Chancellor's Weekend Memo

DISTRICT-WIDE UPDATES • October 31- November 6, 2026 • #1570



ONE VISION, ONE DISTRICT, ONE COLLEGE

Exploring the Impact of Social Media on Society

We were pleased to host an engaging Speaker Series at our Heinz C. Prechter Educational and Performing Arts Center, featuring acclaimed scholar and author Dr. Michael Eric Dyson and renowned actress Cynthia Kaye McWilliams. The discussion, titled “Is Social Media the Best Media?”, offered thought-provoking perspectives on the influence of social media on communication, culture, and community connections.













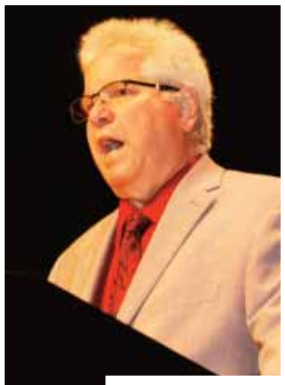


Exploring the Impact of Social Media on Society


Dr. and Mrs. David Porter










Mrs. Ola Ivery
WCCCD's First Lady













Institutional Effectiveness

The Division of Institutional Effectiveness completed required reporting to the State of Michigan and the U.S. Department of Education on key student success metrics, including enrollment, completion, employment, retention, and credit attainment. WCCCD continues to surpass Career and Technical Education (CTE) benchmarks, with a 6% increase over last year in graduates earning a degree, certificate, or industry-recognized credential in a CTE field. Below are a few key facts about Michigan students participating in CTE programs.

123,210

Students participated in MI postsecondary institutions in 1,523 CTE programs with credentials earned

45.6%

Of students in MI earned a postsecondary credential, certificate or degree

Source:https://octae.ed.gov/pcrn/explorer/performance/perkins-v

"Top 5" Career Cluster Areas with Credentials Conferred in MI are as follows:

1. Health Science
2. Business Administration
3. Law, Corrections & Security
4. Manufacturing
5. Information Technology

Every year the Division of Institutional Effectiveness analyzes data and reports the percentage of CTE graduates who received an industry-recognized postsecondary credential in future high demand career pathways. WCCCD awarded 1,000 graduates with a CTE certificate, degree, or industry-recognized credential in high demand occupations and looks forward to meet its goals in 2026-27.

"Top 5" CTE programs that WCCCD students completed a credential, certificate, or degree:



1. Truck Driver Training
2. Emergency Medical Technology
3. CIS: Network+
4. Nursing
5. Business Administration

52.9%

of WCCCD graduates received a recognized postsecondary credential, certificate or degree

Recognizing our Call Center Team



It was a pleasure to meet with members of our Call Center team and recognize their commitment to professionalism and exceptional customer service. As I often refer to them as the heart of the organization, the team plays a vital role in guiding and supporting our internal and external constituents.









Wayne County Community College District
DEVELOPMENT OFFICE of Scholarships & Giving

Scholarship Committee

Staff met with members of The Holley Foundation to discuss potential establishment of an endowed scholarship with the WCCCD Scholarship Committee.





Division of Administration and Finance

Staff led the opening of the Pre-Bid Conference for the Mary Ellen Stempfle University Center Expansion Project.

Career and College Experience Day

More than 300 high school students filled the Curtis L. Ivery Downtown Campus as WCCCD partnered with MiLEAP to provide an engaging Career and College Experience Day. Through interactive workshops, conversations about their futures, and a special appearance by Detroit recording artist Sada Baby, students were encouraged to explore new possibilities and begin connecting their interests with educational and career opportunities. The experience reflected WCCCD's commitment to reaching students early, building meaningful connections, and helping young people recognize the many pathways available to achieve their goals.





















Career and College Experience Day























Career and College Experience Day















District Police Authority

Congratulations!



Lieutenant Cynthia Brown was recognized with the Spirit of Detroit Award.



Honor Guard Prepares for Upcoming Ceremony

Members of the Police Authority Honor Guard recently trained at the Downriver Campus in preparation for an upcoming ceremonial event.

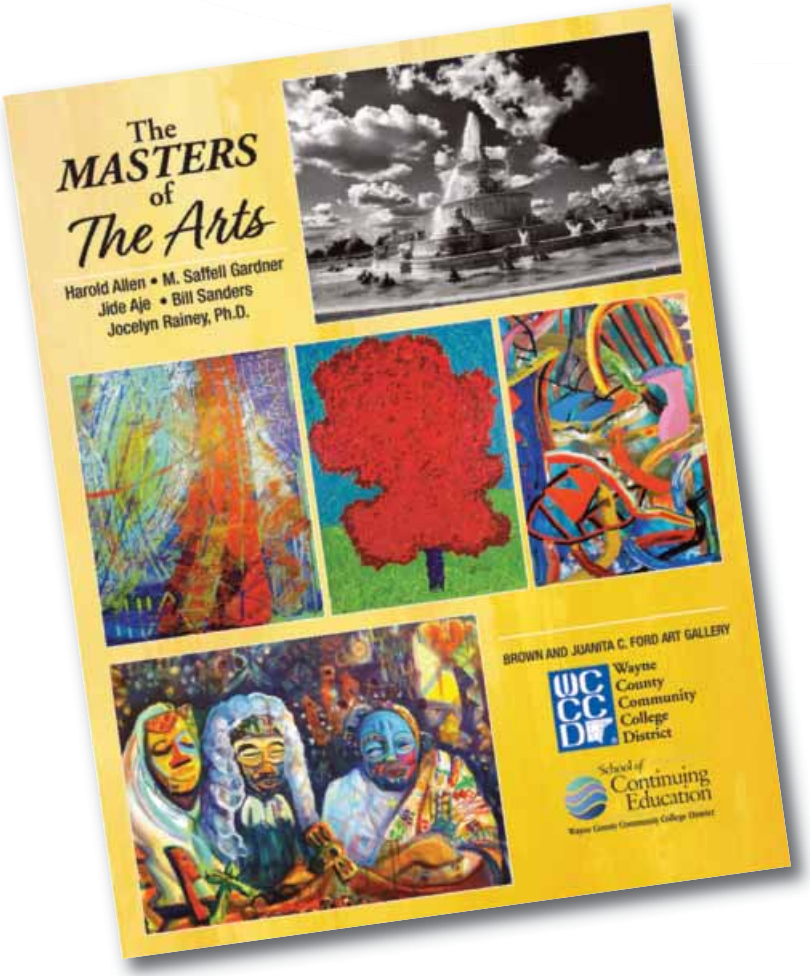


Police Authority Officers Share Storytime with Young Students

Members of the Police Authority spent time reading with young students. The officers enjoyed connecting with the children in a welcoming setting and building positive relationships.



Supporting our Police Authority



2026 Masters of the Arts Publication

WCCCD's Masters of the Arts publication celebrates artistic excellence by showcasing the works of Harold Allen, M. Safell Gardner, Jide Aje, Bill Sanders, and Dr. Jocelyn Rainey, featured in exhibitions at the District's Brown and Juanita C. Ford Art Galleries. A limited number of copies are available.

Skilled Trades-Residential Construction Technician

We are pleased to offer The Residential Construction Technician Certificate, that provides hands-on training and industry knowledge needed to launch a successful career in residential construction. Courses in this program include Construction Safety, Blueprint Reading, Carpentry Fundamentals, and more.





Marketing Your Personal Brand

Students are developing their marketing and professional development skills at the Northwest Campus. This week's class focused on marketing your personal brand, emphasizing strategies for building a strong professional identity, enhancing visibility, and positioning oneself for success.













Wildcats Basketball Season Opener

The HWEC hosted the Wildcats season opener basketball games against Kennedy Prep and Cuyahoga Community College.











GCSI

ELECTION UPDATE

November 4, 2026

Blue Tsunami Hits Michigan

Democrats swept Michigan's statewide executive offices and U.S. Senate race. Democrats will take control of the State House and retain the State Senate next session.

In Michigan's congressional races, State Sen. Sean McCann (D–Kalamazoo) defeated incumbent U.S. Rep. Bill Huizenga (R–Zeeland) in the 4th District, while William Lawrence (D) defeated incumbent U.S. Rep. Tom Barrett (R–Charlotte) in the 7th. The 4th, 7th and 10th District results would represent three Republican-to-Democratic pickups, pending confirmation of unofficial results. In the open 10th District, Christina Hines (D) defeated Michael Bouchard Jr. (R). State Sen. Jeremy Moss (D–Bloomfield Township) won the open 11th District, and State Rep. Donavan McKinney (D–Detroit) won the open 13th District, retaining both seats for Democrats.

Proposal 1, asking voters if Michigan should pursue a constitutional convention, fails at the polls. The next time a Constitutional Convention will be on the ballot is in sixteen years, in 2042.

Proposal 2, limiting political contributions from electric and gas utilities and from certain state or local government contractors, passes overwhelmingly with over 80% of the vote. GCSI is planning an informational seminar on Proposal 2. Please reach out with any questions.



JOCELYN BENSON
GOVERNOR

Democrat Jocelyn Benson and her running mate Winnie Brinks defeated Republican opponents John James and Jay DeBoyer by approximately 11 percentage points to win Michigan's gubernatorial race.



GARLIN GILCHRIST II
SECRETARY OF STATE

Democrat Garlin Gilchrist defeated Republican opponent Anthony Forlini by approximately 10 percentage points in the Michigan Secretary of State race.



ELI SAVIT
ATTORNEY GENERAL

Democrat Eli Savit won the Michigan Attorney General race over Republican Doug Lloyd by a margin of approximately 8 percentage points.



ABDUL EL-SAYED
U.S. SENATE

Democrat Abdul El-Sayed defeated Republican opponent Mike Rogers by approximately 6 percentage points to take one of Michigan's U.S. Senate seats.



SEAN McCANN (D)
U.S. HOUSE
4TH DISTRICT



WILLIAM LAWRENCE (D)
U.S. HOUSE
7TH DISTRICT



CHRISTINA HINES (D)
U.S. HOUSE
10TH DISTRICT

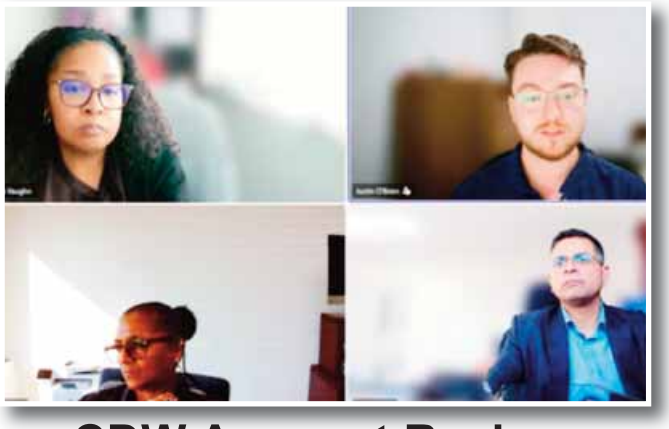


JEREMY MOSS (D)
U.S. HOUSE
11TH DISTRICT



DONAVAN MCKINNEY (D)
U.S. HOUSE
13TH DISTRICT

Division of Information Technology



CDW Account Review

The IT team met with the CDW account representative to review overall processes, improve communication, streamline hardware and software quote requests, order tracking and status updates, and ensure timely purchasing and delivery of technology products. The meeting also emphasized strengthening coordination and accountability to support District-wide technology projects and operational needs efficiently.

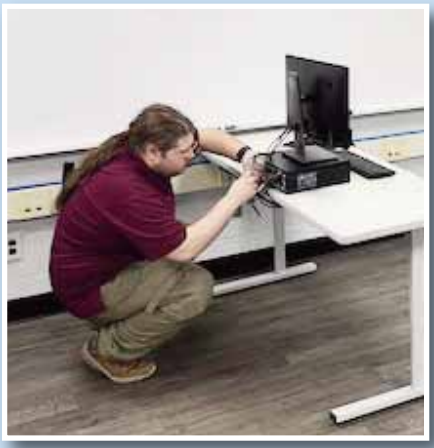


App Enhancer Demonstration

The IT team conducted a hands-on demonstration of the App Enhancer application for members of the Finance team, showcasing its capabilities to upload, access, and retrieve supporting documents within Banner. The session provided an opportunity to evaluate how these features can streamline requisition processing, improve document accessibility, reduce manual processes, and enhance overall workflow efficiency.

District-Wide Campus Technical Support









Division of Human Resources

Enhancing HR Customer Service

Staff from the Division of Human Resources (HR) participated in a Customer Service Workshop focused on enhancing service to employees and faculty. Topics included empathy, active listening, conflict resolution, professionalism, and creating positive workplace interactions.

10 Essential Rules of Telephone Etiquette

- Answer promptly
- Use a warm greeting
- Speak clearly
- Listen actively
- Ask before placing callers on hold
- Address callers by name
- Minimize background noise
- Stay positive and calm
- Explain before transferring
- Conclude courteously



Retirement Benefits Meeting

The Divisions of Human Resources and Administration and Finance met with benefits providers to discuss future retirement benefits expansion possibilities.



CULTURAL ENRICHMENT



VIRTUAL INTERCULTURAL CONVERSATIONS



This week's Virtual Intercultural Conversations highlighted Native American Heritage Month, All Saints Day, and All Souls Day. Presentations and discussions explored the history, cultural significance, and traditions associated with these observances, providing participants with an opportunity to broaden their understanding and appreciation of diverse cultures.

Dr. Fidelis D'Cunha was interviewed by Weam Namou who is the host of the Weam Namou Podcast. Ms. Namou is also the producer of the film *Pomegranate*, which is our featured film this month.

The Weam Namou Podcast features interviews with individuals from diverse cultural, professional, and personal backgrounds. The show covers topics such as cultural heritage, identity, women's contributions, literature, arts, spirituality, and personal development.



On the move!

Building Community Relationships





The County Executives: Driving The Region Forward

Staff attended a discussion with County Executives Warren Evans, David Coulter and Mark Hackel. The event was hosted by the Detroit Regional Chamber and moderated by WDIV-TV 4 news anchor Jason Colthorp.



BUG-MI Conference

Staff participated in a conversation at the BUG-MI conference held at Oakland University regarding Banner 9 updates and AI benefits versus risk.



College Night

Staff represented the District at the Harper Woods High School College Night.

Division of Student Services

Records

Staff continue to process guest applications for Spring 2027.





Dual Enrollment Program

Members of the Dual Enrollment team offer onsite admissions for future WCCCD Wildcats.



Student Success

During the "Dress for Success" Workshop, students participated in a mini fashion show, modeling clothing they selected from the Professional Clothing Closets at our Curtis L. Ivery Downtown and Eastern campuses. The workshop emphasized the importance of appropriate professional attire and personal appearance in making positive impressions and creating opportunities for career success. Students also learned that looking and feeling their best can be affordable by taking advantage of campus resources, including the Professional Clothing Closets and food pantries, which provide access to personal hygiene items. These resources are available at the Curtis L. Ivery Downtown, Ted Scott, Eastern, and Northwest campuses.



Considine Center

Staff from the Division of Student Services visited to engage with the community and assist returning students with the admissions process and the Wildcat portal navigation.

Phi Theta Kappa (PTK)

Our chapter president of Alpha Upsilon Zeta, Kim Clark, attended the BLVCK Migrant convening to gather valuable data, research, and information to support the development of our chapter's Honors in Action (HIA) Project. The event provided opportunities to examine immigrant experiences, community leadership, social challenges, civic engagement, and strategies for building stronger communities.

Additionally, our PTK Chapter Advisor, Akindele Akinyemi, served as moderator for a panel discussion entitled “Building Stronger BLVCK Migrant Communities,” which explored the principles of Ubuntu, collective responsibility, community connections, resilience, belonging, and sustainable community development.









The Friday Pulse

The Division of Student Services has launched “The Friday Pulse” as part of our Information Session. The Pulse is now a short weekly update hosted by Dr. Brian Singleton to keep the District connected on key initiatives, policies, and updates.

During last week’s session, we welcomed our primary transfer partner, Wayne State University (WSU). Key representatives included the Director of Educational Outreach, the Assistant Director of Transfer Success, and advisors from the colleges of Social Work, Business and CIS, Engineering, and Education. They discussed our many clear streamlined transfer routes to specific colleges, scholarships, and financial aid as well student support.

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

Northwest Campus



Health Science Center Plumbing Repairs

Curtis L. Ivery Health and Wellness Educational Center



Ongoing Painting



Electrical Repairs

Curtis L. Ivery Downtown Campus



Members of the HVAC Task Force and District Facilities team met to coordinate winter preparedness initiatives for the Curtis L. Ivery Downtown Campus, ensuring facility operations remain efficient and reliable throughout the winter season.

DR. RANDALL MILLER'S CORNER

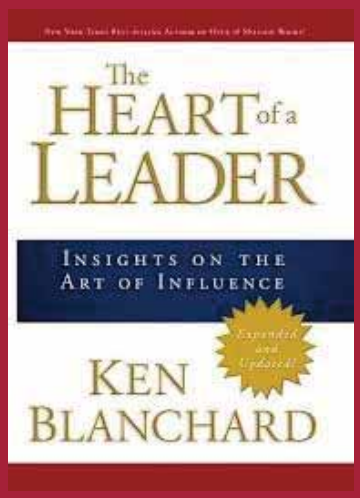


Inspiring and Retaining Good People

We all require affirmation in our lives no matter our age or how many wonderful experiences we may have had. We need each other just to be part of our normal human interactions. That is one of the reasons our COVID 19 experience has been so challenging: we have had a reduced level of human interaction. We feed off of each other, and that interaction provides an important part of our personal growth.

The nature of our human interactions helps to shape our character development. People who have experienced a lot of negativity in their lives may tend to internalize that so that it becomes part of their character. Showing negativity towards others may harm their growth if they fear being attacked, and it is a sure way to stifle their desire to contribute. Life becomes a flat line for those who feel under attack.

We can all see how others react when we provide honest, legitimate praise and support. It feeds their desire to grow and improve, and it contributes to a more upbeat, positive character where people feel they are being listened to and are part of a common purpose. Providing that feedback and showing that you care about others goes a long way towards helping to inspire and retain good people on your team.



Book Recommendation
The Heart of a Leader, Insights on the Art of Influence
Written by Ken Blanchard

Division of Workforce and Economic Development



CDL-A License

Kerry Young, who is a recent graduate of the Commercial Driver's License-A Program, recently earned his ***CDL-A license***.

Congratulations, Mr. Young!



Mary Ellen Stempfle University Center

Early Middle College and Career and Technical Education Partnership Opportunities

Denis Karic and Dr. Brian Singleton met with Dr. Roy Bishop, Superintendent of the Grosse Pointe Public School System to discuss Early Middle College and Career and Technical Education (CTE) opportunities. The conversation focused on how these programs could give students a head start on college and career goals while they complete their high school diploma. Discussion included possible career pathways, student support, and next steps for exploring the partnership.



Distance Learning Tip of the Week

Make Feedback Easy to Use



Students benefit most from feedback when they know exactly how to apply it. Faculty are encouraged to include one specific strength and one clear next step when grading assignments in Blackboard. Asking students to apply that next step in their upcoming work helps turn feedback into a practical tool for improvement.

Curtis L. Ivery Downtown Campus



Center for Family Development Training

Community members and students had the opportunity to strengthen their technology skills through the Computer Basics: Computers, iPads, and Smartphones course. They explored essential computer functions, learned how to navigate mobile devices, and gained practical knowledge.

The Language Institute

The Language Institute provided academic support to students in ESL, Japanese, Chinese, German, French, Arabic, and Spanish during midterms.







Wayne Resa

The Wayne RESA series equipped early childhood professionals with foundational knowledge and practical strategies in Early Childhood Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports.

Home Ownership and Real Estate Basics Workshop

Students, faculty, staff, and community members participated in the Home Ownership and Real Estate Basics workshop. This informative session was designed to provide practical knowledge about purchasing, financing, and maintaining a home.



CURTIS L. IVERY HWEC
Health & Wellness Education Center



Professional Development Workshop

The HWEC hosted a special professional development workshop for volunteers and staff of the Detroit Riverfront Conservancy.



Core and More

Core and More is a comprehensive fitness experience that adds cardio and core exercises for a total body workout.



Safety and Compliance

The safety and compliance pedestrian crossing is underway on 6th street outside of the Curtis L Ivery Health and Wellness Educational Center.

Downriver Campus



First Day of Spring 2027 Walk-In Registration

Staff assisted students with enrollment, course selection, and access to campus resources to help prepare them for a successful semester.









SMART Wayne County Community Partner Meeting

The Downriver Campus hosted the Wayne County Community Partnership Meeting, bringing together SMART leadership and community partners, including elected and appointed officials representing various municipalities.





Wayne County Health, Human and Veteran Services Department All Team Meeting





WAYNE COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

MICHIGAN INSTITUTE for PUBLIC SAFETY EDUCATION

Downriver Campus

Forensic Investigation Techniques Course



The Michigan Institute for Public Safety Education (MIPSE) hosted FBI Detroit and the Wayne County Medical Examiner's Office for a Forensic Investigation Techniques: From Scene to Morgue training course. This course was designed for law enforcement, crime scene technicians, and medical examiner investigators.

EMT Paramedic Practical Training

This training provided students with classroom instruction and hands-on training in essential emergency medical care. Students performed various skills necessary to assess and assist patients in emergency situations.





Taylor Fire Department Training

MIPSE hosted the Taylor Fire Department for training activities.

William D. Ford Technical Center Fire Protection Technology Practical

William D. Ford Technical Center students participated in hands-on practical training, which included hose rolls and knot tying.





Downriver Career Technical Consortium Fire Protection Technology Practical

Downriver Career Technical Consortium (DCTC) dual enrollment students participated in a practical training day with the FBI and the Wayne County Medical Examiner's Office.

School of Continuing Education
Wayne County Community College District

WCCCD Walk for Breast Cancer Awareness



















Eastern Campus

Educating Students on Civil Engagement

The Eastern Campus hosted high school seniors from the Detroit Public Schools Community District for a voting education program. Students learned about the importance of civic engagement.









Great Lakes Water Authority



Dr. Mark Sanford met with representatives from the Great Lakes Water Authority in regards to the upcoming construction project that involves the abandonment of the St. Jean watermain.





Halloween Family Fun

Eastern Campus



















Northwest Campus



The College Experience



The Northwest Campus welcomed students from Detroit Public Schools Community District for an informative campus visit, where they learned about the academic programs and opportunities available at WCCCD.





Community Partners

WCCCD welcomed U.S. Senator Angela Alsobrooks for an engaging dialogue on civic responsibility and the power of every voice.

Northwest Campus



Pharmacy Technician Day



Students in the Pharmacy Technology Program celebrated Pharmacy Technician Day, with games, gift bags, food, snacks, and prizes. The festivities were part of National Pharmacy Week, recognizing the valuable contributions of pharmacy professionals.



Congratulations!

Congratulations to Dr. LaCinda Luke, Associate Dean of Nursing, on the successful completion of her Doctor of Nursing Practice degree.

Ted Scott Campus





Metro Detroit Leagues Robotic Competition

The Ted Scott Campus hosted the Metro Detroit Leagues Robotic Competition for middle school students.



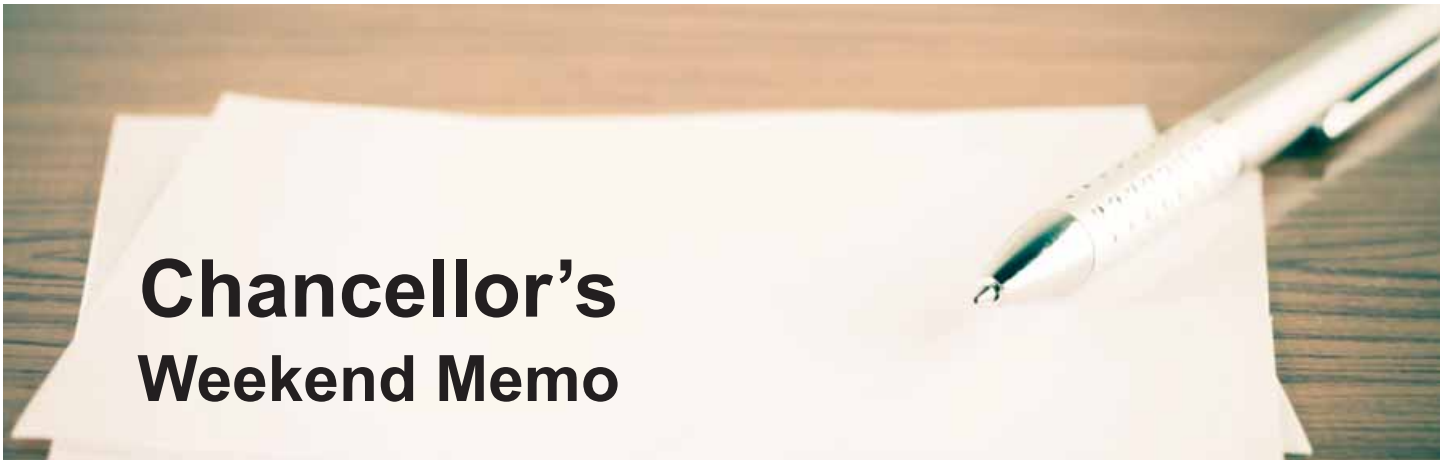
Student Success

Dominique Newell was the winner of the Ted Scott Campus Student Services raffle.



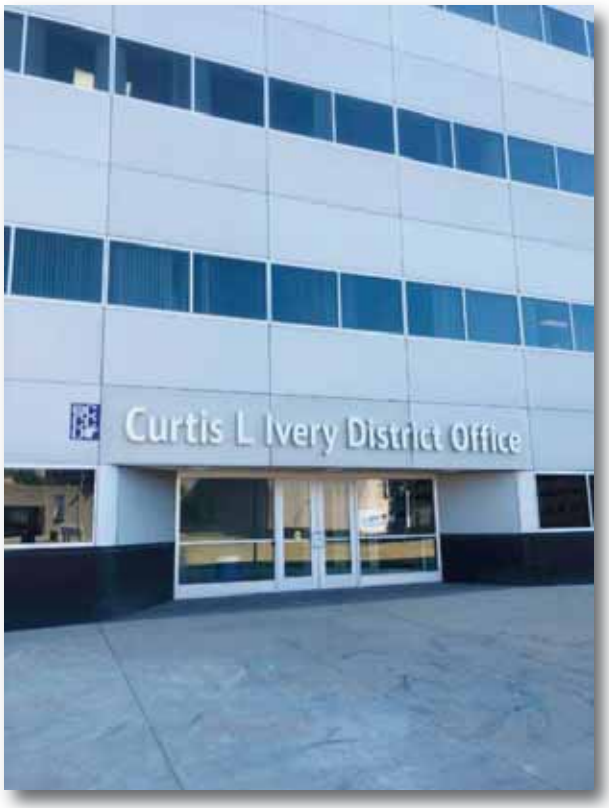


Congratulations on your retirement Michelle White!



Chancellor's
Weekend Memo

Wayne County Community College District



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











