon the approval by the North Carolina Community College System.

That approval seems to be a formality, said RCCC spokesman Jeff Lowrance, given the State Board's approval of Spalding as one of the college's final three finalists earlier in the selection process.

N.C. Community College System spokesperson Audrey Kates Bailey said the board does not usually meet in June, unless there are pressing issues that can't wait until July, such as the selection of college presidents.

The State Board will convene at 9 a.m. Friday in Raleigh, communicating with four community colleges, including RCCC, via videoconference.

RCCC officials will participate in the meeting in an Information Highway classroom in the Cabarrus Business & Technology Center in Concord.

The virtual meeting will be a first for the board, Bailey said, noting it will help ensure a quorum and save money in terms of fuel and lodging expenses.

The discussion of community college presidents will occur during the personnel committee report, Bailey said.

If given the green light Friday, Spalding's tenure will begin in early to mid-August, succeeding Richard Brownell who retired May 31. Longtime senior administrator Jerry Chandler will continue serving as president in the interim.

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