

MINUTES
NORTH CENTRAL MICHIGAN COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING – Library Conference Rooms 1 & 2
Tuesday, October 22, 2024 (4:00 p.m.)

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Rasmussen called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

2. ATTENDANCE ROLL CALL TAKEN:

PRESENT: Trustees Etienne, Fought, Keiswetter, Kromm, Pretty, Rasmussen, and Shirilla

ABSENT: None

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved by Trustee Etienne and supported by Trustee Pretty that the agenda be approved.

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Trustee Fought and supported by Trustee Etienne that the minutes of the September 24, 2024, Regular Meeting, be approved with the addition of 12.c, Chairman Rasmussen noted that Trustee Etienne will be replaced by Trustee Kromm on the Curriculum Committee, and Trustee Pretty will replace former trustee Dave Kring on the Finance and Facilities Committee.

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

5. Dave Kring, former trustee, retired from the Board of Trustees effective July 31, 2024. Upon this announcement, the following resolution was shared to honor Dave's service to the College:

WHEREAS, Trustee Kring has faithfully served North Central Michigan College for nearly 20 years, since his initial appointment to the Board of Trustees in 2003; and

WHEREAS, during his time at North Central Michigan College, Trustee Kring has provided exemplary service in a variety of positions – serving as Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees from 2012 to 2024, and serving on both the Finance & Facilities Committee and the Personnel Committee for years; and

WHEREAS, during his time at North Central Michigan College, Trustee Kring's service was pivotal to many accomplishments such as beginning the Early College programs with Petoskey, Boyne City and Gaylord; reaching the designation of Achieving the Dream Leader College; and securing Distance Delivery approval from HLC; and establishing the Fast Track Programs; and

WHEREAS, Trustee Kring's contributions were instrumental to installation of the Harris Sculpture

Garden; construction of the Health Education and Science Center (HESC); renovation of the library in 2017; and launching the Mobile Fab Lab; and

WHEREAS, Trustee Kring played an important role in the successful Building Tomorrow Together campaign which provided the college with critical funding for scholarships, student success resources, technology and innovation, and the newly renovated Borra Learning Center; and

WHEREAS, during his time at North Central Michigan College, Trustee Kring played an important role in the adoption of the Timberwolf mascot and the launch of Intercollegiate Athletics (basketball, volleyball, cross country and eSports); and

WHEREAS, Trustee Kring was part of awarding the 11,000th degree or certificate earned from North Central Michigan College, and awarding the 1st Honorary Degree to Paul Keiswetter in 2019; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of North Central Michigan College formally extends to Dave Kring its sincere appreciation for his loyalty, many contributions, and dedication to our students as evidenced by this resolution; be it further

RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution of recognition appears in the minutes of this meeting of the Board of Trustees, so that this heartfelt tribute of respect and gratitude will be included in the permanent records of this College.

It was moved by Trustee Rasmussen and supported by Trustee Fought that this resolution be adopted as written.

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

6. COMMUNICATIONS

President Finley shared the following communications:

- a. NCMC sees nearly 5% increase in Fall 2024 enrollment.
North Central Michigan College's Fall 2024 enrollment has increased by 4.83% compared to Fall 2023, marking two consecutive years of growth in credit and contact hours and reflecting positive momentum in the college's ongoing student success initiatives. Both new and returning students contributed to this growth, with notable gains in key student demographics.

Among the highlights of Fall 2024 enrollment:

- A 5.57% increase in dual-enrolled students, as more high school students in North Central's service area choose to get a head start on their college education
- A 7% increase in students aged 22 and older, highlighting the college's appeal to adult learners
- A 12.28% increase in full-time students, signaling stronger persistence and engagement

More information may be found here:

<https://www.ncmich.edu/community-events/news-and-press-releases/fall-2024-enrollment-increase.html>

- b. UpNorthLive: NCMC starts EMT course at its Gaylord campus.
On September 23, 2024, UpNorthLive had news coverage about North

Central's EMT training program in Gaylord. Aside from a \$50 registration fee, students in 13 counties pay no tuition.

More information may be found here:

[https://upnorthlive.com/news/local/north-central-michigan-college-starts-
emt- course-at-its-gaylord-campus](https://upnorthlive.com/news/local/north-central-michigan-college-starts-emt-course-at-its-gaylord-campus)

- c. NCMC celebrates major milestones in CATEE project with two October events. North Central Michigan College hosted two special events in October to celebrate progress on its \$22 million Career and Technical Education Enhancement project (CATEE), which launched in June 2024. The project, which will significantly expand NCMC's healthcare, manufacturing, and skilled trades programs, focuses on updates to the college's Health Education and Science Center (HESC) and the development of a state-of-the-art Technology Center.

The first event, CATEE Hard Hat Tours, was on Friday, October 4, at 9:30 a.m. in the lobby of the HESC. The event included a brief presentation on the impact of the CATEE project, followed by tours of the construction site.

The second event, a CATEE Opening Ceremony, was held on Monday, October 7, at 2 p.m. in partnership with the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians to host this special ceremony as the college prepares to begin Phase II of the CATEE project. Fred Harrington, retired NCMC professor and tribal elder with Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, led the ceremony.

The full press release may be found here:

[https://www.ncmich.edu/community-events/news-and-press
releases/catee- project-october-events-2024.html](https://www.ncmich.edu/community-events/news-and-press-releases/catee-project-october-events-2024.html)

[These news stories resulted in a brief interview on Channel 9 and 10's Good Day Northern Michigan show on Wednesday, October 9th.](#)

7. SCHEDULED PUBLIC COMMENT

Chet Jessick, Professor of Marketing and AFPS President noted that his monthly discussions with President Finley have begun.

He also wanted to thank the board and foundation for continued support of the Real Talk initiative. Real Talk is building relationships and focuses on inclusion, retention, and completion.

There are currently four Real Talk cohorts consisting of the following faculty:

Scott LaDeur, Political Science; Brian Goetz, Mathematics; Chet Jessick, Marketing; Jill Warner, Early Childhood Education; David Montgomery, Geography; Dom Borowiak, English; Tom Knott, Accounting; Gary Matelski, Mathematics; Isis Arsnoe, Biology; Kerri Finlayson, Sociology, Anthropology; Angele Larson, Communication, Spanish; Stacey Burns, Office Administrative; Jenny Maginnis, Communication; Jane Bow, Office Administration, Joelle Drader, Counselor; Susan Bowman, English; Karrie Pater, Allied Health; Jeff Lockridge, Earth Science; Shae Long-Kish, English; Mary Brower, English; Mary Moore, CIS; Lisa Stabile, Nursing; Kermit Barrette, Art; Seamus Norgaard, Environmental Sustainability, Sociology. We thank administration, the Board, and the Foundation for continued support of this important initiative.

Chet wanted to thank the board and administration on providing professional development opportunities for the faculty. Most recently, Chet and other faculty had the opportunity to attend the Lilly Conference in Traverse City that focused on teaching and learning.

8. FINANCIAL REPORT

Dr. Tom Zeidel, Vice President for Finance & Facilities, was asked by Trustee Fought to provide a financial report for September 2024. Tom certified that the financials as of September 2024 are within the adopted tentative budget for 2024-25.

It was moved by Trustee Fought and supported by Trustee Pretty that the financial report and statement of bills be accepted as submitted.

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

9. PRESIDENT'S REPORTS

President Finley shared the following:

a. Athletics Update

- i. E-Sports – North Central will be competing in two game titles this year.
- ii. Cross Country – North Central will run at the MCCA and regional 12 championship on October 25th. Last weekend North Central had multiple personal records set. In fact, Zach Maendel, set a new 8K (~5 miles) record for the College at 27:35! We will know after October 25th if anyone will qualify for nationals.
- iii. Volleyball – This has been North Central's most successful season in history. In only our third year of intercollegiate competition, we are 2nd in the conference, and we have qualified for the region 12 great lakes district tournament. We had multiple 'players of the week' from the conference and one NJCAA division II national player of the week, Laken LeBaron. Our last home game will be on October 25th, and we will honor the sophomores.
- iv. Men's and Women's Basketball – The season starts Friday, November 1st

b. Timberwolf Leadership Academy

The Timberwolf Leadership Academy is designed to support emerging student leaders by providing comprehensive training in leadership principles and skills. Students who successfully complete a series of five of six sessions will receive a \$1,000 scholarship from NCMC to support their continued program of choice.

The inaugural Timberwolf Leadership Academy took place earlier this month, attracting an impressive 59 students! Participants eagerly explored the theme of Team Building and Collaboration. They engaged in activities designed to promote personal growth and leadership development. Our future leaders demonstrated great enthusiasm and engagement throughout the event.

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Bylaws & Policy Committee

Trustee Pretty shared that the Bylaws and Policy Committee met on Tuesday, October 15, 2024, to review the updated Board Policy 406 – Freedom of Assembly and a new Board Policy 317 – Name, Image, and Likeness for our Student-Athletes.

Background:

Board Policy 406, Freedom of Assembly was revised to clearly define where spontaneous expressions, speeches, demonstrations, and distribution may occur. The policy defines the following topics:

- a. Expressive activity venue
- b. Expressive activity
- c. Regulation of time, place, and manner
- d. Prohibited conduct

- e. Enforcement and disciplinary actions
- f. Obligations of the college and participants
- g. Reservation of space
- h. Limitations on use of college space

Trustee Pretty motioned and Trustee Keiswetter supported that the revisions to Board Policy 406 Freedom of Assembly, be accepted as written. This policy change is effective October 22, 2024.

AYES: Trustees Etienne, Fought, Keiswetter, Kromm, Pretty, Rasmussen, and Shirilla
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None

Background:

Board Policy 317, Name, Image, and Likeness – Student-Athletes was developed to give guidelines to our student-athletes, as they now have the opportunity to receive compensation from third parties using their personal brand, often referred to as their name, image, and likeness. This gives college athletes the ability to earn income from business ventures and personal brand while still in school, providing them financial support, enhancing marketability, and fostering entrepreneurial opportunities.

This policy is to support best practices, and it states NCMC’s name, image and likeness guidelines are consistent with the requirements identified by NJCAA and Michigan state law.

Trustee Pretty motioned and Trustee Etienne supported that the new Board Policy 317, Name, Image, and Likeness – Student-Athletes be accepted as written. This policy is effective October 22, 2024.

AYES: Trustees Etienne, Fought, Keiswetter, Kromm, Pretty, Rasmussen, and Shirilla
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None

b. Finance & Facilities Committee

- i. Trustee Fought shared that the Finance & Facilities Committee met on Tuesday, October 15, 2024, to review financials and several other items. The Finance Committee reviewed the fiscal 2024 audit report.

Background:

As a part of the Finance Committee’s meeting, they met with the auditor last Tuesday to review the fiscal 2024 audit report.

This report is a 65-page document containing the auditor’s report on the 2024 financial statements. That report covers the first three pages, and it is a clean opinion again this year. The following 10 pages are devoted to management’s discussion and analysis of the College’s finances, which is a summary of the financial statements. The financial statements themselves cover the next four pages. The dollar amounts in these statements combine both the College’s and Foundation’s financial data as required by generally accepted accounting principles. The remaining pages includes the financial statement footnotes and supplemental information.

Sometime during the next several weeks, the auditors will be issuing another report on the student aid programs. This report is to comply with federal government reporting requirements.

Trustee Fought motioned and Trustee Keiswetter supported that the auditor's reports issued by Rehmann on the financial statements of North Central Michigan College, including those of the Foundation, for the year ended June 30, 2024, be accepted. Further, Trustee Fought motioned that a summary of the financial statements contained in the report be published in the News Review.

AYES: Trustees Etienne, Fought, Keiswetter, Kromm, Pretty, Rasmussen, and Shirilla
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None

- ii. The Finance Committee also reviewed vehicle leasing information.

Background:

The College has a fleet of six aging vehicles, the newest being seven years old and the oldest being 20 years old with mileage ranging from about 53,000 to 134,000. As can be expected with a fleet this old, repairs are beginning to mount up.

The option of replacing the fleet by purchasing new vehicles outright, by financing the purchases with three-year loans, or leasing were each investigated with the impact on cash flow being considered. It was determined that leasing would be the most advantageous for cash flow purposes.

The three Petoskey auto dealers were approached for three-year lease bids, as well as a downstate auto dealer, for comparative purposes. The following motion reflects the most favorable quotes.

Trustee Fought motioned and Trustee Pretty supported the College enter into a three-year lease agreement with Dave Kring Chevrolet for five 2024 Traverse SUV's at a total rental cost of \$121,320.00 and a three-year lease with Brown Motors, Inc. for a Ford F-350 at a total lease cost of \$52,956.

AYES: Trustees Etienne, Fought, Keiswetter, Kromm, Pretty, Rasmussen, and Shirilla
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None

10. STUDENT SUCCESS

President Finley introduced Roldan Grace, current second year student at NCMC, and a Lego artist. Roldan shared his success in creating masterpieces, such as scale models of homes, businesses, and schools. Most recently, he was invited to go to the Lego headquarters in Denmark to display some of his work. His newest 6 ft. tall creation, entitled Walking City, was sold to a man in Brazil. Please see <https://www.roldanrgrace.com/Walking-City/>

11. OLD BUSINESS

None.

12. NEW BUSINESS

The November Board of Trustee Regular Meeting is currently scheduled during the week of Thanksgiving. This meeting will be canceled and rescheduled for the first or second week of December. Additionally, the fall retreat will be scheduled for December. The December Board of Trustee Regular Meeting scheduled for December 24th will be canceled.

An email will go out to the trustees to find a mutually convenient time for all to meet in early December.

13. UNSCHEDULED PUBLIC COMMENT.

Erick Haight, Professor of Psychology shared that a current student of his is also one of the completion coaches here on campus. This individual is currently paying for their own classes. In the future, we might consider compensating completion coaches to cover the cost of attending a class or classes to better connect with current students.

14. ADJOURNMENT.

There being no further business, Trustee Fought motioned and Trustees Etienne supported that the meeting be adjourned at 4:43 p.m.

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

/S/ Daniel D. Rasmussen, Chairman

/S/ Melissa Keiswetter, Secretary