

Chancellor's Weekend Memo



Weekend Memo 1510

August 23-29, 2025

WCCCD Welcomes Students to the Fall 2025 Semester!



One Vision, One District, One College

WCCCD Welcomes Students to the Fall 2025 Semester!





Educational Initiatives

Ola and I met with Congressman Shri Thanedar to discuss strategies to advance educational initiatives and resources in our community.

I met with Drs. Cindy Miles, Executive Director of the Global Community College Network; Steve Robinson, President of Lansing Community College; Gunder Myran, WCCCD Senior Consultant to the Chancellor, and members of the Chancellor's Office team to discuss programming initiatives for the Fall semester.

Strategic Planning Meeting



Executive Leadership Meeting

Some members of the Executive Leadership Team participated in a roundtable discussion. Agenda items included:

- Budget Development
- Marketing of New Programs
- District Campus Support Services
- Facilities
- And More





I participated in the Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation (SMART) Board Meeting. Some of the agenda items included:

- Special Board Policy Committee Report
- Chairperson's Report
- General Manager's Report
- New Business Items



Trustee Roy Edmonds

Members of the Executive Team met to discuss the HVAC Prevention Maintenance Plan.

Members of the Chancellor's Office Team met to discuss the upcoming Youth Drug Abuse Symposium.



In the Legislative News...



CAPITOL UPDATE

Friday, August 29, 2025

Session Activity

The Senate passed [Senate Bill 246](#) and [Senate Bill 247](#) to raise hazardous waste tipping fees and ban disposal of high-level technologically enhanced naturally occurring radioactive material (TENORM), with supporters citing protections for Southeast Michigan residents.

Nearly two months past the July 1 deadline, the House approved a \$54B omnibus budget, bringing total FY spending to \$78.5B, which is \$3B less than the current year, \$5B below the Governor's plan, and \$6B under the Senate's. The bill passed 59–46 with only one Democrat, Rep. Karen Whitsett (D-Detroit), in support. Key highlights:

- Transportation: \$10.2B MDOT budget - a record and \$3.3B higher than Senate's.
- Earmarks: \$100M for 62 earmarks, down sharply from prior years.
- Cuts/Eliminations: 4,300 unfilled FTEs, SOAR funding, and Michigan State Police cuts.
- New Provisions: Auditor General audit of SOS voter roll process; state workers back in-office; bans on taxes for tips/overtime; restrictions on AG lawsuits; E-Verify mandates for contractors; ban on state funds for DEI.
- Corrections: Ends funding for 695 FTEs and bars state dollars for prisoner gender reassignment surgery.
- Health: Substantial cuts including a \$26.4M cut to Medicaid tied to federal eligibility changes.

Speaker Matt Hall (R-Richland Twp) reinforced his position that the Senate Democrats need to release a road funding plan of their own before serious budget negotiations can move forward. Both Governor Whitmer and Speaker Hall continue to publicly push for a road funding plan in conjunction with the FY 26 budget.

Committee Activity

The House Oversight Committee authorized Chair Jay DeBoyer (R-Clay) to subpoena AG Dana Nessel for a September 16th hearing on her decision not to pursue two cases where she may have had personal or political ties.

- One involves Fair and Equal Michigan, a ballot committee once led by Nessel's wife, Alanna Maguire, and funded through the 501(c)4 Bipartisan Solutions, which failed to disclose donors.
- The other concerns attorney Traci Kornak, then-Michigan Democratic Party treasurer, accused of using a client's account for insurance fraud.

In Other News

- The Department of Transportation reports that about 100 Michigan bridges could close by 2035 without new funding, affecting 1.8 million daily drivers. Without a comprehensive funding plan, MDOT also projects the capital highways program will support 2,800 fewer jobs in 2026.
- Governor Whitmer announced Michigan surpassed its goal of 75,000 new or rehabbed housing units over a year early. Originally set for 2026, the target has now been raised to 115,000 units by the same deadline, a 53% increase.
- The Board of Education voted to appoint Dearborn Superintendent Glenn Maleyko as the next State Superintendent, with final contract approval set for September 9th. Maleyko will replace Michael Rice and is expected to assume the role by the October 14th board meeting. The vote followed final interviews with Maleyko, Harrison Community Schools Superintendent Judy Walton and former Virginia State Superintendent Lisa Coons.

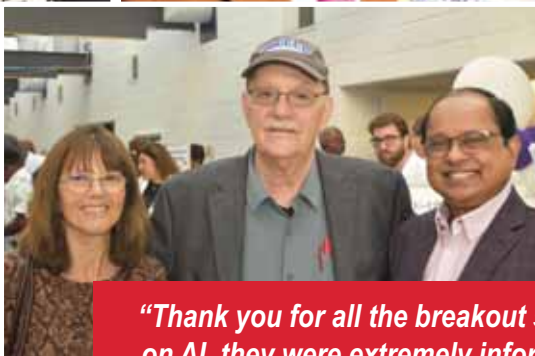
Fall 2025 Faculty Organization Day

We were pleased to host the Fall 2025 Faculty Organization Day in the Heinz C. Prechter Educational and Performing Arts Center at the Downriver Campus. The event, centered on the theme “Bridging Access, Innovation, and Opportunity in an AI-Driven Future,” featured keynote speaker Dr. Denise Taliaferro Baszile, Dean of the College of Education at Wayne State University. Faculty engaged in dynamic workshops that fostered collaboration and innovation for a successful start to the new semester.



Keynote Speaker

Dr. Denise Taliaferro Baszile,
Dean of the College of Education
at Wayne State University

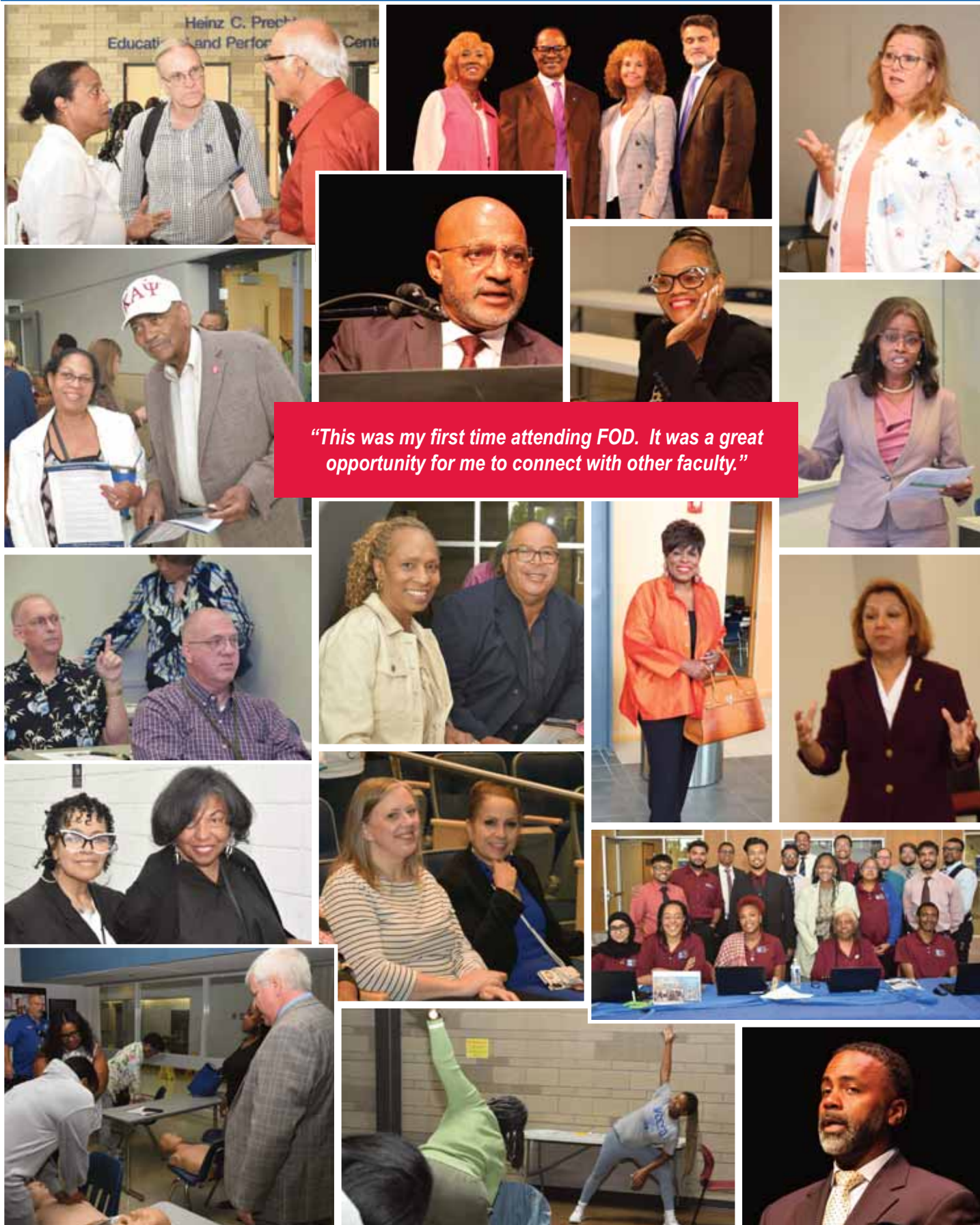


*“Thank you for all the breakout sessions
on AI, they were extremely informative!”*



*“I enjoyed the breakout sessions on AI and
the orientation for faculty on Microsoft 365.”*

Fall 2025 Faculty Organization Day



Fall 2025 Faculty Organization Day



"This program is always a great opportunity to catch up with other faculty members."



"The keynote speaker's presentation was inspiring."



"After this professional development, I am really looking forward to the new semester!"

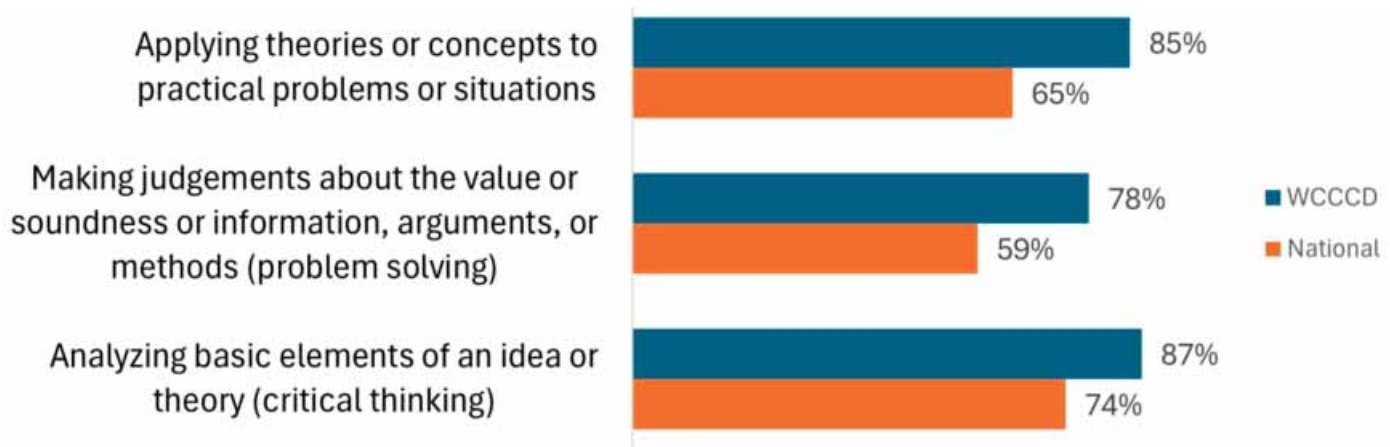


Institutional Effectiveness

The Division of Institutional Effectiveness is preparing the Fall 2025 course evaluation question items to gather student feedback on their course experiences. The Community College Survey of Student Engagement (CCSSE) is a benchmarking tool used by colleges to compare student perspectives nationwide. Below you will find WCCCD's Student Survey of Instruction Survey (SSOI) compared to the CCSSE national survey data.

Source: <https://cccse.org/ccsse/national-results>

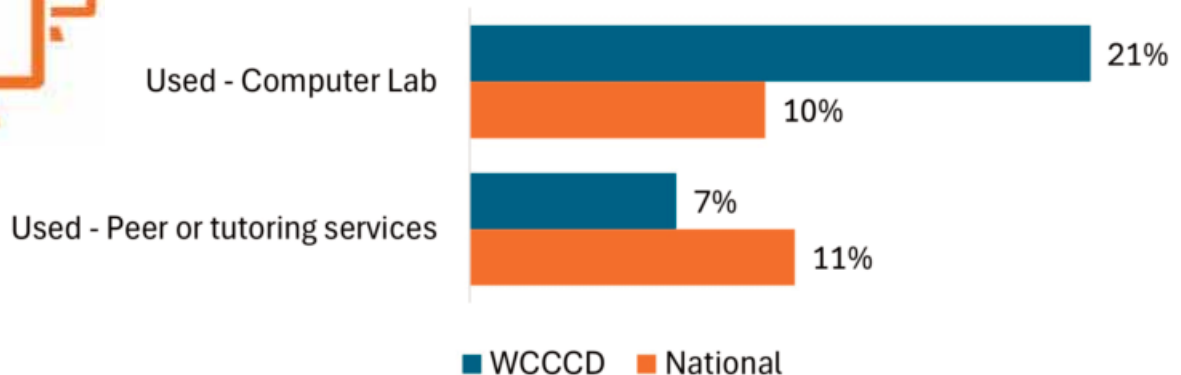
The students below identified that their coursework emphasized the following activities quite a bit/very much:



How many hours spent preparing for class.



How much the students have used the following services to help them during their coursework



DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

OFFICE OF FACILITIES PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT

The Office of Facilities Planning and Management serves the District by developing and maintaining clean, safe, functional, and attractive campuses. This office has a diverse range of functions. Some include:



**PLANNING AND
CONSTRUCTION**



**MECHANICAL
SYSTEMS
MAINTENANCE**



**PROPERTY
MANAGEMENT**



**MANAGEMENT OF
EXTERIOR AND
INTERIOR ASSETS**



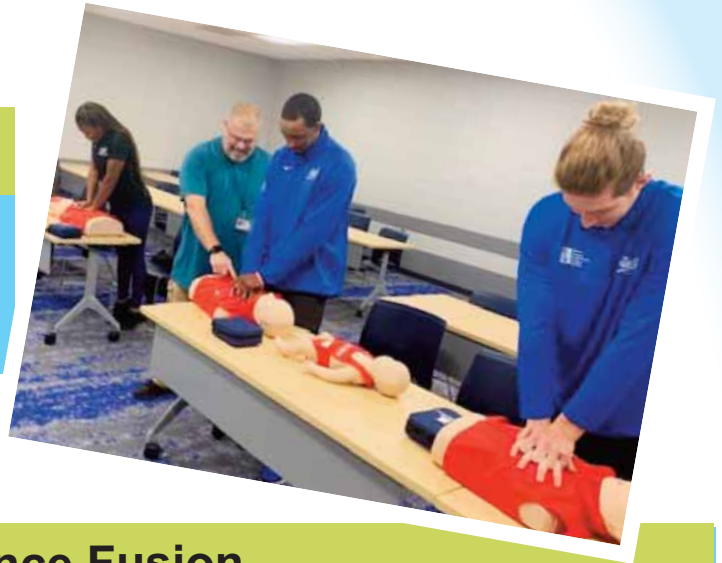
**STUDENT
INTERNSHIP PROGRAMS**

Our students continue to visit renovation sites throughout the District with our Facilities Planning and Management Department. This week, students observed the renovation upgrades on the fifth floor at the Curtis L. Ivery District Office. These site visits provide students in the Construction Trades and Facilities Management Program with unique shadowing experiences, allowing them to see firsthand the practical applications of construction, project management, and facility maintenance skills.



CPR Class

WCCCD Employee CPR Certificate Class returned to the HWEC to teach participants the life-saving skills needed to respond to emergencies effectively.



Dance Fusion

HWEC personal trainers visited the Detroit Riverfront to host an exciting outdoor Dance Fusion class and provide community members with information about the facility's membership class offerings.



HWEC Staff Supports Students

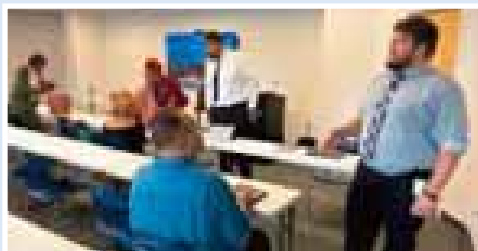
HWEC staff provided new and returning students with information about the HWEC to help prepare for the beginning of the new semester.



Division of Information Technology

District-wide IT Support

As the energy of the Fall 2025 semester sweeps across our campuses, our dedicated IT teams are already at the forefront, ensuring a seamless technological experience for everyone. Starting at Faculty Organization Day, to the first day of class and throughout the semester, you'll find our Help Desk and technical support teams actively engaging with students, faculty, and staff, providing the essential support that is crucial for learning.



IT Help Desk

The Information Technology Helpdesk expanded its staffing and extended phone support hours to ensure timely assistance for students, faculty, and staff. Additionally, the institution's migration to the Microsoft 365, now offers an enhanced suite of tools and resources.





Division of Educational Affairs

Learning Resource Center



As the semester begins, students at the Curtis L. Ivery Downtown Campus utilize the Learning Resource Center.



The Educational Affairs Team met to discuss plans for a successful Fall 2025 semester.

Mechatronics Program

Staff from the Division of Educational Affairs and the Eastern Campus met to discuss the Mechatronics Program.





Division of Workforce and Economic Development

Construction Trades Training Program



Graduates from our Construction Trades Training Program are now gearing up to take the Bricklayers Union entrance exam. Their journey reflects the strength and impact of our training and the promise of a bright future in the skilled trades.



District Police Authority

MCOLES AUDIT

The District Police Authority Department has recently completed an audit conducted by the Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards (MCOLES). MCOLES is the governing body responsible for establishing and overseeing professional standards for all law enforcement agencies in the State of Michigan. Their role is essential in ensuring accountability and excellence in policing.



Brown and Juanita C. Ford Art Gallery Northwest Campus



The School of Continuing Education hosted the opening reception of the Humanity: Paintings and Drawings Art Exhibition at the Brown and Juanita C. Ford Art Gallery located at the Northwest Campus. The exhibit features the artwork of Gregory Johnson.





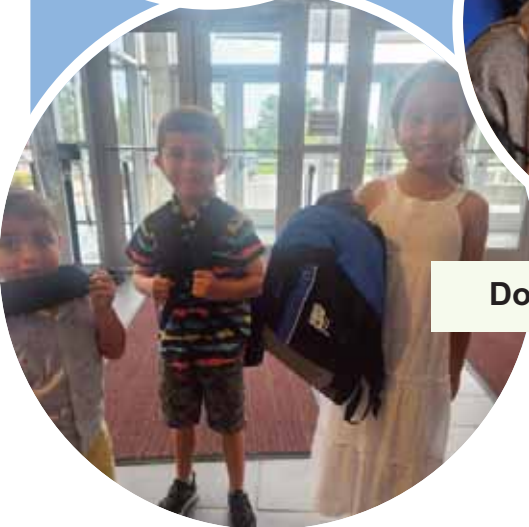
**Mary Ellen Stempfle
University Center**



Northwest Campus



Downriver Campus



Community members were invited to our campuses for our "Back to School" Rally, where children received backpacks and school supplies for the upcoming school year.

Weekly Continuing Education Enrollment

August 11 – 23, 2025

Curtis L. Ivery
Downtown Campus
670

Eastern Campus
81

Ted Scott Campus
329

Downriver Campus
792

Northwest Campus
2,469

Mary Ellen Stempfle
University Center
357



Division of Student Services

Office of Outreach and Recruitment



Staff represented the District at River Rouge High School for the “Panther Palooza” back to school festival.

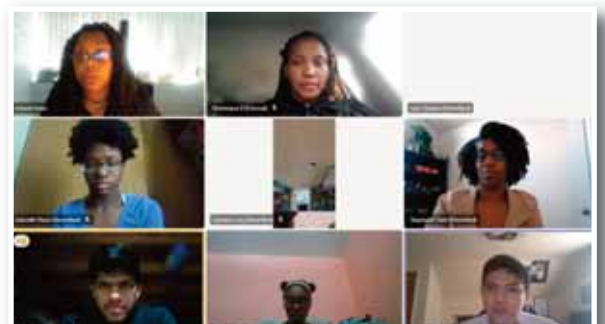
Advising and Registration

Staff continue to assist new students with registering for the Fall semester.



Federal Work-Study Program

The Federal Work-Study Program continues to hold orientations for new and returning students.



Members of the Dual Enrollment team met for Fall 2025 registration preparation.

Division of Student Services



Congratulations

Phi Theta Kappa Alpha Upsilon Zeta participated in the GABA Glow Awards in Dearborn. Congratulations to our chapter all-stars, **Jennifer Joseph**, recipient of the Akindele F. Akinyemi Global Achievement Scholarship and **Kelly Egbusinwa**, recipient of the O. Rerhi Onomake Community Leadership Scholarship. Both \$500 awards were presented to outstanding international students, and we are proud of their achievements. Their success highlights the excellence and leadership that defines our chapter.



Thank you Chef for all the knowledge and opportunities you have given me. I will make y'all proud!!!!

Student Success!

Congratulations to WCCCD student Deserae Conley for beginning the next chapter of her academic journey in the Culinary Arts Program at Schoolcraft College.



Division of Human Resources

Ongoing Compliance Reviews

The Division of Human Resources is currently reviewing its processes and procedures for the employee tuition waiver and reimbursement and conducting a staff benefit compliance audit.



WCCCD Honored for Enhancing Hamtramck Community Partnerships



WCCCD was recognized for supporting the community in Hamtramck and for our ongoing efforts to increase educational partnerships.



Building Community Relationships



Staff represented the District at the 2nd Annual (Re) Imagining the Superwoman Conference. It was designed to empower women to prioritize physical, spiritual and mental well-being.

Denis Karic represented the District at the Grosse Pointe Chamber Nonprofit Mixer.



Staff from across the District attended the Southern Wayne County Regional Chamber Business Forum with guest speaker Wendy Block.



Mary Ellen Stempfle University Center



Community Partnerships

The Mary Ellen Stempfle University Center hosted the Chandler Park Academy for its staff professional development day.

Curtis L. Ivery Downtown Campus



Student Resource Luncheon

The Curtis L. Ivery Downtown Campus hosted a resource luncheon for students interested in the PepsiCo Scholarship Program, as well as the TRiO Program.



Entrepreneurial Resource Center

The Entrepreneurial Resource Center hosted a Male Mentoring Program for students. Discussion focused on leadership development, enhancing self-awareness, cultural heritage, career planning, and networking strategies.



Fall 2025 Semester Start-Up for Faculty

To ensure a smooth and successful start, instructors were provided with comprehensive resources, essential classroom supplies, and light refreshments. These efforts reflect our continued commitment to supporting faculty.

Cengage Publishing



Cengage Publishing was on campus to provide resources regarding the new “Unlimited” digital publication for students.



Detroit Land Bank Authority Town Hall Meeting

A Town Hall Meeting with Councilmember Mary Waters and Bankole Thompson was held to educate the community on the Detroit Land Bank and also hear their concerns.

Downriver Campus



Fall Registration Continues!

Staff at the Downriver Campus continue to assist students with their Fall 2025 registration.



Henry Ford Wyandotte Hospital

Henry Ford Wyandotte Hospital held its Relationship-Based Care Training seminar at the Downriver Campus.



Staff were trained on safety precautions, fire safety, first aid and choking response, as well as medication administration and management.

The Guidance Center Head Start



The Downriver Campus hosted The Guidance Center's Head Start All-Day Preservice training.



Downriver Campus Staff Meeting



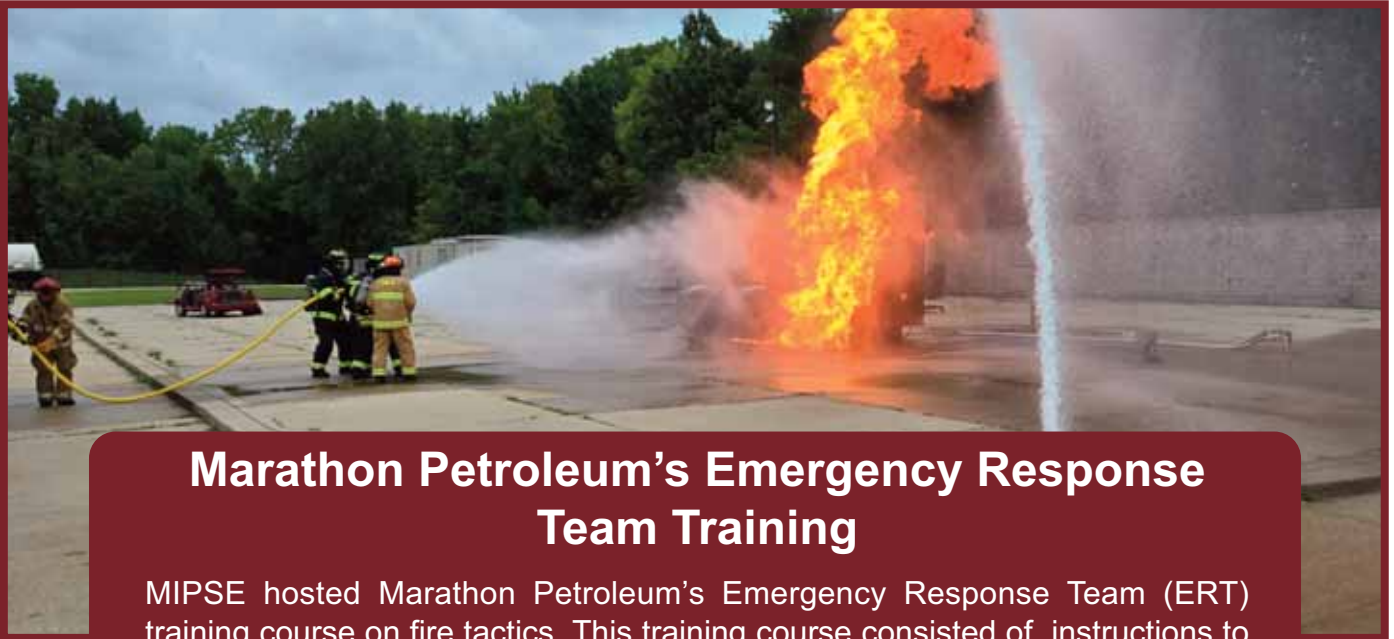
WAYNE COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT



**MICHIGAN INSTITUTE for
PUBLIC SAFETY**
E D U C A T I O N



Downriver Campus



Marathon Petroleum's Emergency Response Team Training

MIPSE hosted Marathon Petroleum's Emergency Response Team (ERT) training course on fire tactics. This training course consisted of instructions to educate drivers and operators of Marathon Petroleum's ERT, who are responsible for operating the equipment, on fire pumps and flowing foam.



Fire Department Driving Rodeo

MIPSE hosted the Fire Department Driving Rodeo.



Downriver SWAT Team Training

MIPSE hosted the Downriver SWAT Team Training.

Eastern Campus



Campus Readiness



Early Childhood Education Training Workshop



Welding Program

Representatives from Miller visited the Eastern Campus to review operation of the new multiprocessor welders.



Administration Office Staff Meeting

Northwest Campus



Trustee
Asm
Rahman



Micro and Small Business Summit

The Northwest Campus hosted the City of Detroit's Office of Contracting and Procurement for its Micro and Small Business Summit for entrepreneurs. The sessions highlighted upcoming bids, funding opportunities, and vendor certification—equipping Detroit's small and minority-owned businesses with tools to compete for major contracts and drive economic growth in the city.



100 Mothers in White:

A Mother's Peace,
Pain, and Purpose

The 100 Mothers in White: A Mother's Peace, Pain and Purpose Program brought together mothers and community members to reflect on peace, justice, and healing. The event emphasized on creating a world where every child can thrive in safety, love, and dignity, while honoring children's legacies through scholarships, memorials, and community impact.



Northwest Campus



Welcome our new Dean of Nursing, Lois Theo



Lois Theo has been appointed as the new Dean of Nursing for the Practical Nursing (PN) and PN to RN Bridge programs at the Ted Scott Campus. Mrs. Theo brings a wealth of experience in nursing education and leadership. She holds a Master of Science in Nursing Education from Widener University and has served as the Associate Dean for the Associate of Applied Science in Nursing Program at WCCCD since September 2023.



New Dental Hygiene and Dental Assistant students have completed CPR training.



Ted Scott Campus



Community Partnerships

The Ted Scott Campus hosted Romulus Community School District's Professional Development Workshop. Staff focused on designing learning goals for students which can be observed by others when executed.



The Ted Scott Campus hosted Steel and Stilettos for a training class on gun safety.

Chancellor's Weekend Memo

Mission

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

Vision Statement

WCCCD will be known as a premier community college and innovator in the areas of high quality academic and career education, talent development in support of regional economic growth, diversity and inclusion, and technological advancement.

WCCCD's Values Statements:

- Supporting excellence in teaching and learning
- Honoring diversity
- Serving the common good
- Being accountable
- Operating with integrity

