



Southwestern Michigan College Board of Trustees Working Session Minutes

Wednesday, October 8, 2026
Community Room, Room #134, Niles Campus, Niles MI
8:30am to 3:00pm Working Session Minutes

Working Session

All trustees in attendance by 9 am.

Session with BOT and Dr. Klint Pleasant.

- Overview of working session components.
- Overview of enrollment growth vs. strategic growth.
- Overview of Higher Education industry, opportunities and leading in uncertain times.
- Review of Michigan demographics data.
- Review of SMC Mission, Vision, Core Values, College Goals, and SWOT.

Professional Development

- Attorney Mr. Rich Cherry presentation on the Michigan Open Meetings Act.

Senior Leadership Team and Departmental Updates

- Report on the Strategic Plan- History/Timeline; Mr. Brent Brewer.
- Report on Enrollment Growth/ Student Success ; Dr. Katie Hannah.
- Report on Technology Excellence; Mr. Mick Valeris.
- Report on Community Engagement; Mr. Mike O'Brien.
- Report on Financial Stability/Value Human Capital / Financial Aid; Ms. Michelle Kite.
- Report on Academic Programs; Dr. Jeff Freels.
- Report on Operations; Mr. Brent Brewer.

Working Session ended 3:20pm

Thomas F. Jerdon,
Chair and Acting Secretary