Campus Information
21000 Northline Rd., Taylor, MI 48180 • 734-946-3500
www.wcccd.edu
Downriver Campus Hours of Operation:
Monday - Thursday 6:00 a.m. - Midnight
Friday 7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Saturday 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

WCCCD’s mission is to empower individuals, businesses and communities to achieve their goals through excellent and accessible services, culturally diverse experiences, and globally competitive higher education and career advancement programs.

WCCCD Board of Trustees
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Special Events

Downriver Campus
Empty Bowls
Wednesday, December 10, 2008
5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
VFW Post 4422
11590 Pine Street
Taylor, MI 48180

Downriver Student Art Show
November 24th - December 11th, 2008

Information about all District events can be found at www.wcccd.edu.

Letter from the President
On November 4th, we will be making decisions that will affect our entire nation. But we’ll also be making decisions that affect our own backyard.

Wayne County Community College District (WCCCD) on November 4th will seek voter authorization for the renewal and reduction of the 1.5 mill property tax levy first approved by the voters in November 2001 for a 10-year period. This renewal would not go into effect until January 2011, after the current millage is retired. The District would continue to rank in the middle among the 28 community colleges in the state for total number of mills of property tax funding.

This request is for renewal and reduction of the property tax levy. It is not a tax increase. The current millage is 1.5 mills and this request is for 1.25 mills.

Revenue from the 1.5 mill portion of the property tax levy accounts for 40 percent of WCCCD’s total revenue in 2007-08. Essentially, everything that WCCCD has accomplished since 2001 has been funded by the 1.5 mill tax revenue. Every dollar has been spent on student needs.

We hope that you’ll join all Americans in hoping for a better and brighter future, by voting on November 4th. Every vote counts!

Anthony Arminiak
President,
Downriver Campus

District Teams with Technical Consortium to Help Careers Take Flight

"The MIAT program gives students a direct avenue to a solid career path very early in the game."

Brian Swisz

Brian Swisz is just 18 years old, but already has his sights set on a career as a commercial pilot. The Grosse Ile High School student attends high-level technical classes at the Michigan Institute for Aviation Training (MIAT) at the Downriver campus through a partnership between the District and the Downriver Career Technical Consortium.

The goal, Campus President Anthony Arminiak says, is to provide sophisticated training to students while they are still in high school so that they enter a career or advanced training one step ahead.

"The aviation training program is designed around what industry leaders have indicated they need," Arminiak said. "It really provides students with an insider’s view of world-class technology and training, and also gives them a direct avenue to a solid career path very early in the game."

Swisz says it was just these features that attracted him to the program.

"I’ve always known that I wanted to be a pilot. This program is pretty unique. I’m one of a select few earning career-track college credit in high school. I feel like I have a leg up."

MIAT features 30 different career programs for students to explore, including aviation maintenance, power technology and transportation dispatch. The programs take 20 months or less to complete and job assistance is readily available.

“This is the best move I could have made, Swisz said. “I have a clear idea of where I’m going, and I’m excited about where it could lead.”

For more information about the Michigan Institute for Aviation Training, visit or call 734-946-3500.

NEW SECURITY COURSES
RENEWAL & REDUCTION TAX LEVY
CARL KAMULSKI
SENIORS GET TECH-SAVVY
CAMPUS HOURS & CONTACT
SPECIAL EVENTS

Jim Marcinkowski, a veteran of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), U.S. Navy Special Intelligence Operations and the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), knows a thing or two about protecting against potential dangers lurking in the shadows. Now, he’s offering up his hard-won know-how in a series of courses that are part of the District’s new Homeland Security Certificate Program. Offered by the Michigan Institute of Public Safety Education (MIPSE) at WCCCD’s Downriver Campus these courses are designed to teach law enforcement, first responders, businesses and community members how to evaluate and prepare for a range of emergencies.


Marcinkowski will provide an overview of potential threats, including terrorism, and how each community member can plan and respond to such a threat.

Marcinkowski in February joined Wayne County Community College District as its top homeland security expert.

“I see [my work] at the College District as an opportunity to demystify and educate the community about how homeland security works,” he said.

“If you make this stuff understandable, then you empower communities to use the knowledge they have to engage in issues that directly affect them.”

The new programs are part of Marcinkowski’s mandate. He recently rolled out a new emergency operations plan for the District’s five campuses to safeguard against any potential threat, including natural disasters and cyber-hacking. New programs to engage local first responders and other community leaders to share best practices and coordinate programs to engage local first responders and other community members who developed their job skills at WCCCD.

7. WCCCD provides educational services to meet the needs of the urban and suburban communities in its service area.

8. WCCCD’s partnerships with regional secondary schools encourage students to complete high school and transition on to college.

9. WCCCD students deserve high-quality educational services that are equal to those provided by other community colleges.

10. The millage renewal will provide enduring excellence in higher educational services and insures an open-door policy for educational opportunities for everyone.

TOP 10 REASONS: WCCCD Must Achieve Renewal and Reduction of the Property Tax Levy

1. This request is for a renewal and a reduction of the property tax levy. It is not a tax increase. The current millage is 1.5 mill and this request is for a reduced rate of 1.25 mill.

2. Renewal will allow the continuation of services for nearly 70,000 students each semester with many free classes for seniors.

3. WCCCD has a proven track record for financial integrity and transparency. Every dollar is spent on student needs.

4. WCCCD plays an essential role in preparing people for jobs so that they can live a better life.

5. WCCCD plays an important role in job retraining for laid-off auto workers and others in career transitions.

6. Every citizen benefits daily from the public safety and health professionals who developed their job skills at WCCCD.

7. WCCCD provides educational services to meet the needs of the urban and suburban communities in its service area.

8. WCCCD’s partnerships with regional secondary schools encourage students to complete high school and transition on to college.

9. WCCCD students deserve high-quality educational services that are equal to those provided by other community colleges.

10. The millage renewal will provide enduring excellence in higher educational services and insures an open-door policy for educational opportunities for everyone.

VOTE TUESDAY NOVEMBER 4,
YOUR VOTE MATTERS

A Unique Vision for Downriver Communities: Carl Kamulski

Carl Kamulski doesn’t mind taking people a little outside of their comfort zone to support two of his loves: art and Downriver communities.

Kamulski has been an arts and humanities instructor at WCCCD for 39 years, and for 27 of those, owned the Michigan Gallery in Southwest Detroit. But Kamulski is also a highly regarded fine artist, well known for creating avant-garde sculpture and installation pieces that push boundaries to bring people and communities together.

Kamulski orchestrated a 2003 public art installation of 114 painted plywood angels to watch over Detray, a neighborhood dealing with blight and decline.

“Every once in a while, someone adds an angel,” Kamulski said. “Detray is a place that needed angels.”

Kamulski and his students have created interactive art fairs in Wyandotte and, this summer, Kamulski installed a massive inflatable installation called “The Whirl” in Wyandotte. The circular piece allowed people to walk through the piece, experiencing their surroundings in a new way.

Kamulski is a key part of a group of artists that, with the District’s support, create a local event for “Empty Bowls,” a project that aims to raise funds and awareness around world hunger and leads arts programs at WCCCD for seniors and students with special needs.

To Kamulski, it’s all part of the same project; supporting the community where he was raised with the talents he’s been given. “There’s a certain amount of luck that goes into anybody’s life,” Kamulski said. “I’ve always believed strongly in giving back.”

For more information about Carl Kamulski’s programs, visit or call (734) 946-3500.

Seniors Get Tech-Savvy, Connected

Tony Fama is passionate about empowering baby boomers and seniors. And a partnership with WCCCD is providing hands-on computer instruction to seniors to do just that.

Ten years ago the former investigative reporter started the Maria Madeline Project Inc. with a deceptively simple concept: Find ways to give baby boomers and seniors the resources they need to live full, active lives. Fast forward to today and Fama’s company, named after his mother (Maria) and his grandmother (Madeline), is a growing online venture that’s quickly becoming a social network for boomers. The Web site, www.50plusprime.com, provides resources and an online community for issues ranging from care giving to legal, health, business, financial and even romantic issues.

On-the-ground computer training classes provided in partnership with WCCCD take the idea one step further.

Fama said that the classes are small enough to feature one-on-one training and have been in high demand. “Our classes are full,” Fama said.

“Seniors have a wide variety of needs, but they are all people with active, vital lives,” Fama said, adding that he is exploring new ways to partner with WCCCD to provide services to community seniors.

As for the Web site, Fama said that they’ve recently added an arts section complete with event listing from area museums, theatres and galleries, as well as a travel and leisure section.

For more information about the Senior Power classes at WCCCD, call (734) 946-3500, or visit www.wcccd.edu. For more information about Maria Madeline Project Inc., visit www.50plusprime.com.