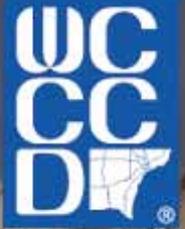


# Chancellor's Weekend Memo



Weekend Memo 1533

February 14-20, 2026



As part of our ongoing Black History Month programming, the Global Conversations Speakers Series was honored to present Dr. Michael Eric Dyson at the Curtis L. Ivery Downtown Campus. Dr. Dyson is a nationally recognized scholar, New York Times op-ed contributor, Professor at Georgetown University, MSNBC political analyst, contributing editor for *The New Republic*, and the best-selling author of seventeen books.



Dr. Michael Eric Dyson

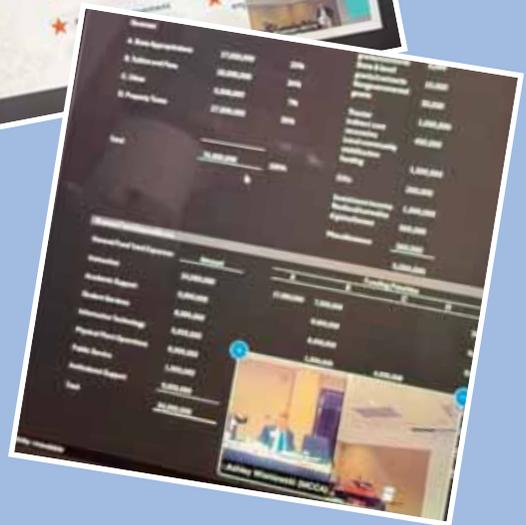




## Michigan Community College Association's Presidents Committee

I participated in the Michigan Community College Association's Presidents Committee Meeting. Some of the agenda items included:

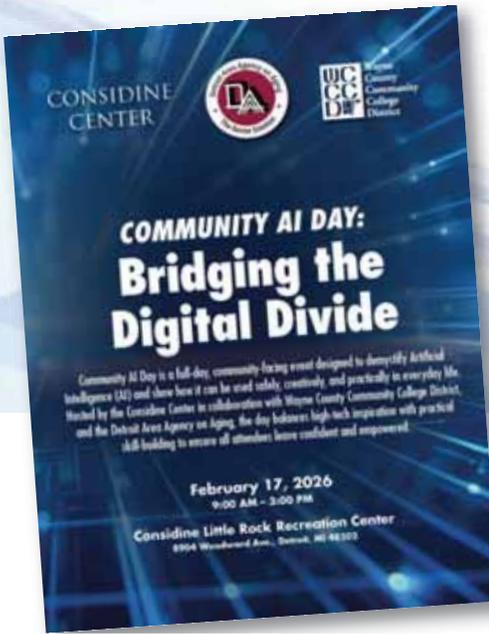
- Presentation on Edsights
- Hot Topics in Student Success
- Section 217F Guidance
- Legislative Updates
- Reconnect Corrective Action Plan Updates



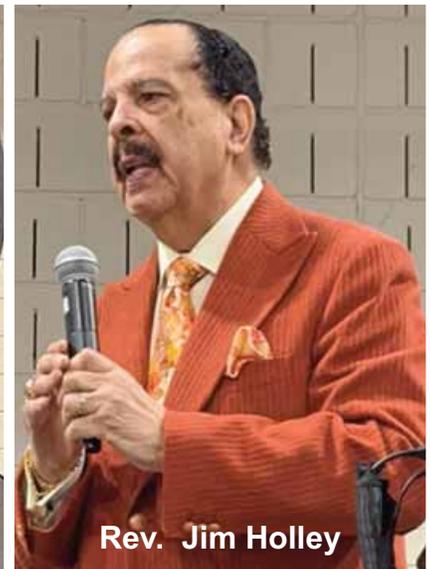
# Trustee on the Move

Trustee Sharon P. Scott, Ted Scott Campus President Matthew Green, and staff attended Warren Evans' State of the County Address.

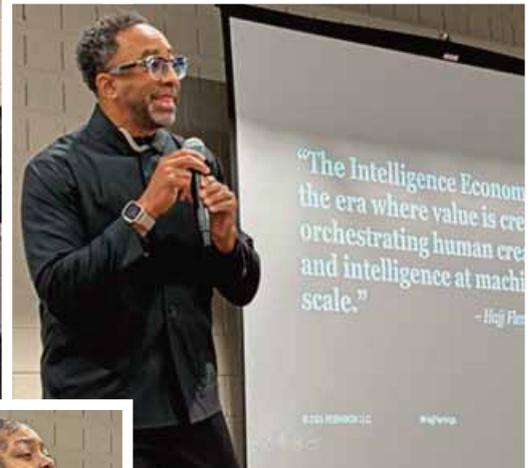
# Community AI Day



This hands-on AI program was held in conjunction with the Considine Center and the Detroit Area Agency on Aging. The program was designed to increase AI awareness, strengthen essential IT skills, and build practical digital literacy within underserved communities. As technology continues to shape how we live, learn, and connect, it is vital that no one is left behind.



Rev. Jim Holley



# Legislative Corner...



## CAPITOL UPDATE

Week Ending February 13, 2026

Earlier this week, Governor Whitmer released the Executive Recommendations for her final budget as Governor. These recommendations are the first step in the appropriations process. Both the House and Senate will review her proposed budget and formulate their own versions in the coming months. While the statutory deadline to complete a budget is July 1<sup>st</sup>, there is no specific recourse if negotiations extend beyond that deadline. However, there is some pressure to finalize a spending plan sooner rather than later, as both sides of the aisle will ramp up campaign efforts over the summer and fall.

### Highlights from the Governor's Proposed Budget

#### ➤ Newly Proposed Taxes and Fees

- **Digital Advertising Tax:** a new 4.7% excise tax on digital advertising revenue
- **Vape Tax:** a new excise tax – 57% of the wholesale tax – on vape and alternative nicotine products
- **Tobacco Tax:** a \$1 increase on the cigarette excise tax (updating it from \$2 to \$3 per 20-pack of cigarettes) and a 25% increase on the wholesale price (from 32% to 57%) of other tobacco products
- **Sports Betting Per-Wager Tax:** 25-cents per bet tax on a company's first 20 million wagers annually, and 50-cents for all wagers over the 20 million mark
- **Internet Gaming Tax:** increases the top-tier tax by 8% (from 28% to 36%) for targeted casinos with certain adjusted gross receipts
- **Landfill Tipping Fees:** raises the surcharge from 36-cents per ton of solid waste to \$5.00 (over a 1,200% increase)

#### ➤ Other Budget Highlights

- Back in 2021, the federal government passed the ARP Act, directing billions of dollars in COVID-19 recovery money to the states. Michigan used some of this funding to increase Direct Care Worker hourly wages. With ARP money expiring at the end of 2026, the Governor proposes \$110.8M of general fund dollars over the next two years to replace it.
- The Governor recommends \$186.6M general fund dollars and almost 600 full-time employees to meet the requirements of the Medicaid and SNAP changes contained in the federal legislation, "The One Big Beautiful Bill."
- In her budget, the Governor plans to use a majority of the money from the increased digital advertising tax, vape tax, tobacco tax, internet gaming tax, and sports betting per-wager tax to support the state's Medicaid Program.
- The Governor proposes a Back-To-School Tax Holiday. Items such as clothes, computers, and school supplies would not be charged the 6% sales tax during the third weekend in August.
- A weighted funding model for school operations is outlined in the Governor's budget. It would include an increased foundation allowance by \$250 per pupil plus additional amounts for certain student groups such as those academically at-risk, in career and tech, in rural areas, English language learners, preschoolers, in the Early On program, and with developmental delays.
- The Governor suggests an almost \$270M investment in early literacy interventions. These interventions include tutoring programs, curriculum development, reading coaches, and accessible programming.
- About \$73M in general fund money is recommended for psychiatric residential treatment facilities; the Governor outlines that Michigan has four of these facilities, with only one serving children.

# Black History Month 2026

Northwest  
Campus



Dr. Carolyn Carter presented a Researching Your Family History Workshop. Dr. Carter is a historian, genealogist, storyteller, and educator passionate about uncovering family histories and preserving African American heritage. Her journey began in childhood, inspired by her great-grandmother's remarkable story. She has taught genealogy for over a decade, conducted extensive archival research nationwide, and contributed to historic preservation projects, including the Underground Railroad National and local historic designations.

Curtis L. Ivery  
Downtown  
Campus



Participants explored key figures, historical moments, cultural achievements and traditions that have shaped African American history during Black History Month Game Day.



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.

Downriver  
Campus

# Black History Month 2026

Students, staff, and community members participated in a field trip to the Detroit Historical Museum for the African American Perspective tour and lecture.



Mary  
Ellen  
Stempfle  
University  
Center

Participants enjoyed the viewing of the movie *Passing*. Set in 1920s New York City, the film follows the intertwined life of a black woman and her white-passing childhood friend.



Ted  
Scott  
Campus

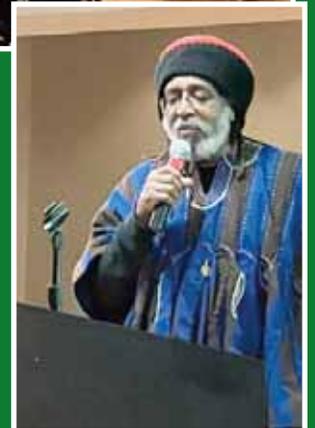
Participants enjoyed the viewing of the movie *The Fire Inside*.

The film was about the early boxing career of Claressa "T-Rex" Shields, a fighter from Flint, Michigan, including her competing at the 2012 Summer Olympics.

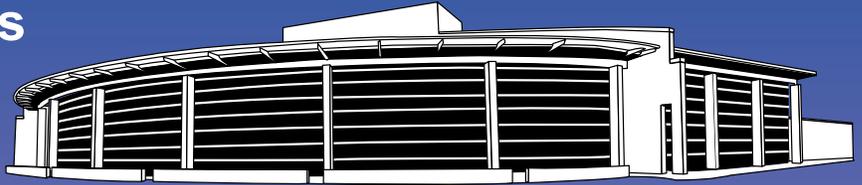


Eastern  
Campus

Malik Yakini discussed the concepts of food security and food sovereignty within the context of the African American experience at the *Who Feeds You, Baby? Building Black Food Sovereignty* workshop. The presentation discussed the many ways in which African American people have contributed historically to American agriculture and food ways.



# Downriver Campus



WAYNE COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

HEINZ C. PRECHTER EDUCATIONAL AND *Performing Arts Center*

## WHOOME Corporation

The Heinz C. Prechter Educational and Performing Arts Center hosted a Sing Along presented by the Canadian Arabic Orchestra, Maple Arts Group. This event featured timeless Arabic classics.



# Northwest Campus



## CST (Certified Surgical Technologist) Exam

Students in the Surgical Technology Program took their CST (Certified Surgical Technologist) exam in the Health Science Center computer lab. With successful completion of this exam, students become certified and are able to practice in the surgical technology field.



## Anesthesia Technology Program



ANE student, Alice Pina, completing her clinical requirements at McLaren Lansing with ANE Alumni, Jennifer Vallejo.



ANE student, Nadia Elhady completing her clinical requirements at Corewell Dearborn, performing an anesthesia turnover.



ANE student, Nadia Elhady and Clinical Faculty, Christopher Nation at Corewell Dearborn.



ANE Clinical II student Amyre Williams at Henry Ford Main performing an anesthesia turnover between surgical cases.

# CURTIS L. IVERY HWEC

Health & Wellness  
Education Center



## Wildcats Basketball

The HWEC hosted the Men's and Women's Bears of Mott Community College for basketball games against the Wildcats.



## Partnership Opportunities

Mike Dotson met with Justin Jacobs from Come Play Detroit to discuss future continuing education partnership possibilities.



## Senior Strength Training

Senior strength training continues to be one of the most popular group fitness classes at the HWEC.



## Information Table

Staff provided students at the Curtis L. Ivery Downtown Campus with information about the HWEC and the many opportunities available for them.



WAYNE COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT



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



**Downriver Campus**

## Wayne County Sheriff Department

The Michigan Institute for Public Safety Education (MIPSE) hosted the Wayne County Sheriff's Department for court training. Topics included blood-borne pathogens, weapon retention, chemical weapons, and baton practice.



## WCCCD Fire Fighter Practical Training

MIPSE hosted the Fire Fighter Practical Training, which was designed to equip students with the psychomotor skills required for entry-level positions in the fire service.



## Downriver Career Technology Center Fire Students

Dual enrollment fire students from Downriver Career Technology Center (DCTC) practiced first aid techniques.



# Brown and Juanita C. Ford Art Gallery

Northwest Campus

The School of Continuing Education presented the opening reception of the African Symbolism: Objet D'Art Exhibition featuring the artwork of Charlene Uresy. The community enjoyed the artist's painted furniture and decorative art. Sherry Washington, WCCCD Art Curator, intoned, "Several community leaders, students, professional artists, and art patrons attended the opening and were overjoyed as they viewed the latest oeuvres of Uresy." The exhibition will be on display until March 20, 2026.



**Charlene Uresy**



Artists and Patrons: Ashley Menthe, Thoris Wilson, Debbie LaPratt, Charlene Uresy, Dr. Jaime Feldman, Babacar Lo, Robbie Best



Sherry Washington, Tonya Seegars, Charlene Uresy, and Halima Mohiuddin



Tonya Seegars and John Bolden



Sandra Williams, Charlene Uresy, and Dr. Jocelyn Rainey





Wayne County Community College District

## Summer Camps and Program Partnerships

The Continuing Education team met to discuss summer kids' camps. Discussions included programs that focus on promoting creativity, critical thinking and problem-solving where children can explore science, technology, engineering, arts, and math (STEAM).



## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



Jason Robinson and Jasmine Uduma have completed their AI certification.



# Division of Educational Affairs

## New Faculty Orientation

The Curtis L. Ivery Downtown Campus hosted a new faculty orientation. New faculty members were given resources including how to report faculty absences, syllabi support and submission, positive reporting instructions, grade changes/appeals, and other valuable resources.



## Learning Resource Center

Staff members assisting students with class assignments and blackboard submissions.



## HelpDesk Team Meeting

The Information Technology Helpdesk Support Team met to review upcoming enhancements to the self-service portal for faculty and staff. This training will improve call management support and enhance overall customer experience.



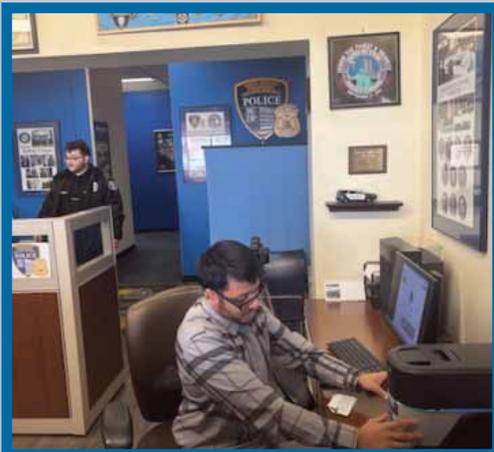
## Systems Operations Team Meeting

The Operations Team met to participate in team-building exercises designed to strengthen collaboration and enhance overall effectiveness. These sessions focused on improving collective problem-solving, fostering innovative thinking, and supporting informed decision-making related to implementation planning and cross-functional support. Key focus areas included:

- Troubleshooting methodologies
- Process mapping and workflow optimization

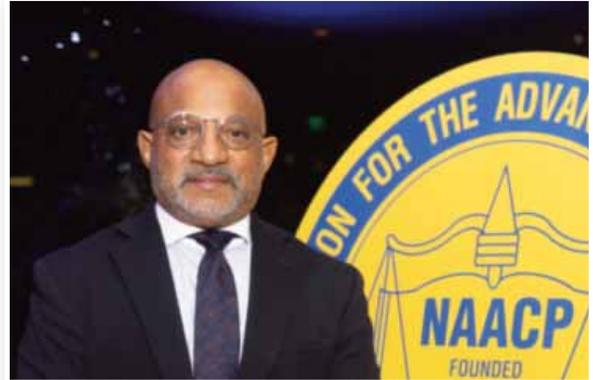


## District-wide Technical Support





Grace Kowalski attended a Multi Chamber Mixer at Michigan Flight Museum.



Dr. Harvey Dorrah attended the Kickoff Reception for the NAACP Fight for Freedom Fund Dinner.



Michael Poole attended a conversation with Ambassador Rahm Emanuel regarding fixing K-12 education, increasing the number of Skilled Trade Workers, Congress, and Geopolitics.



Dr. Yvette Anderson attended the Birthday Breakfast Celebration honoring Alisha Bell, Chair of the Wayne County Commission.



Jeff Moore and Stacey Hale attended the Taylor Career Center Career Fair.



Dr. CharMaine Hines participated in a session titled "Artificial Intelligence and Thought Leadership" sponsored by The League for Innovation in the Community College and

the Community College Presidents' Initiative in STEM. Key highlights focused on the realization of AI and its fast-growing acceptance in businesses, industries, and higher education, and implications for a newly skilled workforce.

# Division of Student Services



Our Global Conversations Speaker Series also featured renowned author and scholar Dr. Wesley Muhammad for a presentation on the impact of cannabis, hip-hop culture, and the historical and scientific forces that have disproportionately affected Black communities in America.



## From The Fields To The Boardroom

Curtis L. Ivery Downtown Campus

Dr. Felipe Lopez Sustaita shared his captivating narrative of transitioning from life as an undocumented migrant farm worker to the attainment of his doctorate degree. Participants were inspired as he brought attention to the challenges faced by migrant workers while celebrating their indomitable courage and contributions.





# Division of Student Services



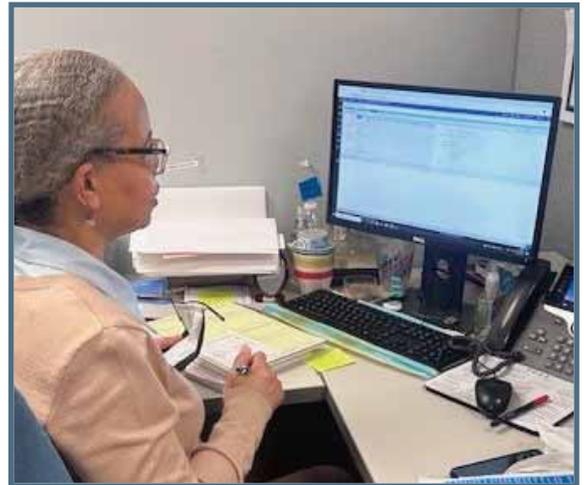
## New Student Experience

### *Leading by Example: A Mother's Educational Journey*

Ms. Tiffany is starting her studies to earn a degree in elementary education. As a devoted mother, she proves that parents can keep working toward their academic goals while caring for their families. She shows perseverance, responsibility, and a strong respect for education, setting an example for her children every day.

## Dual Enrollment Program

The Division of Student Services has established a new partnership with Detroit Boxing Gym (DBG) to offer dual enrollment opportunities for students in their program.



## Registration

Staff Continue to assist students for the Spring 2026 semester.



Alpha Upsilon Zeta Chapter  
id: #000012003105  
Division III - Michigan Region  
Wayne County Community College District  
Detroit, MI

2025 Five Star Progress



[View Progress](#)

2024 Five Star Score



## Phi Theta Kappa

We are pleased to share that our Phi Theta Kappa chapter Alpha Upsilon Zeta has successfully maintained its Five Star Chapter Status, which reflects the continued commitment, engagement, and excellence of our students, advisors, and institutional partners.

# Division of Student Services



## Federal Work-Study Program

The Federal Work-Study (FWS) Office is preparing for the upcoming FWS Job Fair, which will provide students with the opportunity to engage directly with partnered offsite organizations and learn more about the placement opportunities available.

## New Student Experience

Students continue to receive assistance with their study plan, course choices and goals that focus on shaping their academic path.



## Financial Aid Office

The District Financial Department is preparing for the first disbursement of student financial aid funds for the Spring semester. The funds being disbursed are federal and state funds and will cover tuition, fees, books, and supplies.

## WILDCATS



WCCCD hosted the 2025-26 Detroit Public League girls and boys high school basketball semi-finals. Excitement was in the air as eight schools competed.



Women's Basketball Coach Yvonne Hammoud and her coaching staff offer encouragement to the ladies during a timeout at home against Macomb Community College.



Staff met with representatives from the YMCA to develop and formalize plans to host the Summer Discovery Program at the Curtis L. Ivery Downtown Campus. This meeting marks the beginning of a collaborative partnership aimed at expanding opportunities for high school dual enrollment students.

## Enhancing Educational Partnerships



## Professional Development

During the Student Services Weekly Information Session, Dr. Wanda Hudson from Educational Affairs discussed the benefits of AI in higher education. She explained how AI can streamline curriculum planning, rubric creation, and administrative tasks like presentations and automation.



## Student Chess Club

Students are learning the basics of chess from a visiting member of the Kingsman Chess Club.

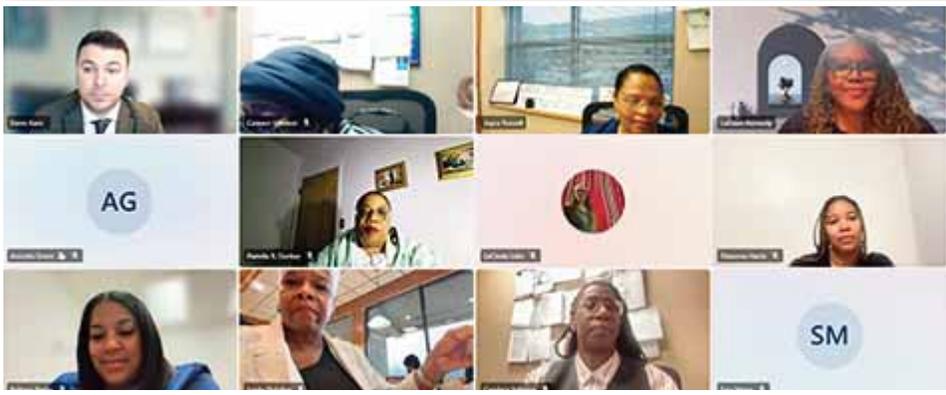


## Student Executive Council

Student Executive Council member Sobowale Solaja has been appointed to the Michigan Collegiate Student Advisory Task Force for the 2025–2026 term, serving as a student representative at the state level.



# Mary Ellen Stempfle University Center



## Blackboard Ultra Training

Denis Karic conducted a Blackboard Ultra workshop for nursing faculty. The workshop covered advanced course design in the new Ultra version of Blackboard.

# Community Partners



AKA - Alpha Gamma Lambda Omega Chapter's Monthly Meeting

Detroit Black Deaf Advocates General Membership Meeting



Grosse Pointe Democratic Club Membership Meeting



# Curtis L. Ivery Downtown Campus

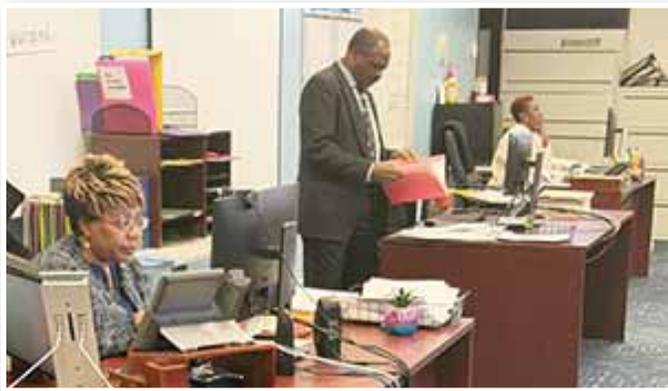
## Narcan Training Session

The Curtis L. Ivery Downtown Campus hosted a training session designed to educate participants on the proper use of narcan to respond to an opioid overdose.



## Detroit Housing Group

Councilwoman Latisha Johnson presented a workshop to explore meaningful ways to increase affordable, accessible, and attainable housing, educate on alternative housing and share best practices.



## Adult Education Program

WCCCD's Adult Education team is preparing registration for the new Wayne County partnership. This partnership will create new opportunities for student success.

## University of Michigan

Recruitment staff from the University of Michigan were on campus sharing information regarding programming and transfer opportunities once students graduate from WCCCD.



# Downriver Campus



Wayne RESA 2025-26 Region 10 Adult Learner Collaborative Meeting



Wayne RESA Early Childhood Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports Series



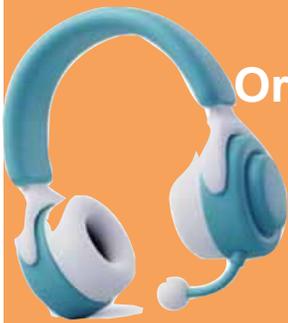
Wayne RESA Supporting Children with Autism in the Classroom



## 4-H Recognition Event and Showcase

The Downriver Campus hosted 4H's (Head, Heart, Hands, and Health) Recognition Showcase. 4-H recognizes the efforts and accomplishments of its members through various awards to encourage participation, acknowledge achievements and promote personal growth among youth involved in the program.

# Eastern Campus



## Student Organization

Console  
Gaming  
Society



Students are learning the importance of taking care of their skin using proper skin treatments.



## Anatomy and Physiology



Students in BIO 240 are looking at human tissue slides to identify the various skin cells under the microscope.



# Northwest Campus



## New Course Focuses on Building Your Entrepreneurial Future

Students explored how to build their entrepreneurial future in a class taught by Dennis Archer, Jr., Esq., Chairman and CEO of sixteen42 ventures. This hands-on, experiential course guides aspiring entrepreneurs, small business owners, creatives, and professionals through the core components of developing a real-world business plan, led by a practicing entrepreneur.



## 12th Congressional District

The 12th Congressional District held its February meeting. Congresswoman Rashida Tlaib provided a Washington, D.C. congressional update.



## Hospice Seminar

Participants explored the principles of pain management and the role of the hospice nurse, as well as effective communication skills for supporting patients and their families.



## UMMA Bazaar

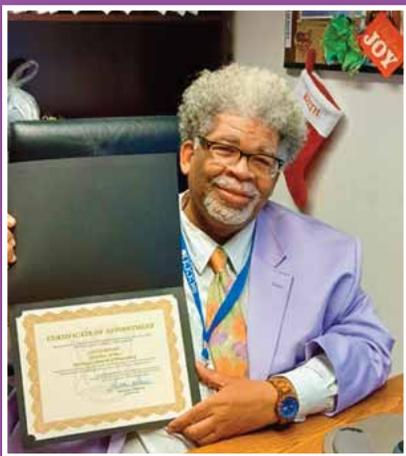
The Northwest Campus hosted the Umma Bazaar, which supports local business growth by using innovative marketing tools to strengthen customer connections.

# Ted Scott Campus

*Congratulations!*



Matthew Green, Campus President has been appointed by Michigan's Bureau of Emergency Preparedness, EMS and Systems of Care to sit on an advisory board of experts to write and evaluate test questions for Michigan's paramedic and instructor coordinator exams.



Keith Binion has been reappointed by Governor Gretchen Whitmer to the Michigan Board of Pharmacy.



Practical Nursing Education Students



## Steel and Stiletos Firearm Training

Participants attended a Concealed Carry and Home Defense Fundamentals workshop presented by representatives from the organization Steel and Stiletos.



**Spreading Positivity!**

Staff is preparing a "Growing Positivity" board for the Spring semester.

# 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

