



Resolution Number:	W-19-02	Sponsored By:	Darwin Dmonj Harris
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Result:	Passed		
Vote Count:	31-4-3		

A RESOLUTION TO: Call For GVSU’s Campus Dining To Initialize An Income-Based Meal Option That Will Reduce Hunger/Food Insecurity For Pell-Eligible Students Going Into Effect No Later Than Fall 2020.

Recognizing, that food insecurity/hunger are in opposition with one of GVSU’s core values--equity¹. Regarding food resources, all students are not given the resources to be successful academically at GVSU.

Recognizing, that food insecurity is the state of being without reliable access to a sufficient quantity of affordable, nutritious food.

Recognizing, that when students must worry about where their next meal is coming from, poor academic patterns tend to arise, and many leave the university, hindering retention rates.

Whereas, students that who have the privilege of not having to worry about food insecurity, perform better².

Recognizing, that one in three students experience hunger while in college³, and a large majority of those students identify as women⁴ and students of color⁵;

Recognizing, that students of color tend to have the lowest retention rate at GVSU⁶;

Recognizing, that GVSU’s Replenish has attempted to help students with food accommodations via food drives and donations.

Recognizing, that this could be a great initiative started by GVSU and other colleges/universities could see us as a model to follow, and Michigan public schools have income-based meal options (subsidized lunch programs), which may result in unpreparedness of paying for a full meal plan at GVSU’s rate.

Recognizing, approximately 50% of Michigan public school students are enrolled in the subsidized lunch program⁷.

¹ <https://www.gvsu.edu/inclusion/about-the-division-of-inclusion-and-equity-108.htm>

² DeBerard M.S., Spielmans G., Julka D. Predictors of academic achievement and retention among college freshmen: A longitudinal study. Coll. Stud. J. 2004; 38:66–80.

³ Goldrick-Rab, S., Richardson, J., Schneider, J., Hernandez, A., and Cady, C. “Still Hungry and Homeless in College2.” Wisconsin Hope Lab. (2018) 10.

⁴ [https://www.gvsu.edu/cms4/asset/EFA713E8-FD5E-939D-AC664138A1BC3D9F/gayle_r._davis_center_for_women_and_gender_equity_report_ay_2017-2018\(2\).pdf](https://www.gvsu.edu/cms4/asset/EFA713E8-FD5E-939D-AC664138A1BC3D9F/gayle_r._davis_center_for_women_and_gender_equity_report_ay_2017-2018(2).pdf)

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ https://reports.ia.gvsu.edu/retent/retent_2017FF_F.html

⁷ https://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2017/05/see_2016-17_subsidized_lunch_r.html

Whereas, this percent can't afford the jump in price coming from subsidized lunch programs to paying for a full meal plan, as they were dependent on the subsidized lunch program.

Recognizing, that an income-based meal option could spread our #LAKEREFFECT and make GVSU more appealing to first-generation college students, students of color, and even out-of-state students, who read carefully into the cost of attending universities, potentially leading to more diversity.

Recognizing, that Student Senate is willing to work with the Center for Women and Gender Equity and Campus Dining to implement this income-based policy.

Let It Be Resolved, that GVSU Campus Dining bring forth a plan to initialize an income-based meal option to reduce hunger/food insecurity on campus no later than Fall 2020.
