

**NORTHWESTERN MICHIGAN COLLEGE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES
Monday, February 27, 2023
NMC Hagerty Center, Room C**

CALL TO ORDER—Chair Laura J. Oblinger called the regular meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Trustees present: Laura J. Oblinger, Rachel A. Johnson, Kennard R. Weaver, Chris M. Bott, Kenneth E. Warner

Trustees absent: Andrew K. Robitshek, Douglas S. Bishop

Also present: President Nick Nissley, Lynne Moritz, Diana Fairbanks, Troy Kierczynski, Kyle Morrison, Alex Jones, Todd Neibauer, Jennifer Hricik, Stephen Siciliano, Marcus Bennett, Hollie DeWalt, Jason Slade, Sally Smarsty, Glenn Wolff, Tony Jenkins, Joy Goodchild, Alex Bloye, Laura Matchett, Christa Abdul-Karim

REVIEW OF AGENDA—The agenda was accepted as presented.

STRATEGIC FOCUS

Mission & Values in Action: Gala to Give—Sally Smarsty, Student Success Coordinator, recognized three student ambassadors who planned the January event, which gathered students and demonstrated the NMC value of stewardship as the event raised over \$5,000 for College 4 Kids.

Strategic Initiatives Update—Jason Slade, Vice President of Strategic Initiatives, introduced this month's report as a current status of each strategy. Slade thanked Joy Goodchild and Shelly Grant for their work in updating digital dashboards on all strategies. Objective Leads are now developing their year 2 action plans, which then align with budget development and departmental goals, which also follow a fiscal year cycle.

REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

Program Focus: Extended Education Services Global Certificate—Laura Matchett, Director of Extended Education Services (EES) first expressed gratitude for the Gala to Give, which doubled the College 4 Kids scholarship fund. Christa Abdul-Karim summarized her professional and personal background, including traveling to 73 countries, which informed her work developing the Global Certificate program, which offers courses on topics such as diversity, global issues, culture, religion, history, and politics. Abdul-Karim reviewed the requirements to complete the certificate and what is included in the welcome package.

Math Department Corequisite Model—Tony Jenkins, Math Instructor, has been teaching at NMC for 35 years. While curriculum has not changed greatly over that time, Jenkins explained the impact of Michigan Reconnect on math requirements, including the development of corequisite models. The math department quickly transitioned to the corequisite model, which required retiring traditional developmental math courses and creating a new entry level course, MTH 100. Corequisite courses were implemented in January 2022 in all courses except college algebra, which launched in the fall of 2022. The department is currently monitoring the success of the courses and will adjust as needed. In response to a question, Jenkins noted he is unsure how this will impact enrollment in math courses, but the goal is to increase the number of course completions.

PUBLIC INPUT—There was no public input offered.

UPDATES

President's Update—NMC has chosen Davenport University as its exclusive partner in a first-of-its-kind Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program that will start in May and aims to increase Michigan's nursing workforce. The concurrent program, in which students will be enrolled two years at NMC and a third year at

Davenport, gives nursing students a faster, less expensive path to a BSN. Munson Medical Center requires its nurses to earn a BSN within five years of hire. Nissley also shared that NMC is the largest nursing program north of Grand Rapids, two-thirds of nursing students go on to work at Munson Medical Center, and NMC nursing students are passing the NCLEX exam at above-average rates. President Nissley provided updates on state funding, including Governor Whitmer's proposed budget and capital outlay. The NMC Foundation Board approved the Foundation's new strategic plan at their meeting on February 22, 2023. Nissley recognized Jennifer Hricik, Interim Executive Director of the NMC Foundation, as well as Jayne Mohr and Bill Marsh, co-chairs of the Foundation's strategic planning steering committee, for their work in leading the Foundation's strategic planning process.

Board Chair Update—Chair Laura Oblinger thanked President Nissley for his response to the tragic shooting at Michigan State University two weeks prior, noting President Nissley visited with students, staff, and faculty the following day to hear and address concerns. Oblinger provided an update regarding Foundation Board Governance review, giving kudos to Pat Warner, Chair of the Foundation Board Development Committee. Trustees shared their most prideful moment from the recent Board Retreat and Chair Oblinger shared the following list of administrative follow-ups from the retreat: scheduling additional study sessions, creating a dashboard for consent item reports, updated content on the Board website, and conducting an economic impact study.

Trends in Higher Education—Chair Laura Oblinger shared what strikes her when reviewing the following data that was recently shared by the Michigan Community College Association:

1. 52.8% of students who graduated in 2021-22 attended college within 6 months of graduation.
2. This is down 10% from 62.5% just five years ago in 2017-18.
3. Under 16,000 students attended community college among the more than 100,000 high school graduates.

Oblinger noted this agenda item will not be included on all future agendas, but articles pertinent to the topic can be shared by President Nissley and may spark discussion at future study sessions.

CONSENT ITEMS—On a motion by Kennard Weaver, seconded by Rachel Johnson, the following items were approved by a unanimous vote as a group without discussion:

- L. Minutes of the January 23, 2023, regular meeting
- M. Minutes of the February 23-24, 2023, retreat
- N. Enrollment Report—Todd Neibauer, Vice President for Student Services and Technologies
- O. Financial Report—Troy Kierczynski, Vice President of Finance and Administration
- P. PRMC—Diana Fairbanks, Associate Vice President of Public Relations, Marketing, and Communications
- Q. Foundation Report—Jennifer Hricik, Interim Associate Vice President for Resource Development and Executive Director of Foundation
- R. Higher Learning Commission Accreditation Update—Stephen Siciliano, Vice President for Educational Services and Joy Goodchild, Executive Director, Office of Research, Planning, and Effectiveness

ACTION ITEMS

Adjustment to Prior Authorization for Aircraft Purchase—On a motion by Chris Bott, seconded by Kennard Weaver, authorized for administration increase the purchase limit of a prior authorization granted by Board of Trustees in April 2022 for the purchase of a used aircraft from \$450,000 to \$550,000. The motion passed unanimously.


New Jobs Training Program—Kennard Weaver made a motion, seconded by Rachel Johnson, the Board unanimously authorized administration to enter into training agreements under the Michigan New Jobs Training Program (MNJTP) for the following companies:

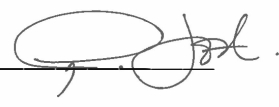
- Cultured Ferments Company (new)
- Food for Thought (new)
- Hayes Manufacturing (amendment)
- Strata Design (amendment)

REVIEW OF FOLLOW-UP REQUESTS—Confirmed requests made by the Board that require administrative follow-up for information to be provided to the Board at a later date.

ADJOURNMENT—The meeting adjourned at 6:44 p.m.

Recorded by Lynne Moritz, Executive Director of the President’s Office and Board Operations.

SIGNED  _____
Laura J. Oblinger, Chair

ATTESTED  _____
Rachel A. Johnson, Vice Chair