

APPROVED MINUTES OF INFORMATION SESSION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE COMMUNITY
COLLEGE DISTRICT OF THE COUNTY OF MACOMB

An open information session of the Board of Trustees of the Community College District of the County of Macomb was held Wednesday, November 20, 2024, at 6:00 p.m., in Room 109 of the University Center, Professional Development Center, Center Campus, 44575 Garfield Road, Clinton Township, Michigan.

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Lorenzo at 6:05 p.m.

2.0 ROLL CALL

Present:

Katherine Lorenzo, Chairperson

Frank Cusumano, Vice Chairperson

Kristi Dean, Secretary

Joan Flynn, Trustee

Shelley Vitale, Trustee

Vincent Viviano, Trustee - Arrived at 7:29pm

Absent:

Roseanne DiMaria, Treasurer

Also present:

James Sawyer, President

Libby Argiri, Executive Vice President, Administration

Christian Bonett, Commander, College Police

Kevin Chandler, Vice President, College Advancement & Community Relations

Tiffany Goliday, Executive Director, IDEA

Leslie Kellogg, Provost, Vice President of the Learning Unit

Deb Mende, Executive Director, Office of the President

Jeffrey Steele, General Counsel, Office of General Counsel

Patsy Tannahill, Executive Assistant to the President and Board of Trustees

3.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION by Cusumano, supported by Flynn, to approve the agenda as presented.

ALL IN FAVOR:

AYES: Cusumano, Flynn, Dean, Vitale, Lorenzo

NAYS:

ABSENT: DiMaria, Viviano

MOTION CARRIED.

4.0 AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

None.

5.0 REVIEW OF AGENDA ITEMS AND MATERIALS

Trustee Cusumano asked how many students are being serviced by the UWill contract. President Sawyer stated 407 students are registered for UWill.

Trustee Cusumano asked what Agenda Item 11.4, Resolution for Summer Property Tax Levy, allow the college to do? Libby Argiri, executive vice president of administration, stated it allows the college to collect the summer property tax.

Trustee Dean asked if there is a fee involved in the tax collection? Executive vice president Argiri stated the college is required to pay a fee to the townships within the county at a rate of \$0.0685 of taxes collected.

Trustee Flynn asked in what state is Spektrix Ticketing Services located? Executive vice president Argiri stated New York, New York.

Trustee Flynn asked why the services provided by UWill were not bid out for renewal? President Sawyer explained that the college is satisfied with the services, and the pricing remains consistent, reflecting fair market value.

Trustee Vitale requested a review of UWill's performance. President Sawyer shared that it has been very successful, with top student concerns being stress, anxiety, and depression. The service is highly confidential, analyzed at a macro level, and received a rating by users of 8.85 out of 10.

Trustee Dean questioned the 2.4% fee associated with the Spektrix Ticket System on gross sales exceeding \$1.5 million. Vice President, Kevin Chandler, explained the fee reflects tiered pricing for the e-commerce services provided. The costs cover robust 24/7 hosting, maintenance, and IT security. Executive vice president Argiri stated it would be far more expensive to replicate internally. President Sawyer stated despite the added fee, the higher sales result in a net revenue gain for the college.

Trustee Dean asked if instead of the cargo vans in agenda item 11.3.B being used to pick-up materials locally, could these materials be delivered? Executive vice president Argiri stated the cargo vans are used for local pick-ups, such as addressing immediate needs like a water leak, for example.

Trustee Dean asked if the college would receive all equipment shown in agenda item 11.3.A? Director of the Public Service Institute, Michael Lopez, confirmed that all items in the package would be received and noted they match equipment found on local fire engines. He added that with this purchase, students will gain exposure to both Holmatro and Hurst brands used in the community.

Trustee Flynn asked about the purchase being sole sourced. Director Lopez explained it is sole source because Holmatro has only one regional distributor.

Trustee Dean asked how much funding has been received and expensed from the Navy Project? Executive vice president Argiri stated she does not have the exact figure. The first phase of funding that

was approved is \$9.6 million which covers renovations of the building, equipment purchases, staffing and training.

Trustee Vitale asked why the academic semester start and end dates do not align with other local universities. President Sawyer stated the length of the terms are determined by Macomb Community College Faculty Organization (MCCFO) contract. The fall and winter semester are 16 weeks with the summer session having two different start times and varying lengths. Area colleges and universities have different start and stop dates.

6.0 ISSUES AND UPDATES

6.1 President's Report

President Sawyer congratulated Trustee Flynn and Trustee DiMaria on their reelection.

Closed Session

We need to hold a closed session with the Board of Trustees pursuant to MCL 15.268(e) to discuss collective bargaining matters.

Enrollment Update

As of Monday Winter, 2025 credit hours are up 4.2% compared to last year, headcount is up 5.9%.

"Received" Financial Assistance programs, enrollment for Fall 2024:

- Macomb Tuition Advantage Program: 2212 registered for 12+, current receiving 228
- MI Reconnect: 1758 eligible, 625 receiving
- MI Reconnect 21-24: 940 registered, 519 receiving
- Community College: Guarantee: 1289 registered for 12+, current receiving 535

Personnel

None.

Administrative – Information Items

Agenda item 10.1 covers design, construction management, and contractor services for the Michigan Maritime Manufacturing (M3) Navy Project, funded by a grant. IDS will provide design, engineering, and construction administration services for renovations, to accommodate three classrooms, 24 CNC machines in a high bay area, 24 welding labs, and modifications to the MTEC building's electrical, ventilation, air conditioning, and HVAC systems. The total cost is \$2,172,684, including all construction, contractor, and vendor expenses, is in compliance with the Purchasing Policy.

Purchases

Agenda item 11.3A pertains to the purchase of Holmatro Pentheon extrication equipment through Perkins Grant funding. These tools are vital for emergency responder training. While the Fire Academy currently uses Hurst equipment, input from the Fire Training Advisory Board and County Chiefs Association highlighted that many local agencies now use Holmatro equipment. Adding Holmatro tools ensures cadets receive relevant training. Impact Rescue LLC, the sole authorized dealer for Holmatro products in Michigan, will supply the equipment for \$64,295.

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Agenda item 11.3B covers the purchase of two 2024 Ford Transit 250 cargo vans. These vans will replace two 2001 Econoline vans, which are in poor condition with extensive rust, holes in the floorboards and cargo area, and over 250,000 miles combined. Due to these issues, replacement is necessary. Pricing was obtained through the State of Michigan's MIDEAL consortium, with the lowest price of \$98,198 from Lunghamer Ford of Owosso, Michigan.

Agenda item 11.3C discusses the Spektrix Ticketing System for the Macomb Center for Performing Arts (MCPA). After a successful one-year trial, Spektrix has been identified as the best platform to meet MCPA's evolving ticketing and operational needs. The system has shown superior performance, particularly in marketing functionalities that boosted ticket sales and customer satisfaction. This contract was competitively bid in 2023, with Spektrix offering the lowest cost that met college specifications. The three-year contract totals \$194,000, including a \$28,000 multi-year discount and an estimate for fees associated with sales exceeding \$1.5 million.

Agenda item 11.3D addresses the annual renewal of the UWill contract for student mental health and wellness support. The administration recommends continuing the contract to support the behavioral health of Macomb students, with 407 registered. The top three reasons students use UWill are stress, anxiety, and depression. UWill exclusively partners with colleges to enhance mental health support, which is a critical issue for student success. The service has received positive feedback, with students rating it 8.85/10. Many students use UWill as an interim solution while navigating insurance or securing long-term support. The annual contract totals \$204,712, and the detailed rationale for the renewal is included in the board packet.

Administrative – Action Items

Agenda item 11.4 is a resolution for the summer property tax levy, an annual resolution authorizing the collection of property taxes on the summer tax bill.

Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access (IDEA) Update

- A copy of the Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access (IDEA) report is available, which includes the IDEA statement, framework, and demographic data.
- The Town Hall meeting on October 30 focused on our IDEA work.
- The Macomb County Chamber of Commerce hosted its annual Diversity Day, with the theme "Creating a Culture of Belonging." Tiffany Goliday, our Executive Director of IDEA, moderated a panel discussion on belonging with local business owners and professionals.
- Macomb Multicultural International Initiatives (MMII) held its first World Kindness Day event, with 127 participants. This year's focus was on hearing disabilities, exploring how the College community can better understand and support individuals with hearing loss, limitations, or deafness.
- Macomb now has three employee resource groups (ERGs): The Black Employee Network, The LGBTQ+ Connection, and The Dakota Employee Resource Group. ERGs allow employees to connect with others who share similar affinities or experiences.

D3C3 Update

Representatives from the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation met with the D3C3 presidents to discuss the mobility initiative and expressed openness to other ideas. Macomb hosted the D3C3 Fall in-person convening, and several staff members met with the third-party evaluator, the American Institute for

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Research (AIR). The second Dual Enrollment Family Information Night, which drew over 160 attendees, was held for students, parents, and influencers. Progress continues on reimagining Counseling & Advising, and information webinars for credit for prior learning have been well received, with plans to expand to faculty and staff in Winter 2025.

Michigan Maritime Manufacturing Initiative (M3) aka Navy Sub Industrial Base project

The M3 (Michigan Maritime Manufacturing) initiative successfully launched on November 12, with both the CNC and Welding cohorts running at full capacity. A ceremony was held on November 8 at the MTEC, where Rear Admiral Pete Small and County Executive Hackel delivered program remarks. While a few facility details are still being worked out, we are operational. The project has required significant effort from Macomb staff in a short time frame. Appreciation was expressed for the extra efforts of everyone involved in ensuring the timely launch of the initiative.

College Work in Cyber Security and Artificial Intelligence (AI)

The college collaborated with the Macomb County Planning and Economic Development team to host a cybersecurity event. Ellen Lux presented on the College's Cyber programs and shared results from the recent Fueling the IT Talent Pipeline Grant needs assessment, while WCE staff promoted workforce offerings. Additionally, a new Continuing Education AI Workshop was launched. On October 21, WCE-BIT delivered the first of four sessions of the "Integrating AI" workshop, offering a comprehensive overview of AI technologies, applications, and ethical considerations. Participants will gain practical strategies for incorporating AI tools to enhance productivity, decision-making, and innovation through hands-on exercises, real-world case studies, and expert insights.

Innovate & Build Event to Highlight Manufacturing & Design Pathways

The event, held in partnership with Macomb County Planning and Economic Development and Macomb Intermediate School District (MISD), successfully brought together industry professionals to support student engagement in manufacturing and design, building on the countywide MFG Day. It attracted 90 attendees, including students, their parents, and 30 representatives from companies and the community. Participants toured the T Building, learning about programs such as the M3 and MAP+ grants, as well as offerings from Michigan Works, Admissions, and Ferris State University. Macomb County Executive Mark Hackel highlighted industry success stories, emphasizing the event's focus on collaboration and future pathways in manufacturing and design.

Second High School Accounting Leadership Conference

We successfully hosted a group of high school students enrolled in an accounting course to explore career pathways in the field of accounting. Macomb team members highlighted the financial benefits of attending community college to earn college credits at a fraction of the cost. Over 70 high school students attended, along with 30 Intermediate Accounting students and 10 current Macomb students. Attendees learned about various certifications in accounting and participated in a Q&A session with past Macomb students who are current or former accounting tutors. Professor John Chirco, the keynote speaker, shared his experiences as an auditor, while Professor Mary Miodowski led an interactive activity emphasizing the importance of understanding "your numbers."

Campaign Rentals

We had one additional campaign rental prior to the election, with President Elect Trump visiting on November 1. It was a busy season with multiple campaign events, as well as planning for events that

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ultimately did not take place. Special thanks were given to Nicole McKee, who leads these visits, as well as Chief Leavens, College Police, Tom Zalewski, the facilities staff, John Cunningham and the Expo staff, and other Macomb staff who made these events happen. It is important for the college to provide rental space for these campaign events, allowing local residents to participate in the election process.

Comedy & Cocktails

The college hosted the Comedy & Cocktails event on October 18, with 320 attendees. The event raised \$155,600, with net proceeds totaling \$104,000. Special thanks to Chairperson Lorenzo for being a sponsor.

Discover Macomb Community College

On November 9, the college highlighted various areas through several information sessions. The event attracted 52 prospective students and 58 guests, totaling 110 attendees.

Strategic Planning

The Strategic Planning Assembly was held on November 1, with approximately 200 staff and faculty participating. The purpose of the assembly was to review the process used over the last six years. The feedback gathered will be used to revise the process moving forward.

The Faculty & Staff Engagement Survey was conducted to gather feedback, with 889 responses, representing a 46% response rate. This was an improvement over the 2018 survey, which received 698 responses and a 35% response rate.

Awarding Degrees

Records & Registration has launched a credentialing campaign using enhanced technologies to identify students who earned but did not receive a credential before leaving. The initial phase, focusing on Associate of Arts and Science degrees, audited recent students and resulted in over 100 opting in. Winter efforts will target students who stopped attending 3-5 years ago, with this group needing to opt out of the degree.

Veterans

Work continues to support Macomb's 1,352 enrolled veterans, service members, and their families, with 23.5% of them being new students for Fall 2024. On Veterans Day (11/11), County Executive Mark Hackel hosted a WJR Veterans Day Live Broadcast, during which Kara Fields, Macomb's Director of Veteran & Military Services (VMS), highlighted the college's commitment to supporting student veterans, service members, and their families. She emphasized the importance of Macomb's personalized approach in connecting students to vetted resources at the right time.

Student Fraud Update

A summary of the actions taken, along with details of the suspected and confirmed fraudulent accounts, was provided to the Office of the Inspector General (OIG). The OIG commended Macomb for its proactive response, noting that the college took significantly more action than most organizations typically do in cases of suspected fraud. This information has also been shared with the college auditors, and Macomb is awaiting their response to close out the single audit report. Additionally, the OIG conducted a training session on campus for 55 staff members.

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Lease for Temporary Classroom Space During South Campus M Building Renovation

Macomb has been collaborating with Plante Moran Realpoint to identify and negotiate potential locations for leased space during the renovation of the SM building. The goal is to bring a recommendation to the Board for approval at either the December or January meeting. Timely action is crucial to secure a space that meets the specific needs of the programs and is conveniently located near campus for the benefit of students.

Athletics

- Women's Cross Country won the Eastern Conference Championship
- Men's Cross Country won the Eastern Conference Championship
- Men's Cross Country finished 10th in the country at the National Championship
- Volleyball advanced to the NJCAA Region 12 District Playoffs, but unfortunately lost.
- Men's Basketball began the season ranked #4 in the country and has moved up to #3 as of 11/18/24.

ITC

In the summer of 2021, I informed the Board of Trustees about inquiries regarding ITC's plan to run high voltage power lines on college property. At that time, the Board of Trustees strongly opposed granting an easement for the line, primarily due to concerns about right of way. I communicated the college's position to Henry Ford Macomb Hospital, the entity making the inquiry at the time. Recently, I've been approached by others and hearing discussions regarding the college's stance on the ITC line. ITC is now preparing to install the line, planning to route it down 19 Mile Road. I have also heard that some on the Clinton Township board are unhappy with this route. I want to ensure the Board of Trustees is aware of these ongoing discussions and to reaffirm that the college will maintain its position of not providing an easement for this project.

Holiday Celebration

We are planning to host a small holiday celebration for the trustees following the December meeting, similar to last year. You are welcome to invite a guest. Please let Patsy know if you and your guest will be attending, so we can make the necessary arrangements.

December BOT Meeting

- Purchases:
 - Live Chat
 - Accessible Content Software Solution
 - Syllabus Management Software
 - MCPA Website
 - Penetration testing contract renewal
 - Servo-U Ventilator System
 - Security Camera upgrades - \$2,500,000
 - Parking Lots 2 & 3 - \$7,500,000 due to the large size of the lot and the drainage that is needed not only for the lot for other areas of campus.

7.0 CLOSED SESSION

MOTION by Cusumano, supported by Vitale, to go into closed session pursuant to MCL 15.268 to discuss personnel matters.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Cusumano, Vitale, Dean, Flynn, Lorenzo

NAYS:

ABSENT: DiMaria, Viviano

MOTION CARRIED.

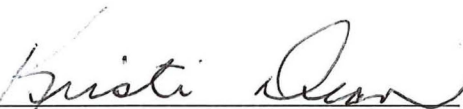
8.0 ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Cusumano, supported by Dean, to adjourn the meeting.

MOTION CARRIED.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT OF THE COUNTY OF MACOMB BOARD OF TRUSTEES


Secretary