

**GROWING
MICHIGAN
TOGETHER**



Higher Education Subcommittee Recommendations

Presented June 5, 2024

Timeline

- Governor announces Council formation on Mackinac Island in May 2023
- Subcommittees appointed and met from August to October 2023
- Several public field hearings held across the state
- Final recommendations sent to the full Growing Michigan Together Council for consideration in October 2023
- Full Growing Michigan Together Council reviewed recommendations and issued its final report on Dec. 14, 2023



Higher Education Subcommittee Membership

Dr. Bill Pink (Chair)

President, Ferris State University

Russ Kavalhuna (Chair)

President, Henry Ford College

Bryan Barnhill II

Board of Governors, Wayne State University

Kirsten Herold

President, U of M Lecturers Employee Organization and
Secretary-Treasurer, American Federation of Teachers

Khary Turner

Executive Director, The Coleman A. Young Foundation

Doug Ross

Partner, Diploma Equity Project

Dr. Edward Montgomery

President, Western Michigan University

Carla Bailo

President & CEO, ECOS Consulting, LLC and Vice Chairman,
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David Nyberg

Executive Director of Business Engagement and Economic
Development, Northern Michigan University

Dr. Jim Sawyer

President, Macomb Community College

Dr. Richard Koubek

President, Michigan Technological University

David Egner

President & CEO, Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation

John Walsh

President & CEO, Michigan Manufacturers Association

Ryan Fewins-Bliss

Executive Director, Michigan College Access Network

Kevin Stotts

President, TalentFirst

Fatima Salman

President, National Association of Social Workers

Emily Hoyumpa

President, Associated Students of Michigan State University

Alex Zhang

Partner, Zhang Financial

Dr. Curtis Ivery

Chancellor, Wayne County Community College District

Form Michigan's 21st century talent pathway from high school to a family-sustaining career

Transfer/complete: With higher education systems that enable students to be successful

3 Reform two-year to four-year transfer process to support any two-year student who wishes to transfer to a four-year program (e.g., guaranteed admission to university with at least 60 transfer credits and junior standing)

4 Form advisory group to reimagine higher education funding process, led by proper higher education stakeholders, to ensure competitive, sufficient, sustainable funding that enables increased student success and graduate retention

Enroll: Increase enrollment through wrap-around support, including affordable college access

2 Increase preK-12 to higher education pathways by supporting early college credit uptake (e.g., incentivizing high schools that require six college credits for graduation) and universal FAFSA (or opt-out) as a high school requirement

1 Publicly fund K-14 so every Michigander has tuition-free access to their first two years of college or university



Along the journey, students are supported by collaboration among preK-12 districts, higher ed institutions, employers, government, and community/philanthropic organizations

Job placement and retention: Meaningful, in-demand work in the Michigan labor market while living here postgraduation

5 Expand work-based learning employer partnerships to support students through career exposure in high school, work-based learning in college, and job guarantees postgraduation

6 Offer postgraduation retention incentives to encourage recent graduates to work and live in Michigan (e.g., loan forgiveness, reverse scholarship, income-tax forbearance, housing stipend, child tax credit)

Recommendation 1: Publicly Fund K-14

Create a K-14 public education system by providing graduating high school students with two years (60 credits) of tuition at a community college or public university.



Recommendation 2: Increase PK-12 Higher Education Pathways

Support early college credit uptake (e.g. incentivizing high schools that require six college credits for graduation) and universal Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or opt-out as a high school requirement.



Recommendation 3: Reform Two-year to Four-year Transfer Process

Make the transition from community college graduate to university junior status seamless (e.g. guaranteed admission to university with at least 60 transfer credits and junior standing).



Recommendation 4: Form Advisory Group to Reimagine Michigan's Higher Education Funding Process

Form advisory group, led by proper higher education stakeholders, to ensure competitive, sufficient, sustainable funding that enables increased student success and graduate retention.



Recommendation 5: Expand Employer Partnerships via Work-based Learning and Full-time Offers

Support, formalize, and grow employer partnerships to enable greater student exposure to real-world, on-the-job experiences for credit and/or payment (e.g. career exposure in high school, work-based learning in college, and job guarantees postgraduation).



Recommendation 6: Offer Postgraduation Incentives to Retain and Attract Talent

Directly influence reversal of “brain drain” by incentivizing recent graduates (including students from out-of-state, international and Michigan higher education) to seek employment and live in Michigan.



Thank You



Bill Pink



Ryan Fewins-Bliss



Jim Sawyer



Kevin Stotts



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