



September 8, 2023

Dear Friends, Colleagues, and Community Members:

Montcalm Community College has been at the forefront of higher education and job training in our region since 1965, positively impacting the lives of more than 125,000 learners since its inception. MCC is a small college with big reach, delivering tremendous value to more than 1,600 students enrolled each semester.

We've worked hard to keep college affordable. In fact, high schoolers coming directly to MCC through the *Michigan Achievement Scholarship* program now pay less than \$1,000 per year for tuition. This is dramatically lower than the \$13,000 to \$36,000 annual tuition charged by private and public colleges and universities in our state.

MCC drives job creation and economic development in our region. We're training the next generation of nurses, business leaders, entrepreneurs, computer technicians, skilled trades professionals, agricultural workers, and more. The area's largest employers and small businesses rely on MCC when it comes to job training.

Your unwavering support is at the center of MCC's continued success. In 1996, voters agreed to establish a mill levy to protect and improve the College's programming and facilities, and to keep tuition affordable. Voters renewed this modest millage, which sunsets every 10 years, in both 2005 and 2014.

Early next year, MCC is likely returning to the ballot to seek renewal of the mill levy. Proceeds from the millage, which is just under 1.15 mills, would be used to:

- Keep tuition and fees affordable
- Recruit and retain quality faculty and staff
- Provide workforce training and apprenticeship programs
- Maintain 50+ associate, certificate, and job-training programs
- Replace outdated instructional tools and technology
- Support day-to-day operations and maintenance
- Introduce new programs in high-demand, high-wage career fields

Nothing is set in stone until we hear from you, our taxpayers. The MCC Board of Trustees would greatly appreciate your input on the proposed mill levy renewal. A final decision to pursue this measure will not be made until November 2023, providing time for additional public input.

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www.montcalm.edu

Your participation in one of the upcoming community outreach meetings is greatly appreciated:

- Saturday, Sept. 23, 9:00-10:00 a.m., Room G129, Stanley and Blanche Ash Technology and Learning Center on MCC's Greenville Campus at 1325 Yellow Jacket Drive.
- Monday, Oct. 2, 5:00-6:00 p.m., Room D305, Beatrice E. Doser Building on MCC's Sidney Campus at 2800 College Drive.
- Thursday, Oct. 5, 6:00-7:00 p.m., Room G129, Stanley and Blanche Ash Technology and Learning Center on MCC's Greenville Campus at 1325 Yellow Jacket Drive.

We also would appreciate your participation in our community opinion survey being mailed to District residents next month.

We remain committed to transforming lives through quality education, and we are grateful for your continued support.

Respectfully,

**MONTCALM COMMUNITY COLLEGE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**



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P.S. Additional information about the proposed mill levy renewal is available on MCC's website at www.montcalm.edu/renewal. Please contact Shelly Springborn, Director of Communications, at (989) 560-0833 or shellys@montcalm.edu, if you have questions about the renewal proposal or would like an MCC representative to present to a civic club, business organization, or other community group with which you may be involved.