

President's Report

TO: Atlantic Cape Community College Board of Trustees
FROM: Dr. Barbara Gaba
DATE: June 23, 2026
(Mays Landing Campus)

Featured Stories

Commencement Ceremony

- Atlantic Cape celebrated its 59th Annual Commencement Ceremony at Ovation Hall in Ocean Casino Resort on May 21. The Class of 2026 consisted of 872 students, ranging in age from 17 to 71, who were awarded over 900 associate degrees and certificates. The ceremony was attended by 410 graduates and their families, who gathered to celebrate their academic achievements.
- Keynote speaker Jacquelyn Suarez, the commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, congratulated the graduates and encouraged them to let their dreams take flight, despite any seemingly impossible odds. She compared their journeys to that of the honeybee, which, despite its anatomical challenges, overcomes its limitations to fly and fulfill its purpose. Suarez urged all graduates to defy the naysayers and strive to make a positive difference in the world.

Academy of the Culinary Arts Award Ceremony

- The *Academy of Culinary Arts Awards Ceremony* was held on May 20 to recognize students with medals and certificates for completing their programs.

Nursing Pinning Ceremony

- The *Nurses Pinning Ceremony* was held on May 20 for the nursing graduates who received their pins, took a vow to care for the sick, recited the Florence Nightingale pledge, and received awards and honors.

MOA Civil Rights Compliance Review

- The college has successfully completed the Methods of Administration (MOA), a federal annual local level compliance review required by the US Dept of Education, Office for Civil Rights (OCR) for recipients operating career and technical education programs. The MOA compliance review was conducted from April 2025-May2025 to ensure that programs, services, and activities were open to all students. Under the leadership of Dr. Natalie Devonish, many members of the faculty and staff worked cooperatively to address the issues in the review.



Inlet Community Development Corporation (CDC)

- The Inlet Community Development Corporation hosted the *NRTC Investors Appreciation Reception* on June 4, which showcased the projects and programs completed by the four Community Development Corporations in Atlantic City. The event included testimonials, photos, and success stories that highlighted the impact of Neighborhood Revitalization Tax Credit (NRTC) investments. Additionally, attendees were given a tour of local revitalization projects for NRTC representatives.

Student Affairs and Enrollment Management

- The Student Affairs, Enrollment Management, and Finance divisions hosted their annual end-of-year convening and professional development day for staff, on June 4. The event provided division-wide professional development, college updates, and team-building opportunities. **Dr. Gaba** delivered remarks

and was recognized and celebrated by the divisions in honor of her retirement and years of service.

- The Enrollment Services Department reported that Dual Credit enrollment reached 1,335 students, resulting in 8,445 credits generated and approximately \$574,260 in revenue.

Community Outreach – Atlantic County

- The Atlantic Cape Community Outreach team set up an information table at the *100 Days of Summer Celebration* on May 22. This event allowed local vendors to showcase their businesses while providing families with a fun-filled day. Activities included carnival games, a petting zoo, giveaways, and access to community resources.
- Atlantic Cape's Outreach team partnered with Men of Atlantic Cape (MAC) to sponsor lunch for a *MAC Mentoring Session* at Atlantic City High School on May 27. During this session, MAC engaged with students from the Atlantic City High School Radio Club. They facilitated a thoughtful discussion on the difference between sight and vision, focusing on goal-setting, critical thinking, and developing a clear vision for future success. The students were encouraged to recognize the value of higher education and received information about the opportunities available through Atlantic Cape and MAC.
- Atlantic Cape's Outreach team and the AELP program collaborated with Pleasantville High School to host a *Multilingual Shadowing Day* for 32 ESL students on May 27. Participants shadowed AELP students, learned about college life, and interacted with Admissions, Financial Aid, Career Services, and Athletics teams. Breakfast and lunch were provided, and an *ESL Parent Information Workshop* was held to engage families and share educational resources.
- Atlantic Cape continued its partnership with Jewish Family Service in May, providing free bags of food to support the basic needs and wellness of students and staff. A total of 58 individuals received these bags, which contained meat, fresh vegetables, bread, milk, and juice. This initiative aimed to reduce food insecurity and promote student success.

- The College welcomed 30 seventh-grade students from Pennsylvania Avenue School to the Atlantic City Campus on May 29. The students toured the culinary kitchens, the Mock Casino, the Health Professions Institute wing, and the library. They also learned about the Early College/Dual Credit Program, the admissions process, and received resource bags from Atlantic Cape.
- Atlantic Cape's Outreach team hosted an information table at the Pennsylvania Avenue School *Preschool End-of-Year Celebration* on May 29. The event provided families with educational resources and activities while celebrating student accomplishments.
- The College partnered with AtlantiCare to set up an information table at the *Unity in the Community Walk to End Gun Violence* in Pleasantville on June 6. The department actively participated in the walk and shared information about educational opportunities at Atlantic Cape, as well as other community resources available to attendees.
- Atlantic Cape's Outreach team spoke at the La Casa Dominicana ESL Graduation Ceremony on June 10. They congratulated the graduates on their achievements and shared information about furthering their education through Atlantic Cape's academic programs and workforce development certifications.
- The College also hosted an information table and provided snacks at the *Día del Niño* event in Pleasantville on June 13. The event celebrated children and offered families a free day of activities, entertainment, and community resources.

Community Outreach – Cape May

- The Non-Profit Resource Center at Cape May County Campus, in collaboration with the Cape May County Chambers, is offering two free seminars for local nonprofit organizations. The first seminar, which focused on marketing and social media strategies for nonprofits, took place on June 4. The second seminar is scheduled for October. Athletics

- Atlantic Cape's Archery team and the Atlantic City Recreation Division collaborated to offer archery lessons to the youth of Atlantic City every Tuesday. Atlantic Cape's archery coaches taught participants the fundamental skills of the sport, placing a strong emphasis on safe equipment handling and proper shooting techniques. The program concluded on June 23, 2026, after providing local youth with valuable instruction and hands-on experience in archery.