

## Special Edition: Coronavirus Communication 59

June 10, 2020

Good Rainy Wednesday Afternoon:

This morning I had the opportunity to participate in my last AACC Commission meeting. As you know, I have served on an AACC Commission since the beginning of my tenure at MCC. The positions are term-limited and I will miss being exposed to upcoming innovations, receiving up-to-the-minute community college news and information, and learning from a strong network of colleagues. I have chaired several of the Commissions and concluded my time as a member of the Commission on College Readiness. The topics discussed today were strengthening college in high school programs amid COVID-19, moving courses online and meeting the needs of students with disabilities, challenges and opportunities centered around equity, and college readiness recommendations. David Baime, Senior Vice President for Government Relations gave a legislative update that shared where we are with the Heroes Act and CARES Act funding.

This afternoon I participated with the Michigan Community College Association Presidents' meeting. We reviewed Executive Orders 2020-110, 2020-114, and 2020-115. The discussion point for the group was understanding the Governor's stay at home order that expands business functions and social gatherings. The orders state that if the work function can be performed remotely, then it must be performed remotely. The only face-to-face work allowed are those instances when the work is not capable of being performed remotely. Higher education will be allowed to move to reopening status in the State's Phase 5, but the institutions will not be allowed to fully open. The Executive Orders still call for remote work as much as possible.

We discussed the dual enrollment amendments that were passed last week and championed by MCCA personnel. Michigan students with a GPA of 2.5 or higher can use their GPA as an alternative to a qualifying score on an exam to establish dual enrollment eligibility for next year.

Attorney General Dana Nessel joined 17 other states to challenge the Department of Education's final rule change on Title IX. The lawsuit cites that the change will weaken protections for sexual assault and harassment victims.

We listened to reopening plans from some of the Michigan community colleges that did not have the opportunity to report out during the last MCCA Presidents' meeting.

Tomorrow I hope to see you at *Bear Pause*, 2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. We will review the draft reopening plan developed by the MCC Reopening Task Group. Members of the Task Group will be present to share their thoughts and answer questions. If you cannot attend that meeting, then please join me Friday, 9 a.m. – 11 a.m. for another *Bear Pause* to review the draft of the

MCC Reopening Task Group. The session will be recorded and captioned. Sign language interpreters will be present. Participation information was sent out in an email this morning.

If you did not get to view in real-time “Real Talk: A Faculty Panel Discussion On The Murder of George Floyd,” then please use this link to watch your colleagues speak from the heart.

<https://youtu.be/oFlmrd28hXs>

Have a leisurely evening!

Looking Forward!

Dr. Beverly

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