

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, December 13, 2023 at 6:00 p.m., in Room K315/317 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 6:05 p.m.

2.0 ROLL CALL

Present:

Katherine Lorenzo, Chairperson
Frank Cusumano, Vice Chairperson
Kristi Dean, Secretary
Roseanne DiMaria, Treasurer
Joan Flynn, Trustee
Shelley Vitale, Trustee

Absent:

Vincent Viviano, Trustee

Also present:

James Sawyer, President
Libby Argiri, Executive Vice President, Business
Kevin Chandler, Vice President, College Advancement & Community Relations
Joline Davis, Vice President, Human Resources
Tiffany Goliday, Executive Director, IDEA
Carrie Jeffers, Vice President, Student Services
Sharon Kowal, Executive Assistant to the President & Board of Trustees
William Leavens, Chief of College Police
Deb Mende, Executive Director, Office of the President
Gerri Pianko, Director, Budgets and Grants
Jeffrey Steele, General Counsel, Office of General Counsel

3.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

ALL IN FAVOR:

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

ABSENT: Viviano

NAYS:

MOTION CARRIED.

4.0 AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

None.

5.0 REVIEW OF AGENDA ITEMS AND MATERIALS

Trustee Dean asked for an explanation of the hiring process at the college. Human Resources Vice President Joline Davis provided a brief step by step overview of the process using the recently implemented applicant tracking system. Trustee Dean inquired further about the salary cap because she noted a discrepancy in the board material for one of the recommended new hires in the amount of \$4,000. She shared that the cover sheet the board received indicates a recommended starting salary of \$76,000. But within the material submitted, (the candidates resume and the job description they are applying to are included in the board material) the salary range only goes to \$72,000, where does that additional \$4,000 come from? VP Davis explained it depends on the job and the salary grid of that particular collective bargaining agreement. Trustee Dean asked why the job description for the Instructor of Business Law has a hiring range of \$60,988-\$72,912 but her recommended salary is \$76,193? VP Davis said she will investigate and get her an answer.

Trustee Dean said another recommended new hire is the Instructor of Exercise Science. On his website he is already publicizing he is a professor at Macomb, does he already work for the college? Dr. Sawyer responded that he is an adjunct professor.

Trustee Dean added to her concerns about the recommended hire for the Instructor of Business Law because of her current position working in the office of the Friend of the Court.

Trustee Cusumano asked who comprises a hiring committee for full time faculty positions? VP Davis said full time faculty, it is in their collective bargaining agreement, that they select the hiring committee. Trustee Cusumano said so it is one hundred percent faculty who go through the process. VP Davis said the hiring committee selects at least two individuals and give their recommendations to the dean. The deans have a separate process. They review those applicants and give their recommendation to the president. Trustee Cusumano asked how often does it occur for a dean not to accept the hiring committee's recommendations? VP Davis said the deans review the recommendation and if they do not accept it they will ask for a second candidate. Trustee Cusumano said it's part of the collective bargaining agreement that they filter through the candidates, is there anyone in the president's office that is involved in auditing that? VP Davis said no, but the new collective bargaining has a section added that if the hiring committee unanimously agrees an associate dean or dean can be an observer on the hiring committee.

Dr. Sawyer said while that salary range is on the job description, from a hiring perspective, it is not necessarily the cap of the whole grid. Trustee Dean seemed concerned that the board did not receive the full grid. Dr. Sawyer said typically we don't publicize the whole grid for new hires because we don't hire people at the top of the grid. There is some confusion about the salary for this instructor.

Trustee Dean inquired about the Instructor for Exercise Science moving from adjunct to full-time, his new salary could be a \$40,000 per year increase. What is he doing for that full time job versus being an adjunct? Dr. Sawyer said full time faculty have a lot more responsibility – higher teaching loads, curriculum, first day handouts, syllabi, serving in governance roles, etc. Trustee Dean said since he is replacing an instructor isn't the syllabi already determined or isn't there a global syllabus that has to be followed? Dr. Sawyer said the syllabi is determined by the full-time faculty. When a new faculty member is hired, they may have other ideas or thoughts on how to change things and we want them to manage that. Trustee Dean asked if the Instructor of Exercise Science has any experience with syllabi and rubrics? Dr. Sawyer doesn't know, but in general when we hire full time faculty, we are hiring subject matter expertise, they are required to have a master's degree in the subject matter they are teaching. That is required by the Higher Learning Commission. The pedagogy and teaching skills are taught here at the college through the faculty academy. They have a probationary committee where they work with two full time faculty members who will coach and guide them on processes and things they may not be familiar with.

VP Davis provided Trustee Dean a response to the salary discrepancy for the Instructor of Business Law. When the position was posted the 2022-2023 salary grid was listed. When the offer was made, the salary came from the 2023-2024 salary grid, the one most recently negotiated, resulting in the salary increase. The increase in salaries is covered in the new budget, it was factored in with the new MCCFO contract. Trustee Dean expressed her concern that students will be impacted and asked if tuition was going to increase in January? Dr. Sawyer said he would assume yes, but we do not know yet. Trustee Dean stated she isn't going to vote for a tuition increase.

Trustee Flynn asked for additional details about the hiring process. VP Davis said the faculty on the hiring committee interview the candidates face to face. The hiring committee makes a recommendation to the dean. The dean will interview the candidates and make a recommendation to the provost, who approves or denies the person. The provost forwards selected candidate to the president, but he does not interview them. After that VP Davis receives the approval and her team does a salary determination. Dr. Sawyer added that although he approves them, but because everything up to the board is a recommendation, the board actually approves the new hires.

Trustee Dean asked why the board has to approve this? Dr. Sawyer said per the boards bylaws the board approves full time faculty and administrators. That policy was set years ago. The last update to the policy was in 2023, which may have been an amendment. The policy was adopted March 18, 1980, but the guidelines were largely adopted on November 16, 1971. Trustee Dean wants to look at that policy and asked for a printed copies to be given to the trustees at the next meeting.

Trustee Cusumano said he thinks the policy says the board reserves the right to make the final decision of full-time administrators and faculty. That authority has never been delegated under the law to the CEO. He asked Dr. Sawyer if to his knowledge does any community college or institution of higher learning delegate that authority or do they follow a pattern like ours? Dr.

Sawyer said it varies at every institution. At many institutions the president can make the final approval.

Trustee Cusumano asked if the hiring committee does the research into the bona fides of an applicant's resume? VP Davis said HR does a background check and employment verifications.

Chair Lorenzo said as part of the interview there is a classroom component. The committee looks at various aspects of the candidate, including a mock classroom, to see their teaching style. Sara Van Wormer, faculty member and MCCFO chief negotiator, added that the mock classrooms are also set up to see how the candidate handles behavioral problems as well as how the person handles a difficult topic to teach.

Trustee Vitale asked how many people are on the committee and is a different committee set up for each position? Dr. Sawyer responded that there are five faculty members on the committee and there is a different committee for each position.

Trustee Flynn asked if the hiring committee determines the salary? VP Davis said HR does based on the language in the collective bargaining agreement and the salary cap. Trustee Dean said so what is posted is not what is happening, you overrode the posting position. VP Davis explained that the posting was created in the 2022-2023 time period under that salary range. When the new contract was approved, there were increases to the new salary grid (2023-2024) that we had to abide by. Trustee Dean indicated her unhappiness with the new hire information provided in the board packet. She doesn't know what to agree to. They applied for the position at \$72,000 but now they are being offered \$76,000 when they were willing to accept a position for \$4,000 less. Then in January we are going to say we have to raise tuition because we are at a loss. She suggested taking this \$4,000 and put it back to not raising tuition. Dr. Sawyer explained to Trustee Dean that the \$72,000 relates to a step on a grid. The maximum level we hire a faculty member is a step 6. A step 6 on the 2022-2023 grid would have been the \$72,000 and is on the actual job posting to which the applicants applied. In September, when the board approved the collective bargaining agreement, the amount on the grid for a step 6 is now \$76,000. That is per the contract, that is where the applicant has to come in, we don't have the ability to make arbitrary changes for people being on step or in between steps it is a matter of putting them where they belong on the grid per the collective bargaining agreement.

Trustee Dean referenced the discussion held during the special board meeting on November 29th that she does not want to be asking stupid questions. The information we get in the board packet after you have done a month of research and we have to vote yes or no is insufficient. The board has to make a decision based on everything administration has been through, they have been through the hiring process, she hasn't but now the trustees have to make a decision. This isn't fair. She reiterated her request at the special meeting about being able to ask these kinds of questions before the board meetings. She needs to be able to ask these kinds of questions without looking stupid or angry at the process. Do you only want people to say yes to everything you bring to the board? Dr. Sawyer said before we ever bring a recommendation to the board a

tremendous amount of work takes place. We have outstanding people at the college doing their due diligence and the hard work before we bring an item to the board. So yes, by the time we get to the board he would expect a yes vote because we would not bring something to you if we were not convinced that it was the right thing to do. Behind the scenes oftentimes, before it ever gets to the board, we have disagreements, but we work collectively to reach an agreement on a recommendation that we are comfortable bringing to the board to approve. It is not a fair to expect you to deliberate every item, nobody knows everything, that is why the experts in their areas develop the recommendations that are ultimately brought forth to the board.

Trustee Dean asked if Dr. Sawyer thinks a 50-year-old board policy is still withstanding today? Dr. Sawyer said yes, it is the board policy. Trustee Dean asked if the board can modify that policy? Dr. Sawyer said absolutely the board can do whatever they want to do. Trustee Dean asked to have a copy of the hiring policy written 50 years ago? General Counsel Steele will bring the policy to the next board meeting. He added that a policy can be changed or amended with a majority vote of the board.

With respect to Trustee Dean's suggestion of being able to ask questions not in front of others, General Counsel Steele said that is Michigan law. The Open Meetings Act basically says any deliberations of the board need to be made in a public open session unless there are grounds to go into closed session. It would be difficult, if not impossible, to have you involved in asking questions and getting answers to them prior to a public board meeting. The information session is designed for trustees to ask questions and find things out before going into the public meeting that starts at 7:30 p.m. Trustee Dean agreed but the information they received was not exactly what they are going to be voting on because it was outdated. General Counsel Steele understands what you are saying about the salary grid, the amendment to the collective bargaining agreement was done in September so maybe this document hasn't caught up to the change that was made to the cba that the board ratified. Trustee Dean retorted but you are presenting it as that. VP Davis said she has no problem if Dr. Sawyer wants her to note on the board report stating there is a salary change based on a new salary grid. Trustee Dean said so what you are saying is a candidate applied for a position that was only \$72,000 and yet we are being asked to give them a \$4,000 raise because something happened in legal terms. Trustee Dean again expressed her discontent with the information provided in the board packet, she said that they have to read through it and say either yes or no and that type of discrepancy should have been looked at prior to it getting to the board.

Trustee Vitale said we received a copy of what was presented when the job was posted. We received the amount they are being hired in at and we were here at all the meetings to approve the negotiations that allowed the cap to happen at a certain time. Those three pieces of information together equal all the information we need to make a qualified decision on this. It is not that anything has been withheld and it is nothing that VP Davis has done incorrectly. We received all the information we need to make a qualified decision because we approved the collective bargaining agreement with the new salaries, we worked through that process.

Chair Lorenzo asked Dr. Sawyer to explain the salary grid. Dr. Sawyer said the grid was agreed to by the union and management and approved by the board. We are obligated to set the salary based on the grid. There are 19 steps in the faculty grid at each of those 19 graduations there is a different salary and per the language in the contract when we hire a new person to a full-time faculty position the max they can come in at is step 6. Now they may not start at a step 6 if they don't have the experience and that step 6 figure is whatever has been agreed to in the contract so we cannot arbitrarily lower or raise that number because it has to be that number.

Trustee Cusumano said he has done an extensive amount of research over the past ten years on higher education and institutions of higher education. He relates back to a case he read Drake vs. University of Michigan Board of Regents about allopathic versus homeopathic medicine being taught at the university's medical school. It actually plays into the case of Macomb Community College versus Kowalski. This system of higher education and its governance, this fourth branch of government, constitutional autonomy, exists according to the Drake opinion because when the legislature got involved in the running of the universities it was a "disaster." It has been this way for generations now. It is not a business model.

He is not diminishing what Trustee Dean is saying, she had information that was inconsistent in the package, had a question about it and we got into the tall grass of how this hiring practice actually works. He always goes back to the same phrase – but this is the way that it runs. He thinks everyone who has actually been involved in higher education in Michigan at least, understands that the process and procedure by which institutions run and do their hiring practices. If there was a problem with the step pay, where people fit on the grid, as he understood it from the board packet he received after the fact, the fiscal year impact was \$1.7 million for the MCCFO contract, but the time to object would have been then with a no vote because once the contract has been ratified then it is a solemn obligation of the tax district of Macomb Community College to pay that rate. A decision was made policy wise to put academics in charge of these institutions of higher education that filtered down to the community colleges. That is his understanding, if anyone has any different information feel free to share.

This is the way he has reconciled free market business principles with what goes on with these institutions. It is different. It is not that the faculty are voting on these, they are a filtering process by which applicants are vetted and then it comes before the board. One point he wants to close with is this – he has always made the comment that yes, the administration is looking for a yes vote they wouldn't be bringing it before the board if they didn't have good reason. He does sometimes think there should be more scholarly discussion on alternatives. In a broad policy manner, the reason why they did what they did, the Michigan legislature and Michigan constitution by creating this fourth branch of government, constitutional autonomy is because they wanted these institutions to move slowly and not be subject to quick changes. That is his view because if you look at it from a systemic point of view, process wise this would lead to an institution that is not very nimble and agile to change things. The only thing that can restrict the institution would be lack of funding, if you are in an economically devastated region then there

just isn't enough money to provide certain educational opportunities to the residents of the county. Some counties don't have community colleges. He thinks we have to put everything into context historically in order to develop an understanding of exactly why things are the way they are and the reason why it runs the way it runs.

At the last meeting he said he has all the confidence in the president of the college, he, more than anyone else from his view of the power dynamics at this institution, has the ability to right the ship and keep us on a straight course. There is no one else, he has been given that authority by the board and the only thing that has been reserved by the board is in the policies that are on the website. That doesn't mean he doesn't disagree with tuition increases he is famous for voting no on them. He thinks what Trustee Dean is saying is she would like the opportunity to spend some time with the president or someone at lower levels in order to have these things explained, like an issue she just mentioned, rather than just having it done at the meeting not with a quorum. Dr. Sawyer said that is certainly possible as long as we don't talk about specific people or specific decisions because that is where we break the OMA, can't deliberate. Trustee Cusumano thinks she is talking about an explanation for why the two numbers are divergent, which has been explained.

Trustee Vitale asked how can we bring things forward before a meeting? Trustee Dean stated that is what she was asking about at the special meeting on November 29, to have some time to ask questions before the meeting. General Counsel Steele said the issue is if we are having board members ask questions and administration giving answers, he would suggest that is probably deliberation, which must be done in an open public meeting under state law. Now if a board member has a question about something on the agenda or in the materials, he does not see a problem with sending the chair or even administration a note suggesting that you are going have a question on a particular agenda item and here's my question. We wouldn't be giving the answer at that time because the debate and/or deliberation would have to be in the open meeting.

Trustee Cusumano agrees with General Counsel Steele that would be the most efficacious way to approach it. He doesn't see a problem with a trustee talking with someone individually about an issue such as an inconsistency in the paperwork. General Counsel Steele agreed as long it doesn't become trustee A talking to trustee B and then trustee C and it looks like we are trying to go around the quorum requirement by discussing it one by one. General Counsel Steele does not see an issue of a trustee coming to the chair or administration with an inconsistency or error because it may be easily fixed. Trustee Vitale said when she first started, she struggled to understand the budgets and would ask either Chair Lorenzo or Dr. Sawyer and they would have the answer at the next board meeting. Trustee Vitale said she is grateful when another trustee asks a question, because it might be something she missed. Chair Lorenzo said we owe it to each other to hear everyone's questions because it causes us to think about it too.

Trustee Vitale asked how the student success software is utilized? Kevin LaBonty, director, Business Info Services, said the system is an early student alert system. If a student is having issues or doing very well in a class, the faculty can send them an email and another one to

counseling and advising. It tracks all those interactions and interventions including sending students to other services such as tutoring or the reading and writing studios. Trustee Flynn said this is in Austin, Texas. K. LaBonty said that is where Civitas Inc. is located. Trustee Flynn said you couldn't find anybody in Michigan or Ohio or Chicago? K. LaBonty said we followed the purchasing policy and reviewed twelve other vendors.

6.0 ISSUES AND UPDATES

6.1 President's Report

Dr. Sawyer said there is no need for a closed session. He reminded the trustees about the holiday reception following the board meeting.

Enrollment:

As of December 13, (winter 2024) credit hours are up 7.6 percent and headcount is up 6.1 percent. Students are taking a higher number of credits which is great in terms of retention and completion.

- Macomb Tuition Advantage Program - 2,014 students
- MI Reconnect - 1,452 students
- Michigan Achievement Scholarship - 499 students

These numbers are anticipated to grow over the next couple of weeks.

Administration Items:

Dr. Sawyer said the change order request for Rehmann is to increase the audit services contract by \$6,500 for additional services required for the implementation of GASB 96. There were 32 hours of additional time spent on the implementation and was not anticipated when the contract was approved. EVP Argiri was able to negotiate the cost of the 32 hours, \$13,000, down to \$6,500, basically splitting the cost. We think that is fair and are asking the board to approve a \$6,500 change order.

Purchases:

Two purchases are grant funded:

- Canon Pro Camcorders funded through the Perkins Grant
- Critical Incident Mapping funded through a State of Michigan grant

Two IT purchases:

- Civitas (Student Success) software was previously discussed
- Network Upgrade Equipment was previously presented by M. Zimmerman at November 15 meeting.

Christie Campus Mental Health Update:

Dr. Sawyer stated the contract with Christie Campus Mental Health was finalized on November 27. The kick-off for implementation of services was on December 1. On December 7, our internal team of IT, Campus Community Care Team, Student Services and Marketing met to set up

protocols, procedures and a launch date for the awareness campaign. Services are scheduled to be in place for students in January 2024.

IDEA Update:

- Dr. Sawyer shared that the student belonging survey has closed. We anticipate having disaggregated results by the end of January. He will plan to give an update on the results at the February meeting.
- President's Council completed their Global Equity Literacy professional development with Dr. Jay Marks. Dr. Sawyer personally thought it was a great program, Dr. Marks does an excellent job, and he certainly learned a lot. The second session for staff has completed with very positive feedback.
- Dr. Sawyer said T. Goliday, Executive Director, IDEA will be providing professional development in restorative practices. We are fortunate that T. Goliday has trained through the International Institute of Restorative Practices in this body of work and will be meeting with our counselors and advisors to provide that professional development. We view this as a pilot and will likely have additional training for staff in the future.

D3C3 Grant Update:

- Dr. Sawyer said staff met with the third-party evaluator, AIR, to continue the development of an evaluation plan, which is expected to take six months.
- Dr. Sawyer and a few staff met with the funder, Ralph Wilson Jr. Foundation, for a brief status update, a brief discussion about the budget and to share any issues we may have. From our perspective everything is going well.
- Total referrals to the Campus Community Care Team for fall is 77. The case manager has a current case load of 23 students.

Dual Enrollment:

- On campus this evening (12/13) is the first dual enrollment information session. C. Jeffers, vice president, Student Services shared with him that over 100 people have registered for it, which is fantastic.
- Dual enrollment numbers are up over 6 percent this term. We continue to see very positive results from our K12 outreach efforts.

Request for Proposals (RFP):

December 4th two important RFP's were released:

- Bookstore Management Services – recommendation to BOT - tentatively March 2024
- College-wide facility and capacity utilization study - recommendation to BOT - January 2024.

National Apprenticeship Week:

The Health Care Apprenticeship staff hosted a kick-off breakfast with representatives from the Department of Labor, Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity, MiWorks, Henry Ford Medical Group, CVS, Silver Pine Medical Group and Cornerstone Medical Group. We are really

trying to bring health care apprenticeships to Macomb County and this breakfast was a great opportunity during Apprenticeship Week.

Program Accreditation:

Two programs achieved reaccreditation status:

- Health Information Technology
- Automotive Technology

Unfortunately, Dr. Sawyer stated that the Physical Therapy Assistant program was placed on probation for insufficient licensure pass rates over two years. This is a fallout of Covid and the impact on learning during that period of time. Many colleges are in the same situation. We are in the process of developing a remediation plan for Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE) the accrediting body, and are very comfortable about getting the program back on track.

Auto STEAM Event:

Dr. Sawyer stated the college hosted Auto STEAM on December 6 and 7 at the Sports & Expo Center. Approximately 2,000 students from 31 schools participated (as far as Alpena County) for hands-on demonstrations in the Engineering and Advanced Technology Area. Thursday evening the parents were invited back with their students to hear employer panels and recent graduates talk about skilled trades as a viable career choice. The event was very well received.

State of County Event:

- Wednesday, December 6 the college hosted County Executive Mark Hackel's State of the County address.
- There were approximately 1,000 attendees
- Executive Hackel thanked the college and the board of trustees for hosting the event and recognized the Skilled Trades and Advanced Technology Center and Macomb Tuition Advantage Program in his remarks.

Capital Outlay - \$26 million for Mobility & Sustainability Education Center:

Dr. Sawyer just received an invitation from the Governor's office to attend the signing ceremony of this supplemental bill on December 18 in Grand Rapids and making the \$26 million for this project official. Great news.

MiLEAP:

Dr. Sawyer said the governor announced MiLEAP – Michigan Learning and Education Advancement Program. This is the amalgamation of several State departments who will have responsibility over pre-K and post-secondary. We will be watching them closely because we don't know how we will be impacted. The acting director is Michelle Richard, currently the governor's education advisor. They will have 36 new positions in the \$6 million budget that doesn't get funded until February. The entire department will have over 300 people. We are anxious to see what is going to transpire.

Commencements:

Dr. Sawyer said Friday, December 18 is one of the two best days at the college when we celebrate our graduates at commencements. As of this afternoon we are expecting around 300 graduates to participate. There were 796 graduates in the fall and 422 in spring/summer. He thanked Trustees Dean, Flynn and Vitale who are planning to participate.

January Board Meeting:

- Tentatively bring forth the facility and capacity utilization study for board approval.
- Recommendation regarding tuition for the 2024/2025 academic year.

Chair Lorenzo shared that she is unable to attend commencements because she will be having her second eye surgery and a possible hip surgery at that time.

6.2 Revised 2023/2024 General Fund Budget

Gerri Panko, director, Budget and Grants presented an overview of the 2023/2024 revised general fund budget to the board of trustees.

Questions:

Trustee Flynn said she is hearing talk about raising tuition? Dr. Sawyer said we have just started working on that and will have a recommendation in January, but he would say yes. He said we typically raise tuition most years because costs continue to increase. We are very conservative in our increases and remain the lowest or second lowest cost college in Michigan. We have the third lowest millage rate and in order to do good work you have to be financed properly, but it is too early to say an amount, if we are.

Trustee Cusumano said he harkens back to the same issue, servicing one-third fewer customers, fiscal year equated students, yet bringing in a budget that's adjusted for inflation comparable to what was expended in order to service the full complement of students ten years ago. Hopefully the facility utilization study will address some of those concerns. Dr. Sawyer said we certainly hope so. Remember while we did eliminate some full-time faculty positions in this year's budget, the bulk of the adjustments due to enrollment are with the adjunct faculty and those numbers have changed drastically over the last ten years.

Trustee Cusumano asked Dr. Sawyer if we have ever done an analysis whereby the total budget annually was divided by the number of fiscal year equated students to determine whether expenditures, adjusting for inflation have increased? One of the things he has had a problem with is some measure of performance and efficiency by which we can judge, as a board policy, whether we are bringing value to the district taxpayers. Dr. Sawyer said there is a state database report (CEPI) that reports for all community colleges and one of the elements is the cost. Annually we look at that and in the past 15 years we have been either the lowest or second lowest in the state. To him that is the measure of efficiency, that datapoint takes into account other costs. EVP Argiri adding that the datapoint is the operating cost per fiscal year equated students. The actual operating expenditures divided by fiscal year equated students. The CEPI report will be provided to Trustee Cusumano.

Trustee Vitale asked how many times have we not raised tuition? Trustee Dean said twice in 12 years. Trustee Vitale asked if there is any opportunity for the board to share how they feel before all the work is started on the tuition? She thinks a lot of us are wishing not to raise tuition because of the economic problems going on with students right now.

Chair Lorenzo asked how many students do we have that pay tuition? EVP Argiri does not have that information right now, but she can say that 30 percent of our students receive Pell each year. In addition, other funds from MiReconnect, Future for Frontliners, Macomb Tuition Advantage and Michigan Achievement Scholarship and a number of students are paid for by a third party sponsor, like their employer or veterans. We will pull all that information together so at the January meeting we can provide our best data as to how many students truly pay out of pocket.

Trustee Cusumano asked if in the contract with Rehmann is it anticipated that there is going to be some adjustments where changes in GASB requirements are anticipated in a rate negotiated? EVP Argiri said in prior pronouncement implementations, in particular the significant implementation of GASB 68 and 75 on the pension system, and we were just entering into a contract with Rehmann at that time, those hours were anticipated because they knew that would be a large-scale implementation. GASB 96 for subscription licensing, Rehmann didn't anticipate, nor did we internally, realize how much time it would take to implement that pronouncement. The additional 32 hours were not in the proposal that was presented to the board.

7.0 CLOSED SESSION

It was determined that a closed session was not needed.

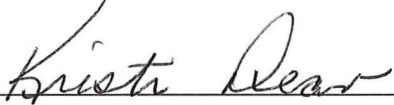
8.0 ADJOURNMENT

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

Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT OF THE COUNTY OF MACOMB BOARD OF TRUSTEES


Secretary