

**HENRY FORD COLLEGE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
DEARBORN, MICHIGAN
February 17, 2025**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Henry Ford College Board of Trustees was called to order on Tuesday, January 21, 2025, at the Henry Ford College Administrative Services and Conference Center in the Rosenau Board Room at 7:01 p.m. by Chair Mozip.

ROLL CALL

On roll call, the following were present: Trustees, Jamal Aljahmi, Hussein Berry, Patrick D'Ambrosio, Mary Petlichkoff, Irene Watts, and Chair Adel Mozip. There being a quorum, the meeting was declared in session. Trustee Amer Zahr joined the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion offered by Trustee D'Ambrosio, supported by Trustee Berry, passed with a unanimous vote attached that the following Minutes be approved:

- Regular Board of Trustees Meeting – January 21, 2025

III. PRESIDENT'S ITEMS

- Trustees each received a small box of chocolates made by students in our Culinary program. President Kavalhuna was in Washington D.C. last week attending the national ACCT Legislative Summit and took some boxes of these chocolates with him to give to legislators.
- President Kavalhuna stated that, while in Washington D.C., there was discussion about higher education. The Chair of the U.S. House Committee on Education and Workforce is Representative Walberg. Representative Walberg comes from Michigan.
- President Kavalhuna stated that some people are wondering how Washington D.C. will affect HFC. This is a wait and see situation. We are hoping that Congress will continue funding Henry Ford College and other higher ed institutions. This is the message he brought to Washington D.C.
- President Kavalhuna stated that at our last Board of Trustees meeting, Trustee Zahr requested some HFC swag. Trustees Aljahmi and Zahr received this tonight.
- President Kavalhuna provided an update on the search for a new CFO. We

continue to solicit applications. The deadline for submission is February 21. The search committee is headed by Vice President Lori Gonko. Other committee members are Vice President of Legal Services, Erin Moss-Ferguson; Dean, Janice Gilliland; and Budget Director, Bryan Bame. President Kavalhuna stated he asked the search committee to send him two or more finalists for his consideration. He hopes to have one finalist to bring to the Board for review and to vote on at the April or May Board meeting.

- President Kavalhuna reported that enrollment for the winter 2025 semester has increased more than 6% over last year at this time. This puts us at 99.4% of our enrollment high point, which was in winter 2020, just prior to the start of the pandemic. President Kavalhuna thanked Vice Presidents, Holly Diamond, Rhonda DeLong, Michael Nealon, and their teams for the hard work they have done to increase our enrollment.
- President Kavalhuna thanked the Facilities employees who, in recent inclement weather, have been on campus clearing snow off walkways. This team of employees worked hard and made it possible for the scheduled weekend theater production to keep from cancelling their performance.
- President Kavalhuna stated we had a team effort from Vice Presidents Diamond and Best who went to MiLEAP with a request for a significant amount of funding for our Student Success initiatives. This was our third successful request, and we recently received \$517,000. President Kavalhuna asked Holly Diamond to provide the Board with a presentation on the grants she and Reginald Best have been working on. President Kavalhuna wanted the Board to see the operationalization of the funds.

IV. SPECIAL REPORTS

A. Student Success Grants Vice President Diamond

Vice President Diamond provided a presentation about student success grants at Henry Ford College. These grant funds help HFC students by addressing financial barriers, providing a sound and strong support system, and fostering student achievement. Vice President Diamond highlighted four types of funding HFC utilizes to assist students:

- Institutional (internal) funding resources dedicated to guiding students on their academic journeys. (Emergency Aid fund)
- Private donor resources focused on retention and completion.
- Local resources that emphasize reducing student attrition and supporting success strategies.
- State and federal-level funding resources that remove financial barriers and encourage student completion.

The impact of these funds shows us that targeted financial support improves retention and graduation rates. Enhanced student support leads to increased

community engagement and workforce readiness.

Henry Ford College student success stories demonstrate how encouragement, coaching, mentoring, and guidance can lead to degree completion. Mariam Noor, HFC student provided the Board with her own story of success. Mariam credits her MCAN Completion Coach, Carly Desrosiers, with helping her succeed in college.

V. ACTION ITEMS

A. Citizen Participation

None

B. Special Consideration of an Action Item

None

C. Action to Approve Action Items

Motion to approve action items numbered 1-2 offered by Trustee Berry, supported by Trustee Petlichkoff, passed with a unanimous roll call vote attached.

D. At this time, the Secretary will return to any agenda items which Board members had asked to discuss and vote on separately. These will be considered one at a time.

None

BOARD ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

1. FY2025 Mid-Year Budget Adjustment

Vice President Satkowski

Move to approve the Fiscal Year 2025 Mid-Year Budget Adjustment as presented in Board Report #4765 at the January 21, 2025, Board of Trustees meeting.

2. Board of Trustees Policy Updates

Trustee Berry

On December 9, 2024, the HFC Board of Trustees Policy Committee discussed and reviewed changes to the following policies:

Policies for Board Review

- Student Code of Conduct

VI. BOARD OF TRUSTEES BUSINESS

A. Acknowledgements of Correspondence

None

B. Board Committee Reports

- Trustee Berry stated that the Policy Committee met prior to this Board meeting. The Committee discussed the Drug and Alcohol Policy.

C. Requests for Information and/or Future Agenda Items

- President Kavalhuna stated that at the January Board of Trustees meeting, we had three requests for information. President Kavalhuna reported out to the Board via email on each of these requests. Also, these are cataloged in the Board's Teams site.
- President Kavalhuna stated that we are now in our second year of a new Policy that we use to review and change the tuition that HFC charges. Changes to the tuition charged is determined by the annual inflation rate. President Kavalhuna outlined this Policy last year after the Board approved it, and again recently in an email to the Board. President Kavalhuna provided a summary for the new Trustees, and Trustee Berry provided the history behind the Tuition Policy.

D. Board Member Commentary

- Chair Mozip shared that he would like to wish everyone a blessed Ramadan. He also noted February is Black History Month and we have faculty and students who celebrate.
- Trustee Aljahmi thanked President Kavalhuna for his update regarding the federal government and what is currently happening with federal grants and the Department of Education. Trustee Aljahmi appreciates being kept up to date.
- Trustee Zahr thanked President Kavalhuna for sending the requested information from the January Board meeting. Trustee Zahr asked how 2nd or 3rd year students can go back and change their race/ethnicity selections. Trustee Zahr stated that informing students they can change their initial response could be beneficial and he would like the College to be able to capture the diversity and unique needs of our students. He also believes that this would provide the College with more effective information to know how to better serve our students.

President Kavalhuna stated he will find out at what point demographic data

is collected in the enrollment process and if a student could elect to provide or make changes later. President Kavalhuna stated he had already started discussing this with his team, but making changes would not be quick or easy. We would need to think about, when we would make this change and where we should draw the line. Options for handling a topic include the Board setting up a special committee, the Board deciding to vote and instruct the President to execute something administratively, or a Trustee would ask the President to contemplate the viability of something and then he would report out to the whole Board as this would be a request for information. He asked the Board to start contemplating where they feel this topic falls in these options.

Trustee Petlichkoff asked how the data would be used and how we should respond to students if they ask why we are collecting the data. We would need to communicate the purpose of the data collection clearly to students. Trustee Zahr replied that the focus would be more about what the students can do with the data to promote inclusivity rather than how the institution would use it.

Trustee Aljahmi noted he is interested in knowing the current demographics of our students so we can better serve them by providing needed resources.

Trustee Watts expressed concern that our students feel safe, and that we need to be careful in soliciting information that can be collected. The timing of expanding our demographic data collection needs to be considered.

Trustee Berry agreed with Trustee Zahr's request and suggested it be further considered. Trustee Berry stated that the question itself should start with an ad hoc committee. Trustee Petlichkoff agreed.

President Kavalhuna offered to provide a memo to the Board to address this request. The memo would contain options for the Board to engage. He wants to provide the Board with a thoughtful analysis on where this topic falls regarding administrative jurisdiction vs. Board oversight. President Kavalhuna asked the Board for time to prepare this information. Chair Mozip agreed. President Kavalhuna stated he would provide this memo to the Board before the next Board meeting.

Trustee Berry thanked President Kavalhuna and his team for the quick responses to the Board's requests for information.

VII. FUTURE MEETING DATES

- A. Monday, March 10, 2025, **P-12** Board of Education meeting, 7:00 p.m. at the Administrative Service Center in the Frank Franchi Board Room.

- B. Monday, March 17, 2025, **HFC** Board of Trustees Policy Committee Meeting, 6:00 p.m. at the Administrative Services and Conference Center in the Cabinet Conference Room.
- C. Monday, March 17, 2025, **HFC** Board of Trustees Meeting, 7:00 p.m. at the Administrative Services and Conference Center in the Rosenau Board Room.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

President Kavalhuna asked the Board to stay after the meeting adjourns so a group photo of the new Board and headshots of the new Trustees can be taken. Other Trustees are welcome to get new headshots as well.

Motion by Chair Mozip was unanimously approved by those members present that the meeting be adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Amer Zahr, Secretary