

**MINNESOTA STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Agenda Item Summary Sheet

Committee: Academic and Student Affairs

Date of Meeting: June 21, 2011

Agenda Item: Mission Approval: North Hennepin Community College

Proposed
Policy Change

Approvals
Required by
Policy

Other
Approvals

Monitoring

Information

Cite policy requirement, or explain why item is on the Board agenda:

Board Policy 3.24 System and College and University Missions, Part 4: Review and Approval of College and University Mission and Vision Statements requires institutions to have their missions approved by the Board at least once every five years.

Scheduled Presenter(s):

John O'Brien, President, North Hennepin Community College

Outline of Key Points/Policy Issues:

The proposed mission, vision, and purposes presented by North Hennepin Community College were revised during a recent strategic planning process. The statements meet the criteria identified in Board Policy 3.24 System and College and University Missions, Part 4: Review and Approval of College and University Mission and Vision Statements.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINNESOTA STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES
ACTION ITEM**

**MISSION APPROVAL:
NORTH HENNEPIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

1 **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**
2

3 The vision, mission and purposes of North Hennepin Community College meet the criteria
4 identified in Board Policy 3.24 System and College and University Missions, Part 4: Review and
5 Approval of College and University Mission and Vision Statements. The college is requesting
6 approval of its new mission under the new Board policy requirement that colleges and
7 universities seek Board approval at least once every five years.
8

9 **North Hennepin Community College’s proposed vision, mission, purposes, and awards are:**
10

11 **Vision** Opportunity without limits, learning without end, and achievement beyond
12 expectation.
13

14 **Mission** Engaging Students, Changing Lives
15 North Hennepin Community College creates opportunities for students to reach their
16 academic goals, succeed in their chosen professions, and make a difference in the
17 world.
18

19 **Purposes** Goal 1: Access, Opportunity, and Success
20 Maintain academic standards and stable enrollments while increasing retention and
21 completion.
22

23 *Goal 2: Innovation and Relevance*
24 Maintain curriculum that is relevant and effective while developing innovative new
25 courses and programs.
26

27 *Goal 3: Culture of Commitment*
28 Develop a more rewarding, engaged, and inclusive college environment.
29

30 *Goal 4: Workforce and Community*
31 Expand effective partnerships within and beyond our community.
32

33 **Awards** Associate in Science degrees, Associate in Applied Science degrees, Associate in
34 Arts degrees, Associate in Fine Arts degrees, and Certificates
35
36
37
38

1 **BACKGROUND**

2
3 The college is requesting Board approval in order to include the new focus in college materials
4 for the FY2011-2012 academic year. The request also follows on the presidential transition at the
5 institution. NHCC has a diverse student population including 65% first-generation and 40% low-
6 income students. The college has a well-established focus on developmental education and
7 student success, and offers four-year degrees on our campus through partnerships with four-year
8 colleges and universities. The college advances an unapologetic mission of open access, and
9 notes its honors program and unprecedented undergraduate research activities that provide
10 advanced learning opportunities for students.
11

12
13 **OVERVIEW OF MISSION, VISION AND PURPOSES**

14
15 The proposed vision, mission, and purposes of North Hennepin Community College meet the
16 criteria identified in Board Policy 3.24 System and College and University Missions, Part 4:
17 Review and Approval of College and University Mission and Vision Statements. As required by
18 procedure, the institution must:

- 19 A. Describe how its mission and vision align with the requirements in Policy 3.24;
- 20 B. Articulate how the college or university will meet expectations of law, how it relates to
21 other institutions of higher education, and how its mission, vision, and purposes
22 support fulfillment of the system mission and vision;
- 23 C. Describe the array of awards it offers;
- 24 D. Include a statement that the college or university mission is compliant with statute,
25 policy, and regional accreditation requirements; and
- 26 E. Describe consultation with faculty and staff, students, employers and other essential
27 stakeholders.

28 Additionally, the institution’s mission must be compliant with statute, policy, and regional
29 accreditation requirements.
30

31 **REVIEW OF NORTH HENNEPIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE’S MISSION, VISION**
32 **AND PURPOSES/GOALS**

33
34 **The mission, vision, and purposes respond to the system procedure.** North Hennepin
35 Community College’s vision, mission, and purposes are consistent with statute, policy, and
36 regional accreditation requirements. The College mission, vision, and purposes demonstrate
37 alignment with the system mission and vision.
38

39 The proposed *Mission* of North Hennepin Community College is “Engaging Students, Changing
40 Lives. North Hennepin Community College creates opportunities for students to reach their
41 academic goals, succeed in their chosen professions, and make a difference in the world.”
42

43 The college serves a broad range of credit and non-credit students, including traditional,
44 adult, underrepresented, career-changers, transfer, dislocated workers, corporate clients, and
45 other student populations. The college strives to achieve outcomes that expand learning
46 opportunities, promote success, and change students’ lives. As evident from the stated goals, at a

1 more detailed level, outcomes take the form of improved retention, success, and completion, as
2 well as measurable enhancements to the teaching and learning environment at NHCC. The
3 college engages students and changes lives through opportunities to reach academic goals,
4 succeed in chosen professions/workforce, and ultimately make a difference in the world.

5
6 The NHCC mission aligns with the system mission, using complementary language that speaks
7 to NHCC students, faculty and staff. The new mission reflects the system focus on student
8 success, workforce development, and completion of academic goals. In addition, the mission
9 captures the overarching importance of student engagement as a key to success and completion.

10
11 The proposed ***Vision*** for North Hennepin Community College states “Opportunity without
12 limits, learning without end, and achievement beyond expectation.”

13
14 To achieve this vision, the college will strive for a future where students will have opportunities
15 without financial barriers or limited offerings, and they will be encouraged to be lifelong learners
16 - continuously updating their knowledge and skills through both credit and non-credit offerings,
17 and will realize success in their chosen fields and achievement of their goals. The new vision
18 statement reflects the hope that NHCC will overcome fiscal constraints and other obstacles for
19 students and be a point of educational access that will allow students to realize and pursue their
20 individual unlimited potential.

21
22 The College’s vision shares with the System vision a fundamental commitment to academic
23 quality, access, completion, and student success.

24
25 The proposed ***Purposes*** of North Hennepin Community College include the following four
26 goals, supporting the mission and strategic directions and goals of the Minnesota State Colleges
27 and Universities system:

28
29 *Goal 1: Access, Opportunity, and Success*

30 *Maintain academic standards and stable enrollments while increasing retention and completion.*

31
32 Clearly aligned with the access and opportunity strategic focus on the system, this goal speaks to
33 high standards and retention/completion also links directly to the new system focus on student
34 success.

35
36 *Goal 2: Innovation and Relevance*

37 *Maintain curriculum that is relevant and effective while developing innovative new courses and*
38 *programs.*

39
40 This goal directly aligns with the strategic direction on innovation, as well as high quality
41 programs.

42
43 *Goal 3: Culture of Commitment*

44 *Develop a more rewarding, engaged, and inclusive college environment.*

1 This goal supports the strategic directions related to high quality and the stated focus on
2 “outstanding faculty and staff who bring current knowledge, professional skills and cultural
3 competence to educate students.”
4

5 *Goal 4: Workforce and Community*
6 *Expand effective partnerships within and beyond our community.*
7

8 This goal supports the strengthening of workforce and community relationships in strategic
9 direction 3.
10

11 The *awards* offered by North Hennepin Community College includes Associate in Science
12 degrees, Associate in Applied Science degrees, Associate in Arts degrees, Associate in Fine Arts
13 degrees, and Certificates.
14

15 **Consultation with faculty, students, employers and other essential stakeholders**

16 The college notes an extraordinary level of inclusiveness and transparency for the strategic
17 planning process. The Strategic Planning Team consisted of duly appointed representatives from
18 campus and community stakeholders and all meeting documents were posted for public review
19 on our campus SharePoint site. In addition, all Strategic Planning Team meetings were video-
20 streamed live to anyone on campus who wished to watch and listen in, and all meetings were
21 archived for viewing at a later date. Individual team members brought documents back to their
22 respective stakeholders at various points in the process for input and review.
23
24

25 **RECOMMENDED COMMITTEE MOTION**
26

27 The Academic and Student Affairs Committee recommends that the Board of Trustees approve
28 the vision, mission, purposes and awards of North Hennepin Community College as listed in the
29 executive summary.
30
31

32 **RECOMMENDED MOTION**
33

34 The Board of Trustees approves the vision, mission, purposes and awards of North Hennepin
35 Community College as listed in the executive summary.