

Board of Trustees Local Strategic Value Resolution

Whereas, Section 230(2) of the State School Aid Act (MCL.338.1830) for Fiscal Year 2026, a community college must demonstrate that it meets the Local Strategic Value qualifications to receive the portion of each college's performance funding appropriation earmarked for local strategic value, and;

Whereas, community colleges are required to satisfy 4 of 5 best practices in each of the three categories of:

- A. Economic Development and Business or Industry Partnerships,
- B. Educational Partnerships, and
- C. Community Services;

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
Category A: Economic Development and Business or Industry Partnerships (must meet 4 of 5)	
<p>(i) The community college has active partnerships with local employers including hospitals and health care providers.</p>	<p>Kalamazoo Valley Community College had active partnerships with local employers to support all educational and training programs and initiatives. Additionally, fostering strategic, intentional partnerships with community partners was a primary component of the college's five-year strategic plan. Some examples included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signed an institutional transfer articulation agreement with Grand Valley State University. • Collaborated with Kalamazoo Public Schools and Western Michigan University to establish the "Grow Your Own" teacher education program. • Expanded ValleyHUB's institutional customers at the Food Innovation Center from four in January 2023 to 37 in January 2024, including 32 secondary school districts within 50 miles of Kalamazoo. • Partnered with Bronson Healthcare to support education and training at the Bronson Healthy Living Campus of the college, including nutritional training for hospital staff, clinical training for

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
	<p>Kalamazoo Valley health careers students, and the provision of fresh produce for the hospital to serve to patients and visitors.</p>
<p>(ii) The community college provides customized on-site training for area companies, employees, or both.</p>	<p>Kalamazoo Valley provided customized training that was driven by local, regional, and national business needs. Customized training sessions were hosted on campus or onsite at the employer. Training included topics such as blueprint reading, geometric dimensioning, employee onboarding, electrical training, problem solving, and OSHA safety standards. The college provided customized training for over 20 employers the past year including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consumers Concrete • Denso • Parker Hannifin • PRAB • Pfizer • Seelye Auto Group <p>Kalamazoo Valley also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offered training academies with curriculum responsive to industry needs in cosmetology, barbering, wind turbine technician, law enforcement, and patient care. • Partnered with FlavorSum and John Grace Construction in the Michigan New Jobs Training Program.
<p>(iii) The community college supports entrepreneurship through a small business assistance center or other training or consulting activities targeted toward small businesses.</p>	<p>Kalamazoo Valley Community College supported entrepreneurship through the following examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offered programs focused on small business management. • Provided customized employee safety training for small, local municipalities. • Supported small businesses in the food and agriculture industry through the ValleyHUB Food Hub, which served as a food distributor with

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	<p>wrap-around marketing and technical assistance support.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connected eligible small businesses with New Hire Training Program grant funding opportunities.
<p>(iv) The community college supports technological advancement through industry partnerships, incubation activities, or operation of a Michigan technical education center or other advanced technology center.</p>	<p>Kalamazoo Valley Community College supported technological advancement by developing strong industry partnerships and providing state-of-the-art training and educational experiences. The college:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offered, through the Advanced Technology Center, certificate and associate degree programs in technical fields such as automotive technology; heating, ventilation, and air conditioning; electrical technology; computer information systems; CNC and engineering, design and manufacturing technology • Offered certificate and associate degree programs in growing fields, such as, wind turbine technician; cell tower technician; horticulture; health careers; business; and accounting. • Engaged business and industry partners through bi-annual advisory committee discussions.
<p>(v) The community college has active partnerships with local or regional workforce and economic development agencies.</p>	<p>Kalamazoo Valley had key partnerships with regional agencies that focused on addressing the skills gap and improving access to local employment. Collaborations included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnered with Southwest Michigan First, the regional economic development agency. • Partnered with the Northside Association for Community Development to offer skills training for economically disadvantaged populations in Kalamazoo. • Partnered with the Kalamazoo Defender's Office through their Village program. • Partnered with Michigan Works! Southwest.

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participated in the Midwest Institute, a consortium of U.S. community colleges and universities focused on international education opportunities.
Category B: Educational Partnerships (must meet 4 of 5)	
<p>(i) The community college has active partnerships with regional high schools, intermediate school districts, and career-tech centers to provide instruction through dual enrollment, concurrent enrollment, direct credit, middle college, or academy programs.</p>	<p>Kalamazoo Valley Community College had strong partnerships with local secondary institutions with a strategic focus on addressing the equity gap and accessibility to post-secondary education and training. Highlighted collaborations included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintained dual credit agreements with Allegan Educational Service Agency, Branch Area Career Center, Calhoun Intermediate School District, Careerline Tech Center, Kalamazoo Regional Educational Service Agency (KRESA), and Van Buren Intermediate School District (ISD). Offered Early/Middle College programs with all Kalamazoo Public Schools, KRESA, Gull Lake Schools, and Van Buren ISD. Partnered with Kalamazoo Public Schools for a youth apprenticeship program. Partnered with KRESA to provide certified nurse assistant (CNA) certification preparation for high school students. Dedicated space at the new KRESA CTE Career Connect Campus. Engaged several Kalamazoo Valley faculty and administrators to serve on KRESA CTE program advisory boards.
<p>(ii) The community college hosts, sponsors, or participates in enrichment programs for area K-12 students, such as college days, summer or after-school programming, or science Olympiad.</p>	<p>Kalamazoo Valley routinely hosted, sponsored, and participated in secondary student enrichment programs, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hosted Early/Middle College summer camps. Participated in Northside Association for Community Development workshops.

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participated in the Kalamazoo Area Science and Math Club “Girls in STEM” event. • Hosted tours for Youth Opportunities Unlimited/MyCITY to assist high school dropouts with reconnection to education and employment training. • Provided internships for Youth Opportunities Unlimited/MyCITY participants. • Hosted Comstock Compass High School students for a career exploration series each year. • Hosted the “Girls on the Run” event on the college campus. • Offered free access to exhibits and youth-oriented programming at the Kalamazoo Valley Museum, including youth camps during spring break, “Chemistry Day” events, and career exploration days with Kalamazoo Public Schools. • Hosted Cougars Rising for all Kalamazoo Public Schools 7th graders on the Texas Township Campus. • Hosted the Kalamazoo Black Male Alliance’s Men’s Leader Conference.
<p>(iii) The community college provides, supports, or participates in programming to promote successful transitions to college for traditional age students, including grant programs such as talent search, upward bound, or other activities to promote college readiness in area high schools and community centers.</p>	<p>Kalamazoo Valley Community College provided, supported, and participated in programming that promoted successful transitions to college for traditional-age students in the following ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintained the Valley Advantage program (an academic catch-up program) . • Partnered with local high schools to offer math placement testing preparation for students. • Expanded Early/Middle College, high school dual enrollment, and CTE programs. • Hosted Early/Middle College summer career exploration camps and targeted early college orientations for new students and parents.
<p>(iv) The community college provides, supports, or participates in programming to promote successful transitions to college for new or</p>	<p>Kalamazoo Valley Community College provided, supported, and participated in programming that</p>

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
<p>reentering adult students, such as adult basic education, GED preparation and testing, or recruiting, advising, or orientation activities specific to adults.</p>	<p>promoted successful transitions to college for adult learners in the following ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnered with Western Michigan University and the Kalamazoo Promise for the Mi-RAISE Innovation Hub project to engage adult learners who were still Promise-eligible. • Convened an active Adult Learner Task Force focused on engaging and supporting the college's adult learners. • Served as a site for adult literacy training in partnership with the Kalamazoo Adult Literacy Program. • Expanded outreach and support for those able to take advantage of Michigan Reconnect scholarship opportunities. • Continued outreach and support services through Student Development Services for students enrolling at Kalamazoo Valley through the Michigan Offender Success program. • Provided a welcoming and engaging Veterans Success Program Center, one of only 94 in the nation. • Participated in "The Village" at the Kalamazoo Defender's Office. • Partnered with the Michigan College Access Network (MCAN) to support and improve completion rates for identified students.
<p>(v) The community college has active partnerships with regional 4-year colleges and universities to promote successful transfer, such as articulation, 2+2, or reverse transfer agreements or operation of a university center.</p>	<p>Kalamazoo Valley Community College hosted a University Center on campus that enabled students to establish clear, integrated pathways from an associate degree to a bachelor's degree (and beyond) through sponsoring universities. The University Center partners included Davenport University, Siena Heights University, and Ferris State University, offering multiple advanced post-secondary degree completion options.</p> <p>Kalamazoo Valley also coordinated the AI Transfer and Articulation Infrastructure Network (ATAIN) in partnership with Western Michigan University, Grand Valley State University, Davenport University, and Ferris</p>

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
	<p>State University. This project focuses on utilizing AI tools to develop seamless transfer pathways for students.</p> <p>Other ways in which Kalamazoo Valley promoted successful transfer included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offered dedicated transfer resource services within Student Development Services. • Provided credit for prior learning opportunities, including military service. • Participated in the Michigan Transfer Agreement (MTA). • Offered reverse transfer agreements with all four-year colleges and universities. • Participated in MI Transfer Pathways, which part of the Michigan Transfer Network
Category C: Community Services (must meet 4 of 5)	
<p>(i) The community college provides continuing education programming for leisure, wellness, personal enrichment, or professional development.</p>	<p>Kalamazoo Valley Community College provided continuing education programming for leisure, wellness, personal enrichment, and professional development. Examples of opportunities included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opened campus libraries to the public at two campuses. • Offered college-wide public Wi-Fi. • Provided a Senior Tuition Waiver program. • Kept the Kalamazoo Valley Museum open to the public with free general admission. • Delivered lifelong learning opportunities in Allied Health, Culinary and Sustainable Foods, Farms and Gardens, Wellness and Fitness, Computer Software, Leadership, Financial Literacy, ed2go virtual offerings, and youth and teen programs. • Partnered with the Portage Senior Center to deliver technology classes for seniors in the region. • Hosted testing centers that served as Southwest Michigan's location for agricultural certification testing through the Michigan Department of Agriculture. • Offered community engagement courses such as Beekeeping, Master Rain Gardener, Fitness Center Basics, Gentle Yoga, and Fundamentals of Individual Stock Investing.

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnered with community organizations to implement the annual Kalamazoo Foodways Symposium. • Hosted the annual Fretboard Festival at the Kalamazoo Valley Museum and Anna Whitten Hall, free and open to the public.
<p>(ii) The community college operates or sponsors opportunities for community members to engage in activities that promote leisure, wellness, cultural or personal enrichment such as community sports teams, theater or musical ensembles, or artist guilds.</p>	<p>Kalamazoo Valley Community College operated or sponsored opportunities for community members to engage in cultural and enrichment activities, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Served as an Arts Council of Kalamazoo Art Hop venue. • Hosted an annual Alumni+ Art Show. • Hosted a free Visiting Authors series. • Offered free youth basketball clinics in partnership with the Douglass Community Association, with KVCC student-athletes and coaches providing skill development. • Supported campus band and community chorus events. • Partnered with Water Street Café, Colonial Kitchen, and other community organizations to serve community veterans. • Organized middle school art displays. • Provided free access to the Kalamazoo Valley Museum, which offered exhibits, hands-on experiences, and planetarium shows. • Offered free culinary nutrition classes to promote wellness and support families in preparing fresh food at home.
<p>(iii) The community college operates public facilities to promote cultural, educational, or personal enrichment for community members, such as libraries, computer labs, performing arts centers, museums, art galleries, or television or radio stations.</p>	<p>Kalamazoo Valley Community College operated public facilities that promoted cultural, educational, and personal enrichment for community members in the following ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supported a student-run cafeteria and restaurant venue offering culinary creations inspired by cultural cuisines. • Opened campus libraries to the public at two campuses. • Offered college-wide public Wi-Fi. • Kept the Kalamazoo Valley Museum open to the public with free general admission six days a week, offering inclusive exhibits, programs, and special events.

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opened the Arcus Gallery at the Center for New Media to the public for monthly and special art shows. • Offered rental spaces for local business and industry partners to use for events and training. • Operated the Kalamazoo Valley Community Kitchen to provide workshops, demonstrations, and seminars. • Offered education opportunities in sustainable agriculture and landscape design through the Food Innovation Center, which also maintained public outdoor gardens and hosted community tours
<p>(iv) The community college operates public facilities to promote leisure or wellness activities for community members, including gymnasiums, athletic fields, tennis courts, fitness centers, hiking or biking trails, or natural areas.</p>	<p>Kalamazoo Valley Community College operated public facilities that enhanced opportunities for community members to engage in leisure and wellness activities. Examples included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintained interpretive rain gardens as public outdoor learning spaces. • Maintained public walking nature trails. • Made campus track, tennis courts, and athletic facilities available for public use and charity events. • Hosted local high school and community cross-country meets, soccer games, and tennis matches. • Hosted open gym sessions in basketball and volleyball facilities. • Served as the home site for area homeschool basketball teams. • Designated campus as a hazardous event shelter site. • Opened the college swimming pool for community swims. • Opened the Kalamazoo Valley Veterans Lounge to all community veterans.
<p>(v) The community college promotes, sponsors, or hosts community service activities for students, staff, or community members.</p>	<p>Kalamazoo Valley Community College promoted, sponsored, and hosted community service activities in the following ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operated the Kalamazoo Valley Food Share, run by staff and faculty volunteers, which provided fresh produce and shelf-stable food to students in need.

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hosted the annual Kalamazoo Valley Career Fair, open to community members. • Hosted United States Naturalization Ceremonies. • Operated the dental hygiene clinic, offering reduced-cost dental services for community members and free dental services for veterans. • Offered reduced-cost hair and nail services for the community through the School of Cosmetology and Barbering. • Hosted a semi-annual community electronics recycling program. • Sponsored representation on the “Girls on the Run” and Kalamazoo Marathon planning committees and hosted related events on campus. • Hosted Red Cross and MI Blood Drives on campus. • Offered campus facilities for use as a local voting precinct. • Offered facility space for local community group meetings. • Served as a sponsor and collaborator for the “Beyond the Backpack” initiative. • Supported each of the college’s five athletic teams in conducting at least two community service projects each semester.

The Kalamazoo Valley Community College Board of Trustees further resolves that the President be authorized and directed to submit a copy of the signed resolution to the State Budget Director, as required by law.

Dated: September 9, 2025



Notary Public



Kathy Purnell, Secretary, Board of Trustees
Kalamazoo Valley Community College

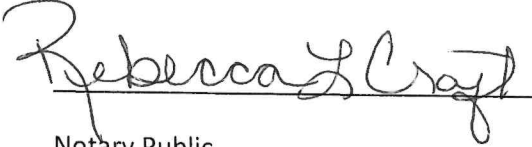
REBECCA L CRAFT
NOTARY PUBLIC – STATE OF MICHIGAN
COUNTY OF CASS
My Commission Expires May 20, 2026
Acting in the County of *Kalamazoo*

Kalamazoo Valley Community College

Certification of Resolution

The undersigned did hereby certify that:

1. She was the Secretary of the Board of Trustees of Kalamazoo Valley Community College, counties of Kalamazoo, Barry, Calhoun, St. Joseph, and Van Buren, Michigan.
2. The foregoing was a true and exact copy of a Resolution adopted by the Board of Trustees at its regular meeting held on Tuesday, September 9, 2025.
3. Proper notice of the time and place of the meeting was given to each Board member as provided by the applicable provisions of the Community College Act of 1966, as amended, and the Board's bylaws, and to the public as required by the Open Meetings Act, as amended.



Notary Public



Kathy Purnell, Secretary, Board of Trustees
Kalamazoo Valley Community College

