



**Northwestern  
Michigan  
College**

**Northwestern Michigan College Resolution  
Support for Community College Bachelor of Science in Nursing**

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Northwestern Michigan College was held on October 26, 2020, at 5:30 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Chris M. Bott.

Trustees present: Chris M. Bott, Rachel A. Johnson, Jane T. McNabb, Douglas S. Bishop, K. Ross Childs,  
Kennard R. Weaver

Trustees absent: Michael Estes

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Trustee Rachel A. Johnson and supported by Trustee K. Ross Childs.

Whereas Michigan's 28 community colleges were set up to meet the education and talent development needs of the communities they serve; and

Whereas the Michigan College Act of 1966 as amended sets forth that the board of trustees may establish education programs that meet the education and talent development needs of their respective communities; and

Whereas such programs include dual-enrollment and baccalaureate programs that are meeting the needs of the communities we serve; and

Whereas to meet the needs of the maritime community, in 2012 Northwestern Michigan College worked with the legislature to be the first community college in Michigan to offer a Bachelor of Science in Maritime Technology degree; and

Whereas Northwestern Michigan College seeks to once again work with a community partner, Munson Healthcare, our regional healthcare system, to meet the need for more bachelor prepared nurses; and

Whereas Munson Healthcare has identified the need to increase the number of accessible and affordable options for nurses seeking to obtain a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree; and

Whereas clinical research has shown that bachelor prepared nurses provide for better patient outcomes with the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing Center for Health Outcomes and Policy Research finding that a 10% increase in the proportion of nurses with bachelor degrees was associated with a 7% decrease in patient deaths; and

Whereas Northwestern Michigan College is committed to fulfilling its role as the community's college and meeting the need of our regional healthcare provider to fill their talent and outcome driven needs; and

Whereas just as with expanding access to post-secondary education through dual-enrollment programs in 1996 and 2000 and bachelor degree programs as they did in 2012, the Michigan Legislature is once again positioned to assist community colleges in fulfilling their role as a community-driven institution;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of Northwestern Michigan College strongly supports Senate Bill 1055 which would allow a community college to establish a nursing education program that grants Bachelor of Science in Nursing degrees and further authorizes its President to express formal support for Senate Bill 1055 or any other legislation that allows a community college to meet the community need for more bachelor prepared nurses consistent with this Resolution.

Ayes: Rachel A. Johnson, Jane T. McNabb, Douglas S. Bishop, K. Ross Childs, Kennard R. Weaver,  
Chris M. Bott

Nays: None

Resolution declared adopted.

  
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Chris M. Bott, Chair, Board of Trustees

The undersigned, duly qualified and acting Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of Northwestern Michigan College, hereby certifies that the foregoing constitutes a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by said Board of Trustees at a regular meeting held on October 26, 2020, the original of which is part of the Board's minutes. The undersigned further certifies that notice of the meeting was given to the public pursuant to the provisions of the "Open Meetings Act" (Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, as amended).

  
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Chris M. Bott, Chair, Board of Trustees