



BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES

March 18, 2026, 12:30 p.m.

Room 2109E – Main Campus 2<sup>nd</sup> floor

Present: Chair Osborn, Trustee Portenga, Trustee Moore, Trustee Frye, Trustee Crandall, Trustee Scott, Trustee Cook and President Selmon

I. Chair Osborn called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. Trustee Moore moved approval. Second. Vote unanimous; motion carried.

II. Public Agenda – Related Comments

III. Presentation(s)

The Dean of College Services and Athletics Jason Cooper introduced the 2025-26 MCC Jayhawk Wrestling team and Head Coach Cody Carpenter.

Head Coach Carpenter is the Midwest District Coach of the Year and the NJCAA – NWCA National Wrestling Coach of the Year. Coach Carpenter wrestled under former Coach Ron Gaffner.

The team had an undefeated dual meet season, were MCCA and Midwest Dual Meet Champions, NJCAA Great Lakes District Champions, NJCAA Region XII Champions, and qualified wrestlers in all 10 weights for the NJCAA National Tournament. The team also had 2 NJCAA All-Americans and 9 NJCAA – NWCA Scholar Academic All – Americans.

Michigan Community College Association (MCCA) President Brandy Johnson joined us on her tour of the 31 Michigan Community Colleges. The mission of the MCCA is to be a unified voice for Michigan community colleges.

Trustee Crandall is a member of the MCCA Executive Committee. President Selmon is a member of the Student Success Committee.

The MCCA has six Legislative Priorities which include; increasing operations grants to community colleges by 4%, Codify the Michigan Achievement Scholarship (MAS), Expand Michigan Reconnect eligibility to age 21, modernize dual enrollment and Early Middle College, reduce the capital outlay institutional match requirement from 50% to 25%, and invest \$33.3 million for Infrastructure, Technology, Equipment, Maintenance, Safety, and Housing (ITEMS) for all community college and tribal colleges.

Revenue Sources for MCC are lower than the other Michigan community colleges. MCCA Capitol Day to promote advocacy will be on April 16 ,2026. Need trustees, students and presidents to attend.

2026 is an election year for the Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General, State Supreme Court, State Senate & Representative, U.S. Senate, and U.S. Representative.

Last month we were in Washington D.C. and met with Senator Gary Peters and Senator Elissa Slotkin. Other colleges look to see what MCC is doing for student success.

MCC is an early adopter for the Michigan College Credit for Apprenticeship Pathways (MI-CCAP), and 15 colleges have signed up.

Congratulations to Sue Samaniego for graduating from the 2024-25 Leadership Academy and welcome to fellow Lisa Gatti-Arnold I the 2025-26 cohort.

June 3 – 5 MCC will host the Board of Directors and Presidents committees.

Teaching and Learning Focus Area – Dr. Ed Breitenbach Dean of Instruction & Assessment and Lisa Gatti-Arnold Dean of Nursing & Health Programs

The Teaching and Learning Focus Area Goal is “Through excellent teaching, ensuring that students effectively learn what is taught in courses and programs.”

Objective 1: Is to increase the percent of faculty who implement at least four evidence-based teaching practices.

Objective 2: Implement at least one college wide AI tool to promote responsible use for teaching and learning.

Objective 3: Increase the number of adjunct faculty participating in professional development.

Objective 4: Review and revise course learning objectives in year one of the strategic plan and map course learning objectives to the Institutional Learning Outcomes.

IV. Trustee Scott moved approval of the Consent Agenda. Second. Vote unanimous; motion carried.

A. Minutes

- Board Meeting Minutes for February 18, 2026

B. Budget/Finance

I. Financial Reports

C. Required Approvals

D. Personnel Report

V. Administrative Reports

A. President’s Report –

President John Selmon noted the draft of the Reflect magazine was available to the Board. The Marketing and Communication team was recognized for their work in putting the magazine together.

The State of State address was delivered by Governor Whitmer on February 25, 2026. She made a couple of comments about community colleges: Every graduate can go to their local community college for tuition-free and every Michigander 25 and older can earn an associate's degree or certificate tuition-free also.

MCC has been selected for the Aspen Institute Presidents and Trustees Collaborative on November 12<sup>th</sup> at Schoolcraft College. President Selmon, Chair Osborn, Trustee Moore and Trustee Scott will attend.

The biggest change in the Muskegon Area Promise is the adjustment of the eligible GPA requirements to no limitations for MCC students. This is a game changer for future Promise enrollments.

MCC has been recognized as one of the nation's top community colleges earning the prestigious *Leader College of Distinction* award from Achieving The Dream. The college community is really proud. At MCC, we have many amazing people doing amazing work.

President Selmon received formal letters of complaint (same student) from The Accrediting, Bureau of Health Education Schools (ABHES) and The Higher Learning Commission (HLC). MCC staff are working on written responses.

President Selmon attended the MAISD Creating Healthy Food Project. Over 300 boxes of groceries were packaged for needy students attending Baker College and MCC.

On February 10<sup>th</sup> we had an active shooter drill, and then we had a lockdown on February 26<sup>th</sup> involving a shooting situation in the neighborhood. The college leadership did a good job in reacting to the situation.

50 high school counselors attended our annual High School Counselor Meeting on March 6<sup>th</sup>. Lots of good information about the college was shared.

On April 13<sup>th</sup> we will have a college - wide strategic planning session.

Dr. Patti D'Avignon introduced Elijah Parmley as a student representative to the Board. Elijah is Vice President of honors and action for PTK and will be the student speaker at Commencement.

- B. Student Success Report – as submitted
  - 1. Enrollment
  - 2. Student Success Completion Agenda

VI. Business Non – Operational

A. Michigan Community College Association Report

B. Foundation Update –

Sue Samaniego Chief Advancement Officer highlighted community outreach events. Robert A. Dubault is the 2026 MCC Distinguished Alumni Award recipient. The Distinguished Alumni dinner for Mr. Dubault and former Distinguished Alumni award winners will be held on May 11<sup>th</sup>. Commencement is May 13<sup>th</sup>.

Three estate planning workshops that were provided for the public were well attended.

MCC is a Co-sponsor of the United Way Day of Caring on April 24<sup>th</sup>.

MCC Rotaract Club participated in the “polar plunge” for Special Olympics.

Amanda Nixon, Grant Coordinator, has submitted 2 new grants. We have 406 current donors. Individual giving is growing.

An interesting article is “*Why community colleges are poised to win the planned giving race.*” Giving locally makes a difference in the community and improves the lives of those in the community.

Jayhawk Day of Giving (Jay Day) is April 30<sup>th</sup>. Spread the good word, represent a decade for Jay Day, invite someone to join you for an “Evening with MCC.” Richard McPherson – Vanderputte has raffle tickets available.

At the Lumberjacks March 21<sup>st</sup> game, Diana Osborn will be honored as a hometown hero and President Selmon will drop the puck before the hockey game starts.

VII. Old Business

VIII. New Business

A. It is the recommendation of the President for the Board to accept this estimate of taxes and appropriations for FY2026-2027 of \$27,420,000.

Trustee Portenga moved approval. Second. Vote unanimous; motion carried.

B. It is the recommendation of the President that the Board of Trustees approve contracting with Rehmann Robson LLC to provide independent audit services for fiscal years ending June 30, 2026, through June 30, 2029.

Trustee Scott moved approval. Second. Vote unanimous; motion carried.

C. It is the recommendation of the President that the Board of Trustees approve a contract with Barnes & Noble for 5 years beginning August 1, 2026, through July 31, 2031, with an optional 5-year renewal period.

Trustee Portenga moved approval. Second. Vote unanimous; motion carried.

D. It is the recommendation of the President that the Board of Trustees approve the issuance of a request for proposals for a high-fidelity manikin.

Trustee Scott moved approval. Second. Vote unanimous; motion carried.

- IX. Board of Trustees Policy Governance – *Chair Osborn*
  - A. Policy Updates
  - B. Future Agenda Items

X. Public General Comments

- XI. Board Comments/Announcements  
Trustee Crandall recommended reading “Generative Artificial Intelligence in Higher Education.”

Thank you to Brandy for attending the board meeting.

- XII. With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 1:59 p.m. Respectfully submitted by Secretary Frye./ph