

**MINUTES**  
**NORTH CENTRAL MICHIGAN COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**REGULAR MEETING – Library Conference Rooms 1 & 2**  
**Tuesday, March 26, 2024 (3:30 p.m.)**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Rasmussen called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

2. ATTENDANCE

PRESENT: Trustees Fought, Keiswetter (via phone), Pretty, Rasmussen, and Shirilla

ABSENT: Trustees Etienne and Kring

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved by Trustee Pretty and supported by Trustee Shirilla that the agenda be approved as written.

AYES: Trustees Fought, Keiswetter (via phone), Pretty, Rasmussen, and Shirilla

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Trustees Etienne and Kring

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Trustee Fought and supported by Trustee Shirilla that the minutes of the February 27, 2024, Regular Meeting, be approved as drafted.

AYES: Trustees Fought, Keiswetter (via phone), Pretty, Rasmussen, and Shirilla

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Trustees Etienne and Kring

5. STUDENT SUCCESS

exceeded pre-covid numbers. Events have been held off campus such as movie nights, Avalanche Bay, and ski days. On campus they have held talent shows, art nights, and k... The high participation has really been student-driven and it's exciting to see. Student cl... fall under leadership of the Student Senate and have experienced some of the best participation ever. While the dorms are the heart and soul of these student events, they also had quite a few students joining from off-campus as well. Big thanks to Leon and Student Senate for their hard work in creating all these wonderful opportunities!

6. COMMUNICATIONS

President Finley shared the following communications:

- a. NCMC Hosting 8-week Summer Learning Academy



a. AFPS – Chet Jessick, President of AFPS, shared an invitation to this year's Outstanding Person in Education (OPIE) Awards with the Trustees. This year Brian Goetz is the recipient.

Professor Jessick noted that he and Professor Goetz are both members of the Real Talk Cohort I. Real Talk has truly made a difference in their abilities to teach, teach well, and consider student learning in different and relatable ways that may not have been previously considered.

Chet mentioned that Libby Wagner was on campus earlier this month and facievim9cirmbeTJ0 Tc 0 Tw

a. PTK Officer Team Award

North Central's Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) Honor Society's Officer Team (Kira Miller, Allison Huzek, Hannah Neff, and Mark Hoover) whom you all had the pleasure of meeting a few board meetings ago, have been selected to receive PTK's 2024 Distinguished Chapter Officer Team Award. This is an award that only a handful of

GOLD – Excellence in Writing (Long Form), for the team’s work on “Breakthrough”.

SILVER – Newsletter, for the team’s work on “Spring/Summer 2023 Aspire”.

SILVER – Original Photography (Unmanipulated), for the team’s work on

“Spring/Summer 2023 Aspire Cover Photo – Josh Adim”.

Congratulations, and great job to Carol Laenen, Catherine Coe, and Megan VanHorn!!

## 10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

### a. Curriculum Committee

The Curriculum Committee met and reviewed a recommendation for honorary degree recipients for the 2024 Commencement Ceremony. This recommendation came from an internal committee consisting of six staff and two faculty members. They have recommended both Pier and Renee Borra as recipients for this year’s honorary degrees.

Per Board Policy 116 – Awarding Honorary Degrees, we would like to recommend Renee and Pier Borra for consideration on account of their outstanding contributions to our college and community.

Trustee Shirilla moved and Trustee Pretty supported that Pier Borra and Renee Borra be awarded Honorary Degrees of Educational and Community Service at the Commencement Exercises to be held May 3, 2024.

AYES: Trustees Fought, Keiswetter (via phone), Pretty, Rasmussen, and Shirilla

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Trustees Etienne and Kring

### b. Finance & Facilities Committee

Trustee Fought shared that the Finance & Facilities Committee met a week ago. They reviewed the financial statements through February of this year. They also discussed the funding for the CATEE Project.

Trustee Fought provided the following background:

In order to enhance educational opportunities at North Central and to respond to educational needs of the area, the College has decided to expand its course offerings, especially in the health care, technology and the trades to bring the educational offerings of the College up to those required by area employers. In order to accomplish this objective, it will be necessary to update and expand health care and technology classrooms and labs.

The plan is to add two new classrooms for health care and to renovate some of the current health care facilities. It also involves razing the current tech building and replacing it with one that meets current educational needs.

This program to make these changes is referred to as the Career & Technical Education Enhancement Program, or CATEE for short. The estimated cost of this Program is \$19.9 million. We currently have total funds available of \$13.4 million including federal and State grants totaling \$12.4 million and \$1.0 million from the College. In order to proceed with the project additional funding, it will be necessary to issue Community College Building and Site Bonds in the amount of \$6.5 million.

In order for the College to issue such bonds, it is necessary for the board to approve the bond issue. Bond council has been retained and has advised that a bond issue of 15 years with the payment of just interest thru 2030 and then the amortization of bond principal over a nine-year period ending in 2039. The reason for the delay in the amortization of bond principal is to manage cash flow during the renovation / construction period and permit pay off the bonds the College currently has outstanding. Bond council projects that the interest on the new bonds will be in the vicinity of 4.55%, with the actual interest rate determined upon sale of the bonds.

Trustee Fought moved and Trustee Shirilla supported that the College issue Community College Building and Site Bonds in the aggregate amount of \$6.5 million dollars with a maturity date during 2039 and an interest rate to be determined upon sale of the bonds.

AYES: Trustees Fought, Keiswetter (via phone), Pretty, Rasmussen, and Shirilla

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Trustees Etienne and Kring

c. Bylaws & Policy Committee

Trustee Pretty shared that the Bylaws & Policy Committee met a week ago to review policy 308 – Student Code of C ( C)-3ought

With input from all involved, VP of Academic Affairs, Stephen Strom ultimately recommended Brian Rufener for this replacement position. He has accepted our offer. We look forward to Brian joining the team in 2024.

Trustee Shirilla noted the committee reviewed and continues to review both the hiring policy and the proposed DEI Statement from the DEI Committee. More information will come regarding these topics as they are discussed further.

11. OLD BUSINESS

None.

12. NEW BUSINESS

None.

13. UNSCHEDULED PUBLIC COMMENT.

Joel Kato, Petoskey resident, stated he was encouraged to see the board going into closed session to consider strategy and negotiation sessions in the faculty negotiation process. He thanked Trustee Shirilla for clarifying who is on the Collective Bargaining team. Considering negotiations have been in process for 14 months, he shared his thoughts and wanted to remind everyone of the importance of managing relationships and that all are partners in this process.

14. CLOSED SESSION

Chairman Rasmussen motioned to go into a closed session to consider strategy and negotiation sessions connected with the negotiation of a collective bargaining agreement. MCL 15.268Sec.8(c).

The motion to go into closed session was supported by Trustee Fought.

Roll call:

PRESENT: Trustees Rasmussen (yes), Pretty (yes), Shirilla (yes), Fought (yes), Keiswetter (yes via phone call).

ABSENT: Trustees Etienne and Kring

The trustees met in the Library's TEAL Lab for closed session at 4:02 p.m.

The trustees returned at 5:20 p.m.

Roll call:

PRESENT: Trustees Rasmussen (yes), Pretty (yes), Shirilla (yes), Fought (yes)

ABSENT: Trustees Etienne, Keiswetter and Kring

15. ADJOURNMENT.

There being no further business, Trustee Pretty motioned and Trustee Shirilla supported the idea that the meeting be adjourned at 5:21 p.m.

AYES: Trustees Fought, Pretty, Rasmussen, and Shirilla

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Trustees Etienne, Keiswetter, and Kring

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Rasmussen', written over a set of horizontal lines.

/S/ Daniel D. Rasmussen, Chairman

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Melissa Keiswetter', written over a set of horizontal lines.

/S/ Melissa Keiswetter, Secretary