

Chancellor's Weekend Memo

DISTRICT-WIDE UPDATES • September 19-25, 2026 • #1564



ONE VISION, ONE DISTRICT, ONE COLLEGE

Public Safety Heroes Open House

The Michigan Institute for Public Safety Education held its annual Public Safety Heroes Open House, featuring hands-on fire extinguisher training, home emergency preparedness, hands-only CPR, and public safety demonstrations.



One Vision, One District, One College



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

- Chairperson's Report
- General Manager's Report
- New Business Items
- Board Member Business





Enhancing Community Partnerships

I met with Wayne County Treasurer Eric Sabree to discuss strategies to enhance collaboration, strengthen community partnerships, and expand opportunities to support students and Wayne County residents.



Community Partnerships

I met with Jessica Forman of Google Data Centers Workforce Development and Community Engagement. During her visit, she toured the Curtis L. Ivery Downtown Campus and the Health and Wellness Education Center.



Michigan Community College Association's Board of Directors Meeting

I met with staff in preparation for the Michigan Community College Association's Board of Directors Meeting. Some of the agenda items included:

- Constitutional Convention
- Northern Michigan Attainment Collaborative
- Legislative Update
- Student Success Updates
- Strategic Plan Discussion and Vote



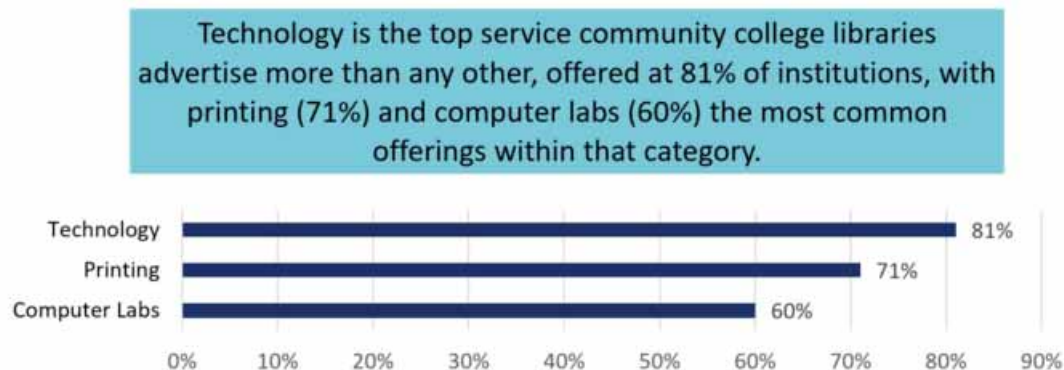


Institutional Effectiveness

Learning Resource Centers are Important Partners in Community College Spaces

The Division of Institutional Effectiveness administers student service usage and satisfaction surveys to support informed planning and decision-making. The Learning Resource Center (LRC) provides access to technology, study spaces, research support, multimedia resources, interlibrary loan services, and instructional workshops. As a learning commons that serves students and the broader community, the LRC survey collects feedback on usage, satisfaction, and opportunities for improvement to enhance services and resources for students, faculty, administrators, and community members. Below provides perspectives from multiple higher education resource articles and WCCCD's LRC Survey users' satisfaction.

71% community college library directors rated providing technology resources as an extremely important library function in 2021, and 73% anticipated it would remain equally important in 2026.



Source: [Library Strategy and Collaboration Across the College Ecosystem](#) and [Exploring Basic Needs Support Across Public and Community College Libraries](#)

WCCCD Learning Resource Center Use

The following information comes from our Spring 2026 LRC User Satisfaction Form

Top 2 Reasons Users Used LRC:



More than **95%** of LRC users were satisfied in the following areas:



Power of Personal Branding

Students continued developing their branding and marketing skills through a presentation by guest speaker Dean Brody, Founder of Coach and Crew and Lecturer in Sports Management at the University of Michigan. The course, taught by Dennis Archer Jr. at the Northwest Campus, provides students with practical branding and marketing strategies for academic, professional, and entrepreneurial success.



"Attending Know Your Audience helped me think more carefully about who I want to reach and how to connect with them in a meaningful way."



"I really like the class. We learn so much about how to present ourselves to the world and how to grow ourselves, which I didn't learn in school."



WELCOME WEEK

The Division of Student Services hosted Welcome Week activities across all six campus locations, providing a week of opportunities for students to connect, engage, and start the semester strong.



WELCOME WEEK



In addition to activities and campus engagement, some students were able to connect with advising, tutoring, academic support, student organizations, and other resources designed to support their success throughout the semester.

Brown and Juanita C. Art Gallery

Curtis L. Ivery Downtown Campus

The School of Continuing Education presented the opening reception of the art exhibition, Transcendental Fibers featuring the artwork of Boisali Biswas. The artist stated, "My practice is woven from threads of memory, nostalgia, cultural identity, migration, and belonging. I often find myself drawn to my roots, exploring the complexities of leaving one place while carrying its histories, traditions, and memories into another." WCCCD Art Curator Sherry Washington observed, "Students and the community had a rare opportunity to delve into the mind and artistic voice of a renowned international artist whose work possesses a majestic quality. Through ancient artistic techniques, she creates artwork that invites viewers to discover the rich cultural heritage of India." The evening was enhanced with a Rajasthani classical dance performance by Esha Biswas.



Boisali
Biswas



Professional Exams and Licensing Preparation

The School of Continuing Education provides career-focused professional exam and licensing preparation designed to help individuals advance their skills, meet industry requirements, and pursue new career opportunities. Offerings include Michigan 60 Hour Residential Builder's License Preparation, Michigan 40 Hour Real Estate License Preparation, Michigan Code of Ethics: Real Estate Licensing, Michigan Real Estate Six-Hour Continuing Education, State Board Continuing Education Units (SBCEUs), and Health and Education System, Inc. (HESI) Test Preparation.

Whether preparing for a professional license, maintaining required credentials, or getting ready for an important entrance or certification examination, our Continuing Education programs provide accessible, practical learning opportunities to support professional growth and career advancement.



Community Partnerships



The Grosse Pointe Board of Realtors held its monthly meeting at the Mary Ellen Stempfle University Center.



The Mary Ellen Stempfle University Center also hosted the Ladies of Distinction youth group workshop.



District Police Authority

Supporting Our Service Members

Lieutenant Isaac Bynum and Captain Tamika Townsel joined Sergeant Ryan Farrelly as he prepares for a year-long deployment to the European Theater with the Michigan Army National Guard. Department personnel also hosted an informational display, engaging with students and visitors while highlighting the services and resources available through the WCCCD Police Authority. We extend our sincere appreciation to everyone who participated and supported this event. We also wish Sergeant Farrelly a safe and successful deployment.





Building Community Relationships



Detroit Area Pre-College Engineering Program

WCCCD joined DAPCEP, DTE Energy and community partners in celebrating DAPCEP's 50th anniversary and five decades of advancing STEM education for Detroit-area students. WCCCD's and DTE Energy's longstanding support of DAPCEP reflects the important role of industry and education partnerships in developing future talent and creating pathways from early STEM exposure to college and high-demand careers.

55th Annual 2026 Congressional Black Caucus

Dr. Yvette Anderson attended the 55th Annual 2026 Congressional Black Caucus. The theme was "Rooted, Ready, Rising." The conference included policy discussion, brain trust, leadership sessions, and networking opportunities.



Taylor Preparatory High School College Fair

Stacey Hale represented the District at the Taylor Preparatory High School College Fair. She shared information on admissions, program offerings, registration and continuing education courses.

Detroit River Water Festival

Tim Durand disseminated information about career opportunities and continuing education programs at the Detroit River Water Festival on Belle Isle.



Division of Human Resources

Effective Communication and Conflict Resolution

Staff participated in a professional development workshop focused on effective communication and conflict resolution in the workplace. The session provided practical strategies for active listening, navigating difficult conversations, addressing employee concerns, and resolving workplace conflicts in a professional and constructive manner.



Staff from the Division of Student Services participated in a webinar exploring how community colleges can harness AI to enhance student engagement, streamline operations, and better align programs with workforce and community needs.



Dr. CharMaine Hines convened a meeting of the MI-ACE institutional representatives— a group of women representing colleges and universities across the state with a focus on developing women in higher education.

Eastern Campus

Division of Workforce and Economic Development

Construction Trades Training Program

Students in the Construction Trades Training Program participated in a tour of the Carpenters and Millwrights Training School.



CULTURAL ENRICHMENT



VIRTUAL INTERCULTURAL CONVERSATIONS



This week's virtual Intercultural Conversations highlighted National Hispanic Heritage Month, the International Day of Peace, and Ganesh Chaturthi. Participants learned about the history, traditions, and cultural significance of each observance while exploring themes of heritage, unity, and community.



Division of Student Services



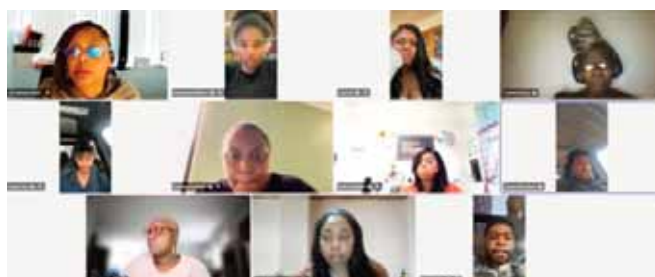
Phi Theta Kappa

The Alpha Upsilon Zeta Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa had a wonderful weekend of community service. Our members volunteered at the 911 Day of Service meal-packing event at Wayne State University in partnership with Forgotten Harvest and supported the Susan G. Komen Detroit Race for the Cure.



Considine Center

The Division of Student Services staff connect with senior residents as they promote the Community Engagement Workshop Series.



Federal Work-Study Program

The Federal Work-Study (FWS) Office hosted the Fall 2026 Federal Work-Study job fair providing eligible students with an opportunity to learn about available FWS positions and connect with potential supervisors and worksite representatives.

Division of Student Services

Dual Enrollment Program

The team visited students at local high schools on the first day of class.



Federal Student Aid
An OFFICE of the U.S. DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION

Financial Aid

Early Access to the 2027–28 FAFSA® Form

The 2027–28 *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA®) form is available to all students as part of our early testing period. The 2027–28 FAFSA form will launch by October 1, 2026.



District-wide Disability Services function, delivered locally at all six locations

The Division of Student Services convened team members from all six locations for District-wide training and service alignment. While students receive support at their local campus, Disability Services operates as one District-wide function, providing centralized leadership, guidance, and standards to ensure students receive consistent support and accommodations across WCCCD.

Division of Student Services



Introducing Wayne County Wednesdays!

The Division of Student Services introduces Wayne County Wednesdays, where our Dual Enrollment team is available to provide real-time assistance and support every Wednesday. They can assist with registration, Blackboard, courses, or other dual enrollment needs.



Michigan College and University Partnership

Staff continue to encourage students to apply for the Michigan College and University Partnership Program. The seven week, research-based program is hosted by Michigan Technological University in Houghton, Michigan.



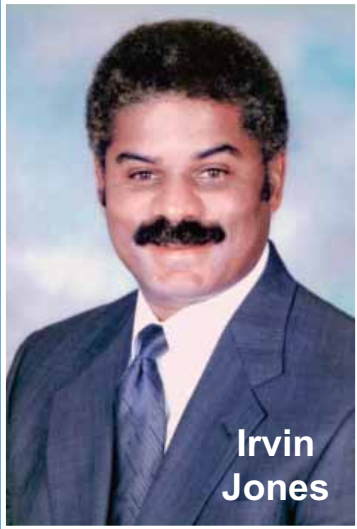
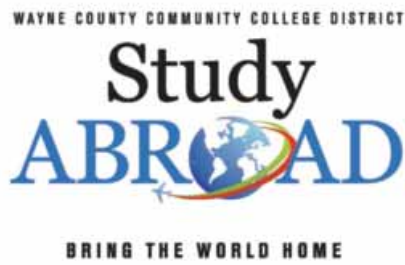
Outreach and Recruitment

Staff met to discuss our October 30, 2026 event with MiLeap.

Advocating for Student Success

The Division of Student Services participated in a group discussion of changemakers on what it takes to effectively advocate for student success now and into the future as the industry experiences extreme transformation. Topics included:

- Evolving campus life trends and the impact of AI in Student Affairs today.
- Redefining metrics of success beyond traditional graduation rates.
- Aligning campus efforts to support the needs of the modern Gen-Z student.
- How Student Affairs has quietly been the student retention hero.



Irvin
Jones

Spring 2027 Virtual Study Abroad Experience in Peru

Faculty and staff will get a glimpse into the Spring 2027 Study Abroad Experience for students during the upcoming District-Wide Conference Day in October. A special Museo Larco virtual presentation will feature a lecture and presentation from Lima, Peru, highlighting the country's rich history, culture, and pre-Columbian heritage. Highlights will include:

- An overview of Peru's pre-Columbian civilizations and cultural heritage.
- Highlights of key artifacts, traditions, and historical themes represented within the museum.
- Cultural awareness, customs, and considerations for international visitors.
- Ways faculty can use international and museum-based experiences to enhance student learning.

VOICES OF WOMEN OF COLOR COMMUNITY COLLEGE CEOs

CharMaine T. Hines



Contributions to the Field: *Voices of Women of Color Community College CEOs*

We are proud to announce the publication of a vital work by our own Dr. CharMaine Hines. *In Voices of Women of Color Community College CEO*, Dr. Hines explores higher education leadership through the perspectives of 17 leaders from diverse backgrounds, including African American, Asian Pacific Islander, and Latino/Hispanic communities.

Mystery Call Initiative



Our ongoing Mystery Call Initiative continued this week with calls conducted across the District to assess customer service, responsiveness, and the overall student experience.

Division of Information Technology



Project Status Update: Enhancing Systems and Support Services

The IT team met to review ongoing technology initiatives focused on enhancing system performance and improving the overall user experience. Discussions included system enhancements and opportunities to streamline help desk processes to improve service efficiency and end-user support.

HVAC System Consolidation Discussion

Members of the Division of Information Technology and the Facilities Department met to discuss the continued migration of HVAC controls. This project will expand both on-site and remote management capabilities, providing facilities staff with greater visibility, control, and efficiency in monitoring and maintaining HVAC systems across all District locations.





Division of Educational Affairs



Dr. Wanda Hudson and Denis Karic met with Al Nasturzio and Matt Edwards of CompTIA to discuss API/Blackboard integration of CompTIA course materials. The goal is to provide students with access to required textbooks and digital resources through an inclusive access model, helping remove access barriers and promote student success.



The Division of Educational Affairs, in collaboration with the Division of Student Services, hosted the Cybersecurity Club featuring Shaelese King, Founder of Career Pathway Alliance, LLC, as a guest speaker. More than 30 students attended the session focused on career pathways and workforce development.



Staff participated in the virtual statewide meeting with representatives from colleges and universities across Michigan. Dr. Wanda Hudson is the newly elected Co-Chair of the Mi ACE – Women of Color Collaborative. The meeting focused on planning the WOCC retreat, hosted by WCCCD, and the Annual Luncheon, hosted by Central Michigan University, while strengthening collaboration among members statewide.



Mary Ellen Stempfle University Center

University Partner Spotlight

Davenport University is one of our valued university partners, helping our students continue their education and complete a bachelor's degree after earning their associate degree at WCCCD. Through our partnership, students benefit from clear course equivalencies and a smooth transfer pathway into Davenport's programs, saving time and reducing costs while avoiding repeated coursework.



Dual Enrollment Program

Students are working hard on their first day of dual enrollment classes at the Mary Ellen Stempfle University Center.

One Vision, One District, One College

Distance Learning Tip of the Week

Setting Clear Expectations

As the semester moves forward, clear expectations help students stay on track in the online environment. Faculty are encouraged to post weekly reminders outlining upcoming deadlines, assignment requirements, and participation expectations. When students know exactly what is due and when, they are better able to manage their time and stay engaged with the course.

Curtis L. Ivery Downtown Campus



Language Institute

This week, students continued their German, French, and Chinese language classes, while our ESL students received assistance to strengthen their English and succeed in their college studies. The Language Institute also continues to connect students with additional learning resources, including Mango Languages, books, and other language-learning materials.



Health and Wellness: Living Well Everyday Workshop

The workshop provided students with practical strategies to support their overall health and wellbeing.



Continuing Education Planning Meeting



Student Success

The Curtis L. Ivery Downtown Campus distributed Constitution books to students.

CURTIS L. IVERY HWE

Health & Wellness
Education Center



Personal Trainers

HWE personal trainers work with members to create a custom fitness plan based on each individual's goals and abilities.



Beautification

HWE staff planted flowers near the outside seating areas to further enhance the outdoor experience.

Dance Fit Class

Dance Fit uses techniques from several group fitness classes to create a fun, fast paced, full body workout to upbeat dance music.



Downriver Campus

Celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month



Students and staff enjoyed authentic Mexican cuisine while celebrating Hispanic culture and heritage.



The Downriver Campus hosted a viewing of a PBS documentary, *Latino Americans: The 500-Year Legacy That Shaped a Nation*.



Campus Life

Students participated in a scavenger hunt where they visited various campus departments before finishing at the library.



Danielson 2013 New Administrator Training

This training was designed to strengthen observation and feedback skills among instructional coaches, school leaders, and others who support educator growth.



Wayne RESA Adult Learning Principles

The Downriver Campus hosted Wayne RESA's Adult Learning Principles training. The training focused on developing the skills and dispositions needed to effectively lead learning through coaching, consulting, and facilitating adult thinking.



WAYNE COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT



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



Downriver Campus

Detroit Police Department Rappelling Training

The Michigan Institute for Public Safety Education hosted the Detroit Police Department for rappelling training. Topics covered included introduction to rappelling equipment, how to rappel with different techniques, and rescues.



Fire Protection Technology Practical Class

Students in the Fire Protection Technology Practical Class participated in hands-on training designed to strengthen their knowledge and skills in fire protection and emergency response.



Eastern Campus



Women's Community Program

The Eastern Campus hosted the women of New Bethel Baptist Church for their Sip and Selah Program. Paired with a tea party theme, this program was designed to bring together community members, speakers, and local resources to encourage personal growth, education, and self-sufficiency.



Eastern Campus Administration Meeting

Mark Sanford met with his staff to assess the first few weeks of the Fall semester, as well as discuss current topics and campus operations.

Northwest Campus

Culinary Arts Program



WCCCD had the opportunity to highlight our partnership with Schoolcraft College's Culinary Arts Program. This partnership provides an exciting opportunity to connect culinary education, hands-on learning, and community engagement.



Brown and Juanita C. Ford Art Gallery



Students visited the Brown and Juanita C. Ford Art Gallery at the Northwest Campus to view the "Women of Power" art exhibition featuring the artwork of Valarie Davis.

Community Engagement

The Northwest Campus hosted the Azal Benne Lockett Foundation's fourth Annual Prayer Breakfast. This program brought guests together for a meaningful morning of encouragement, connection, and reflection.



Northwest Campus



New Interim Dean of the Surgical Technology Program

William Miller is now the new interim Dean of the Surgical Technology Program. Mr. Miller has decades of knowledge within the field and has taught at the college for several years. Let's congratulate Mr. Miller on his new role at the District.



Nursing Learning Resource Center



Nursing students utilizing the Health Science Center Learning Resource Center to prepare for class.

Ted Scott Campus



Music on the Terrace Series

This week, the Ted Scott Campus hosted the Oakland University Steel Drum Band. Participants enjoyed an evening of music from Stevie Wonder to sounds from the Caribbean.



Trustee Sharon P. Scott



Paws With A Cause transforms lives and strengthens communities through partnerships with custom-trained working dogs. Foster parents train their canine to navigate stairs.

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

