

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, February 15, 2023 at 6:00 p.m., in Room 315/317 of the John Lewis Conference Center, South Campus, 14500 E. Twelve Mile Road, Warren, Michigan.

1.0 [CALL TO ORDER](#)

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Lorenzo at 6:00 p.m.

Chairperson Lorenzo called for a moment of silence for the tragedy at Michigan State University.

2.0 [ROLL CALL](#)

Present:

Katherine Lorenzo, Chairperson  
Frank Cusumano, Vice Chairperson  
Kristi Dean, Secretary  
Roseanne DiMaria, Treasurer  
Joan Flynn, Trustee  
Shelley Vitale, Trustee  
Vincent Viviano, Trustee (arrived at 7 p.m.)

Absent: None

Also present:

James Sawyer, President  
Elizabeth Argiri, Executive Vice President, Business  
Kevin Chandler, Vice President, College Advancement & Community Relations  
Joline Davis, Vice President, Human Resources  
Leslie Kellogg, Provost, Vice President of Learning Unit  
Sharon Kowal, Assistant to the President  
William Leavens, Chief of College Police  
Marie Pritchett, Dean, Arts and Sciences  
Jeffrey Steele, General Counsel, Office of General Counsel

3.0 [APPROVAL OF AGENDA](#)

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

ALL IN FAVOR:

AYES: DiMaria, Flynn, Cusumano, Dean, Vitale, Lorenzo

ABSENT: Viviano

NAYS:

MOTION CARRIED.

4.0 [AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION](#)

None.

## 5.0 REVIEW OF AGENDA ITEMS AND MATERIALS

Trustee Flynn Mentioned that the four purchases on the agenda are from vendors outside of Michigan. She understands why, but still doesn't like it.

## 6.0 ISSUES AND UPDATES

### 6.1 President's Report

Hosting Swearing-in Ceremony of Congressman John James – Dr. Sawyer shared with the trustees that the college is hosting the swearing-in ceremony for Congressman John James on Friday, February 24, 2023, 10 a.m., south campus, K building. Doors open at 9 a.m. Please RSVP to S. Kowal.

Enrollment – Winter enrollment numbers as of February 13, 2023 – credit hours are down 2.1 percent compared to last year and headcount is down 3.2 percent.

- Futures for Frontliners – 501 students have registered to date for winter 2023 term
- Michigan Reconnect – 1,356 students have registered to date for winter 2023 term

Hosting LEO Event for Macomb County, February 16 – Dr. Sawyer said the Governor's office extended the opportunity to Macomb County to have Director Susan Corbin, Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity meet with Macomb County leadership to talk about the Governor's upcoming budget and answer any questions. The County invited the attendees, including representatives from the region (Oakland and Wayne Counties) as well as himself, Patrick Rouse and Nicole McKee.

New Hires – Two recommendations: Director of Records and Registration (due to a retirement) and Executive Director of IDEA, Tiffany Goliday.

Tuition Rate for 2023-24 – Dr. Sawyer said he and L. Argiri presented the rationale for the 2023-24 tuition to the board in January and it is up for a vote on the agenda.

Purchase Items - Two Perkins Grant Fund purchases: 1) A Tinius Olsen Pendulum Impact Tester and 2) Six Augmented Reality HoloLens Headset and Software for the health labs. Two additional purchases for 1) Renewal of Storage Area Network (SAN) Support with Dell from Austin, Texas and 2) the Applicant Tracking System (replacement) for HR as a part of their reorganization.

D3C3 Grant – Dr. Sawyer announced that the college did receive formal approval from the Ballmer Foundation for \$3 million bringing the total amount of the grant to \$4.7 million for three years. The college's focus is on student success, K-12 relations and mobility. We have started assembling the team and are beginning to implement the grant and will be ready to go in the fall.

EMS Grant - Michigan Department of Health and Human Services – Dr. Sawyer shared that the college received a \$137,109 grant from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services that will provide 30 full scholarships to the paramedic program. The primary goal of the grant is to help fill the need for additional workers in this area.

ACCT National Legislative Conference, Washington DC, Feb. 6-7 – Dr. Sawyer and Nicole McKee attended the Association of Community College Trustee's National Legislative Conference. They met with our representatives and senators and staff. They attended presentations during the plenary sessions put on

by ACCT. The most encouraging news is that it sounds as though the short-term PELL is going to be approved. This is federal financial aid for short-term workforce programs that meet certain criteria. This is a big plus for our students should it pass nationally.

Lorenzo Cultural Center Exhibit – Creative Michigan: Making the Mitten Modern – Show runs from February 25 through April 29. The exhibit explores the period of 1945-1969 and the advancement that took place during one of the largest periods of growth and creativity in Michigan's history. There will be artifacts, displays, events and speakers during that period. It is open Tuesday thru Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

March Meeting Agenda – Dr. Sawyer anticipates the following items will be on the March 15 board agenda:

- 2023 Annual Renovation Program
- Replacement of the elevator in CM/MCPA building
- Resurface parking lots 11 and 12 at south campus in preparation of the reopening of the Skilled Trades and Advanced Technology Center
- Extension of the Ferrilli Sharepoint managed services contract to support the MyMacomb portal

Questions:

Trustee Cusumano asked if the college had ongoing training of active shooter drills? Chief Leavens said the police department offers an Emergency Preparedness class to students, faculty and staff. That class includes Active Shooter Response training, Stop the Bleed, AED and Narcan. The officers in the police department have progressive and ongoing Advanced Response training and patrol rifles with scopes.

Trustee Cusumano asked if the emergency messaging system is tested periodically? Chief Leavens said yes, it is, we just tested it with a shelter in place drill and use it for our weather and fire drills as well. We utilize Informacast to send alerts to the college's entire phone system and RAVE is the system used to push out messaging to cell phones and email addresses. Dr. Sawyer said we have recently added cameras, the blue light system and expanded the use of prox cards for access to buildings.

Chief Leavens said we encourage people to take the Emergency Preparedness classes. They are offered often, and our hope is that as many people as possible take advantage of them. Chairperson Lorenzo and several trustees expressed an interest in taking the training.

Trustee Cusumano asked if we had partnerships with local municipalities for EMS transport? Chief said the college has invested in a really appropriate communications system. The police department can flip a channel and be in immediate contact with surrounding communities, not just Warren and Clinton Township.

## 6.2 [Arts and Sciences Department Update](#)

Dr. Kellogg said she is very excited for Dr. Marie Pritchett to present on the arts and sciences division; what we have to offer, a bit about the structure but also on some of the wonderful enriching learning activities that the department and our students have the opportunity to participate. In addition, we have four students who availed themselves to those opportunities and want to share how those learning

experiences enriched their lives. Dr. Pritchett gave her presentation and then invited the students to share their experiences at Macomb Community College.

- Ally Nash – Shared her experiences attending Macomb Community College and being a member of the Macomers.
- Carrie Sylvester – Shared what it was like for her as a returning student attending college again after 30 years and participating in the Community Leadership Practicum.
- Aaron Hedblad – Shared his experiences in the Study Abroad program.
- Kaitlyn Hammond – Shared her experiences in Macomb’s pre-social work program and her Community Leadership Practicum.

Trustee Cusumano engaged in conversation with the students about their thoughts or ideas on how the board or college could do better. The responses were all positive. Trustee Cusumano asked if they like in person or online classes better? The responses were mixed, depending on the student’s personal situation. One student found in person better suited for her and others found online courses beneficial due to their work schedules and life situations. Trustee Cusumano said putting aside the challenges of Covid he asked if they were able to complete in a fair amount of time? The responses were mixed.

Dr. Gary Flemming, faculty, shared that at one time, there were more Study Abroad programs offered by the college. We are the only community college that has its own Study Abroad program that are fully articulated. Also, there is a Study Abroad Fund used to help students pay for the opportunity to have this experience and they are always willing to take donations.

Trustee Flynn asked Dean Pritchett if the trips abroad that are offered to the community are in the arts and sciences department? Dean Pritchett said yes, there is an Art trip and some other opportunities available to the public.

Trustee Vitale said the art shows presented at the college are really amazing for the greater Detroit Metro area and she knows everyone’s time is tight, but there needs to be promoting of these events on the college’s website.

#### 7.0 CLOSED SESSION

There was no need for a closed session.

#### 8.0 ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by DiMaria, supported by Flynn, to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT OF THE COUNTY OF MACOMB BOARD OF TRUSTEES

---

Secretary