

Special Edition: Coronavirus Communication 42

May 6, 2020

Good Wednesday Evening:

The MCC CARES Act Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund for Students Application went live this afternoon and in 15 minutes, 63 had completed applications. Please share the below link with your students.

<https://forms.gle/241RN36mZ4XW4T8d8>

They are in desperate need of the funds. This morning, members of the CARES Act Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund Plan Development Team and I attended the Michigan Community College Association CARES Act Town Hall. Experts were brought in to lead discussions with community college personnel about implementation methods across the state.

This afternoon I had another discussion about Mott Community College serving as a COVID-19 test site with the MDHHS Deputy Director and a Genesee County Health Department representative. Representatives from McLaren and the City of Flint participated in the discussion as well. A decision for hosting the site at MCC may come as quickly as this Friday.

Following that meeting, I joined representatives from the MSU College of Human Medicine to discuss a potential collaboration that could support our students from MCC to a MSU medical degree. The discussions were preliminary as they talked about similar programs at Grand Rapids Community College and Bay College. We hope to see this type of program at MCC beginning fall 2021.

I was asked to serve on Mayor Neeley's 28-member Blue Ribbon Task Force that is charged with assisting in re-engaging the city of Flint responsibly. Today the Mayor discussed with members from every sector in the city his vision for restarting the economy while continuing to keep residents safe. We heard from representatives of the business, health, and faith-based sectors about reopening measures.

The Michigan Community College Association weekly Presidents' meeting featured an update from Governor Whitmer. She expressed gratitude to the community colleges for being a big part of Michigan's story. She spoke about the issues that have confronted her while leading the state through the pandemic. She has a focus on rewarding the frontline responders of the pandemic with free tuition like the GI Bill. She hopes to have Futures for Frontline Workers stood up quickly for students to attend winter semester free. Governor Whitmer asked the presidents to advocate with our legislators for the fourth stimulus package to have enough funding for states to fill in the gaps for the severe budget shortfalls. This would mean that the State could stay focused on having community colleges help to eliminate the state skills gap.

I am pleased to announce the members of the MCC Reopening Task Group who have accepted my invitation to participate. The group is charged with creating an institutional plan to reopen the College responsibly. This important group will begin meeting Friday, May 8.

Janet Anthony	Kenyada Dent	Helen Grim	Joshua Sauvie
Kevin Asman	Connie DeSimplaire	Kathryn Gurin	Dinah Schaller
Michael Becker	Ali Dowdall	Tamara Hunt	James Shurter
Kathleen Belson	Joshua Dugas	Clarence Jennings	Jill Sodt
Kevin Black	Michele Dunnum	Kelly Johnson	Ron Stamper
ElNita Blount	Diane Eddy	Katie Kiacz	Chad Stirrett
Ronda Brinch	Daphne Epps	Sue Lechota	Doris Stromer
Harley Brown	Brian Feige	Brian Littleton	Amy Sweeney
Malinda Burnash	Jennifer Fillion	Marcus Matthews	Denica Townsel
Russell Bush	Keith Frye	Townes Miller	Lisa Turner
Jon Calderwood	Ken Gatenby	Cheryl Nienaber	Amanda Wares
Heidi Clippard	Debra Gibes	Mike Odette	Bill Withem
Tomika Cooper	Kim Gregus	Andrew Paul	
Renee Davis	Sheila Grennay	David Rembiesa	

I came in fifth last week in the NSLS Tiger King Trivia and they invited me back tonight for a Friends Trivia game. I am a Friends fan so maybe I will place fourth this week. Friends was on a long time ago...

Looking Forward,

Dr. Beverly

Beverly Walker-Griffiea, Ph.D.
President
Mott Community College