



Mason County Promise Zone
Student Success Committee Meeting Minutes
Monday, January 24, 2022: 10 AM
Location: Lakeshore Resource Network

Present: Amy Pepper, Annette Quillan, Kathy Surd, & Monica Schuyler (online, non-voting); Staff: Jody Maloney
Guest presenters: Cara Mitchell & Wendy Wells, WSCC

- 1) **Call to order/Welcome:** Schuyler called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM
- 2) **Public Comment:** Randy Belair shared that he was present to learn more about the Committee.
- 3) **Approval of Agenda:** Motion by Surd to approve, with support from Pepper; Motion carried 3-0-0.
- 4) **Approval of Minutes from 11-22-2021:** Motion by Surd to approve with support from Pepper; Motion carried 3-0-0.
- 5) **Business:**
 - a) **WSCC College for Kids Event Outcomes & Update:** Cara Mitchell—College Relations, & Dr. Wendy Wells—Talent Pipeline Coordinator: The event takes place in the first week of August. Last year 178 students aged 9-15 participated, with 101 from Mason County. Up to 300 participants could attend. Cost is currently \$225/participant. Transportation is provided for youth with scholarships, but WSCC would like to open that up to all participants. Sponsors and adult volunteers are needed. Maloney will set up a meeting to gather options for sponsorships for Mason County-based students.
 - b) **To College Advisory Workgroup:** Meeting recap & notes (REF #2)
 - i) **Events happening:** MICareer Quest, March 23 is on Ferris' campus. Kickstart Family Night on April 27th—Promise tree planting for each year's class is something that Jody is going to ask WSCC about. 3rd Grade WSCC, CTE & Me Day on May 24 & 25—this event can help connect younger students to WSCC's campus—about 700 children will participate; College for Kids (Aug 2022).
 - ii) **What else does the Committee want this workgroup to work on?** In Feb., the workgroup will discuss FAFSA initiatives and Decision Day. The committee had no additions to this work.
 - c) **Through College Workgroup:** Meeting recap & notes (REF #3)
 - i) **Alternative for In-Person Orientation & First Year Seminar Requirement**
 - (1) Would like to see rewards for participation if possible: Book award in semester 1 on completion of orientation; book award in semester 2 upon completion of FYS.
 - (2) Generally preferred language that strongly encourages rather than requires; the Workgroup feels that hinging the scholarship upon completion of Orientation or FYS could become a barrier to going to and affording college rather than a positive, inclusive experience that Orientation/FYS.
 - (3) Provided these suggestions for alternatives to in-person orientation:
 - (a) Do online orientation and provide a copy of fall schedule to Promise Director, or,
 - (b) Waive the requirement if a student has completed 12 college-level credits successfully
 - (4) Provided these suggestions for alternatives to First Year Seminar:
 - (a) Waive the requirement if the student has completed 12 college-level credits successfully
 - (b) Allow for a student to waive the requirement based on other life experience that demonstrate success skills or personal responsibilities that limit their ability to participate.
 - ii) **No Recommendation:** After discussing items 1-4, the committee discussed keeping in-person orientation as a "requirement," and changing the language around First Year Seminar to an "expectation." Maloney will adjust the language of the original recommendation to include this language, and bring it back to the committee for feedback. The committee did not take additional action on books or any participation incentives for these items.
 - iii) **What else does the Committee want this workgroup to work on?** In Feb., the Workgroup will consider options to encourage Scholar engagement & work to define "Student Success" and metrics. No additional items were added to this list.



- d) **2.0 Conversation:** Board will recap discussion in February; SSC will look at topic in February, with intent to make a recommendation in March for the Board to consider at their April meeting.
 - i) Quillan shared her thoughts on including an essay portion and requiring a high school transcript for students who have less than a 2.0 GPA, and then vetting these applications through the Appeals Committee.
 - e) **Mason CAN Update:** Superintendents will share ESSER III Priorities at 1-26-22 10AM meeting: Maloney invited any interested members to attend.
 - f) **Michigan Colleges Online courses: This item will be considered at the next meeting due to lack of time.**
 - (1) Recommendation Form (REF #4)
 - (a) Thoughts & concerns expressed by WSCC
 - g) **Objective/Goal & Scholars update from Director (REF #5): This item will be considered at the next meeting due to lack of time.**
 - h) **Meetings:** 4th Monday at 10AM: Next meeting: February 28, 2022@10AM: Location: LRN
- 6) **Adjourn: Motion by Pepper to adjourn the meeting at 11:58 AM.**