

**NORTHWESTERN MICHIGAN COLLEGE  
LOCAL STRATEGIC VALUE RESOLUTION**

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Northwestern Michigan College was held at the Hagerty Center of Northwestern Michigan College, on the 28th of August, 2023, at 5:30 o'clock in the evening.

The meeting was called to order by Laura J. Oblinger, Chair.

Present: Laura J. Oblinger, Rachel A. Johnson, Andrew K. Robitshek, Kenneth E. Warner, Chris M. Bott,  
Kennard R. Weaver

Absent: Douglas S. Bishop

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Andrew K. Robitshek and seconded by Kenneth E. Warner:

**WHEREAS:**

Michigan Public Act 103 of 2023, approved by Governor Whitmer on July 20, 2023, requires the Northwestern Michigan College Board of Trustees to pass a resolution certifying that the college meets at least four out of five of the best practice standards under each of the three categories. Among the components of the appropriations for all Michigan community colleges is performance funding based on "local strategic value," which is defined in terms of three categories as shown below. Each category covers five standards of local strategic value, called "best practices."

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

Northwestern Michigan College not only meets, but also exceeds the best practice standards required by the appropriations law for fiscal year 2024, as the following table demonstrates.

Ayes: Laura J. Oblinger, Rachel A. Johnson, Kenneth E. Warner, Andrew K. Robitshek, Chris M. Bott

Nays: None

Resolution declared adopted.

  
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. K. Robitshek", is written over a horizontal line.

**Andrew K. Robitshek, Secretary  
Board of Trustees**

The undersigned duly qualified and acting Secretary of the Board of Trustees of Northwestern Michigan College, hereby certifies that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Board at a regular meeting held on August 28, 2023, that notice of the meeting was given to the public under the Open Meeting Act, 1976 PA 267, as amended.

  
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. K. Robitshek", is written over a horizontal line.

**Andrew K. Robitshek, Secretary  
Board of Trustees**

## Community Colleges Local Strategic Value

### Northwestern Michigan College

Section 230 of PA 103 of 2023, the Fiscal Year 2024 community colleges appropriations bill contains the qualifications that must be met to receive the portion of each college's performance funding appropriation earmarked for local strategic value. The statute lists 15 separate best practices for community colleges to achieve. Institutions must satisfy 4 of 5 best practices in each of 3 different categories.

To demonstrate eligibility for this funding, Section 230 requires that each community college certifies compliance to the State Budget Office by means of a board of trustees resolution certifying that the college has met 4 of 5 best practices in each category. Further, each board resolution "shall provide specifics as to how the community college meets each best practice measure within each category." **This resolution must be properly passed by the board and submitted to this office on or before October 15, 2023.** However, if a resolution from a prior year is still in effect and factually correct, you may resubmit this resolution. Please send a copy with an indication of the date of its passage.

Please use this table as a method to **briefly** detail what your community college is doing to meet the best practices in each category. Each category is worth one-third of the total amount available for your institution. Your institution must meet 4 out of 5 best practices in a category to receive funding associated with that category.

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
<b>Category A: Economic Development and Business or Industry Partnerships (must meet 4 of 5)</b>	
(i) The community college has active partnerships with local employers including hospitals and health care providers.	NMC partners with Munson Medical Center in nursing degree education (clinical site for ADN and PN student rotations), accredited surgical technology degree education (financial support and clinical site for AAS student labs), biomedical technologist associate's degree, professional development for staff (LEAN medical office), community education specifically related to wellness and nutrition programs (joint listing in Extended Education Catalog), consultation regarding specialized needs for technical training such as CNA's, phlebotomists, and medical coders. Through NMC University Center, supporting GVSU's Masters in Physician Assistant degree program. NMC now coordinates a healthcare related working group composed of NMC, Munson,

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
	<p>University Partners and other training / educational partners to better meet the needs of the healthcare industry.</p>
<p>(ii) The community college provides customized on-site training for area companies, employees, or both.</p>	<p>NMC provides various levels of noncredit, workforce, professional development and on-site customized training for area employers. Training is delivered by the professional development arm of NMC's Extended Education and Marine Center, as well as, the Michigan Manufacturing Training Center (MMTC) Northern Michigan Office. Over \$9.7 million dollars of specialized training through the Michigan New Jobs Training Program leading to the development of 1043 projected jobs paying 175% above minimum wage. Workforce and professional development related training has greatly expanded under the college's strategic plan objectives related to technical and workforce training with a 103 offerings in 2022 - 2023. Microcredentials are being implemented to better meet industry's needs.</p>
<p>(iii) The community college supports entrepreneurship through a small business assistance center or other training or consulting activities targeted toward small businesses.</p>	<p>NMC facilitates meeting and consulting resources targeted at small business support. In September 2017, NMC and Networks Northwest entered into an agreement supporting the implementation of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). In 2021, NMC partnered with the Northwest Michigan Small Business Development Center to create the Business Development Certificate, a cost effective and efficient set of classes geared towards startups and entrepreneurs. In 2022, NMC participated and sponsored Northern Michigan Start-up Week activities focused on innovation and entrepreneurship. NMC's start-up course resulted in five competitive pitches during the college portion of the week. In 2023, NMC created a business essentials course for 20Fathoms, a local start-up accelerator to better serve the needs of small business and start-ups. In 2023 - 2024, NMC is partnering with AquaAction on an innovation and technology challenge around the most pressing water</p>

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
	<p>related issues for the Great Lakes. In addition, a microcredential focused on the Innovation Mindset is being developed to better support the needs of the entrepreneurial community.</p>
<p>(iv) The community college supports technological advancement through industry partnerships, incubation activities, or operation of a Michigan technical education center or other advanced technology center.</p>	<p>NMC Aero-Park campus emphasizes automotive technology, engineering technologies, manufacturing, renewable energy, construction technology, PLC certificate training, robotics and unmanned systems, and associate and bachelor’s level marine technology remotely operated vehicles and acoustical sonar training. In 2017, the Great Lakes Water Studies Institute became the only academic institution, world-wide, offering international credentialing from the Association of Diving Contractors International (ADCI). Industry specific advanced professional development leverages NMC’s state-of-the-art technical resources, including advanced simulation training for welding, unmanned aerial systems, IT. In 2021, NMC received a Michigan Economic Development Corporation grant to develop an advanced manufacturing / Industry 4.0 lab in conjunction with industry partners including the Grand Traverse Manufacturing Council and Traverse Connect. The lab went online in May 2022 supporting Industry 4.0 training including collaborative robotics. August 2023 a similar advanced manufacturing event is planned. NMC has also become a partner in the EV Jobs Academy, Michigan’s educational response to meet the needs of EV / semiconductor industries and is currently providing one of the only engineering transfer pathways available to the State consortium partners.</p>
<p>(v) The community college has active partnerships with local or regional workforce and economic development agencies.</p>	<p>NMC has a long-standing collaboration with the NW Michigan Council of Governments, is a member of the MMTC, and similar agencies. NMC is also a founding member of the Traverse Area Chamber of Commerce, Chamber EDC, and regional, state, and national organizations supporting workforce and economic development in the region. NMC is a</p>

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
	<p>regional host for MI Lean Manufacturing Summit. In addition, NMC and MIWork! / Networks Northwest has collaborated on grant opportunities including the successful hiring of a navigator to assist and fund students and job seekers in 2021 under the MiLEAP initiative. NMC is a member of the Career and Education Advisory Committee in collaboration with MiWorks! supporting workforce readiness for the region.</p>
<b>Category B: Educational Partnerships (must meet 4 of 5)</b>	
<p>(i) The community college has active partnerships with regional high schools, intermediate school districts, and career-tech centers to provide instruction through dual enrollment, concurrent enrollment, direct credit, middle college, or academy programs.</p>	<p>NMC actively engages local educational entities to provide early college programming. Additionally, NMC has a strong dual enrollment program for high school students and direct credit opportunities. NMC has expanded articulation agreements for programs such as pilot training (Cheboygan ISD, Crosswinds Academy) and Computer Information Technology (Elk Rapids Schools, Traverse City St. Francis High School).</p>
<p>(ii) The community college hosts, sponsors, or participates in enrichment programs for area K-12 students, such as college days, summer or after-school programming, or science Olympiad.</p>	<p>NMC's Extended Educational Services (EES) provides the <i>College for Kids</i> catalog, featuring week-long courses, filling over 1200 College for Kids seats during the summer. Working with Traverse City Area Public Schools, Northwest Education Services, private and charter schools, NMC supports multiple activities that introduce K-12 students to higher education opportunities such as national robotics and unmanned aerial systems (UAS) competitions. The CIT program hosts the IT Olympics annually for regional career and technical education centers and local high school IT programs.</p>
<p>(iii) The community college provides, supports, or participates in programming to promote successful transitions to college for traditional age students, including grant programs such as talent search, upward bound, or other activities to promote college readiness in area high schools and community centers.</p>	<p>NMC partners with area high schools by discussing alignment of their curriculum with our coursework. Additionally, we have created pathways for placement utilizing a student's high school GPA. Students may take a writing inventory or complete math placement testing to improve their course placement. Our Commitment Scholarship program provides access and support for first generation</p>

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
	learners in our five county area for ninth grade students selected by the high schools.
(iv) The community college provides, supports, or participates in programming to promote successful transitions to college for new or reentering adult students, such as adult basic education, GED preparation and testing, or recruiting, advising, or orientation activities specific to adults.	Through collaboration with Michigan Works!, NMC offers activities specifically designed for new and returning adult learners. Examples of expanded services are the testing prep and certified testing services through the NMC Student Success center and the Pro-metric testing center located at the Parson-Stulen building, Aero-Park Campus.
(v) The community college has active partnerships with regional 4-year colleges and universities to promote successful transfer, such as articulation, 2+2, or reverse transfer agreements or operation of a university center.	At NMC's University Center, which just celebrated its 25th anniversary in 2021, the community has access to education opportunities beyond the Associate level in undergraduate and graduate level degree programs offered by five university partners. Over 40 bachelor's completion, master's, and professional post-associate certificates are available at the Cass Rd. Campus. Through the University Center, specific 3+1 programs have been developed by partner institutions in response to regional needs such as in Aviation and Nursing (Davenport University) and Clinical Social Work (Ferris State University), in addition to extensive articulation agreements across the disciplines. In addition, robust articulation agreements to MTU have been developed across the most prominent engineering pathways, with close to 3 years of credit attainable at NMC prior to transfer.
<b>Category C: Community Services (must meet 4 of 5)</b>	
(i) The community college provides continuing education programming for leisure, wellness, personal enrichment, or professional development.	Broad range of courses offered through the NMC Extended Education Services (EES) catalog. This is distributed three times per year to about 50,000 households, plus to 30,000 households for summer College for Kids programming. The catalog features special sections on wellness, leisure, personal enrichment, workforce & professional development, and more. Each term/catalog offers 200-300+ individual classes and 8+ certificate opportunities.

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
<p>(ii) The community college operates or sponsors opportunities for community members to engage in activities that promote leisure, wellness, cultural or personal enrichment such as community sports teams, theater or musical ensembles, or artist guilds.</p>	<p>Arts and Cultural enrichment programs are a specialty in the NMC Extended Education Services (EES) catalog including but not limited to: community choirs and bands, broad menu of physical fitness and exercise clubs and certificate programs such as Northern Naturalist, Global, and Business Development.</p>
<p>(iii) The community college operates public facilities to promote cultural, educational, or personal enrichment for community members, such as libraries, computer labs, performing arts centers, museums, art galleries, or television or radio stations.</p>	<p>Community has access to WNMC 90.7 FM, NMC's public radio station; monthly community observation nights for the Rogers Astronomical Observatory provided in person and virtually; senior discounts at the Denno Museum Center, Extended Education's virtual Coffee Chats series.</p>
<p>(iv) The community college operates public facilities to promote leisure or wellness activities for community members, including gymnasiums, athletic fields, tennis courts, fitness centers, hiking or biking trails, or natural areas.</p>	<p>Community open times for basketball and other team sports hosted through the Rajkovich Physical Education Building. EES catalog provides a number of short-format courses under the "Naturalist Certificate," with emphasis in outdoor and recreation pursuits. EES registers community members for the fitness center in North Hall when it is open to the public (it has been closed to the public since March 2020).</p>
<p>(v) The community college promotes, sponsors, or hosts community service activities for students, staff, or community members.</p>	<p>NMC offers many opportunities for community service through student service learning programs (e.g., Commitment Scholars program, Late Night of Procrastination at the library), community outreach projects (e.g., Big Brothers Big Sisters Big Little Hero Race organized by students in a business course in which \$5,000 in funds are raised annually for "littles" to take College for Kids classes, Food for Thought, a community-wide food drive to support families in need at Thanksgiving) and Student Government Association sponsored activities, to name a few.</p>