MINUTES

FOR MEETING

OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

OF GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY

The first meeting in 2026 of the Board of Trustees of Grand Valley State University was held on the 1st Floor, Daniel and Pamella DeVos Center for Interprofessional Health, on the Health Campus of Grand Valley State University on Friday, February 6, 2026, and also livestreamed via Zoom Webinar.

The following members of the Board were present:

Mikyia S. Aaron, Vice Chair
Elizabeth C. Emmitt, Chair
Ronald E. Hall
Brandon J. Hofmeister
Susan M. Jandernoa
Noreen K. Myers
Shelley E. Padnos
Jason R. Trice
Philomena V. Mantella, President, Ex Officio

The following Board officers and Executive officers were present:

Laura Aikens, Vice President for Institutional Advancement
Stacie R. Behler, Vice President and Chief Public Affairs and Communications Officer and Secretary, Board of Trustees
Jennifer A. Drake, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs
Jenny Hall-Jones, Vice President for Student Affairs
Gregory J. Sanial, Vice President for Finance and Administration and Treasurer, Board of Trustees
Robert Shorty, Vice President for People, Equity, and Culture
Miloš Topić, Vice President for Information Technology and Chief Digital Officer
B. Donta Truss, Vice President for Enrollment Development and College Futures
Kara Van Dam, Vice President, Chief Executive of GVSU Omni
Jessica Karbowski Weare, Vice President and General Counsel
Cori M. Kahler, Assistant Secretary, Board of Trustees
Craig J. Wieschhorster, Assistant Treasurer, Board of Trustees

The meeting was called to order at 11:02 a.m.

I. SECRETARY'S REPORT

26-1-1 (1) Approval of Minutes of Prior Meeting

On motion by Trustee Hall and second by Trustee Aaron, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the meeting, held October 24, 2025, are approved as distributed.

26-1-2 (2) Motion to Adopt Agenda

On motion by Trustee Myers and second by Trustee Aaron, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees agenda for the February 6, 2026, meeting is approved as distributed.

26-1-3 (3) Personnel Actions

On motion by Trustee Jandernoa and second by Trustee Hall, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees approves the personnel actions as reported at this meeting.

II. PRESIDENTIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Mantella opened by thanking facilities, grounds, and IT staff for maintaining safe operations and supporting remote work during severe winter weather. She announced a more than $17 million, two-year extension of the Thompson Scholars program from Bob and Ellen Thompson, as well as $1.53 million in Congressional Directed Funding for GVSU Omni and the College of Computing to expand online offerings and launch a West Michigan Trustworthy AI Consortium, noting that these investments reflect strong strategic momentum at Grand Valley.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

IV. GENERAL REPORTS

A) Academic and Student Affairs Committee Reports

B) Finance and Audit Committee Reports

IV. GENERAL REPORTS cont'd.

26-1-4 (4) Blue Dot Lab

On motion by Trustee Hall and second by Trustee Aaron, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees:

1. approves the selection of Fishbeck as the Architect and Engineer of record for the project,

2. approves the selection of Pioneer Construction as the Construction Manager

3. approves the budget of $64,600,000 established for this project; the source of funds to be University issued bonds, University donor funds, and CONTINGENT upon receipt of a construction authorization and $30,000,000 in state capital outlay funding,

4. approves the schedule established for the project,

5. approves the site plan as presented,

6. approves the floor plans as presented,

7. authorizes the University administration to submit required documents to the State of Michigan, and

8. authorizes the University administration to award additional contracts, as necessary, to complete the project.

26-1-5 (5) L.V. Eberhard Center Renovation

On motion by Trustee Hall and second by Trustee Hofmeister, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees:

1. approves the selection of Fishbeck as the Architect and Engineer of Record for the project,

2. approves the selection of Pioneer Construction as the Construction Manager,

3. approves the budget of $101,400,000 established for this project; the source of funds to be University issued bonds and University donor funds,

4. approves the schedule established for the project,

IV. GENERAL REPORTS cont'd.

5. approves the site plan as presented,

6. approves the floor plans as presented,

7. and authorizes the University administration to award additional contracts, as necessary, to complete the project.

26-1-6 (6) Debt Financing for Blue Dot Lab Building Addition and Renovation of L.V. Eberhard Center, 301 Fulton Street, Grand Rapids

On motion by Trustee Hall and second by Trustee Aaron, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees approves the Debt Financing for Blue Dot Lab Building Addition and Renovation of L.V. Eberhard Center, 301 Fulton Street, Grand Rapids as presented at this meeting.

26-1-7 (7) Audit Firm for Fiscal Year 2026: Annual Financial Statement

On motion by Trustee Hall and second by Trustee Aaron, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees approves the selection of Plante & Moran, PLLC as the audit firm for fiscal year 2026 as presented at this meeting.

C) Other Reports

26-1-8 (8) Charter Schools Report

Authorization of Grand Rapids Child Discovery Center, Grand Rapids (6a Contract - 7 years)

On motion by Trustee Jandernoa and second by Trustee Padnos, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, the Michigan Legislature has provided for the establishment of public school academies as part of the Michigan public school system by enacting Act No. 362 of the Public Acts of 1993; and

WHEREAS, according to this legislation, the Grand Valley State University Board of Trustees (the "Board of Trustees"), as the governing body of a state public university, is an authorizing body empowered to issue contracts to organize and operate public school academies; and

IV. GENERAL REPORTS cont'd.

WHEREAS, the Michigan Legislature has mandated that public school academy contracts be issued on a competitive basis taking into consideration the resources available for the proposed public school academy, the population to be served by the proposed public school academy, and the educational goals to be achieved by the proposed public school academy; and

WHEREAS, the Grand Valley State University Board of Trustees, having requested applications for organizing public school academies and having reviewed the applications according to the provisions set forth by the Michigan Legislature;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the application for Grand Rapids Child Discovery Center ("Academy"), located at 409 Lafayette Ave. SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49504, submitted under Section 502 of the Revised School Code, meets the Board of Trustees' requirements and the requirements of applicable law, is therefore approved;

2. That the Board of Trustees establishes the method of selection, length of term and number of members of the Academy's Board of Directors as follows:

   Method of Selection and Appointment of Academy Board Members:

   a. Initial Academy Board Member Nominations and Appointments: As part of the public school academy application, the public school academy applicant shall propose to the Division of K-12 Education Innovation and Scholar Success (DEISS) Director ("Director"), the names of proposed individuals to serve on the initial board of directors of the proposed public school academy. When the Director recommends an initial contract for approval to the Board of Trustees, he/she shall include recommendations for initial Academy Board members. These recommendations may, but are not required to, include individuals proposed by the public school academy applicant. To be considered for appointment, the nominees must have completed the required board member candidate application materials, including at least (i) the Academy Board Member Questionnaire prescribed by the University DEISS; and (ii) the Criminal Background Check Report prescribed by the University DEISS.

   b. Subsequent Academy Board Member Nominations and Appointments: Except as provided in paragraph (2) below, the Academy Board may nominate individuals for subsequent Academy Board of Director positions. As part of the

IV. GENERAL REPORTS cont'd.

appointment process, the Academy Board may submit to the Director: (i) the name of the nominee; (ii) the board member candidate application materials identified in paragraph (a) above; and (iii) a copy of the Academy Board nominating resolution. The Director may or may not recommend the proposed nominee submitted by the Academy Board. If the Director does not recommend a nominee submitted by the Academy Board, the Director shall select a nominee and forward that recommendation to the Board of Trustees for appointment. The Board of Trustees shall have the sole and exclusive right to appoint members to the Academy Board.

c. Exigent Appointments: When the Director determines an "exigent condition" exists which requires him/her to make an appointment to a public school academy's board of directors, the Director, with University President approval, may immediately appoint a person to serve as a public school academy board member for the time specified, but not longer than the next meeting held by the Board of Trustees when a regular appointment may be made by the Board of Trustees. The Director shall make the appointment in writing and notify the public school academy's board of directors of the appointment. Exigent conditions include, but are not limited to when an Academy Board seat is vacant, when a Academy Board cannot reach a quorum, when the Board of Trustees determines that an Academy Board member's service is no longer required, when an Academy Board member is removed, when an Academy Board fails to fill a vacancy, or other reasons which would prohibit the Academy Board from taking action without such an appointment.

3. Qualifications of Academy Board Members: To be qualified to serve on the Academy Board, a person shall: (a) be a citizen of the United States; (b) reside in the State of Michigan; (c) submit all materials requested by the DEISS including, but not limited to, a GVSU Academy Board Member Questionnaire and a release for criminal history background check; (d) not be an employee of the Academy; (e) not be a director, officer, or employee of a company or other entity that contracts with the Academy; and (f) not be an employee or representative of GVSU or be a member of the Board of Trustees.

4. Oath /Acceptance of Office / Voting Rights: Following appointment by the Board of Trustees, Academy Board Appointees may begin their legal duties, including the right to vote, after they have signed an Acceptance of Public Office form and taken the Oath or Affirmation of Public Office administered by a member of the Academy Board, other public official or notary public.

IV. GENERAL REPORTS cont'd.

5. Length of Term; Removal: An appointed Academy Board member is an "at will" board member who shall serve at the pleasure of the Board of Trustees for a term of office not to exceed three (3) years. Regardless of the length of term, terms shall end on June 30 of the final year of service, unless shorter due to other provisions of this resolution. A person appointed to serve as an Academy Board member may be reappointed to serve additional terms. When an Academy Board member is appointed to complete the term of service of another Academy Board member, their service ends at the end of the previous Academy Board member's term.

   If the Board of Trustees determines that an Academy Board member's service in office is no longer required, then the Board of Trustees may remove an Academy board member with or without cause and shall specify the date when the Academy Board member's service ends. An Academy Board member may be removed from office by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Academy's Board for cause.

6. Resignations: A member of the Academy Board may resign from office by submitting a written resignation or by notifying the Director. The resignation is effective upon receipt by the Director, unless a later date is specified in the resignation. A written notice of resignation is not required. If no such written notification is provided, then the Director shall confirm a resignation in writing. The resignation shall be effective upon the date the Director sends confirmation to the resigning Academy Board member.

7. Vacancy: An Academy Board position shall be considered vacant when an Academy Board member:

   a. Resigns
   b. Dies
   c. Is removed from Office
   d. Is convicted of a felony
   e. Ceases to be qualified
   f. Is incapacitated

8. Filling a Vacancy: The Academy Board may nominate and the Director shall recommend or temporarily appoint persons to fill a vacancy as outlined in the "Subsequent Appointments" and "Exigent Appointments" procedures in this resolution.

9. Number of Academy Board Member Positions: The number of member positions of the Academy Board of Directors shall be five (5), seven (7) or nine (9), as determined from time to time by the Academy Board, but shall not exceed eleven (11).

IV. GENERAL REPORTS cont'd.

10. Quorum: In order to legally transact business, the Academy Board shall have a quorum physically present at a duly called meeting of the Academy Board. A "quorum" shall be defined as follows:

# of Academy Board positions	# required for Quorum
Five (5)	Three (3)
Seven (7)	Four (4)
Nine (9)	Five (5)
Eleven (11)	Six (6)

A board member who is absent from a meeting of the board due to military duty may participate in the meeting virtually, and that member's virtual presence will count towards quorum and allow the absent member to participate in and vote on business before the board.

11. Manner of Acting: The Academy Board shall be considered to have "acted," when a duly called meeting of the Academy Board has a quorum present and the number of board members voting in favor of an action is as follows:

# of Academy Board positions	# for Quorum	# required to act
Five (5)	Three (3)	Three (3)
Seven (7)	Four (4)	Four (4)
Nine (9)	Five (5)	Five (5)
Eleven (11)	Six (6)	Six (6)

12. Initial Members of the Board of Directors: The Grand Valley State University Board of Trustees appoints the following persons to serve as the initial members of the Academy's Board of Directors for the designated term of office set forth below:

Justine Burdette	1 year term expiring June 30, 2027
TBD	1 year term expiring June 30, 2027
TBD	1 year term expiring June 30, 2027
Tiffany Falcon-Ewigleben	2 year term expiring June 30, 2028
Travis LaFleur	2 year term expiring June 30, 2028
TBD	2 year term expiring June 30, 2028
TBD	2 year term expiring June 30, 2028
Jennifer McGraw	3 year term expiring June 30, 2029
Samantha Taylor	3 year term expiring June 30, 2029
TBD	3 year term expiring June 30, 2029
TBD	3 year term expiring June 30, 2029

IV. GENERAL REPORTS cont'd.

13. Conservator; Appointment by University President: Notwithstanding any other provision of the Contract, in the event that the health, safety, and welfare of the Academy students, property, or funds are at risk, the University President, after consulting with the University Board Chairperson, may appoint a person to serve as the Conservator of the Academy. Upon appointment, the Conservator shall have all powers of a Board of Directors of a Public School Academy and act in the place and stead of the Academy Board. The University President shall appoint the conservator for a definite term, which may be extended in writing. During the appointment, the Academy Board members are suspended and all powers of the Academy Board are suspended. All appointments made under this provision must be presented to the University Board for final determination at its next regularly scheduled meeting. During their appointment, the Conservator shall have the following powers: a) take into his or her possession all Academy property and records, including financial, board, employment, and student records; b) institute and defend board actions by or on behalf of the Academy; c) continue the business of the Academy including entering into contracts, borrowing money, and pledging, mortgaging, or otherwise encumbering the property of the Academy as security for the repayment of the loans, however, the power shall be subject to any provisions and restrictions in any existing credit documents; d) hire, fire, and discipline employees of the Academy; e) settle or compromise with any debtor or creditor of the Academy, including any taxing authority; f) review all outstanding agreements to which the Academy is a party and to take those actions which the Academy Board may have exercised to pay, extend, rescind, renegotiate, or settle such agreements as needed; and g) perform all acts necessary and appropriate to fulfill the Academy's purposes as set forth under the Code or this Contract.

Reauthorization of 6a Charter Contract – Lincoln-King Adams-Young Academy, Detroit (3 years)

On motion by Trustee Jandernoa and second by Trustee Padnos, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of Grand Valley State University, at its meeting on June 25, 2021, authorized the issuance of a charter contract to Lincoln-King Adams-Young Academy; and

WHEREAS, the University's Division of K-12 Education Innovation and Scholar Success (DEISS) has completed its evaluation and assessment of the operation and performance of the Academy; and

WHEREAS, the University President's designee has recommended the reissuance of a contract to charter as a public school academy to the Academy for a three (3) year term beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2029; and

IV. GENERAL REPORTS cont'd.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the University Board of Trustees approves and reauthorizes the execution of a contract to charter a public school academy to the Academy and authorizes the University President or designee to execute the contract to a public school academy and related documents to the Academy for a three (3) year term, provided that, before the execution of the contract, the University President or designee affirms that all terms of the contract have been agreed upon and the Academy is able to comply with all terms and conditions of the contract and applicable law. This resolution shall be incorporated in and made part of the contract as Schedule 1.

Reauthorization of 6a Charter Contract – Detroit Enterprise Academy, Detroit (5 years)

On motion by Trustee Jandernoa and second by Trustee Padnos, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of Grand Valley State University, at its meeting on June 25, 2004, authorized the issuance of a charter contract to Detroit Enterprise Academy and most recently authorized the reissuance of a contract to charter the Academy at its meeting on April 26, 2019; and

WHEREAS, the University's Division of K-12 Education Innovation and Scholar Success (DEISS) has completed its evaluation and assessment of the operation and performance of the Academy; and

WHEREAS, the University President's designee has recommended the reissuance of a contract to charter as a public school academy to the Academy for a five (5) year term beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2031; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the University Board of Trustees approves and reauthorizes the execution of a contract to charter a public school academy to the Academy and authorizes the University President or designee to execute the contract to a public school academy and related documents to the Academy for a five (5) year term, provided that, before the execution of the contract, the University President or designee affirms that all terms of the contract have been agreed upon and the Academy is able to comply with all terms and conditions of the contract and applicable law. This resolution shall be incorporated in and made part of the contract as Schedule 1.

Reauthorization of 6a Charter Contract – Grand River Academy, Livonia (5 years)

On motion by Trustee Jandernoa and second by Trustee Padnos, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

IV. GENERAL REPORTS cont'd.

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of Grand Valley State University, at its meeting on November 1, 2013, authorized the issuance of a charter contract to Grand River Academy and most recently authorized the reissuance of a contract to charter the Academy at its meeting on April 30, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the University's Division of K-12 Education Innovation and Scholar Success (DEISS) has completed its evaluation and assessment of the operation and performance of the Academy; and

WHEREAS, the University President's designee has recommended the reissuance of a contract to charter as a public school academy to the Academy for a five (5) year term beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2031; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the University Board of Trustees approves and reauthorizes the execution of a contract to charter a public school academy to the Academy and authorizes the University President or designee to execute the contract to a public school academy and related documents to the Academy for a five (5) year term, provided that, before the execution of the contract, the University President or designee affirms that all terms of the contract have been agreed upon and the Academy is able to comply with all terms and conditions of the contract and applicable law. This resolution shall be incorporated in and made part of the contract as Schedule 1.

Reauthorization of 6a Charter Contract – Michigan Mathematics and Science Academy, Warren (5 years)

On motion by Trustee Jandernoa and second by Trustee Padnos, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of Grand Valley State University, at its meeting on October 27, 2008, authorized the issuance of a charter contract to Michigan Mathematics and Science Academy and most recently authorized the reissuance of a contract to charter the Academy at its meeting on February 24, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the University's Division of K-12 Education Innovation and Scholar Success (DEISS) has completed its evaluation and assessment of the operation and performance of the Academy; and

WHEREAS, the University President's designee has recommended the reissuance of a contract to charter as a public school academy to the Academy for a five (5) year term beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2031; and

IV. GENERAL REPORTS cont'd.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the University Board of Trustees approves and reauthorizes the execution of a contract to charter a public school academy to the Academy and authorizes the University President or designee to execute the contract to a public school academy and related documents to the Academy for a five (5) year term, provided that, before the execution of the contract, the University President or designee affirms that all terms of the contract have been agreed upon and the Academy is able to comply with all terms and conditions of the contract and applicable law. This resolution shall be incorporated in and made part of the contract as Schedule 1.

Reauthorization of 6a Charter Contract – Westfield Charter Academy, Redford Charter Township (5 years)

On motion by Trustee Jandernoa and second by Trustee Padnos, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of Grand Valley State University, at its meeting on November 2, 2018, authorized the issuance of a charter contract to Westfield Charter Academy; and

WHEREAS, the University's Division of K-12 Education Innovation and Scholar Success (DEISS) has completed its evaluation and assessment of the operation and performance of the Academy; and

WHEREAS, the University President's designee has recommended the reissuance of a contract to charter as a public school academy to the Academy for a five (5) year term beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2031; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the University Board of Trustees approves and reauthorizes the execution of a contract to charter a public school academy to the Academy and authorizes the University President or designee to execute the contract to a public school academy and related documents to the Academy for a five (5) year term, provided that, before the execution of the contract, the University President or designee affirms that all terms of the contract have been agreed upon and the Academy is able to comply with all terms and conditions of the contract and applicable law. This resolution shall be incorporated in and made part of the contract as Schedule 1.

Reauthorization of 6a Charter Contract – Flint Cultural Center Academy, Flint (7 years)

On motion by Trustee Jandernoa and second by Trustee Padnos, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of Grand Valley State University, at its meeting on April 28, 2017, authorized the issuance of a charter contract to Flint Cultural Center Academy; and

IV. GENERAL REPORTS cont'd.

WHEREAS, the University's Division of K-12 Education Innovation and Scholar Success (DEISS) has completed its evaluation and assessment of the operation and performance of the Academy; and

WHEREAS, the University President's designee has recommended the reissuance of a contract to charter as a public school academy to the Academy for a seven (7) year term beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2033; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the University Board of Trustees approves and reauthorizes the execution of a contract to charter a public school academy to the Academy and authorizes the University President or designee to execute the contract to a public school academy and related documents to the Academy for a seven (7) year term, provided that, before the execution of the contract, the University President or designee affirms that all terms of the contract have been agreed upon and the Academy is able to comply with all terms and conditions of the contract and applicable law. This resolution shall be incorporated in and made part of the contract as Schedule 1.

Reauthorization of 6a Charter Contract – New Paradigm College Prep, Detroit (7 years)

On motion by Trustee Jandernoa and second by Trustee Padnos, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of Grand Valley State University, at its meeting on April 27, 2012, authorized the issuance of a charter contract to New Paradigm College Prep and most recently authorized the reissuance of a contract to charter the Academy at its meeting on April 30, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the University's Division of K-12 Education Innovation and Scholar Success (DEISS) has completed its evaluation and assessment of the operation and performance of the Academy; and

WHEREAS, the University President's designee has recommended the reissuance of a contract to charter as a public school academy to the Academy for a seven (7) year term beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2033; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the University Board of Trustees approves and reauthorizes the execution of a contract to charter a public school academy to the Academy and authorizes the University President or designee to execute the contract to a public school academy and related documents to the Academy for a seven (7) year term, provided that, before the execution of the contract, the University President or designee affirms that all terms of the contract have been agreed upon and the Academy is able to comply with all terms and conditions of the contract and applicable law. This resolution shall be incorporated in and made part of the contract as Schedule 1.

IV. GENERAL REPORTS cont'd.

Appointment of Charter School Board of Directors

On motion by Trustee Jandernoa and second by Trustee Padnos, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees appoints the Charter School Board of Directors as presented at this meeting.

26-1-9 (9) Institutional Advancement Division Report

On motion by Trustee Aaron and second by Trustee Trice, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees gratefully accepts cash gifts of $10,232,700.12 to the University and WGVU presented at this meeting for October 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025.

V. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

26-1-10 (10) President's Report

President Mantella thanked Chair Emmitt and the Trustees for their leadership and emphasized that as Grand Valley enters 2026, the university is moving forward with urgency, care, and strategic alignment, grounded in mission and stewardship. She reflected on the progress made under Reach Higher 2025, highlighted continued campus investments, and introduced the next strategic phase, Reach Higher Together. Reach Higher Together goes through 2030 and was developed through broad campus collaboration and centered on the goal of human flourishing. She concluded by reaffirming Grand Valley's role as a "keystone university," positioned to drive impact, partnership, and mutual thriving in Michigan and beyond.

26-1-11 (11) Grand Valley State University
University Strategy *Reach Higher Together: 2026-2030*

On motion by Trustee Jandernoa and second by Trustee Hall, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of Grand Valley State University previously reviewed and approved Reach Higher 2025: University Strategy 2021–2025 to ensure the University operates in a manner consistent with its mission; and

WHEREAS, *Reach Higher Together* represents the next phase of Grand Valley State University's long-term strategic direction, informed by broad engagement and a shared institutional purpose; and

V. PRESIDENT'S REPORT, cont'd.

WHEREAS, a selected group of University representatives were convened as the *Reach Higher Collaborative Leadership Network* to lead the strategy development process for 2026-2030; and

WHEREAS, members of the University community and external partners were afforded opportunities to participate in and be heard throughout the strategy development process; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees has supported the strategy development process and engaged in its evolution; and

WHEREAS, the faculty and student governance bodies and the Administrative Professional Committee endorsed *Reach Higher Together*; and

WHEREAS, the Board has directed the administration to ensure that *Reach Higher Together* is approved, implemented, and that progress and accountability are assessed;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Grand Valley State University endorses the University strategy, *Reach Higher Together: 2026–2030*, as presented; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board reaffirms the Grand Valley State University shared values of inquiry, inclusive and equitable community, innovation, integrity, and international perspectives (unchanged from 2022); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board reaffirms the Grand Valley State University vision statement (unchanged from 2022): Grand Valley State University will prepare globally minded citizens for the future they face and the communities they shape. Our community of educators will create and employ innovative approaches to liberal education and professional programs that center on and prepare students for a lifetime of continual learning and growth.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board reaffirms the Grand Valley State University mission statement (unchanged from 2022): At Grand Valley State University, we empower learners in their pursuits, professions, and purpose. The University enriches society through excellent teaching, active scholarship, advancement of equity, and public service.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board affirms the University's strategic commitments for *Reach Higher Together 2026–2030* as follows:

Empowered Educational Experience: We will ensure every learner has the knowledge, experiences, and critical thinking skills to shape a meaningful and transformative educational journey.

V. PRESIDENT'S REPORT, cont'd.

Lifelong Learning: We will connect learners, communities, and employers to create impactful, real-world learning opportunities throughout adulthood and every phase of career.

Impact-Driven Discovery: We will cultivate research, scholarship, and creative activity to advance knowledge and innovation that promote sustainability, fuel economic vitality, and serve the public good.

Educational Equity & Well-Being: We will remove barriers, foster belonging, and provide support and resources that nurture the wellness of people, place, and planet.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

26-1-12 (12) Motion to Adjourn

RESOLVED, on motion by Trustee Padnos and second by Trustee Hofmeister, the meeting was adjourned at 12:29 p.m.

_____ _____

Elizabeth C. Emmitt, Chair
Board of Trustees

Stacie R. Behler, Secretary
Board of Trustees