Chancellor's Weekend Memo

DISTRICT-WIDE UPDATES • November 7-13, 2026 • #1571



ONE VISION, ONE DISTRICT, ONE COLLEGE

Board of Trustees Meeting

November 11, 2026



























Board of Trustees Meeting













MICHIGAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE ASSOCIATION

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

- Presentation by Rick Snyder, CEO and Chairman of the SensCy and Former Michigan Governor
- Hot Topics
- Conversations with Colleagues
- Student Success Leadership Updates
- Policy and Advocacy Updates



















Mary Ellen Stempfle University Center Construction Update



The Leadership Team discusses Spring 2027 programs and initiatives.

Institutional Effectiveness

Community Colleges Help Produce STEM Graduates

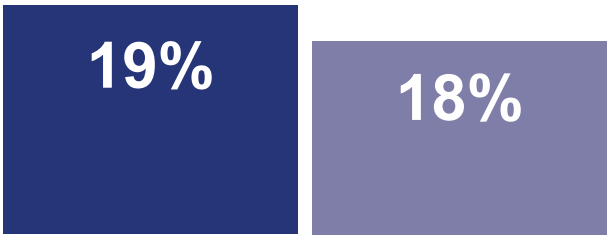


The Division of Institutional Effectiveness gathers student data to assess how well WCCCD supports transfer students and share data with the Divisions of Educational Affairs and Student Services to support their overall student success. A recent study by the Community College Research Center revealed community colleges play a major role in producing STEM graduates for career pathways such as engineering, information technology, computer and science. Nationally, 19% of all bachelor's degree earners began at a community college. Among STEM bachelor's degree earners, 15% began at a community college before transferring.

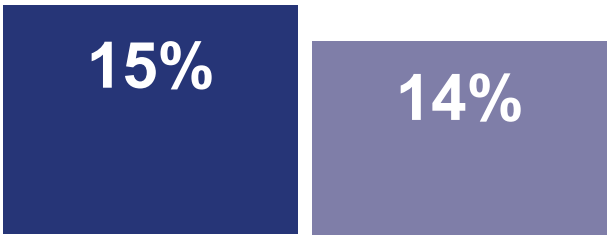
In the state of Michigan, community college transfer students accounted for 18% of the state's bachelor's degree earners and 14% of its STEM graduates.

Community College Research Center Findings:

Bachelor's degree earners who began at a community college



STEM bachelor's degree earners who began at a community college



Source: Unlocking more STEM talent Through Transfer

At Wayne County Community College District:

52.9%

of WCCCD graduates earned a STEM-related degree.

Top 5 STEM Programs by Completions at WCCCD:

- Associate of Science
- CIS: Network+
- Automotive Service Technology
- CIS: Certified Ethical Hacker
- Computer Information Systems

16%

of WCCCD students transferred into four-year college/universities.

Top 5 Schools WCCCD Transferred To:

- Wayne State University
- Eastern Michigan University
- University of Michigan- Dearborn
- Oakland University
- Michigan State University

Michigan Association of Dental Hygiene Educators Annual Conference

WCCCD's Dental Hygiene Program hosted the Michigan Association of Dental Hygiene Educators Annual Conference at the Northwest Campus. The event brought together more than 600 students and educators from across Michigan and featured innovative teaching strategies, a presentation by nationally recognized dental hygiene expert Dr. Sonya Dunbar, and scholarship awards recognizing students, including WCCCD recipients. The conference provided a valuable opportunity to celebrate student achievement, exchange educational best practices, and strengthen the future of dental hygiene education across Michigan.







Dr. Sonya Dunbar













Michigan Association of Dental Hygiene Educators Annual Conference





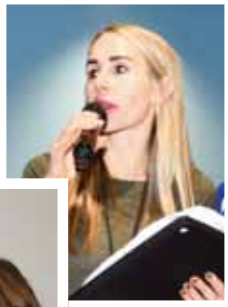




In 1983, Debra Carter (pictured on the left) founded the Dental Hygiene Program at WCCCD and achieved a full 10-year accreditation during its very first site visit. Without her vision and leadership, our celebration at MADHE would not have been possible. Ms. Carter has left a profound and lasting legacy.



















TESOL Delegation Visits Curtis L. Ivery Downtown Campus

We were pleased to welcome an international Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) delegation to the Curtis L. Ivery Downtown Campus as part of the U.S. Department of State-sponsored “Strategic Partnerships and Leadership in Academic Administrations” exchange program. Coordinated through Global Ties Detroit, a nonprofit organization promoting international exchange and collaboration, the visit provided an opportunity for the delegation to observe an English as a Second Language (ESL) class and gain firsthand insight into teaching and learning at an American community college.











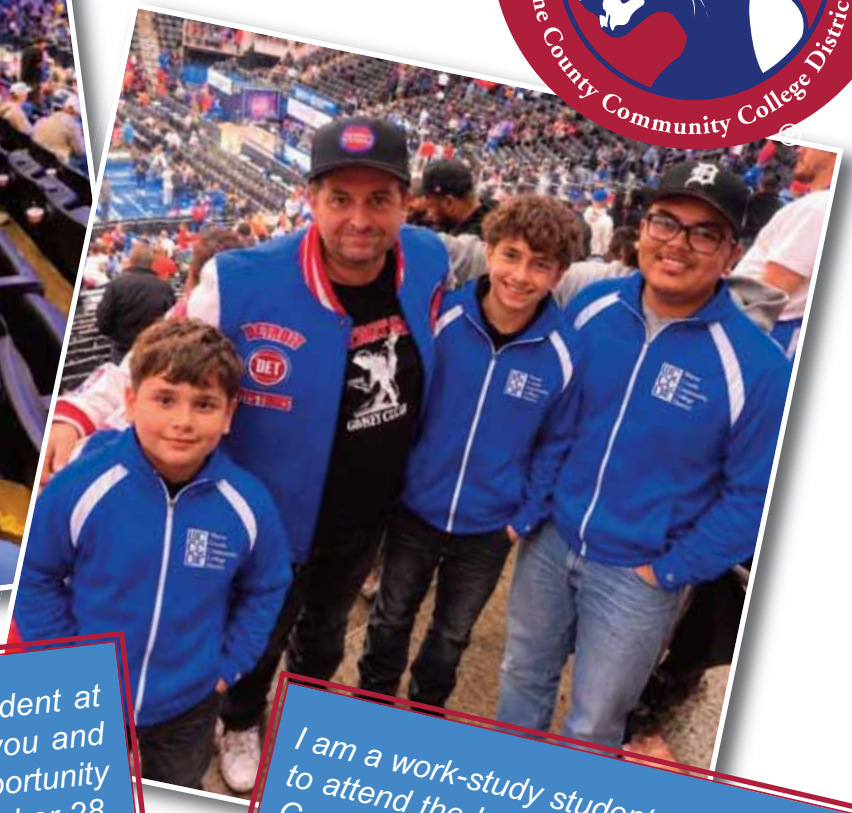






Future Wildcats!





My name is Mehran Nice, and I am a student at WCCCD. I would like to sincerely thank you and WCCCD for providing students with the opportunity to attend the Detroit Pistons game on October 28, 2026. It was my first time experiencing a game on such a large stage, and it was truly an exciting and memorable evening. Seeing the Detroit Pistons win made the experience even more special! I am grateful to WCCCD for creating opportunities like this for students to enjoy experiences beyond the classroom. Sincerely, Mehran Nice

I am a work-study student that was invited to attend the basketball game at the Little Ceasars Arena. I really want to thank you for giving me this opportunity to join this event. I really enjoyed the game and the food that came along with the ticket. I'm thankful that I was one of the students who was able to represent WCCCD. Thank you. Veronica Gonzalez

Dear Dr. Ivery,

I want to extend my heartfelt thanks for the tickets to last night's game between the Detroit Pistons and the Charlotte Hornets—and what a game it was, especially with the Pistons taking another win! The seats were an incredible surprise; being seated in that elegant, gourmet dining area was something truly special. The food was fantastic, and the overall setting was magnificent. At over half a century old, this was actually my very first live Detroit Pistons game. I loved the energy in the arena, the halftime show, the music, and the nail-biter finish.We had an unforgettable time! Thank you again for your thoughtfulness and support. Sincerely, Israel L. Goodin

District Police Authority

In recognition of support of military personnel, Chief Bahrija Livadic, Deputy Chief Pride Johnson, and Captain Tamika Townsel received Patriotic Employer certificates from the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve. The WCCCD Police Authority proudly thanks Sergeant Ryan Farrelly for his service to our nation and wishes him a safe deployment and speedy return home.

















Veterans Day Flag Raising

The Downriver Campus hosted a special Veterans Day Flag Raising Ceremony to honor the courage, service, and sacrifices of our nation's veterans. The event featured reflections from veterans who shared their personal experiences, the significance of military service, and what it means to be a veteran.







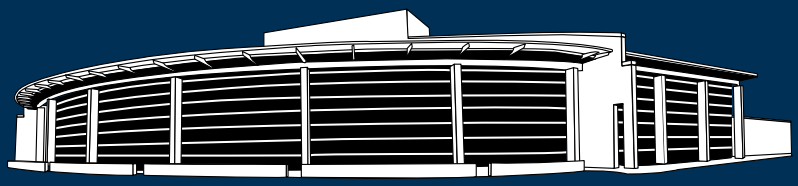








Downriver Campus



WAYNE COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
HEINZ C. PRECHTER EDUCATIONAL AND *Performing Arts Center*

The Heinz C. Prechter Educational and Performing Arts Center hosted a sing along presented by the Canadian Arabic Orchestra.

















School of Continuing Education
Wayne County Community College District

Road to Credentials

The School of Continuing Education provides services to organizations, professionals and the community at large. Professional licensing preparation, administration of national certification, measurement services, and professional certifications both locally and nationally.

This week the following credentials were awarded:

- **60 Hour Residential Builder's License**
- **State Continuing Education Clock Hours (SCECH'S) – Using the Internet in the Classroom**

Division of Workforce and Economic Development

Students successfully completed their training.

Eastern Campus











Cultural Enrichment



Native American Cultural Meeting





The Native American Cultural Meeting highlighted the Wyandotte Nation and featured a presentation in recognition of Native American Heritage Month. Participants shared personal connections to their Native American ancestry and gained insights into Michigan's Native American history through a video presentation. The gathering also featured Native American-inspired cuisine, offering an opportunity to deepen cultural understanding and appreciation through music, shared experiences, and meaningful dialogue.

Virtual Intercultural Conversations

This week's Virtual Intercultural Conversations featured presentations recognizing Native American Heritage Month, Veterans Day, and Diwali. Dr. Fidelis D'Cunha, Shaily Dey, Professor Ewen, and Professor Charles Brown explored historical perspectives and military contributions, while Nijhum Chakraborty discussed the traditions and cultural significance of Diwali.



Division of Educational Affairs



Members of the Educational Affairs team convened to discuss MiLEAP OHE's Transfer Success Project. The discussion focused on developing new statewide MiTransfer pathways to strengthen student transfer opportunities and create more seamless transitions to four-year institutions.



Drs. Harvey Dorrah and Carolyn Custer met with clinicians at Arbor Autism Center to discuss a potential partnership to provide a Registered Behavior Technician training program.



The Divisions of Educational Affairs and Information Technology collaborate to assess and discuss technology needs.



WCCCD is proud to introduce its new **Sports Management Certificate Program**, designed to turn a passion for sports into a pathway toward exciting career opportunities. This innovative program equips students with the leadership, business, marketing, and management skills needed to succeed in the rapidly growing sports industry.



Division of Human Resources

Faculty Assignment Audit and Reconciliation

The Division of Human Resources (HR) is conducting a comprehensive faculty assignment audit for Spring 2027. The team reviewed all assignments for qualifications, seniority, credentials, location, signatures and approvals. This process is a critical protocol towards assuring that District policies and procedures remain transparent and compliant.





Employee Leave Balance Compliance Review



To ensure the ongoing accuracy of data documentation and compliance with reporting requirements, the Division of Human Resources (HR) is currently reconciling and auditing the leave balances of all employees for 2026. This verification process is crucial for aligning the employee My Wildcat Portal, the general ledger, and the Banner system.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

2026 Trends Conference

Staff from across the District attended the TRENDS Conference, sponsored by the Michigan Occupational Deans Administrative Council (MODAC). During the conference, Dr. Allan Cosma had the honor of presenting Mark Grazioli with the Adjunct Faculty of the Year Award in recognition of his work in the Civil Testing and Inspection Program with MODAC. Drs. Carolyn Custer and Allan Cosma presented on *"Connecting Continuing Education Courses to Credit Pathways."*









PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



Tresa Fore attended the 2026 Michigan Library Association Annual Conference, engaging with emerging library practices, innovative programming, and strategies for strengthening library and learning resource services.

On the move!

Building Community Relationships







Furquan Ahmed and Dr. CharMaine Hines represented the District at the 27th Annual Rainbow PUSH Global Automotive Summit. They served as panelists presenting on the session titled, *"Auto Technicians in the Age of AI."*



Final Review of Enterprise Reporting System Replacement Options

This meeting was one of nine planned sessions focused on reviewing available reporting platforms, implementation approaches, and vendor capabilities to support the District's future reporting and data analytics needs.



IT and HR Process Review Meeting

The IT team met with the Division of Human Resources to review current business processes, enhancing Banner and the Wildcat Portal, and identify opportunities for system and workflow improvements.



Ted Scott Community Room Sound System Upgrades

A walkthrough was conducted for the planned upgrade to the existing sound system in the Ted Scott Campus Community Room. The project focuses on improving audio quality, reliability, and overall user experience for presentations, meetings, and community events.

District-Wide Campus Technical Support





Division of Student Services





District Campus Support Services

The District Call Center team continues to monitor their daily operations. Monitoring real-time call center activities is a great way to manage agent performance, track call volumes, and keep service levels on target.

Dual Enrollment Program

Members of the dual enrollment team hosted a special Wildcat training for dual enrollment students.





Veterans

In honor of Veterans Day, WCCCD recognizes our service members for their selfless sacrifice.

Division of Student Services



Federal Work-Study Program

The Federal Work-Study (FWS) office continued its efforts to inform and prepare students for participation in the FWS program through orientation. The orientation also provided an opportunity to address student questions and discuss available on-campus and offsite placement opportunities.



Phi Theta Kappa (PTK)

Congratulations to Latia Hall on completing the PTK Healthcare Edge. We are proud of your accomplishment and love seeing you take advantage of the opportunities Phi Theta Kappa has to offer. Keep growing, achieving, and reaching for greatness!

Student Organizations

Dr. Tammy Anderson and Professor Lela Kennedy met to discuss WCCCD's new student organization as we partner with the Engineering Society of Detroit. With this new collaboration we are looking to provide students with opportunities that will keep them learning and engaged all while preparing them for transition into the workforce after college.





Global Conversations Speaker Series

As part of the Global Conversations Speakers Series, author, advocate, and founder of the D.O.V.E.S. Network, Tiffany Mensah, presented *"Love Didn't Look Like This: Reimagining Healthy Relationships After Exposure to Domestic Violence"* at the Curtis L. Ivery Downtown Campus. Ms. Mensah shared an impactful message focused on recognizing healthy relationships, overcoming adversity, and empowering individuals to move forward with greater awareness and confidence.

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

The District Facilities Team and the Division of Information Technology conducted a walkthrough of the Northwest Campus to assess the Building Automation System (BAS). The review focused on evaluating system operations to ensure consistency and alignment of services across all District locations.











Facilities Compliance Initiatives



Discussion of ongoing District-wide facilities compliance updates.



Compliance inspections and coordination with the Facilities Department



Pedestrian Crossing

Pedestrian crossing signage and speed bumps are underway on Sixth Street outside of the Curtis L. Ivery Health and Wellness Educational Center.

DR. RANDALL MILLER'S CORNER



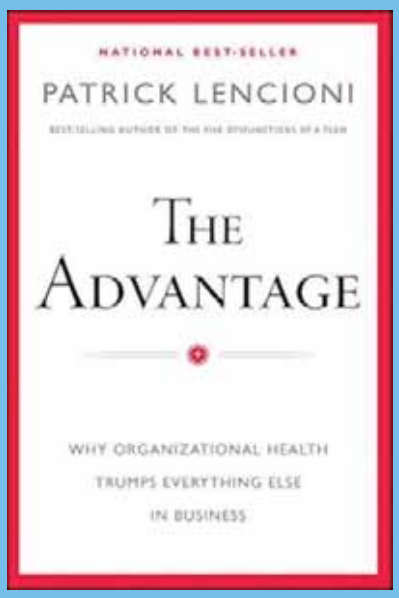
Never Underestimate Your Influence on Others

What do you do with life's challenges? We all react and handle them differently. There are countless examples of individuals who have had a major hardship early in life, like the loss of a parent, and they rebounded from that loss to build a healthy and successful life. However, there are also many people who have not successfully handled their early setbacks and have been permanently blocked from realizing their full potential. What are the differences?

Particularly for young people, it is often as simple as receiving support and encouragement. Perhaps mentors and teachers have picked up on a child's talent and worked to encourage her. Given this kind of support, that child's hunger to grow is likely to become part of her character, and we all get to enjoy the fruits of her efforts.

This scenario is not a given, however. Many youth don't get that kind of support. How often have you experienced or seen examples of others providing criticism or discouragement like 'you'll never be able to do that' or 'you'll never amount to anything.' Sadly, those experiences are all too common. People on the receiving end of those barbs can often become so discouraged that they lose their desire to grow.

Small things we say or do can make a big difference in other people's lives. The accumulation of others' life experiences can have a huge impact on what they do with the challenges in their lives. We all have the opportunity and power to have a positive influence on others, and it often can make a big difference in how their character develops and in the person they become.



Book Recommendation

The Advantage, Why Organizational Health Trumps Everything Else in Business
Written by Patrick Lencioni



Mary Ellen Stempfle University Center





University Partners Engage Students Across the District

University partners continue to visit WCCCD campuses to host information tables and engage directly with students. These visits provide students with an opportunity to explore bachelor's degree programs, learn about transfer requirements, and connect with university representatives.



Curtis L. Ivery Downtown Campus

Language Institute



The Language Institute improved student outcomes in ESL, Japanese, Chinese, German, French, Arabic, and Spanish during midterms. We saw improved grades among the students we assisted and an increase in the number of students using our services.









Veterans Day Student Appreciation

In celebration of Veterans Day, we showed appreciation to our students by handing out fresh popcorn and snacks as a small way to give back and brighten their day.

Advancing Educational Opportunities with the Wayne County Sheriff's Office

Representatives from the Curtis L. Ivery Downtown Campus met with officers from the Wayne County Sheriff's Office to explore educational pathways and opportunities for professional advancement through a Criminal Justice degree.



CURTIS L. IVERY HWEC

Health & Wellness Education Center





Wildcats Basketball

The HWEC hosted the Roadrunners of Southwestern Michigan College in a basketball game against the Wildcats.



Vibrant Health Workshop

The November session of the Vibrant Health Workshop Series focused on “The Overlooked Keys to Lasting Healing.”



Yoga, Move, and Reset

Yoga, Move, and Reset is the perfect after work session to help meet your fitness goals while recalibrating the entire body.

Downriver Campus

Romulus High School Tour

The Downriver Campus welcomed students from Romulus High School for a tour of the Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) program.





Student Success

Instructor Althea Brown brought her class to the Learning Resource Center to utilize academic resources. The visit provided students with an opportunity to explore additional learning resources and support services.





Wayne RESA Blind and Low Vision Workshop

Teachers participated in this collaboration to exchange effective instructional practices.

Wayne RESA Early Childhood Workshops







WAYNE COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

MICHIGAN INSTITUTE for PUBLIC SAFETY EDUCATION

Downriver Campus

WCCCD Fire Protection Technology

The Michigan Institute for Public Safety Education hosted students in the Firefighter I Lab course for hands-on training designed to develop essential firefighting skills and techniques.



Taylor Fire Department Training

Participants took part in practical exercises designed to strengthen emergency response skills, reinforce safety procedures, and enhance overall operational readiness.



Vehicle Maintenance

Routine maintenance and inspections were performed to help ensure vehicles remain in proper operating condition to support daily operations and training activities.



William D. Ford Technical Center Fire Protection Technology Practical

Students applied classroom instruction through exercises involving hose rolling, knot tying, and the proper use of firefighting equipment.



DTE Fermi 2 Live Fire and Confined Space Rescue Training

Participants engaged in practical exercises designed to strengthen fire suppression techniques, emergency response skills, safety protocols, techniques for responding to confined space emergencies while emphasizing the importance of safety, communication and teamwork.





Downriver Career Technical Consortium Fire Protection Technology Practical

Dual enrollment students participated in practical training day featuring the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the Wayne County Medical Examiner's Office.





Day of the Dead Celebration

Downriver Campus

The Downriver Campus hosted a Day of the Dead celebration that offered students an opportunity to enjoy and learn about this cultural tradition.













Eastern Campus

Continuing Education ~ Advanced Makeup Class

Students are learning eyebrow shaping, eyeshadow application skills, and the setting spray application process.









Detroit At Work Job Fair

The Eastern Campus hosted the Detroit At Work Job Fair for community members to connect with employers.



Fashion Design Program

Students showcase their sewing skills on their first bag and hat projects.







Northwest Campus

Health and Wellness Summit



The Northwest Campus hosted the MMSCD Health and Wellness Summit. The summit aimed to promote healthier lifestyles, increase awareness of health and wellness, and empower community members through education and access to valuable resources.









Process Mapping

Staff met to discuss the standard operating procedures.

Northwest Campus



Michigan Association of Dental Hygiene Educators Event



The Dental Hygiene Program hosted a Michigan Association of Dental Hygiene Educators (MADHE) Social Happy Hour in the Culinary Arts and Hospitality Center at the Northwest Campus on the eve of the association's annual conference. The event provided an opportunity for guests and participants to network, connect, and engage in informal conversation ahead of the conference.









Ted Scott Campus



Homestead HOA Annual Meeting

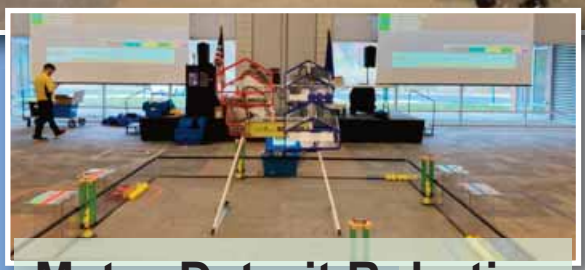
The Ted Scott Campus hosted the Homestead HOA Annual Meeting to conduct board business and elections.



Town Hall Seminar

Jack and Jill of America, Inc. Ypsilanti Chapter held a town hall seminar for participants to discuss strategy and planning for the upcoming year.





Metro Detroit Robotics League Workshop



Community Partners

Attendees participated in the Wayne RESA and GVSU cohort workshop for their Master of Education in Educational Leadership.

WCCCD showing its Detroit Lions Pride!









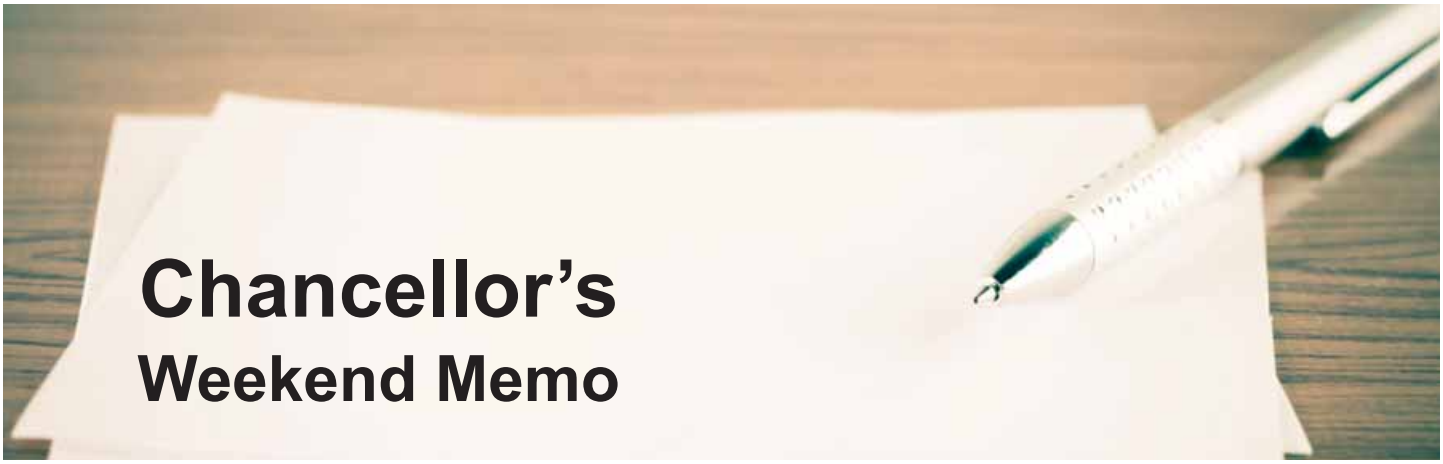






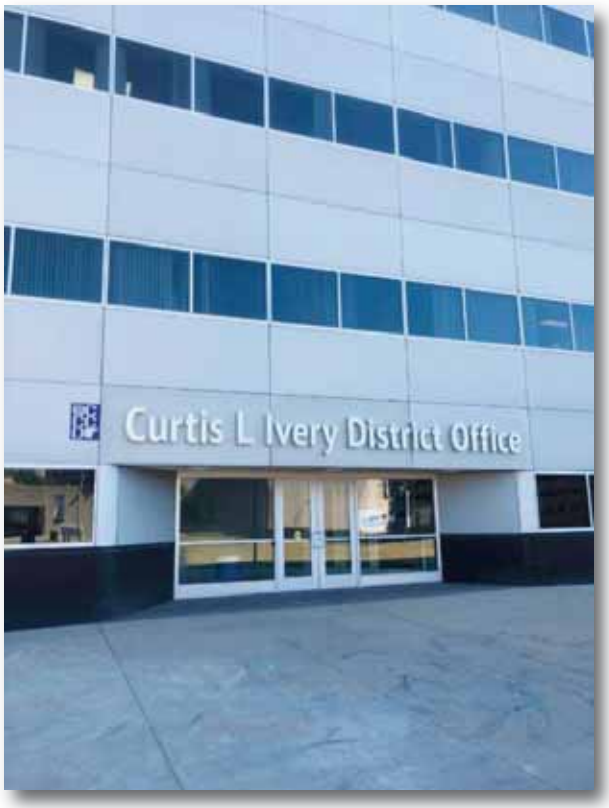






Chancellor's
Weekend Memo

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











