



**Mason County Promise Zone
Student Success Committee Meeting Minutes
Monday, February 28, 2022: 10am
Location: Lakeshore Resource Network**

Members Present:

Kathy Surd, Monica Schuyler, Annette Quillan, Joan Vidak

Member Absent: Andrea Large, Amy Pepper

Staff Present:

Jody Maloney, Kelly Parker(virtual)

1. **Call to Order:** Schuyler called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.
2. Limited Public Comment: None present
3. Approval of the Agenda
 - a. *Motion by Quillan to approve the agenda with support by Surd; Motion carried 4-0-2.*
4. Approval of the Minutes from January 24, 2022
 - a. *Motion by Surd to approve the agenda with support by Vidak; Motion carried 4-0-2.*
5. Business:
 - a. **WSCC College for Kids Event Funding Request**
 - i. The committee talked about a 1-year sponsorship, then requested a report on this year's numbers and any plans for growth moving forward.
 1. *Motion by Vidak to recommend approval of the \$20000 funding request for WSCC College for Kids scholarships for Mason County's students with support by Quillan; Motion carried 3-0-2-1. Surd Abstained from voting. Maloney will send follow-up questions to WSCC for answers prior to submitting the recommendation to the full Board.*
 - b. **To College Advisory Workgroup:** Meeting recap & notes
 - i. **FAFSA Update:** MCE has held a pizza party; will offer prizes for seniors using initiative funds, MCE also did their senior focus group on 2/24/22; LHS will offer prizes for seniors; MCC is having a pizza party for any senior that is on track to meet their post-secondary goals- FAFSA, military forms, employment etc.; Will offer prize drawings through May with the Promise Zone money. Seniors expressed how grateful they are for the opportunity.
 1. **Updated List of College-Going Culture Events**
 - a. Kickstart Family Night on April 27th—Promise tree will be planted for each Kickstart class.
 - b. Maloney will work with Wendy Wells to build out the career readiness portion of the list.
 2. **What else does the Committee want this workgroup to work on?**
 - a. In March, the group will discuss more about Decision Day. They would like to see t-shirts offered again as an incentive for students to complete their Promise application and apply to WSCC. Maloney will get a quote from last year's provider. No additional suggestions were made.
 - ii. **Through College Advisory Workgroup:** Meeting recap & notes

1. Alternative for In-Person Orientation & First Year Seminar Requirement
 - a. Recommendation: The committee made no recommendation at this time, but would like the workgroup to provide feedback on the following proposal: To require new student orientation in-person, rewarding attendance with the choice for a book (\$500) or technology award (current pricing) for year 1 at WSCC, and to highly recommend first year seminar, with scholars who successfully complete receiving a \$250 book award for year 2. Maloney will explore this idea with WSCC staff in admissions, academic affairs, IT and bookstore, and then bring findings to the Workgroup in March for review and recommendation to the SSC.
 2. **McLean Fund for scholars:** The workgroup reviewed WSCC's emergency fund usage and suggested some options for the funds made possible in memory of Jim McLean. Those suggestions were:
 - i. The SSC has been asked to determine how to use donations in memory of Jim McLean. Currently there is over \$7000 in the account. This can be defined either by the SSC or by the Through College workgroup or both. The following items must be determined:
 1. Purpose/Use--WSCC defined emergencies
 2. Criteria for Eligibility: Promise Scholar at WSCC
 3. Process to apply: WSCC process
 4. Process to determine who will receive funds---WSCC criteria and Promise Scholar
 5. Amount(s) awarded (Min/Max, if applicable)--up to \$700 maximum (overall funds are now just over \$7,000)
 6. How to award (reimbursement, gift cards, direct bill pay, credit to student account, etc.)--WSCC decides a student meets criteria for meet and need, and sends Promise Director a request (informal approval to ensure that student is 1) a scholar and that 2) funds remain. WSCC awards according to their process.
 - ii. The Committee would like to align the additional scholarship funds with WSCC's processes for granting emergency funds for students, but limit these awards to Promise Scholars only, and request that all recipients supply a thank you note/card to the McLean family. Maloney will approve requests vetted by WSCC/United Way staff at the college by email, and then the Mason CAN Fund will reimburse the college. Maloney will run this by Julie Dill and Molly McCarthy at WSCC to see if such an arrangement is feasible.
 3. **What else does the Committee want this workgroup to work on?** In March, the Workgroup will consider options to encourage Scholar engagement & work to define "Student Success." Workgroup will also review NSO/FYS ideas above.
 - iii. **2.0 High School GPA requirement for Promise Eligibility:** Board reviewed a brief recap in February; It will be on the agenda for the Board to make a decision in April.
 1. **Recommendation--Schuyler made a motion to make the recommendation to remove the 2.0 high school GPA; Motion carried 2-0-2 absent, with Surd and Quillan abstaining.**
 - iv. **Michigan Colleges Online courses:**
 - a. Recommendation Form: This item will be considered at the March SSC meeting.
 - i. Thoughts & concerns expressed by WSCC
 1. Conversation tabled until the next meeting
 - v. **Next Meeting:** March 28, 2022@10AM: Location: LRN
6. Adjourn: Schuyler moved for adjournment at 12:14p.m.