State Budget Office
Office of Education

Community Colleges Local Strategic Value
Best Practices Resolution

Section 230 of Public Act 25 of 2026, the education omnibus appropriations act for fiscal year 2026-2027 includes a $2,924,700 appropriation for West Shore Community College (WSCC). Among the components of the appropriations for all Michigan community colleges is performance funding based on "local strategic value," which is defined in terms of three categories as shown below. Each category covers five standards of local strategic value, called "best practices." The law requires the WSCC Board of Trustees to pass a resolution certifying that the College meets at least four out of five of the best practice standards under each of the three categories.

West Shore Community College not only meets but also exceeds the best practice standards required by the appropriations law, as the following table demonstrates.

West Shore Community College Adheres to Best Practices Grid

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
Category A: Economic Development and Business or Industry Partnerships (must meet 4 of 5)	
(i) The community college has active partnerships with local employers including hospitals and health care providers.	• WSCC has partnerships with Corewell Health Ludington Hospital, Corewell Health Gerber Memorial Hospital, Munson Healthcare Manistee Hospital, Munson Healthcare Traverse City Hospital Davita Health Care, Hackley Behavioral Health, Manistee County Medical Care Facility, Corewell Home Care, Corewell Health Ludington Cardiac Rehab, Trinity Visiting Nurse Service & Hospice, Oakview Medical Care Facility, Oceana County Medical Care Facility, MediLodge of Ludington, LIFE EMS, MMR Ambulance, Mecosta County EMS, Trinity Health EMS, AMR Ambulance, Blair Township Fire and EMS, City of Manistee Fire, Benzie County EMS, Munson Cadillac Hospital, Corewell Health Devos Children's Hospital, Oceana County Council on Aging, West Michigan Community Mental Health System, Central-Wellness Community Mental Health, DHD #10, Grand Oaks Nursing Center, and St. John's Home Care to provide clinical sites for the nursing program. • WSCC maintains a mechatronics program advisory council with Metalworks, Inc., West Shore ESD, Whitehall Industries, Change Parts, Inc., Cone Drive Service Center, and Packaging Corporation of America.

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
	• WSCC maintains a welding program advisory council with Praxair Welding Supply and Whitehall Industries. • WSCC maintains a criminal justice and corrections advisory councils with the Ludington Police Department, Hart Police Department, Manistee City Police Department, Pentwater Police Department, Shelby Police Department, Mason-Oceana 9-1-1, Lake County Sheriff's Department; Manistee County Sheriff's Department, Mason County Sheriff's Department, Oceana County Sheriff's Department, Michigan State Police #66 in Hart, Little River Band Department of Public Safety, Mason County Family Court, Mason County Prosecutor's Office, Michigan Commission On Law Enforcement Standards, Oaks Maximum Correctional Facility, West Shore ESD, and Michigan Department of Corrections. • WSCC maintains a nursing program advisory council with Corewell Health Ludington Hospital, Munson Healthcare Manistee Hospital, Ferris State University, Trinity Health Muskegon Hospital, Mercy Health Partners, Oceana County Medical Care, Oakview Medical Care Facility, Manistee County MCF Newaygo RESA, MediLodge of Ludington, and Munson Home Health Care, WESD, and DHD #10. • WSCC established multiple business division advisory councils with Corewell Health Ludington, West Shore ESD, Habitat for Humanity of Mason County, Little River Casino Resort, Munson Healthcare Manistee Hospital, Manistee News Advocate, RIGHTside design, West Shore ESD, Lake Michigan CPA Services, Brickley DeLong, Merskin and Merskin, Broadstone Accounting, St. Simon's Church, CPA, LLC. Metalworks, Inc., Alliance for Economic Success, FloraCraft, Martin Marietta Magnesia Specialties, Inc., and Great Lakes Castings, LLC. • WSCC has established local internships in life sciences industries such as the United States Forest Service, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Michigan's Cooperative Invasive Species Management Areas, and Gourmet Mushrooms, Incorporated.

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
(ii) The community college provides customized on-site training for area companies, employees, or both.	• WSCC provides local businesses on-site training including training in hospitality, customer service, leadership, Microsoft Excel, QuickBooks, and ServSafe Training. • WSCC provides local manufacturer's customized training and skilled testing opportunities.
(iii) The community college supports entrepreneurship through a small business assistance center or other training or consulting activities targeted toward small businesses.	• WSCC supports entrepreneurship through the Business Opportunity Center with input from Chambers of Commerce Directors, The Starting Block Business Incubator, Michigan Works!, MMTC, SCORE, MSU Extension, MI-SBTDC, MMIC, RBIN, and e-Merge. • WSCC supports the Chamber Alliance of Mason County and Manistee Area Chamber of Commerce economic development positions.
(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.	• WSCC has a manufacturing lab complex that includes robotics, electrical-electronic systems, precision machining, CNC, mechanical systems, mechatronics, and welding, which is used by students and industry. • WSCC's Nursing Program has simulation equipment to provide high fidelity technology to our students and health care professionals. • WSCC's Criminal Justice Program has partnered with local agencies to purchase and train on the total station system.
(v) The community college has active partnerships with local or regional workforce and economic development agencies.	• WSCC has a manufacturing lab complex that includes robotics, electrical-electronic systems, precision machining, CNC, mechanical systems, and mechatronics, which is used by students and industry. • WSCC is actively engaged with Michigan Workforce Training and Education Collaborative programming. • WSCC in conjunction with Corewell Health has the first DOL approved RN apprenticeship program in the State of Michigan. • WSCC is represented on numerous local and regional workforce and economic development agencies such as Chamber Alliance of Mason County Economic Development Advisory Committee, Manistee Economic Development Council, TalentFirst, Industrial Development Corporation of Manistee County, West Michigan

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
	Shoreline Regional Development Commission, and MichiganWorks!.
Category B: Educational Partnerships (must meet 4 of 5)	
(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.	• WSCC has active partnerships with fourteen school districts to provide dual enrollment opportunities. • WSCC has an active partnership with the West Shore Educational Service District (WSESD) to provide Career and Technical Education credit, and with both the Newaygo Career Tech and the Wexford-Missaukee ISD Career and Technical Center to provide dual enrollment and articulated or transcripted credits. • WSCC's partnership with the WSESD includes ASM Tech, an Early College School. • WSCC partners with the Michigan Great Lakes Virtual Academy in an early middle college (EMC). • WSCC hosts the WSESD Agri-Science Program on the campus of WSCC. • WSCC assigns recruiter/advisors by geographic service area to develop relationships with regional schools and provide continuity for students from recruitment through enrollment and academic advising. WSCC also conducts focused high school visits in which students work with their assigned recruiter/advisor to complete academic planning and other pre-enrollment steps.
(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.	• WSCC provides K-12 students enrichment programs. • WSCC provides high school students College Nights, Financial Aid Nights, and campus visits and tours; WSCC provides eighth grade college visits. • WSCC hosts an Autism Spectrum Disorder Social Coaching program. • WSCC hosts CTE & Me Days for all area third graders providing them the opportunity for career exploration of technical education programs. • WSCC hosts College for Kids allowing children ages 9-15 the opportunity to participate in structured activities and non-traditional education on a college campus. • WSCC visits area high schools to meet with students and advisors interested in facilitating the transition to college-whether it be through dual enrollment or after graduation.

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
(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.	• WSCC provides support for K-12 arts educators each year by organizing an exhibition of student work in the WSCC art gallery at the end of each school year. • WSCC promotes college readiness in the district through Literacy and Math Networks with the local ESD, hosting MATHCOUNTS competitions for middle school students, programming for 9th grade students at Mason County Eastern to build college-going culture. • WSCC partners with Michigan Great Lakes Virtual Academy in an early middle college (EMC). • WSCC partners with MI Works to provide campus visits for returning to college students. • WSCC hosts Show Up, an annual event designed to introduce area high school seniors to West Shore, connect them with the College community, and support their transition from high school to college. • WSCC conducts focused high school visits in which students work with their geographically assigned recruiter/advisor to complete academic planning and other pre-enrollment steps before beginning college. • WSCC provides both Ramp It Up!, an in-person orientation experience, and online orientation through Canvas to help incoming students understand College expectations, access resources, navigate College systems, and prepare to begin classes. • WSCC uses Guided Self-Placement to provide incoming students with individualized English and mathematics course guidance based on their academic readiness, needs, and goals.
(iv) The community college provides, supports, or participates in programming to promote successful transitions to college for new or reentering adult students, such as adult basic education, GED preparation and testing, or recruiting, advising, or orientation activities specific to adults.	• WSCC provides GED testing through our Pearson Vue Authorized Testing Center. • WSCC supports new and reentering adult students through individualized academic advising, orientation, financial aid and scholarship assistance, career services, academic support, and connections to College and community resources. • WSCC's Referral Network provides a coordinated process for identifying student needs and connecting students with appropriate College and community resources that can address barriers to enrollment and persistence.

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
	• WSCC partners with the Michigan College Access Network through College Completion Corps to provide individualized completion coaching to a defined cohort of students, including one-on-one support to advance completion benchmarks, address challenges, strengthen belonging and self-efficacy, connect students with campus and community resources, and maintain progress toward important dates and deadlines.
(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.	• WSCC has articulation agreements, which include 2 + 2 and 3 + 1 programs, with Ferris State University, Davenport University, Walsh College, Central Michigan University, and University of Michigan. • WSCC has supported and collaborated on Michigan State University's National Science Foundation Research Experiences for Undergraduates in Plant Biotechnology grant by writing a letter of support and recruiting WSCC students. Through ongoing mentorship, WSCC has helped students to transition into research opportunities at their transfer schools such as the University of Michigan, Grand Valley State University, Lake Superior State University, and the University of Wisconsin Madison. • WSCC has reverse transfer agreements with Central Michigan University, Davenport University, Ferris State University, Grand Valley State University, Lake Superior State University, and Western Michigan University. • WSCC has associate degree program offerings in Agricultural Operations, Fruit and Vegetable Management, and Agribusiness in partnership with Michigan State University. • WSCC has formed a partnership with Ferris State University called the "Ferris Connections Program" which enables students who start their university education at WSCC to finish their bachelor's degree at Ferris State University – and to hold a distinctive FSU Connections Program status from the beginning. WSCC students have access to FSU libraries, recreational facilities, student organizations, athletic events, and cultural and social events offered at FSU.

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
	• WSCC and FSU partner in a RN to BSN grant for seamless program laddering.
Category C: Community Services (must meet 4 of 5)	
(i) The community college provides continuing education programming for leisure, wellness, personal enrichment, or professional development.	• WSCC offers continuing education programming that promotes leisure, wellness, cultural and personal enrichment. • WSCC, through the Business Opportunity Center, offers online programming providing continuing education credits in professional development. • WSCC offers a County Corrections Officers Academy to service regional law enforcement agencies. • WSCC's Early Childhood Education program partners with West Shore ESD to host an annual Early Childhood Summit open to community members and students in conjunction with many sponsors. In 2024, 265 Early Childhood Professionals and students were served through the Summit. • WSCC offers professional development for middle and high school English teachers, librarians, and math teachers through the Literacy and Math Networks. • WSCC provided community-based ELL continuing education courses in Oceana County.
(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.	• WSCC, through the HUMANKIND Series, offers exhibits, lectures, music concerts, and theatrical performances, and activities (e.g., book discussion groups) to promote connection, community and culture, both on campus and off campus at diverse locations including Ludington, Manistee, Pentwater, and Hart. WSCC works with area businesses to reach out to the public. • WSCC offers an annual performing arts series of theater and concert events open to the public. • WSCC theatre production cast parts are open to students and community members.
(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.	• WSCC sponsors musical ensembles that include students and community members in wind symphony, jazz band, percussion ensemble, drum line, and the community choir with public performances of each ensemble. • WSCC operates the William M. Anderson Library for student and public use. The Library also functions as an open computer lab with 13 stations available for public use.

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
	• WSCC operates a public art gallery, the Manierre Dawson Gallery, which hosts a number of shows and exhibits annually, including 2-4 professional shows, a high school student show organized in collaboration with local school districts, and a college student show.
(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.	• WSCC operates both a public recreation center and a public ice arena and has hiking trails, cross-country trails, a sports field, and a disc golf course open to the public. • WSCC holds an annual 5K run for the community called the Muddy Fox Trot.
(v) The community college promotes, sponsors, or hosts community service activities for students, staff, or community members.	• WSCC hosts an annual College and Career Fair with numerous colleges, universities, and employers represented serving local high school students. • WSCC has a Recreation Center open to the public with 'health and wellness' opportunities and programs. • WSCC facilitates competitive hockey programs, from pee-wee through adults, on campus at the West Shore Ice Arena.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the West Shore Community College Board of Trustees certifies that the College does meet the best practice standards required for state appropriations under Michigan Public Act 25 of 2026, Section 230 and approves the Best Practices Resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Best Practices Resolution be presented to the State Budget Office on or before October 15, 2026, on behalf of the trustees, administration, faculty, staff, and students of West Shore Community College on this 21st day of September 2026, and that a copy be permanently inserted into the meeting minutes.

Attested to by:

Sherry Wyman, Chair
WSCC Board of Trustees

Drew Dostal, Secretary
WSCC Board of Trustees