

Chancellor's Weekend Memo



Weekend Memo 1531

January 31- February 6, 2026

WELCOME WEEK

Student Welcome Week featured engaging, District-wide activities and programs designed to help students connect, explore campus resources, and discover clubs and organizations that support their academic success and personal growth.



One Vision, One District, One College

WELCOME WEEK



WELCOME WEEK



Phi Theta Kappa Shirley B. Gordon Award of Distinction



I am truly humbled to be chosen for Phi Theta Kappa's Shirley B. Gordon Award of Distinction, the organization's highest honor for community college presidents and chancellors. This recognition is especially meaningful to me because it comes directly from our highest-achieving students – who continue to inspire and guide what we strive to achieve here at WCCCD.

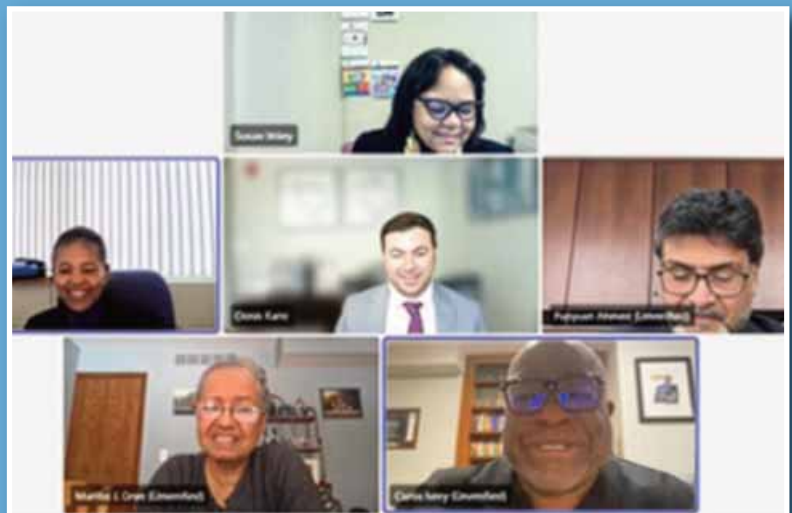


Workforce Training Initiatives Meeting

I met with John Graves, Chairman of the Rainbow PUSH Coalition's Automotive Project, and Furquan Ahmed to discuss the college's automotive technology programs and explore partnership opportunities to enhance workforce training initiatives in the industry.

2026 Professional Development Initiatives

I met with some members of the Leadership Team to discuss professional development initiatives for the fiscal year.





Congratulations! 7th Annual Recognition MXM Locations of Excellence Award

It is an honor for the Health and Wellness Education Center to consistently receive the MXM Locations of Excellence Award, including the 7th Annual recognition, which honors fitness clubs demonstrating an exceptional commitment to member experience. Kudos to Mike Dotson and his team for their continued dedication to innovation and service excellence.



Welcome Week

HWEC staff participated in Welcome Week at the Downriver Campus by presenting a Chair Stretch and Yoga class to students, faculty and staff.

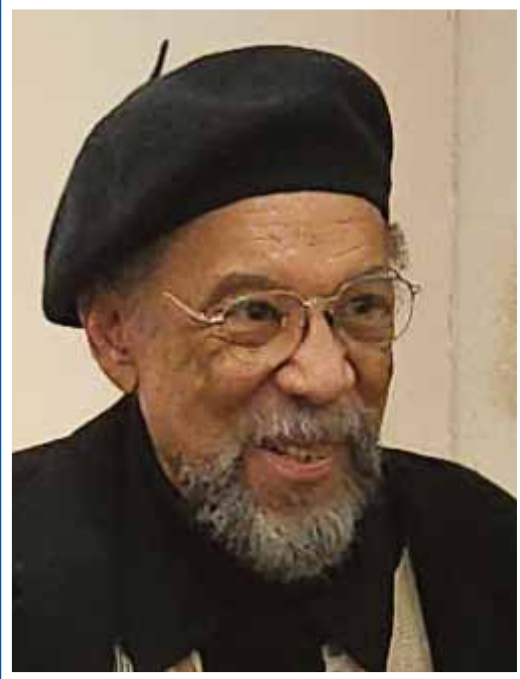
Vibrant Health Workshops

HWEC staff met with the Heal Thy Self community group to make plans for expanding the monthly Vibrant Health workshops.



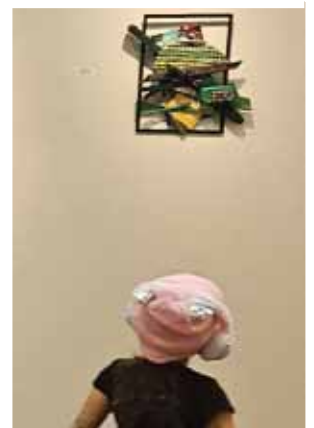
Active Recovery Class

HWEC members work out in the new Active Recovery Class which focuses on gentle movement, stretching, and guided techniques that support muscle recovery and relaxation.



Brown and Juanita C. Ford Art Gallery

The School of Continuing Education presented the opening reception of The Pedagogy of Art and Sculpture: Master Works art exhibit at the Curtis L. Ivery Downtown Campus. This exhibit features the artwork of Matt Corbin.





Division of Human Resources

Pathways to Success

Unleashing Strengths: Building Resilient Teams for 2026 & Beyond

Staff from across the District participated in a professional development session held at the Northwest Campus. Keynote speakers Greg Dunmore and Vanessa Denha-Garmo presented on leveraging individual strengths to build resilient, engaged teams. Attendees gained practical insights and strategies to enhance collaboration, productivity, and professional growth as we prepare for 2026 and beyond.



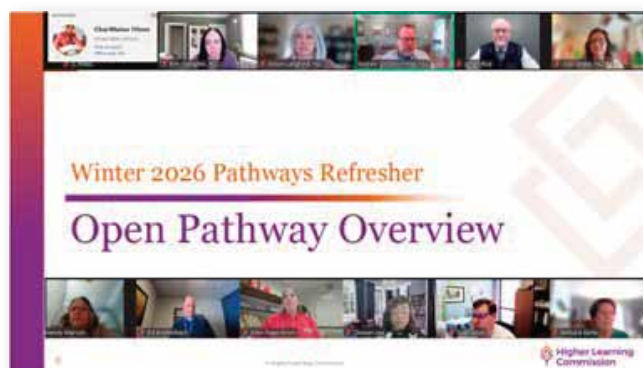
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



Drs. Harvey Dorrah, Allan Cosma and Carolyn Custer and Tonya Anderson have completed their AI certifications.



Amina Kamber attended a conference with Infinite Technology regarding potential upgrades to the campus camera system to ensure compliance with current industry standards and to enhance safety and security. Campus Safety staff met to review the information obtained and discuss next steps related to camera system modernization.



Dr. CharMaine Hines participated in the Winter 2026 HLC Pathway Refresher workshop required of peer reviewers.

We are pleased to present a dynamic series of educational cultural, and artistic programming in honor of Black History Month.

Curtis L. Ivery Downtown Campus

- 2/1-2/28 Show Me Your Receipts Supporting Black-Owned Businesses**
The My Black Receipt Movement encourages consumers to support Black-owned businesses by uploading receipts of their purchases.
- 2/5 Sounds from Africa and the Diaspora**
DJ Larry Faulkner provides sounds from Africa and the diaspora.
- 2/10 Black Voices Film Festival MOVIE: Sinners**
- 2/18 MOVIE: Judas and the Black Messiah**
- 2/19 Black History Game Day: Trivia Triumph and Tradition**
Join an interactive learning experience through engaging games, team challenges, and trivia-based activities.
- 2/23 Healing Our Roots: Sound Bowl Meditation Session**
Participants will engage in practices using crystal singing bowls and grounding frequencies.
- 2/26 Black Voices Film Festival MOVIE: Respect**



District Student Services

- 2/26 Underground Railroad and Detroit Historical Sites Lecture/Bus Tour - City Of Detroit Historian, Jamon Jordan**
Explore Detroit as a crucial hub within the Underground Railroad, tracing the pathways taken by freedom seekers and the safe houses that provided refuge.

Eastern Campus

- 2/4 MOVIE: Making Black America: Through The Grapevine (4-Part Series, Part 1)**
- 2/11 MOVIE: Making Black America: Through The Grapevine (4-Part Series, Part 2)**
- 2/12 Tour of Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History**
- 2/18 MOVIE: Making Black America: Through The Grapevine (4-Part Series, Part 3)**
- 2/18 MOVIE: Making Black America: Through The Grapevine (4-Part Series, Part 4)**

Ted Scott Campus

- 2/17 MOVIE: The Fire Inside**



For a complete list of Black History Month programming, visit the college's website at www.wcccd.edu.

Black History Month 2026

Northwest Campus

Sounds from Africa and the Diaspora filled the Northwest Campus for students to enjoy.



Mary Ellen Stempfle University Center



Students and community members viewed the movie *Descendant- The Story of the Clotilda*. This movie was about the last known ship to smuggle stolen Africans to America.



Show Me Your Receipts Supporting Black-Owned Businesses

The My Black Receipt Movement encourages consumers to support Black-owned businesses by uploading receipts of their purchases. This initiative aims to quantify how Black consumers buy from Black businesses collectively.



Curtis L. Ivery Downtown Campus

Curtis L. Ivery Downtown Campus

Students enjoyed the Sounds From Africa and the Diaspora in the atrium during their break from classes.





WAYNE COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT



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



Downriver Campus

Basic Life Support and First Aid Training

MIPSE hosted Republic Services for Basic Life Support (BLS) and First Aid training. This course provides students with First Aid and comprehensive emergency Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) training.



U.S. Customs and Border Protection K-9 Training

MIPSE hosted members of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection K-9 unit for training. The dogs are trained to find either narcotics or food. Such items were strategically placed throughout the training grounds, and the dogs had to find them.



Detroit Public Safety Academy

MIPSE hosted the Detroit Public Safety Academy Dual Enrollment Fire Fighter Practical. Students were issued gear and practiced the use of ventilation fans.

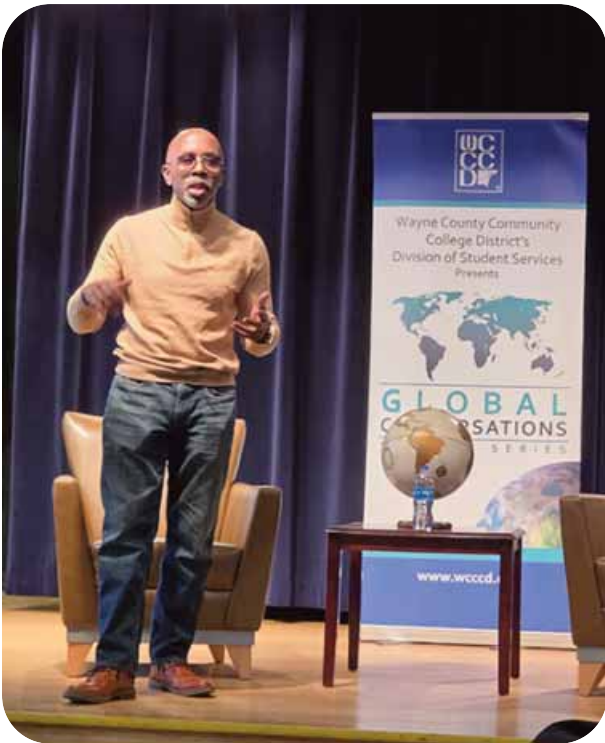


WCCCD Fire Fighter Practical Training

Fire fighter practical training is designed to equip students with the psychomotor skills required for entry-level positions in the fire service. Students practiced hose laying and survival skills.



Division of Student Services



AI Animation and Film Creation with Eric Hamilton

The Division of Student Services presented the Global Conversations Speaker Series workshop "AI Animation and Film Creation" presented by Eric Hamilton at the Curtis L. Ivery Downtown Campus. Participants were provided with information on responsible and effective integration of Artificial Intelligence to enhance learning outcomes. They also participated in an interactive AI overview on AI capabilities, risks, and campus applications.





Division of Student Services



Student Success Center

The Student Success Center continues to provide support to students for the Spring 2026 semester.



Federal Work-Study Program

Federal Work-Study students meet with staff to gain real-world experience in campus positions.



Dual Enrollment Program

Staff continue to assist high school students with registering for the Dual Enrollment Program.

Division of Student Services



New Student Experience

Staff continue to assist students with their academic planning and strategies to stay on track.

Student Executive Council

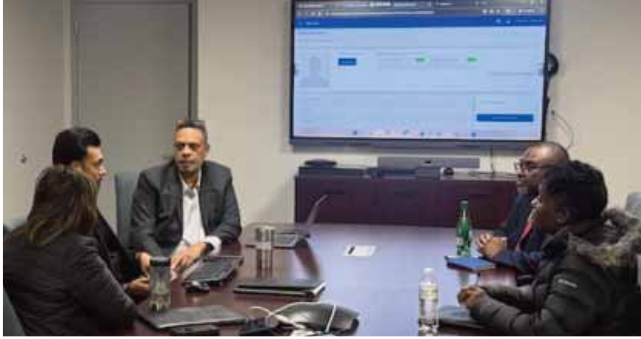
Staff and students kick off the start of the Spring semester with a Student Executive Council presentation on the Student Success Toolkit and other resources.



STUDENT CLUB CHESS

Banner 9 Self-Service Staff and Faculty

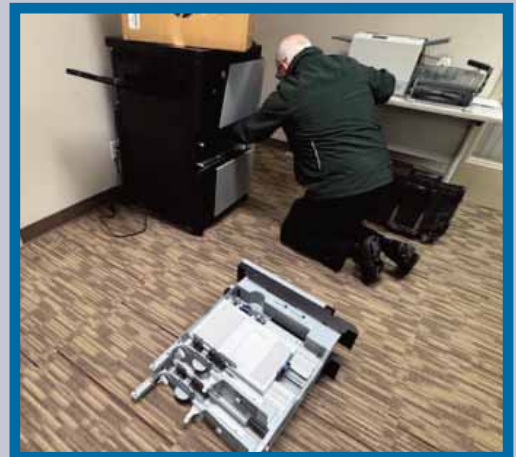
This week, the Division of Information Technology met with staff from the Divisions of Human Resources and Educational Affairs to discuss project updates.



Security Infrastructure Team Meeting

The IT Security Infrastructure Team met with trusted technology partners to review our environment and identify opportunities to strengthen it even further. The teams explored current industry trends and effective security practices.

District-wide Technical Support





CULTURAL ENRICHMENT



Virtual Book and Film Discussion

This week, the virtual book and film discussion featured *The Joy Luck Club*, *Crip Camp*, *Being Heumann*, and *Pomegranate*. Dr. Fidelis D'Cunha began the session with the introduction of an interview with Amy Tan, followed by Shaily Dey's overview of *The Joy Luck Club*. Participants concluded the session with an engaging discussion about *Crip Camp*, *Being Heumann*, and *Pomegranate* focusing on building identity, resilience, and community.

Northwest Campus



Mercy Education Project Tour

Mercy Education Project (MEP) toured the Health Science Center. The group participated in immersive activities that explored career opportunities in the allied health field. MEP is a community-based organization dedicated to empowering women and girls by positioning them for long-term success.



Welcome!

Please join us in welcoming Jamela Jenkins, Nursing Support Associate, as a new team member at the Health Science Center.





Division of Workforce and Economic Development

Civil Technology Engineering Boot Camp



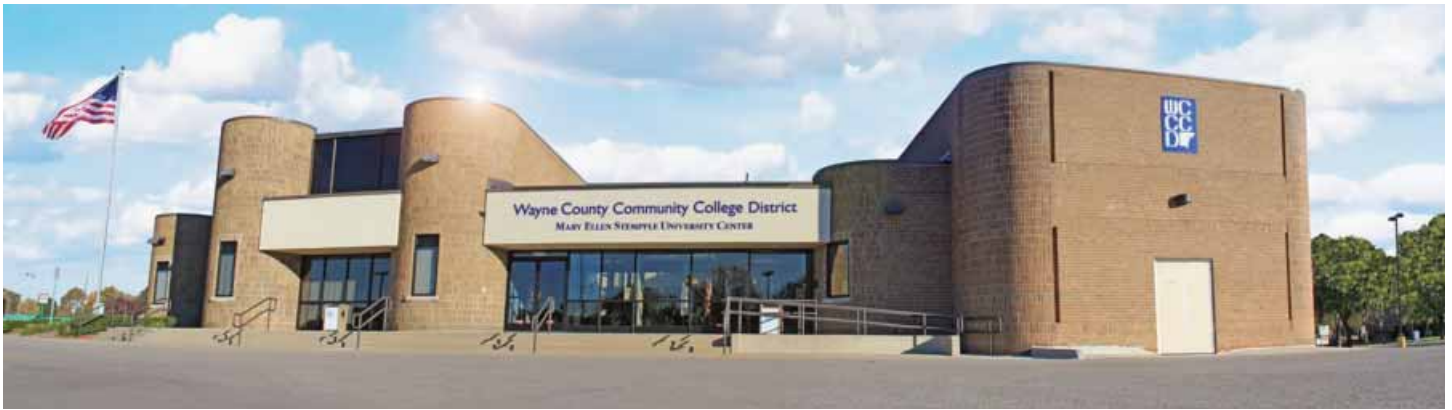
Participants in the Civil Technology Engineering Boot Camp explored career opportunities with the Michigan Department of Transportation through facility tours, presentations, and lectures.



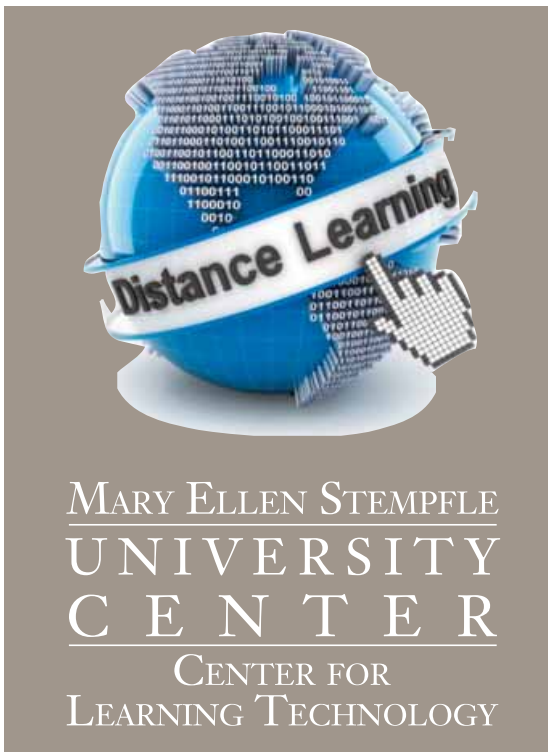
Skilled Trades Orientations



Skilled Trades Orientations continue as we approach the beginning of new training sessions for Commercial Driver's License and Construction Trades Training.



Mary Ellen Stempfle University Center



Distance Learning Team Shines During Blackboard Ultra Transition

The Distance Learning staff have been the backbone of our successful transition to Blackboard Ultra this semester. Their dedication has been evident in every interaction, from patiently answering countless questions from students and faculty, to providing hands-on guidance with navigation in the new system, assisting with course copying and integrating textbooks into course shells to ensure students have access to a textbook on day one. They've gone above and beyond to ensure that both faculty and students feel supported and confident using Blackboard Ultra's enhanced features and interface.

Thank you to our Distance Learning staff for your responsiveness, expertise, and commitment to excellence during this important transition.



Digital Textbook Delivery

Denis Karic met with McGraw Hill to review the current digital textbook delivery methods and explored ways to ensure students have immediate access to materials.



Professional Development

The Mary Ellen Stempfle University Center hosted Chandler Park Academy staff and faculty for a professional development workshop.

Downriver Campus

Continuing Education



Starfish Early Childhood Winter Conference

The Starfish Early Childhood Winter Conference brought together professionals from multiple disciplines to share research, best practices, and insights related to early childhood mental health, development, and learning.



AARP Monthly Chapter Meeting

The Downriver Campus hosted the Wayne County Heritage Chapter of the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) for their monthly meeting.



Wayne RESA Special Education New Teacher Academy



Wayne RESA Autism Spectrum Workshop

Curtis L. Ivery Downtown Campus



ACE Mentor Program

The ACE Mentor Program of Southeast Michigan continues to provide free mentoring for students interested in STEM fields. Participants gained important insights into apprenticeship opportunities and skilled trade options.



Adult Education Program

GED students continue to complete their exit paperwork in preparation for graduation.



Foreign Language Club

The Language Institute hosted the Foreign Language Club. This session engaged and exposed students to various languages and cultures through presentation and interaction.



Eastern Campus



Fashion Design Program

Students are preparing dress forms for their Basic Draping Techniques course.



Assisting Faculty for a Successful Spring Semester



Center of Hope for Youth Workshop

This workshop provided a safe space for artistic exploration to build confidence and inspire future creative pursuits.

Northwest Campus



Skilled Trades Lunch and Learn Series

Staff presented at the Detroit College Access Network Skilled Trades Lunch and Learn Series. They provided student-facing professionals with insight into skilled trades career pathways, credentials, and workforce opportunities.



Partnership Opportunity Meeting



Welcome Week Team Meeting



City of Detroit Construction Conference

The Northwest Campus hosted the City of Detroit Construction Conference, bringing together leaders and professionals shaping the future of Detroit's infrastructure.



Student-Centered Workshop

Wayne RESA held its Student-Centered Coaching Workshop. Participants learned how to implement the core practices for student-centered coaching.



Family and Community Engagement Workshop

Wayne RESA also held its Family and Community Engagement MiFamily Network Workshop. Participants learned how to bring together family-facing leaders and advocates across Wayne County to explore high-impact, evidence-based practices, creative programs, and asset-minded approaches.

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

