

MINUTES
NORTH CENTRAL MICHIGAN COLLEGE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SPECIAL MEETING (RETREAT)
Citizens National Bank - Boardroom
Tuesday, June 25, 2024 (12:00 - 3:00 P.M.)

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Rasmussen called the meeting to order at 12:24 p.m.

2. ATTENDANCE ROLL CALL

Trustee Etienne: PRESENT
Trustee Fought: PRESENT
Trustee Keiswetter: PRESENT
Trustee Kring: PRESENT
Trustee Pretty: PRESENT
Trustee Shirilla: PRESENT
Trustee Rasmussen: PRESENT

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved by Trustee Etienne and supported by Trustee Fought that the agenda be approved as written.

AYES: Trustees Etienne, Fought, Keiswetter, Kring, Pretty, Rasmussen, and Shirilla

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

4. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE OF MEETING

Strategic Planning

5. TRANSACTION OF BUSINESS IN ACCORD WITH STATED PURPOSE:

a. Enrollment Update

President Finley noted that enrollment is crucial to meeting our mission. He spoke to the budget which is comprised of 40% county taxes; 24-25% state appropriations, 30% tuition, and approximately 5% other sources.

Summer 2024 enrollment was very good, totaling 304 students this year compared to 270 last year. This resulted in a head count increase of 12.5% and contact hour increase of 19.5%.

President Finley spoke to the challenges we face for enrollment for Fall 2024. Due to the new FAFSA that was rolled out this year, many delays and problems were created, and we made a conscious decision to begin registering students a bit later. The number of FAFSA applicants nationwide is down about 30%. The past two weeks attendees of our registration days are down. Emmet County enrollment continues to drop. There are fewer graduates from Emmet County High Schools which greatly contributes to this. We are currently down 1% on headcount and 2% on FTE despite application numbers being up.

Different from previous years, students who don't enroll or register are attributing this to not yet deciding, as opposed to having chosen an alternate institution.

Due to our limited service-area K-12 population, we really need to cast the net wider. Our greatest need right now is a second residence hall in order to do this.

It was suggested that perhaps with more aggressive aptitude testing, we could direct and better recruit students from high schools.

Career and Continuing Education Fast Track completers have totaled 313 in two years. This year it is 184 completers!

b. Campus Initiatives

i. Trust & Leadership Workshops

The sessions with Libby have been very beneficial on campus. Professor Jessick also noted that these sessions have helped with communication.

ii. CATEE Complex Project

President Finley shared that renovations (Phase I) are underway in the nursing corridor. The project is on budget and on-time thus far. Phase II plans to renovate and expand HESC and construct a new TECH building were shared out and discussed.

iii. Child Care Initiative & CCAMPIS

The first leg of this is in support of our student parents. Work is being done to identify who they are and determine what we can do to help them succeed. Wraparound support will be available to all student parents. The second leg of this initiative is creating a true-cost model childcare facility. In the first year, the model will have 12 pre-K students (specifically infants through 3-year-olds) and grow to 40 the following year.

iv. Campus Signage Update

Thus far we have completed demolition and installed the first phase of the monument bases. They will receive a dark gray stucco finish and then some of the completed signs will begin being installed. The bulk of this work will take place in July and will be completed by August.

c. Higher Learning Commission (HLC) Reaccreditation

An HLC comprehensive evaluation visit will be held March 10 and 11, 2025. VP Strom and team have this well in hand, and they want to knock it out of the park. There are many steps planned prior to this visit, including the weekly 'Met-Together' emails, a comprehensive brochure, presentations during fall and winter Welcome Back Week. We will have drafts of 3 of the 5 criterion completed at the end of summer, and mock visits along the way to prepare.

d. Bylaws & Policy Review

The college has engaged an ACCT consultant to assist with a thorough review of our bylaws and policies. Brad Ebersole has started with the Bylaws and shared his initial feedback with us, which has been shared with the Bylaws & Policy Committee. This is an important, but not urgent undertaking. A civility statement would potentially fit in this area of work. Trustee Keiswetter has been working on a draft civility statement to share with the committee.

e. Vision 2030

President Finley shared a Vision 2030 document provided by North Central's Foundation, which outlines our mission, vision over the next five years. Broken down, the focus lies on: persistence/retention, completion, and enrollment. Details were shared on how we plan to meet these goals.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

Professor Jessick shared that he and Dr. Finley met yesterday and had a great conversation for over an hour. He noted they spoke to the hot topic of artificial intelligence (AI) and trying to determine the best way to move forward with this technology. He noted his AI policy in his syllabus was written by ChatGPT and edited by him. Chet asks his students to do the same with their work.

He also spoke to the prolonged negotiations with the faculty association and believes they are close. There are just a handful of issues remaining including the salary issue. He spoke to the difference in the negotiation process that may have contributed to the prolonged negotiations. It was noted that both sides felt the other side was not completing and returning responses in a timely manner. Both sides have dug their heels in on certain issues. Scheduling was certainly an issue in dragging this out as well. He believes colleagues on the opposite side of the table have been bargaining in good faith. There is a perspective from both sides of the other not being willing to compromise. In the future, he hopes that this process could occur without third parties involved and could lead to a swifter, more efficient process.

7. OLD BUSINESS

Chairman Rasmussen motioned to go into a closed session per President Finley's request to consider the following:

- a. *Closed session to consider strategy and negotiation sessions connected with the negotiation of a collective bargaining agreement if either negotiating party requests a closed hearing. MCL 15.268.1(c)*
- b. *Closed session to consider Personnel Evaluation per request. MCL 15.268.1(a) – Presidential Evaluation*

AYES: Trustees Etienne, Fought, Keiswetter, Kring, Pretty, Rasmussen, and Shirilla.

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The trustees met in closed session at 2:00 p.m.

The trustees returned to open session at 3:10 p.m.

ATTENDANCE ROLL CALL TAKEN

Trustee Etienne: ABSENT

Trustee Fought: PRESENT

Trustee Keiswetter: PRESENT

Trustee Kring: PRESENT

Trustee Pretty: PRESENT

Trustee Shirilla: PRESENT

Trustee Rasmussen: PRESENT

8. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chairman Rasmussen motioned and Trustee Pretty supported that the meeting be adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

AYES: Trustees Fought, Keiswetter, Kring, Pretty, Rasmussen, and Shirilla.

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Trustee Etienne.



/S/ Daniel D. Rasmussen, Chairman



/S/ Melissa Keiswetter, Secretary