

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, May 20, 2026, 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 6:00 p.m.

2.0 ROLL CALL

Present:

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

Absent:

Vincent Viviano, Trustee

Also present:

James Sawyer, President  
Libby Argiri, Executive Vice President, Administration  
Christian Bonett, Commander, College Police  
Kevin Chandler, Vice President, College Advancement and Community Relations  
Carrie Jeffers, Vice President, Student Services  
Leslie Kellogg, Provost, Vice President of Academic and Workforce Education  
Nicole McKee, Director, Government and Institutional Relations  
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 Dean, to approve the agenda as presented.

ALL IN FAVOR:

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

NAYS:

ABSENT: Viviano

MOTION CARRIED.

#### 4.0 AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Lori Chapman, president of the Macomb Community College Faculty Organization (MCCFO). “Faculty are proud to work for this college and the community alongside our colleagues across the college. And our Senate is here also to show our support. So, if you want to stand up. And also, members of our negotiating team and other colleagues. Since February, MCFO has been negotiating a new contract showing diligence and cooperation with administration, and we only see fairness and equity with our other colleagues across the college in this contract. So, we just wanted to come here to show our support for the college, and we look forward to continue work with you and supporting the college and community.”

#### 5.0 REVIEW OF AGENDA ITEMS AND MATERIALS

Trustee DiMaria proposed tabling agenda items 9.2 and 9.3, initially suggesting a delay of up to three months. Steele clarified that NBU contracts expire on June 30 and that failure to approve new contracts by that date would result in the termination of all NBU employees and the initiation of severance payments based on length of service. He further explained that any continuation of employment beyond that point would require new arrangements.

Chairperson Lorenzo asked for clarification regarding contract expiration and confirmed that all NBU contracts end on June 30. Libby Argiri noted that the contracts are structured as one-year agreements. Following discussion, Trustee DiMaria indicated a preference to delay consideration until the June meeting, citing concern about timing in relation to the incoming President and noting discomfort with making a decision at the current meeting.

President Sawyer stated that the NBU contracts were presented in accordance with prior Board guidance, including compensation parameters discussed in January 2026, and consistent with past practice of bringing these contracts forward in May. He provided an overview of the contract recommendations, including maintaining consistency with a previously approved administrator bargaining agreement and explaining a higher compensation recommendation for one employee who assumed additional responsibilities following a retirement.

Discussion also addressed agenda item 9.3, with Trustee Dean requesting clarification on the salary schedule structure and classifications, which was explained as a compliance requirement to ensure appropriate retirement system alignment for non-bargaining unit employees.

Steele advised that consideration of delaying action could raise circumstances under which closed session may be appropriate if the Board were contemplating non-renewal of contracts and indicated that such discussion could occur in closed session if requested.

Trustee DiMaria made a motion, supported by Trustee Cusumano, to enter into closed session, with consensus reached to hold the closed session at the end of the meeting.

## 6.0 ISSUES AND UPDATES

### 6.1 President's Report

#### Closed Session

We do need to have closed session with the BOT pursuant to MCL 15.268 A - personnel matters, MCL 15.268 C - collective bargaining, and H - to consider material exempt from discussion or disclosure by state of federal statute.

#### Enrollment Update

As of May 20, 2026, enrollment for the Spring/Summer 2026 term is down 3.1% in credit hours and 4.9% in student count compared with Spring/Summer 2025.

#### Personnel

- Amanda Keller, Full Time Faculty – Chemistry, MCCFO
- Emily Zielke, Instructor of Emergency Medical Services, MCCFO
- Meagan Hummon, Instructor of Nursing-Medical-Surgical Nursing/Adult Health, MCCFO
- Jennifer Simpao, Instructor of Nursing-Medical-Surgical Nursing/Adult Health, MCCFO
- Nicole Durkin, Instructor of Nursing-Medical-Surgical Nursing/Adult Health, MCCFO
- Stephanie Lica, Instructor of Dental Hygiene, MCCFO
- Employment Contracts for Exempt Administrators
- Salary Schedules for Non-Bargaining Unit (NBU) and Non-Affiliate Special Funded (NASF) Employees

#### Board of Trustees Reports

- President's Contract
- Cancellation of July Board Meeting

#### Administrative – Information Items

- Update on Media Buying and Placement Services - Grant Funded
- ABM Optional Extension - Year 5 - Extension and Consumable Supplies Allowance Increase
- Custom Game Software for Engagement Kiosks – Fueling IT Grant Fund

#### Purchases

- Respondus Lockdown Browser and Monitor Software
- Gasoline and Diesel Fuel
- HVAC Inspection and Service Maintenance Contract Extension
- External Advertising
- Workforce and Continuing Education Registration System(renewal)
- Michigan Community College Risk Management Authority Self-Insured Property and Casualty Insurance

#### Administrative – Action Items

- South Campus Quad Canopy Roof Replacement
- College-Wide Fire-Alarm System Modernization and Communication Upgrades

#### State Budget

No update was available on the state budget as discussions remain ongoing.

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Workforce Pell – continues to be a work in progress

The College is reviewing new federal Workforce Pell regulations while noting concerns regarding state requirements.

Canvas Data Incident

A data breach involving Canvas exposed limited directory information (usernames, emails, IDs, and course data), did not impact sensitive personal or academic records, and the College's existing IT safeguards, including multi-factor authentication, prevented system compromise while communications are being prepared to notify the campus community.

Commencement

Spring commencement was successfully held with approximately 500 participants at the new Expo Center. Over 1,100 associate degrees were awarded this term.

131 students completed the Early College program and participated in graduation ceremonies.

K-12 Relations

A new partnership with Clintondale High School resulted in 18 students completing a health pre-apprenticeship and earning seven college credits.

Wayne State Building

President Sawyer informed the County Executive's office that the Board was interested in further exploration of the Workforce and Economic Development Collaborative concept and the county was happy to hear of the interest.

Institutional Development Day

The College recognized 25-year and 50-year employees and this year's retirees. President Sawyer gave his final State of the College and employees engaged in professional development opportunities.

Reaccreditation

International Fire Service Accreditation Congress reaccredited the Associate of Applied Science on Fire and Emergency Medical Services Technology.

The Veterinary Technician program's teaching hospital has been reaccredited by the American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA), reaffirming a designation the program has held since 2007. The accreditation places the program among an elite group, as only approximately 15% of veterinary hospitals in the United States and Canada hold AAHA accreditation.

Part Time Fire Academy

The College launched a new part-time fire academy offering the full 400-hour program through evening and weekend classes to accommodate working individuals, with 20 students currently enrolled to help address workforce shortages in fire services.

Macomb Innovates

The annual Macomb Innovates pitch competition, modeled after a “Shark Tank”-style event, engaged approximately 150 attendees with participation from high school and college students, awarding scholarships to high school participants and a \$1,000 prize to the college division winner.

SkillsUSA

Macomb students earned 8 gold, 6 silver, and 2 bronze medals at the state competition, with gold medalists advancing to the national competition in Atlanta.

Apprenticeship Week

During National Apprenticeship Week (April 27–May 1), Business Information Technology (BIT), Engineering and Advanced Technology (EAT), and Health and Public Service (HPS) hosted seven student and employer engagement events, representing the College’s largest level of participation to date.

Fluid Power Challenge

The College hosted its 10th Annual Fluid Power Action Challenge Day on April 30, where approximately 105 middle school students across 25 teams participated in a hands-on engineering competition sponsored by Peninsular Cylinder Company and supported by the National Fluid Power Association, building and operating pneumatic devices to solve design challenges.

Phi Theta Kappa

Phi Theta Kappa held its annual induction ceremony welcoming new members; Macomb student Ariana Dockham was recognized as a PTK Academic Team Scholar, and the Macomb Chapter earned multiple regional awards at the May convention.

Athletics

The men’s baseball team won its first conference championship since 1987, and several baseball and softball players received individual recognition for their performance.

Giving Day

The Foundation’s second annual Giving Day raised \$184,501, with 58% contributed by employees and 78% by employees and retirees, exceeding the goal of 501 gifts with a total of 541 and increasing funds raised by 40% over the prior year.

Foundation Donor Luncheon

The Foundation hosted its annual donor appreciation luncheon on April 29, bringing together approximately 200 donors and students to highlight the impact of scholarships through direct engagement and shared experiences. The Foundation awarded over \$260,000 in scholarships to 571 students over the past year, supporting student success and access to education.

NISOD Awards

The NISOD Excellence Awardee Appreciation Dinner was held on April 24 at South Campus, recognizing full-time faculty Shaun Sarcona, Delena Austin, Monique Beauchamp-Doll, and Erin Fortuna, and part-time faculty Abbey Jacobsen and Elizabeth Bosilkovski.

June BOT Meeting

Purchase Items:

- Ellucian Colleague and BI contracted programmer
- Elevator service agreement
- Mediated classroom lifecycle
- Network service blade lifecycle
- HR process documentation consultant
- IT Contracted Project Manager

Administrative Items:

- South Campus A building powerhouse project bids and budget
- MTEC chiller and backup generator bids and budget

Discussion:

Trustee Dean requested clarification on the custom game software. Patrick Evans-Mach, associate dean, Information Technology explained that two grant-funded, portable kiosks use avatar-based interactive technology that allows students to virtually navigate Center and South Campus, explore services such as enrollment, career services, tutoring, and the library, and engage with campus resources through a game-like interface designed to enhance student awareness and technology engagement.

6.2 Presentation

2026-2027 Initial General Fund Budget

Gerri Pianko, executive director, Budgets and Grants

Discussion:

Trustee Vitale asked for clarification regarding approximately \$400,000 in projected revenue associated with the reopening of the Expo Center, specifically whether that amount represented additional revenue or a return to prior levels.

Gerri stated that revenue projections had been reduced in the prior budget cycle when it was anticipated that the facility would be closed. She explained that the current projection reflects a restoration of revenue levels to what was budgeted prior to the closure, rather than an increase above historical performance.

Trustee Vitale asked how current projections compare to typical historical revenue generated by the Expo Center. Gerri stated that revenue has generally been consistent over time and offered to provide historical data for further review.

President Sawyer added that while the Expo Center does generate revenue through rentals, it is also used for college-sponsored and co-sponsored events, such as robotics competitions and Science Olympiad events, for which fees may not be charged, as these events support the College's mission and community engagement.

Trustee Vitale acknowledged the explanation and noted interest in monitoring activity levels and utilization of the facility.

Steele stated that while the Expo Center is rented periodically, it is not intended to function as a primary revenue-generating facility and should not be viewed as a significant profit center. He noted that its primary purpose supports academic and institutional activities.

Libby Argiri added that the Expo Center is not considered a proprietary function, emphasizing the importance of distinguishing its institutional role from revenue-generating operations.

Trustee Cusumano asked for clarification regarding the allocation of approximately \$4.889 million in investment interest referenced in the budget materials, specifically whether additional sources beyond the primary investment portfolio contributed to that figure. Kathi Poindexter stated that the amount reflects interest earned across institutional funds.

#### 7.0 CLOSED SESSION

MOTION by DiMaria, supported by Cusumano, to go into closed session in order to discuss collective bargaining, trial or settlement strategy, and material exempt from discussion or disclosure by state of federal statute pursuant to MCL 15.268 (c), MCL 15.268 (e) and MCL 15.268(h).

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

NAYS:

ABSENT: Viviano

MOTION CARRIED.

#### 8.0 ADJOURNMENT

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

MOTION CARRIED.

The meeting adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT OF THE COUNTY OF MACOMB BOARD OF TRUSTEES

  
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Secretary