

MINUTES FOR BOARD OF TRUSTESS – August 25, 2026 MEETING

08/25/2026 | 05:00 PM - 05:10 PM
Todd Center Boardroom

CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair John Grover called the meeting of the Lake Michigan College Board of Trustees to order on August 25, 2026, at 5:00 pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLIGANCE

Board Chair Grover opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present: Ms. Mary Jo Tomasini, Ms. Debra Johnson, Ms. Vicki Burghdoff, Mr. Mark Weber, Ms. Alloyd Blackmon and Mr. John Grover

SETTING OF AGENDA

Agenda stands as written.

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

The meeting minutes from the June 23, 2026, Board meeting was approved as presented with a voice vote by all trustees present.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR

None

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Flowers began his report by noting that we are just two weeks away from the start of the fall semester. Year-to-date enrollment is currently up 4%.

This fall, the College will offer the Police Academy for the first time. The Cardiac Sonography program will also launch this fall, with strong interest—41 individuals applied for the 10 available spots. Corewell Health has also approached the College about the possibility of developing a respiratory therapy program.

The College has two HLC site visits scheduled for March, one at the BIC and one in Allegan.

NEW BUSINESS

Digital Advertising Services – Advance Education

The College has the opportunity to contract with Advance Education for comprehensive digital advertising services in support of enrollment growth. The proposed campaign is designed to attract prospective students and influence key audiences, including potential traditional and adult students and parents, throughout the enrollment decision journey.

Advance Education provides data-driven audience research, targeting, lead generation, and campaign management across paid search, paid social, display, and video platforms. The partnership includes a dedicated account team, real-time performance reporting integrated with the College's Google Analytics (GA4) data, and monthly reporting meetings. Campaign performance is measured against key indicators tied directly to inquiry, application, and enrollment growth.

We have worked with Advance Education previously. They deliver strong results at a fair cost.

The total annual investment of \$147,000 reflects an average monthly media spend of approximately \$12,250.

Action: We recommend the Board of Trustees approve a 1-year contract with Advance Education for digital advertising services at an annual cost of \$147,000.

Motion by Mr. Weber with support by Ms. Blackmon to approve a 1-year contract with Advance Education for digital advertising services at an annual cost of \$147,000.

Roll Call Vote - Chair Grover asked the board secretary for a roll call vote.

Yeas: Mr. Grover, Ms. Tomisini, Ms. Burghdoff, Ms. Johnson, Mr. Weber, Ms. Blackmon

Nays: None

Motion Approved

Resignation

August 25, 2026

Dr. Ken Flowers
President
Lake Michigan College
2755 East Napier Avenue
Benton Harbor, Michigan 49022

Dear Dr. Flowers:

Please accept this letter as my formal resignation from the Lake Michigan College Board of Trustees, effective immediately. Due to a change in my employment, I am no longer able to attend College meetings or events.

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve Lake Michigan College and the residents of the community as a member of the Board of Trustees.

I want to compliment the College's efforts to establish and maintain its police academy. The academy provides an important service to our community by helping prepare individuals for careers in law enforcement and strengthening the pipeline of well-trained public safety professionals.

I am equally impressed by the College's efforts to update and improve its athletic facilities. These investments enhance the student experience, support student-athletes, and contribute to the overall vitality of the College. The continued attention to the quality of the campus and its facilities demonstrates a commitment to providing students with opportunities to succeed both inside and outside the classroom.

I have tremendous respect for the College and its continued commitment to its students and the community.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve. I wish you, the Board of Trustees, and the entire Lake Michigan College community continued success in the years ahead.

Sincerely,

Brian Dissette

Action: The Trustees recommend the acceptance of Mr. Brian Dissette's resignation.

Motion by Ms. Tomasini with support by Ms. Burghdoff to accept Mr. Brian Dissette's resignation

Roll Call Vote - Chair Grover asked all those in favor of the motion to indicate by saying aye and any opposed to the motion to indicate so verbally stating nay.

No Opposition Voiced

Motion Approved

NEW SLATE OF 2026 OFFICERS

Chair – Mr. John Grover

Vice Chair – Ms. Vicki Burghdoff

Treasurer – Mr. Mark Weber

Secretary – Ms. Allyod Blackmon

Motion by Ms. Tomisini with support by Ms. Burghdoff to accept the new slate of Board of Trustee officers through 2026.

Roll Call Vote - Chair Grover asked all those in favor of the motion to indicate by saying aye and any opposed to the motion to indicate so verbally stating nay.

No Opposition Voiced

Motion Approved

POLICIES SECOND READ - APPROVAL

The following policies were presented to the Board of Trustees as a second read for review and/or approval:

- Attendance – Class
- Data Collection Through Surveys
- FMLA - Family Medical Leave Act
- Medical Emergency and Hospitalization of a Student
- Reporting Misconduct
- Student Appeal Committee
- Student Compliant – General
- Student Conduct, Discipline and Due Process

Action: College Administration recommended that the Board of Trustees approve the policy as presented.

Motion by Ms. Blackmon with support by Ms. Johnson to approve the policies as presented.

Roll Call Vote - Chair Grover asked all those in favor of the motion to indicate by saying aye and any opposed to the motion to indicate so verbally stating nay.

No Opposition Voiced

Motion Approved

POLICIES FIRST READ - REVIEW

Chair Grover asked the Board to review the policies outlined in the agenda (and listed below) and be ready for discussion and/or approval at the next Board of Trustees meeting.

- Lobbying - Compliance with Federal and State Law
- Naming of Facilities, Programs and Support Funds
- Resignation

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Academic Affairs Department Report

Student Affairs Department Report

Dr. Flowers, President

Dr. Flowers presented updates from both the Student Affairs and Academic Divisions. He shared that the College recently welcomed five new faculty members and will welcome a new Dean of Health Sciences in mid-September. He expressed his appreciation to **Denise Gardner** for serving as the interim Dean of Health Sciences.

Dr. Flowers also highlighted the addition of several new advisors and success coaches, noting that the College is excited about the additional support these positions will provide to students.

*Please reference the Board agenda to review the full department report.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Ms. Burghdoff to adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Lake Michigan College Board of Trustees at 5:10 pm.



Mark Weber
Lake Michigan College Board Secretary