

At a regular meeting of the members of the Board of Trustees (the "Board") of Grand Rapids Community College, Michigan (the "College"), held at the College on September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

PRESENT: Trustees: Brame, Bruunsma, Lopez,  
Lovelady-Mitchell, Perkins, Williams

ABSENT: Trustee Siegel

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Trustee Daniel Williams  
Kathleen Bruunsma, and seconded by Trustee Kathleen Bruunsma

Whereas, Grand Rapids Community College is a community college duly constituted under Act 331 of the Michigan Public Acts of 1966, as amended ("Act 331");

And Whereas, the State of Michigan, through Public Act 120 of the Michigan Public Acts of 2024 has indicated that the appropriation noted in Section 201 (1) of the same Act shall be allocated to each community college that certifies to the state budget director, through a resolution adopted by a board of trustees, that the college has met 4 out of 5 best practices listed in each category described in Section 230 (2);

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the Grand Rapids Community College:

The Board hereby certifies that the College has met all 5 of the best practices described in Public Act 94, Section 230, subsection (2) and offers the following examples of practices currently in place at the College in order to demonstrate compliance:

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.	<p>In Academic Year 24/25, GRCC signed 150 clinical agreements. Most of the new signed agreements came from smaller, long-term healthcare employers. During this time period, there were 1,242 apprentices at GRCC in construction electrical, manufacturing, and healthcare apprenticeships, both credit and non-credit programming. GRCC partnered with West Michigan Works and the Grand River Workforce Collaborative to create a USDOL Registered Landscaping Apprenticeship. The apprenticeship focuses on Landscaping projects along the Grand River.</p> <p>GRCC offers a co-curricular Medical Career Gateway Program in collaboration with Corewell Health and both of Michigan State University's medical schools. This program provides personalized support, professional development, and hands-on experiences to</p>

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
	<p>prepare students for medical school. So far, seven GRCC students have participated, gaining valuable advising from a GRCC biology faculty member, mentorship from MSU medical students, and job shadowing opportunities with Corewell physicians.</p>
(ii) The community college provides customized on-site training for area companies, employees, or both.	<p>GRCC has provided customized training to 55 companies, through 426 classes, reaching 1,911 people during the last fiscal year. In addition, 485 companies were served through workforce training, job training, construction electrical and continuing education/professional development.</p> <p>Our customized Machine CNC Apprenticeship Program with AutoCam Medical celebrated 10 years of partnership. Over 90 employees completed the apprenticeship with 50 employees receiving 27 credits towards their Applied Technology Associates Degree.</p>
(iii) The community college supports entrepreneurship through a small business assistance center or other training or consulting activities targeted toward small businesses.	<p>GRCC supports small businesses in West Michigan in collaboration with several community-based organizations and employer groups including: the Literacy Center of West Michigan, West Michigan Hispanic Center, the West Michigan Hispanic Chamber, Urban League of Western Michigan and WMCAT.</p> <p>In 2024-2025 GRCC supported 366 small business employees through our online class platform Cengage Learning's Ed2Go. Online topics ranged from project management, how to write a business plan, e-commerce, QuickBooks and budgets, and many other titles.</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>GRCC continues to be very active with industry partnerships at all campuses in Kent and Ottawa counties.</p> <p>The Tassell MTEC is located in a Grand Rapids Opportunity Zone and offers active hands-on training programs in automotive repair, artificial intelligence, automation, certified nursing assistant, community health worker, construction trades, computer support, direct support professionals, green infrastructure, electrical, pre-lineworker, energy industry fundamentals, medical assistant pharmacy technician, phlebotomy, public works, wastewater and fresh water treatment, and welding.</p> <p>Programs contain national credentials to validate learning. Programs in construction (Builders License) and Certified Nursing Assistant, medical assistant, CNC machining and welding have also been offered integrated with English language learning to meet the needs of our community.</p> <p>GRCC co-owns the Advanced Manufacturing Partnership Lab (AMP) at Western Michigan University's Grand Rapids Campus where CNC machining and apprenticeship programs for manufacturing are conducted.</p>



	<p>GRCC has labs at Holland Home, and Public Thread where industrial sewing, Certified Nursing Assistant, and digital skills are offered.</p> <p>GRCC operates the AI Incubator which seeks to provide upskilling workshops for local employers and community members, for example the Hispanic Center of West Michigan and East Grand Rapids High School.</p>
(v) The community college has active partnerships with local or regional workforce and economic development agencies.	<p>GRCC has active partnerships with a number of local and regional workforce and economic development agencies, including West Michigan Works!, The Right Place, Lakeshore Advantage, The Source, TalentFirst, City of Grand Rapids Economic Development Department, Downtown GR Inc, Hello West Michigan, Discover Manufacturing, Michigan Manufacturing Technology Center- West, West Michigan Health Career Council, West Michigan Tech Talent, the Construction Workforce Development Alliance, Agribusiness Consortium, City of Holland Economic Development, and the Michigan Manufacturing Association.</p> <p>In addition, there are partnerships with community-based non-profits working in workforce development (e.g., Goodwill of Greater Grand Rapids, LINC UP, Bethany Christian Services, Urban League of Greater Grand Rapids, KConnect, the Hispanic Center of Western Michigan, Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, United Way of Kent County, Habitat for Humanity of Grand Rapids, Grand Rapids Chamber of Commerce, South Kent Chamber of Commerce, West Coast Chamber and LAUP (Latin Americans United for Progress)</p>
<b>Category B: Educational Partnerships (must meet 4 of 5)</b>	
(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>GRCC currently maintains over 90 active partnerships within the KISD public, non-public, and charter high schools, intermediate school districts, technology centers, and collaborative homeschooling networks to facilitate dual enrollment opportunities.</p> <p>The college has seven active concurrent enrollment sites and eight early/middle college program partnerships in place.</p> <p>GRCC continues to partner with Grand Rapids Public Schools and Grand Rapids Community Foundation on Challenge Scholars at Union High School. This year, GRCC worked exclusively with Challenge Scholars graduates and provided individualized coaching support to students enrolled at the College.</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>Each year, Grand Rapids Community College partners with the Urban League of West Michigan to organize an African American Male Achievement Conference. This year, GRCC hosted the event in February 2025 and was our 10th anniversary holding the AAMAC! The event is a collaboration between the Urban League of West Michigan, Grand Rapids Public Schools, Grand Rapids Community College, Grand Valley State University, and the City of Grand Rapids. This year over 1,100 African American young men from West Michigan and the state engaged in workshops and other activities.</p> <p>GRCC also hosts the Latinx Youth Conference annually in partnership with the Hispanic Center of West Michigan. The Latinx Youth Conference aims to inspire Latinx students to pursue their education, demonstrate different career paths, and embrace their identity. In February 2025, GRCC hosted over 800 8th grade students from 5 different school districts, which included Grand Rapids Public Schools, Wyoming, Godfrey, Grandville, and Sparta. The message of this year's conference was "Your future, your story. Turn the page to success."</p> <p>In May 2025, GRCC hosted the annual GRPS Grade School to Grad School for Girls (G3) conference aimed to support young women in developing life skills, self-esteem, and career skills. Over 150 girls from GRPS attended. This year's theme was "Exhibiting Her Excellence."</p> <p>GRCC also partners with area K12 districts to provide opportunities for students to explore community college and post-secondary education options. Programming includes dual enrollment, middle college, and concurrent enrollment, as well as opportunities to participate in GRCC open houses and campus tours. Additionally, GRCC offers Workforce Fridays in collaboration with local schools. These are skilled trade-specific career experiences in construction, welding, and automotive. In 2024-25, GRCC partnered with Kentwood, Northview, and Kenowa Hills schools, holding 27 classes with a total of 42 students.</p> <p>GRCC partnered with Junior Achievement to offer JA Girls' Dream Fair: A STEM Experience in March 2025 for over 200 middle and high school girls. We also partnered with STEMGreenhouse to offer the Sankofa Academy for 50 at-risk middle school students in June - July, 2025.</p>
<p>(iii) The community college provides, supports, or participates in programming to promote successful transitions to college for traditional age students, including grant</p>	<p>During the 2024-25 academic year, GRCC re-designed Bridges to College - Raider Ready as a hybrid 9-week, co-curricular summer program to help graduating high school seniors acclimate to the college experience. All students participated in math skills assessment and had the opportunity to earn up to 5 college credits in</p>



<p>programs such as talent search, upward bound, or other activities to promote college readiness in area high schools and community centers.</p>	<p>the following courses of their choice: College Learning Studies (CLS 100), Theater (TH 248), and Mathematics (MA 070).</p> <p>In addition to earning college credit, students obtained leadership and life skills through interactions with campus faculty and staff, as well as community partners. Fun activities, including visits to area organizations and to the movies, were also interspersed throughout the experience to enhance team building and a sense of belonging. Students also had the opportunity to earn a \$500 stipend toward future college expenses if they participated in all aspects of the program and achieved at least 75% attendance. Bridges to College - Raider Ready is open and free to high school graduates planning to attend GRCC in the fall semester. During the last year, students from nine school districts in Kent and Ottawa counties participated.</p>
<p>(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.</p>	<p>GRCC provides a non-credit ESL program for adult learners and prepares them for post-secondary education and job training. We also provide career coaching, community building, and resource connections. Our partnership with Kent ISD offers students the opportunity to get a GED and to transfer to GRCC after completion of their GED or ESL program.</p> <p>GRCC received another installment of the "Immigrant Student Success Grant," which was used to continue the ESL Fast Track Workshops and the Expanded ESL Tutorial Support.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The ESL Fast Track Workshops– The GRCC Fast Track workshop gives students the opportunity to test out of ESL classes that they no longer need (from a skills perspective). The fast track is literally speeding up the pace with which students progress toward their broader educational goals, and students are likely going to be retained at higher rates.</li> <li>• Expanded ESL Tutorial Support–ESL students have academic challenges that are unique to them, particularly as they relate to the development of a second language. In addition, many of our ESL students are adults with families, jobs, and other vital responsibilities. Making our tutorial support available in the evenings and on weekends is an attempt to match this groups' schedules. Again, the work of the tutor is having a direct impact on the success of the ESL students</li> </ul>
<p>(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.</p>	<p>GRCC currently has 43 active partnerships with 4-year colleges and universities, including articulated programs and eight reverse transfer agreements. The articulated programs can be separated into the following categories, with the number of each indicated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Articulated Pre-Majors (2+2 agreements): 23</li> <li>• Articulated Pre-Majors (3+1 agreements): 2</li> <li>• Articulated Pre-professional programs (3+1 agreements): 4</li> <li>• Articulated Pre-professional programs (2+2 agreements): 1</li> <li>• Articulated Career Programs (2+2 agreements): 5</li> </ul>

	<p>In addition, GRCC promotes successful transfer through offering pre-majors in the following categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General Pre-Majors: 41</li> <li>• General Pre-Professional Programs: 4</li> </ul>
<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.	<p>GRCC provided 710 continuing education courses serving 5,936 students.</p> <p>The Tassell MTEC hosted 39 in person information sessions for 21 local high schools and older youth community-based organizations.</p> <p>MTEC staff held 6 virtual information sessions for 8 local high schools and older youth community-based organizations. These information sessions are focused on career exploration that could lead to personal enrichment or professional development for the attendees.</p> <p>Sixty-five older learners (senior learners over 55 years old) participated in fitness classes, water aerobics, and wellness/mindfulness learning opportunities.</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>The Albert P. Smith Music Center provides rehearsal space for the Grand Rapids Choir of Men and Boys. GRCC provides opportunities for community members to enroll in ensembles that meet at times that accommodate most work schedules. These ensembles are: Campus Band, Kent Philharmonic Orchestra, Percussion Ensemble, Community Guitar Ensemble, Flute Ensemble, and Trombone Choir. They meet one evening each week. In addition, all of our performing ensembles present multiple concerts and recitals each year that are reasonably priced and open to all.</p> <p>The music department partners with local venues outside of GRCC to expand the community reach and engagement of our department. We have a long-standing partnership with Saint Cecilia Music Center, where we perform several concerts each year. Our collage concert, Musical moods was held at Byron Center High School. The College Orchestra performed concerts at Beacon Hill Retirement Community.</p> <p>In addition, GRCC hosts an annual "Diversity Lecture Series" that features national speakers on a variety of topics. The 2024-2025 Diversity Lecture included a diverse selection of speakers that covered topics around disabilities, advocacy, belonging and the importance of representation. This year's speaker series included diverse voices such as: Dr. Shaq Anthony, LAUP CEO Johnny Rodriguez, Arab American educator Dave Serio, Ovell Barbee, Mandice McAllister, and Robin Wall-Kimmerer.</p>



	<p>GRCC is also a proud sponsor of the Giant Awards and Banquet. On February 1st, 2025, more than 1,000 community members attended the GRCC sponsored event to recognize African Americans who are exceptional leaders and have shaped the history, quality of life, and the culture of our West Michigan communities. Proceeds from the annual event benefit the Junior GIANT Scholarship.</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>The Linn Maxwell Keller Recital Hall is home to many of the small ensemble concerts and recitals. Recitals are always at no cost to the public and concerts are reasonably priced. The music department also partnered with the theater department to hold a concert, Jazz Night at Spectrum Theater.</p> <p>GRCC operates the Collins Art Gallery and typically holds 4 separate visual arts shows. The Collins Art Gallery was, once again, a venue for ArtPrize 2024. The college hosted an Art Prize reception on September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024.</p> <p>GRCC's Spectrum Theater is home not only to the College's Theater program, but also two community theater groups: Actor's Theater and Jewish Theater Grand Rapids.</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>GRCC operates a gymnasium, a fitness center including cardio and strength fitness equipment, locker rooms, and leisure spaces that are all open to the public and are available for community use.</p>
<p>(v) The community college promotes, sponsors, or hosts community service activities for students, staff, or community members.</p>	<p>The College offers several opportunities throughout the year to promote community service. These include:</p> <p>Experiential Learning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• offering 52 courses with a service/volunteer component</li> <li>• facilitating two Day of Service events where we partner with four to six local organizations and Honors Program students serve as volunteers</li> </ul> <p>Woodrick Center for Inclusion and Multicultural Affairs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MLK Week included MLK-themed conversations, events, and a day of service volunteering in GRCC's campus food pantry and From One to Another clothing closet</li> <li>• MLK commemoration event in coordination with Davenport University and Grand Valley State University.</li> <li>• Juneteenth Celebration</li> <li>• A Glimpse of Africa Festival</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Garfield Park Neighborhoods Association health education outreach</li> </ul> <p>Student Life &amp; Leadership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Utilize internal and external volunteers that are trained to support unloading and packaging of items in the student food pantry.</li> <li>• Partner with GRCC Foundation to offer GradFest and Commencement, including information booths and donations for caps, gowns, and tassels</li> <li>• Share opportunities in the community to students via RaiderConnect to promote service and involvement beyond campus, such as: Grand Rapids Art Museum (GRAM) opportunities or opportunities with the Hunger Free Task Force</li> </ul> <p>President's Office</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinated 14 staff volunteers to serve the JA Biztown learning experience of the Junior Achievement of the Michigan Great Lakes on March 5, 2025</li> </ul>
--	--



Adopted this day of September 15, 2025

YEAS: Trustees: Brame, Bruinsma, Lopez,  
Lovelady Mitchell, Perkins, Williams

NAYS: 0

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the forgoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Grand Rapids Community College, County of Kent, State of Michigan, at a meeting held on September 15, 2025, the original of which is on file in my office and available to the public. Public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in compliance with the Open Meetings Act, Act No. 267 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1976, including in the case of a special or rescheduled meeting, notice by posting at least eighteen (18) hours prior to the time set for said meeting.

GRAND RAPIDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
State of Michigan

By: 

Brandy Lovelady Mitchell, Chairperson, Board of Trustees

Countersigned:

By: 

Daniel Williams, Secretary, Board of Trustees