Inside Story aims to keep faculty, staff and other stakeholders informed about what's going on at Michigan's community colleges. You are receiving this newsletter due to your past interaction with MCCA. To continue receiving this newsletter, click the subscribe button below!

MCCA UPDATES

JOIN US THIS WEEK

New Enrollment Data Confirms Significant College Access Concerns: The Center for Education Performance and Information updated the latest data on College Enrollment by High School. Community Colleges should be concerned about three notable data points.

1. 52.8% of students who graduated in 2021-22 attended college within 6 months of graduation.
2. This is down 10% from 62.5% just five years ago in 2017-18.
3. Under 16,000 students attended community college among the more than 100,000 high school graduates.

The MCCA is hosting a webinar, Addressing the Enrollment Crisis at Michigan Community Colleges on Wednesday, February 22, 2023 from 10:30 AM – Noon in partnership with the Michigan College Access Network and the Office of Sixty by 30. Please register for the webinar. The recording and slides will be available after the session.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

LEO offers workplace mental health resources

The Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity shared an update on the many ways they are furthering efforts to support mental health and wellbeing in the workplace for more Michiganders.

This included highlighting the recently launched workplace mental health resource hub and monthly workplace mental health webinar series.
For co-workers clearly in need of immediate support, there is the [Michigan Staywell Program](https://www.michigan.gov/staywell) and the [National 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline](https://988.org).

Started in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Staywell Program offers mental wellness education, discussion groups, individual crisis counseling and other tools. It really is as simple as a phone call to: **888-535-6136, ext. 8**. Similarly, the **988** number offers connection to local crisis support and other information helpful to those in immediate need.

On the sites mentioned above, you can find posters and other materials to print, handout or otherwise get into the workplace and directly in front of employees.

**Public Act 3 ensures MPSERS appropriation flows through community colleges**

[Senate Bill 8](https://www.legislature.mi.gov/BillDisplay?lb=110&db=LegData&br=0&hr=59&sb=8&sl=1), a FY22 and FY23 School Aid supplemental bill, was signed into law as Public Act 3 of 2023 last week. The bill ensures that the one-time $1.0 billion payment into MPSERS is implemented correctly by flowing through all participating entities, including district libraries and community colleges, rather than being limited to districts and intermediate districts (ISDs).

**ADN to BSN Town Hall**

The Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity recently hosted a Town Hall on the ADN to BSN Completion Program. The full recording is available [here](#).

**REGISTER FOR GUIDED SELF-PLACEMENT WORKSHOP**

Guided Self-Placement Workshop #2 on March 8: MCSS will present the second workshop on Advising with Guided Self-Placement in partnership with Achieving the Dream on Wednesday, March 8 from 3:00-5:00 pm. As colleges prepare to operationalize guided self-placement on their campuses, it is essential to provide professional learning for front line staff including advisors. This second part of a two-part workshop series will focus on exploring how bias can impact student choice in a guided self-placement model. Advisors will learn strategies for implementing anti-bias practices into their work with students and will practice those skills in interactive scenarios.

- **Participants will:**
  - Explore how bias can impact student placement choice in guided self-placement models
  - Learn strategies for implementing anti-bias practices into their own practice
  - Explore scenarios contextualized for GSP where advisors can practice anti-bias skills as they build their practice

Please [register](#) for this session and [review the materials from Part 1](#).

**CONGRATS TO ACHIEVING THE DREAM PRESENTERS**

Congratulations to all of our Michigan community college representatives who presented at the Achieving the Dream Annual Conference held February 14-17, 2023.

- **Dream Studio: Bridging the Non-Credit to Credit Transition** Julie Parks, Executive Director, Workforce Training & MTEC, Grand Rapids Community College
- **Advancing Equity in Opportunity and Outcomes: Centering the Cultural Assets of Racially Minoritized Students** Karen Colbert, General Education Faculty Chair and Lead Math and STEM Faculty, Keweenaw Bay Ojibwa Community College and ATD Teaching and Learning Coach
- **Supporting the Whole Student: Initial Findings from the ECMC Foundation Basic Needs Initiative** Precious Miller, Director of Basic Needs and Belonging, Michigan Community College Association
- **Assembling and Administering an Institutional Debt Forgiveness Program** Evan Pauken, Director of Institutional Effectiveness, Kalamazoo Valley Community College
- **Collaborating on Math Reform for Student Success: A Project Success Case Study with TCUs and Carnegie Math Pathways** Karen Colbert, General Education Faculty Chair and Lead Math and STEM Faculty, Keweenaw Bay Ojibwa Community
UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, February 21: Academic Catch-Up Webinar 3 (4 PM to 5 PM)

Wednesday, February 22: Addressing the Enrollment Crisis at Michigan Community Colleges (10:30 AM to 12 PM)

Wednesday, March 1: Awarding Credit for Industry Credentials 3 - Office Hours (2 PM to 3 PM)

Tuesday, March 7: Academic Catch-Up Webinar 4 (4 PM to 5 PM)

IN THE NEWS

WJRT: Mott Community College relaunches student auto services (February 8, 2023)

Higher Ed Dive: Free college keeps growing — at the state level (February 9, 2023)

WWMT: 'We must act. And we will': Local leaders react to Michigan State University shooting (February 14, 2023)

Midland Daily News: Corrections officers can attend Michigan’s community colleges tuition free (February 16, 2023)

The Boston Globe: Free community college must focus on retention, not just admission (February 17, 2023)

Just a few newsworthy stories from Michigan community colleges. Check out more news items at MCCA News or on Twitter, LinkedIn, or Facebook.