

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 21st, 2026.

Present: Trustees: Brame, Bruinsma, Gordon,
Lovelady Mitchell, Williams

Absent: Trustees: Lopez, Siegel

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Trustee Williams,
Daniel, and seconded by Trustee Lovelady Mitchell, Brandy

Whereas, Grand Rapids Community College is a community college duly constituted under Act 94 of the Michigan Public Acts of 1979, as amended ("Act 21");

And whereas, the State of Michigan, through Public Act 94 of the Michigan Public Acts of 1979 has indicated that the appropriation noted in Section 230 (2) 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:

Category A: Economic Development and Business or Industry Partnerships (must meet 4 of 5)

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
(i) The community college has active partnerships with local employers including hospitals and health care providers.	GRCC partners with healthcare employers from across the state to secure clinical training sites. These agreements support students in the Nursing, Dental, OTA, RAD Tech, and CVT programs. In academic year 25/26, GRCC partnered with eighty-six (86) clinical sites within the Grand Rapids area and an additional twenty-five (25) sites outside the Grand Rapids area. These partnerships provide the practical experience required for healthcare education in support of workforce needs. Through the West Michigan BSN Connect program, ADN graduates transferred from GRCC to Davenport University, Ferris State University, or Grand Valley State University. This pathway saved BSN students time and money and allowed graduates to transition quickly

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
	into open positions with healthcare providers to meet regional staffing shortages. 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 prepare students for medical school. In academic year 25/26, 21 GRCC students participated, gaining valuable advice from GRCC biology faculty members, mentorship from MSU medical students, mentorship from MSU Associate Deans of Admissions, and job shadowing opportunities with Corewell physicians. GRCC created the FutureTech Careers Program, combining services and programming offered through the Strengthening Community Colleges 4 and the National Science Foundation Experiential Learning in Emerging and New Technologies (ExLENT) grants. The program supported students in Emerging Technology and Advanced Manufacturing today and builds systems to support tomorrow's students. Recent enrollment figures included: 121 students enrolled, 79 who trained with local employers (40,290 minutes of student-employer engagement), \$95,178 in paid internships, scholarships, and emergency support for students. We also created 8 career success modules and 9 career success digital badges. 31 Local employers engaged in this work including Amway, Comerica Bank, Macatawa Technologies, Slothwerks, and many more.
(ii) The community college provides customized on-site training for area companies, employees, or both.	In the academic year 25/26, GRCC provided customized training to 37 companies, through 463 classes, reaching 898 people. In addition, 353 companies were served through workforce training, job training, construction electrical and continuing education/professional development.
(iii) The community college supports entrepreneurship through a small business assistance center or other training or consulting activities targeted toward small businesses.	GRCC supported small businesses in West Michigan in collaboration with several community-based organizations and employer groups including: the Literacy Center of West Michigan, Hispanic Center of West Michigan, the West Michigan Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Urban League of West Michigan. and West Michigan Center for Arts and Technology (WMCAT). GRCC also offered online classes through Cengage Learning's Ed2Go that ranged from project management, how to write a business plan, e-commerce, Quickbooks and budgets, and many other titles. GRCC supported 230 small business employers in 2025-26.

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
(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.	GRCC continued to be very active with industry partnerships at its various campuses located in Kent and Ottawa counties. The Tassell MTEC is located in a Grand Rapids Opportunity Zone and offers active hands-on training programs. In academic year 25/26, the Tassell MTEC offered programs in automotive repair, artificial intelligence, automation, certified nursing assistant, 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. Programming contained 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. 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 were conducted. GRCC offered a Certified Nursing Assistant program and digital skills at labs in the Holland Home. In 25/26, students in GRCC's health programs experienced advanced technology through coursework and campus laboratories. GRCC's dental clinic transitioned to paperless digital accounts using Upscale Dental software. In GRCC's Occupational Therapy Assistant labs, students trained using smart home equipment, integrating electronic aids to daily living. Finally, the nursing program continued to incorporate technological advances to simulation labs which aided in providing real-world experiences prior to entering the patient care environment. These modern tools prepared students to meet current workplace standards. 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, the West Michigan Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Michigan Community College Association among others. Community members can earn the Google AI Certificate and AWS AI Practitioner Certificate free of charge. In the academic year 2025-2026, 280 people participated in free AI Incubator events.

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(v) The community college has active partnerships with local or regional workforce and economic development agencies.	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. 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 West Michigan, KConnect, the Hispanic Center of West Michigan, West 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). In the academic year 25/26 GRCC staff members served and continue to serve on boards for The Source, The Right Place, The Right Place councils, and West Michigan Works!

Category B: Educational Partnerships (must meet 4 of 5)

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
(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.	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. In the academic year 25/26, GRCC provided and communicated multiple Zoom information sessions for community members, students and parents to facilitate understanding of college level expectations and support early college experiences. The Challenge Scholars program focus moved to assisting high school seniors. The office of High School Partnerships worked with Union High School staff and Promise Zone to support students who were interested in dual enrollment to provide seamless support as these students transitioned to degree seeking status after their senior year.

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
(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.	Each year, Grand Rapids Community College partners with the Urban League of West Michigan to host the African American Male Achievement Conference. In March 2026, GRCC welcomed more than 1,100 African American young men representing over 26 schools from West Michigan and across the state. The conference is a collaborative effort among the Urban League of West Michigan, Grand Rapids Public Schools, Grand Rapids Community College, Grand Valley State University, and the City of Grand Rapids. Throughout the event, students participated in engaging workshops, leadership development sessions, and activities designed to inspire academic success, personal growth, and future career exploration. GRCC also hosts the Latinx Youth Conference annually in partnership with the Hispanic Center of West Michigan. The 2026 conference was held in March and welcomed 844 eighth-grade students from five school districts: Grand Rapids Public Schools, Wyoming, Godfrey-Lee, Grandville, and Sparta. The Latinx Youth Conference is designed to inspire Latinx students to pursue higher education, explore diverse career pathways, and embrace their cultural identity. The theme for this year's conference, "Explore Today, Lead Tomorrow," encouraged students to discover their potential, envision their future, and develop the confidence to become tomorrow's leaders. In early May 2026, 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 320 girls from GRPS attended. This year's theme was "Exhibiting Her Excellence." Grades ranging from 6th-9th from over 12 GRPS schools. GRCC partnered with Junior Achievement to offer JA Girls' Dream Fair: A STEM Experience in March 2026 for over 200 middle and high school girls. The college also partnered with STEM Greenhouse to offer the Sankofa Academy for 40 at-risk middle school students in June - July, 2025. GRCC partnered with The Pi Academy to offer a Pi Camp in June 2026. The college hosted 20 students aged 11-14, who participated in coding games including playing a pizza delivery game, programming robot cars, and exploring electronics. They also took home a full Raspberry Pi computer setup (computer, monitor, keyboard, and mouse). GRCC also hosted Community STEM Day: Families and community members of all ages explored science, technology, engineering and math during Community Stem Day in March 2026. Community STEM

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	Day is a free, hands-on event designed to spark curiosity and inspire learners through interactive activities led by GRCC faculty, students and staff. Participants took advantage of exploring anatomy, biology, chemistry, physics, math, health sciences, psychology and more through engaging, drop-in experiences offered throughout the day. This year, the college hosted 800 participants. Additionally, GRCC offered Workforce Fridays in collaboration with local schools. These are skilled trade-specific career experiences in construction, welding, and automotive. In 2025-26, GRCC partnered with Kentwood and Northview Public schools, holding 27 classes with a total of 53 students.
(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.	The Bridges to College (B2C) Raider Ready Program is an innovative college readiness initiative designed to support traditional-age students as they transition successfully from high school to Grand Rapids Community College. Through a comprehensive nine-week summer experience, the program helped students build the academic confidence, college knowledge, and sense of belonging that are essential for long-term success. Participants enrolled in college coursework while engaging in a structured series of co-curricular experiences focused on student success, leadership development, career exploration, financial literacy, wellness, and campus engagement. Students developed relationships with faculty, advisors, peer mentors, and dedicated program staff who provide individualized guidance and ongoing support. The program also familiarized students with college resources and services, ensuring they know where to seek assistance before the fall semester begins. A total of 44 students participated in the program at both the Lakeshore and Grand Rapids campuses during Summer 2026.
(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.	Following up on the lessons learned from a recent grant project (the Immigrant Student Success Grant), the college focused on a few things during the last academic year: - Continued the ESL Fast Track Workshops– The GRCC Fast Track workshop gave students the opportunity to test out of ESL classes that they no longer needed (from a skills perspective). The fast-track workshops literally speed up the pace with which students' progress toward their broader educational goals, and we anticipate that students will likely be retained at higher rates. - Offered a remote testing option for ESL students who were required to take the LOEP (Levels of English Proficiency) test. - Initiated a plan to offer the Fast Track CDA Formal Training Hours Certificate in Spanish. This certificate provides the 120 required formal training hours for the Child Development

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	Associate (CDA) credential. We are preparing to “go live” with offering the Spanish version of the program in the Winter 27 semester.
(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.	GRCC currently has 46 active partnerships with 4-year colleges and universities, including articulated programs and 8 reverse transfer agreements. The articulated programs can be separated into the following categories, with the number of each indicated: • Articulated Pre-Majors (2+2 agreements): 26 • Articulated Pre-Majors (3+1 agreements): 2 • Articulated Pre-professional programs (3+1 agreements): 4 • Articulated Pre-professional programs (2+2 agreements): 1 • Articulated Career Programs (2+2 agreements): 5 • In addition, GRCC promotes successful transfer through offering pre-majors in the following categories: • General Pre-Majors: 41 • General Pre-Professional Programs: 4

Category C: Community Services (must meet 4 of 5)

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
(i) The community college provides continuing education programming for leisure, wellness, personal enrichment, or professional development.	In the academic year 25/26, GRCC provided 380 continuing education courses serving 3,988 students. The Tassell MTEC hosted 75 in person information sessions for 47 local high schools and older youth community-based organizations. MTEC staff held 10 virtual information sessions for 12 local high schools and older youth community-based organizations. These information sessions were focused on career exploration that could lead to personal enrichment or professional development for the attendees. 69 older learners (senior learners over 55 years old) participated in fitness classes, water aerobics, and wellness/mindfulness learning opportunities.
(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.	In academic year 25/26, GRCC partnered with the Grand Rapids Choir of Men and Boys. Albert P. Smith Music Center provided rehearsal space for the choir. The Musician's League of Grand Rapids also used the music center for their annual testing in February of 2026. GRCC provided opportunities for community members to enroll in ensembles that met several times a week that accommodated most work schedules. These ensembles were: Campus Band, Kent

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	Philharmonic Orchestra, Percussion Ensemble, Community Guitar Ensemble, Flute Ensemble, and Trombone Choir. They met one evening each week. In addition, all of the college's performing ensembles presented multiple concerts and recitals in the academic year 25/26 that were free to students, low cost to others, and open to all. The music department partnered with local venues outside of GRCC to expand the community reach and engagement of our department. GRCC has a long-standing partnership with Saint Cecilia Music Center, where we performed several concerts in 25/26. The college's department-wide collage concert, Musical Moods was held at Northview High School in November, 2025. Additionally, in October, 2025, GRCC's bands, orchestra, and guitar ensemble performed a concert at Ottawa Hills High School where the GRCC Ottawa Hills High School Band performed side-by-side with the GRCC Wind Ensemble. In March, 2026 the Music Department hosted a high school honor band where over 100 high school students came to campus for 2 days to rehearse and perform a concert at Saint Cecilia Music Center. In addition, GRCC continued its longstanding commitment to fostering inclusion, belonging, and community engagement through the 31st Annual Diversity Lecture Series. The 2025–2026 series, themed “Cultivating a Culture of Care,” provided students, employees, and community members with opportunities to engage in meaningful dialogue around empathy, inclusive leadership, mental health and wellness, cultural identity, educational equity, STEM access, and social justice. The series featured a diverse group of local and nationally recognized leaders and scholars, including Dr. Brandi Pritchett-Johnson, Carlos Sanchez, Dr. Keli Christopher, Dr. Robert Shorty, and Calvetta Watlington of the Pauli Murray Center for History and Social Justice. Through these programs, GRCC continued to create accessible opportunities for learning, critical dialogue, and connection while strengthening relationships between the college and the broader West Michigan community.
(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,	The GRCC Library and Learning Commons actively serves the community with resources that support lifelong learning. The public has full access to the library space, services, staff expertise, and collections that include over 75,000 print books and 25,000 print journals and magazines. The library provides access to our digital

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
museums, art galleries, or television or radio stations.	collections, computer workstations, and research help from our faculty librarians. In the academic year 25/26, the library scheduled several community events through the college's Campus Common initiative. Furthermore, the library offered enrichment programming in collaboration with area public libraries. 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. GRCC operates the Collins Art Gallery and typically holds 4 separate visual arts shows. 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. Both the Collins Art Gallery and the Spectrum Theater were Art Prize Venues in Fall 25. The college hosted an Art Prize reception on 9/23/25.
(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.	GRCC operates a gymnasium, a fitness center, including cardio and strength fitness equipment, locker rooms, indoor artificial turf area, and leisure spaces that are all open to the public and are available for community use.
(v) The community college promotes, sponsors, or hosts community service activities for students, staff, or community members.	The College offers opportunities for students to serve the community through course-based experiences where faculty offer options to students to serve their community as part of meeting course learning outcomes within their courses. In academic year 25/26, 15 course sections offered this opportunity and 160 students successfully completed the activity. Day of Service events were facilitated last year with 44 students serving 6 community organizations. The Woodrick Center for Inclusion and Multicultural Affairs offered the following events during academic year 25/26: MLK Week included MLK-themed conversations, events, and a day of service volunteering to decorate bags in partnership with Kids Food Basket

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
	• Film Screening & Dialogue “One Night in Miami” • Guest speaker Dr. Dar Mayweather • MLK 40th commemoration event in coordination with Davenport University and Grand Valley State University. • Juneteenth Celebration • A Glimpse of Africa Festival

Adopted this day of 21st September, 2026

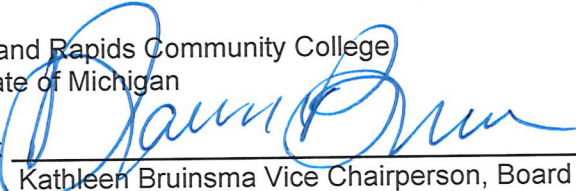
Yeas: Trustees: Brame, Bruinsma, Gordon,
Lovelady Mitchell, Williams

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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 21, 2026, 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: 

Kathleen Bruinsma Vice Chairperson, Board of
Trustees

Countersigned:

By: 

Daniel Williams, Secretary, Board of Trustees