

REPORT OF MINUTES

BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING

**BAY de NOC COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Board Room CB 201D
Escanaba, MI**

May 21, 2025

- I CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 5 p.m. ET by Chair Nick Chenier.
- II ROLL CALL:** Roll call was taken by Laura Johnson, Assistant Board Secretary.
- Members present: Joy Hopkins, Steve Soderman, Terri Mileski,
Nick Chenier
- Members absent: Eric Lundin, Wendy Middaugh, Katie
VanEnkevort
- Administration: Beth Berube, Travis Blume, Vicki DeGrand,
Nerita Hughes, Jonathan Lane, Lynn
Martinson, Penny Pavlat, Amy Reddinger
- Recorder: Laura Johnson, Assistant Board Secretary
- Faculty: Amber Kinonen, Dr. June Klees
- III CITIZEN
INTRODUCTIONS
AND COMMENTS:** Dr. Hughes introduced Dr. Patrick Reinhard, the new Dean of
Nursing and Allied Health. Dr. Amy Reddinger shared that Dr.
Reinhard brings a great deal of experience from the healthcare
field as a nurse and administrator. He pursued a career in higher
education to improve the caliber of health care.
- Trustees welcomed Dr. Reinhard.
- IV APPROVAL OF
AGENDA:** The agenda was approved by unanimous consent.
- V DECLARATION OF
INTEREST:** None
- VI CONSENT
AGENDA:** The consent agenda included the meeting minutes from the
Regular Meeting on March 26, 2025, the Special Meetings on April

4, April 28, the open and closed sessions on May 14, 2025, and the resolutions of appreciation for Michael Gardner, Todd McCann, Larry Sundling, and Linda Varda.

It was moved by Joy Hopkins and seconded by Steve Soderman to:

“Approve the Consent Agenda for the Board of Trustees Regular Meeting on May 21, 2025, as presented.”

No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

VII PRESENTATION:

Dr. June Klees shared how she is leading Bay College Civic Wellness Student & Community Innovations to teach principles for effective dialogue and civic professionalism. Students participate in the Bay College Civics Corps, a co-curricular model that features participation in Veterans Speak, semesterly podcasts, and civic diplomacy micro credentialing of citizen professional training, mentorship roles, and internship pathway opportunities.

Dr. Klees is also a member of Delta Chats, a community group that offers dialogue resources and acts as a connection organization for non-profit groups and others in Delta County. They were nationally recognized in 2024 by the Listen First Coalition for the National Week of Conversation.

VIII PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Budget Reconciliation Proposals:

President Hughes reported:

The House Education and Workforce Committee released and passed out of committee its legislation called the “Student Success and Taxpayer Savings Act”, to be included in the FY25 Budget Reconciliation Process. The impact of current and future federal legislative changes proposed to Pell Grant, TRIO, and federal work-study and the impact to Bay College are being closely monitored and discussed. A report highlighting the impact of current and future legislative changes is attached.

Pell Grant: Proposed changing full-time Pell eligibility from 12 to 15 credit hours and part-time eligibility to six credits. This could push students beyond manageable loads, possibly affecting retention. This would impact most of our students who are part-time and adult learners.

Bay students take an aggregated average of 8.6 credits a semester (Fall 2024). If no action is taken, Pell recipients for fall 2025 could collectively lose an estimated \$380,175 in aid. Steve Soderman requested the percentage of Bay students this would impact, and a distribution based on credit hours.

The Pell Grant program receives both discretionary and mandatory funds to reach the maximum Pell award established annually. Additional funding is proposed over the next three years to address the looming Pell shortfall.

Changes are also proposed to Workforce or Short-Term Pell with the greatest risk identified as requiring institutions to front fund for one-year without federal or state aid. If benchmarks are not met, programs lose eligibility.

Student Loans: Subsidized student loans would be eliminated so students would no longer receive interest-free loans while in school. In 2024-2025, 362 students borrowed \$1,130,449 in subsidized funding while attending Bay College.

FSEOG: Federal Supplemental Education Opportunity Grants are to be eliminated. In 2024-2025, ~1400 students received some financial aid at Bay. Bay awarded \$62,794 of FSEOG which is discretionary funding to provide aid to students from the lowest income background.

TRIO: TRIO Student Support Services program is to be eliminated. Bay's grant ends August 31, 2025, and would mean an annual loss of \$361,949 to serve 160 at-risk students at both campuses. It is unknown if the College's FY26 budget will need to be adjusted. This is in addition to the DOGE cuts that eliminated two MCAN advisers as of May 31, 2025, at the College. The 377 students they co-advised will require re-assignment to other college advisers, in addition to the students served by TRIO if that grant is not renewed.

Discussion was held with trustees about the uncertainty of these proposals and the Association of Community College Trustees President suggested these decisions will not likely be made until the fall.

Additionally, Dr. Hughes has meetings scheduled with U.P. legislators to close the loop with them, including regular meetings

with Sen. McBroom.

Student Affairs:

Travis Blume emphasized that 377 students advised by MCAN advisors will be displaced to other co-advisors at the end of May due to the DOGE cuts. These cuts will result in limited service to students and could impact our retention effort. The MCAN coaches were added in 2021 through grant funding and provided valuable student support that retained students.

Administration is working on contingency plans in anticipation of the possibility of losing TRIO grant funding that serves 160 students who are either low income, first generation, and/or students with a documented disability working to complete their education. TRIO also provides tutoring for the College's math and science areas so other alternatives would need to be considered. Additional grant opportunities are being considered to replace TRIO funding, but it will be difficult to replace over \$300,000 per year.

A big thank you to the 100 Women Who Care of Delta County for their \$7,350 donation to the Student Food Pantry to support student basic needs.

Bay College is a leader in supporting students and their basic needs and continues to share knowledge and best practices on the state and national levels. Travis was a contributor to a guide addressing this topic recently published at the national level that shares the work at Bay.

Terri Mileski expressed the importance of the student supports provided at community colleges that are not available at universities and without those supports many students will not complete community colleges.

***Institutional
Effectiveness:***

Penny Pavlat reported that enrollment for the summer semester is up 6.2% for the 2025 fiscal year over adjusted budget. Fall 2025 enrollment is up for returning students, however retention of returning students is 2.3% below last year at this time.

Strategic Enrollment Management projects with Student Affairs have produced enrollment funnels and reports to look at going forward.

McKenzie Fox-Potter was welcomed to the College this week as the Grant Project Navigator.

New dashboards created by Data Analyst Tanner Brown are being provided to different groups across campus.

Human Resources:

Beth Berube reported that recruiting is taking place to fill the full-time automotive faculty position due to the retirement of Mike Gardner. The full-time English faculty position to replace Todd McCann as he retires has been hired with final paperwork underway. Part-time water tech faculty will be hired to fill the retirement of part-time faculty Larry Sundling.

The three-year retention period for full and regular part-time staff employees is 90.76% in line with national benchmarks.

The new HR position focused on employee training and development (Michelle Chaillier) coordinated training on how to assess and work through mental health crisis (Mental Health First Aid Training) and QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer) suicide prevention training.

***Information
Technology:***

Jonathan Lane reported that the Ellucian ERP transition has begun. Several discovery meetings with functional areas have been completed that will help them build solutions for us and the data transition has begun to bring over data needed in Ellucian.

Foundation:

Vicki DeGrand was recently appointed as the Executive Director of Foundation and Alumni Relations after serving as the interim director due to Kim Carne's retirement and working as the Advancement Specialist for 13 years in the Foundation Office. The Advancement Specialist position will be posted soon.

The annual Foundation golf outing will be held on July 17 at the Escanaba Country Club. Team registrations are coming in well and hole sponsorships are still available. Proceeds typically net \$35,000-\$40,000 and support scholarships for Delta County students.

The Strings on the Bay concert series will return in the Besse Theater this summer. Sponsorships fund each act.

The College is partnering with the Bonifas Fine Arts Center in response to the fire last week that damaged their building to house the Missoula Children's Theater and Players de Noc fall performances during the fall.

The new alumni brochure shared with trustees was distributed to graduates at Commencement to promote alumni relations and connect them to Bay.

Academic Affairs:

Dr. Amy Reddinger reported that a news release went out last week through PR firm Byron & Fisk outlining the plan to recertify the practical nursing program from the State Board of Nursing. If all deadlines are met, the PN program could be reinstated for January 2026.

Art Faculty Kristine Hunter was selected to participate in three artist residencies this summer in Blanca, Spain; Crete, Greece; and Istanbul, Turkey.

Dean of Business, Technology & Workforce Development Jim Cousino assumed responsibility over the EMT/Paramedic program due to his background in emergency services. Bay is increasing regional support of EMS through two new satellite sites at our Iron Mountain campus and a partnership with Luce County EMS. The licensing process has been completed to provide Instructor Coordinator education.

IM Millage Renewal:

Dr. Hughes, Cindy Gallagher, Jason Sullivan, and Caroline Carlson will speak to various groups in Dickinson County to prepare for the millage renewal vote on August 5. The presentation is almost complete in addition to the infographic shared with trustees.

Events on Campus:

Another great Bay-Con event took place on May 3 with ~5,000 attendees.

The Upper Michigan Safety Conference was held on campus with 186 attendees and companies from Michigan and Wisconsin.

Dr. Hughes hosted the joint U.P. MI Works Workforce Development Board meeting on campus today as a board member of the local MI Works Workforce Board. Attendees from all over the U.P. were on campus.

The Michigan Manufacturing Technology Center (MMTC) Innovation 4.0 Roadshow to showcase manufacturing technology was hosted on campus on April 22.

A celebration with employees was held on May 1 to share information about the \$1 million MiLEAP Go Big Grant and the Rural Guided Pathways Projects that will assist the College in aligning and strengthening student success.

The MI LEO Talent Development Liaison toured the Escanaba campus welding lab today. Discussion was held about how we can better align to create internships or apprenticeships for students when they identify their area of study. Because of recent conversations, two of our welding students will begin internships at IMC (Independent Machine Company in Escanaba).

IX BUSINESS OFFICE REPORTS:

Lynn Martinson reported:

- Net Assets increased \$2 million or \$489,000 greater than last year at the same time.
- Comparing the overall budget to actual, salaries and benefits are the largest expense with ~70% spent which is on track coming into the end of the fiscal year.
- Summer tuition is not included in the April financial report because it is not recognized until the fee liable date which occurs after the start of the summer semester. Summer tuition is estimated at ~\$600,000 with 40% applied to FY25 revenue based on the timing of course delivery.
- Riley Francis has been hired as the Staff Accountant for the Business Office. Her most recent work experience was with Upper Peninsula State Bank as the Financial Operations Coordinator.
- The Business Office issued two Requests for Proposal (RFPs) in April. The RFP for sealing and restriping of two parking lots at the Escanaba campus was awarded to Arndt Asphalt after reviewing three responses from Arndt Asphalt, Draz Sealcoating, and The Asphalt Doctor. Although Arndt Asphalt was not the lowest bidder, they were selected based on the project manager's experience with their materials (eco-friendly) and quality of work. The bid was awarded at \$35,970 which

was \$3,802 higher than the low bid.

An RFP for temporary student housing was issued with bids due on May 22. The College houses 25-30 students at the Super 8 Hotel in Escanaba regularly after campus housing is filled.

X BOARD COMMITTEE & REQUIRED ACTION:

None

XI BOARD ACTION:

A Transaction Reports:

There were no questions or comments on the Transaction Reports.

On a motion made by Joy Hopkins and seconded by Steve Soderman:

“The Financial Transactions for the months ending March 31 and April 30, 2025, stand approved as presented to place on file.” No discussion.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Steve Soderman, Terri Mileski, Joy Hopkins, Nick Chenier
Nays: None
Abstentions: None
Motion carried unanimously.

B ECE Summer Course:

Board approval to amend the previously approved course start year, from the fall 2025 semester to the summer 2025 semester session 6B was required to offer Early Childhood Education course CHLD 123 during summer 2025 rather than using an independent study.

It was moved by Joy Hopkins and seconded by Terri Mileski to:

“Amend the previously approved course start date for Early Childhood Education Course CHLD 123, from the fall 2025 semester to the summer 2025 semester session 6B.” No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

C MCCA BOD Certification:

Annual certification of appointments to the Michigan Community College Association (MCCA) Board of Directors for 2025-2026 was due. Joy Hopkins and Terri Mileski expressed interest in continuing to serve as Trustee Director and Alternate Trustee Director respectively.

It was moved by Steve Soderman and seconded by Terri Mileski to:

“Designate Nerita Hughes as President Director; Joy Hopkins as Trustee Director; and Terri Mileski as Alternate Trustee Director to represent Bay College on the Board of Directors of the MCCA for July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026.” No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

D IM Advisory Board Reappointments:

Three seats on the Bay College Iron Mountain Campus Advisory Board representing the Dickinson County community were subject to re-appointment for two-year terms that will expire on June 30, 2027.

Christie Borchardt, Medical/Surgical/Pediatric/Infusion & ICU/IMC/Pool Manager, Marshfield Medical Center-Dickinson; Russ Kassin, President & CEO of First National Bank & Trust, and Kiwanis member; and Bob Koerschner, IBEW Sixth District International Representative, expressed interest in continuing to serve the College in this capacity.

It was moved by Terri Mileski and seconded by Joy Hopkins to:

“Approve the recommendation to reappoint Christie Borchardt, Russ Kassin, and Bob Koerschner, to two-year terms expiring on June 30, 2027, to the Bay College Iron Mountain Campus Advisory Board, effective July 1, 2025.” No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

XII UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

XIII NEW BUSINESS:

None

XIV MCCA UPDATE:

Joy Hopkins reported that the membership dues to the Michigan Community College Association (MCCA) will increase by \$600 for next year. Our enrollment growth increases our classification as a slightly larger college.

XV OTHER:

None

XVI ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved by Joy Hopkins and seconded by Steve Soderman to:

“Adjourn the meeting.” No discussion. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:16 p.m. ET.

Laura L. Johnson Assistant Board Secretary	Completion Date	Approval Date
Nicholas M. Chenier Chair		Approval Date

Impact of Current and Future Legislative Changes

(as of 5/16/25)

Introduction – Completion Goals

Bay College continues to engage with our representatives and senators in Washington, D.C., as the legislative budget process unfolds. As an institution deeply committed to accessible and affordable higher education, we feel compelled to express our significant concern regarding recent proposals included in the FY26 budget reconciliation legislation. These proposals pose serious implications for our students, our mission, and the communities we serve.

Some of the possible moves being considered would have an impact on our recent successes. Bay College has experienced a 9% increase in enrollment over the past three years. There has also been an increase in graduation rates overall (9%), with male students up 20%, African Americans up 100%, mixed race up 27%, whites up 8% and unknown race/ethnicity students up 200%. We continue to work to improve levels of male student enrollment and have increased male enrollment by 10% in the past three years. In addition to these successes, we know that Pell students overall have experienced a 10% increase in graduation rates.

These results are only possible through the current or further strengthened the Pell Grant program. However, some of the proposed actions detailed below will only hinder our goals of higher persistence and completion.

Completion Rates for Different Segments of Students – Fall IPEDS Cohort

	Enrollment	IPEDS	Pell students	White	BIPOC
2020-2021	1,933	34.0%	33.6%	35.7%	22.2%
2021-2022	1,957	32.6%	27.6%	34.2%	24.4%
2022-2023	1,960	32.0%	27.4%	33.6%	22.5%
2023-2024	1,988	21.4%	14.8%	19.7%	33.3%
2024-2025	2,136	30.0%	24.5%	33.0%	18.8%
2025-2026 (in progress)		21.2%	26.8%	31.9%	18.5%

Additional Details on Pell Students

Fall 2024	Count	% of Pell Students
Pell Students	685	
Students Receiving < \$1,000 Pell	86	12.5%
Students Receiving MCCG	251	
Students Receiving MCCG + Pell	121	17.6%
Students Receiving MCCG + < \$1,000 Pell	6	< 1%

Note: MCCG = Michigan Community College Guarantee

Proposed Changes as part of the Budget Reconciliation Process

The Reconciliation process is dealing with the 2024-2025 budget year, which is fully underway, but operating under Continuing Resolutions. All work will be compiled by the House Budget Committee into one legislative proposal that incorporates the work done by all the committees. It would then be voted on by the full House (initially planned to occur by May 31). From there it will then go the Senate for approval of the chamber (planned to occur by July 1) or make additional changes that would then send it back to the House.

The House Education and Workforce Committee released and passed out of committee it's legislation called the "Student Success and Taxpayer Savings Act", to be included in the Reconciliation process. Following are some changes that have been proposed:

Pell Grant Program:

- Changes Pell full-time eligibility from 12 to 15 credit hours, which could push students beyond manageable loads, possibly affecting retention.
- Requires part-time students to be at least half-time (6 credits) to be Pell eligible.
- Eliminates Pell eligibility for students enrolled less than part time (6 credits), which would negatively impact adult and part-time learners.
- At Bay College, 69% of our students are attending only part-time and have returned to college to reskill by taking one or two courses at a time.
- Although Bay continuously tries to increase student credit accumulation, 8.6 credits a semester is the aggregated average students take (Fall 2024), even as we innovate with schedule, length of term, and modes of delivery.
- The cost of attendance would be redefined and move to a national median program cost model, which could disconnect aid from Bay's actual local living expenses. Bay may need to adjust how cost of attendance is calculated and communicated.
- The maximum Pell Grant award is the sum of discretionary dollars through the appropriations process, plus a mandatory amount funded by indefinite, statutorily established appropriations.

FEDERAL
PELL
GRANT

Outcome for students if these Pell changes are implemented:

- If no action is taken, Pell recipients for fall 2025 could collectively lose an estimated \$380,175 in aid.
- Students who attended less than half time (7.5 credits or less with the new full time definition) at Bay College received \$699,930 during the 2024-2025 academic year. These funds would also be eliminated with the current proposals.
- A total of 129 additional credits would need to be added across the 43 currently enrolled Pell recipients to maximize their eligibility under the proposed 30-credit requirement.
- An additional 462 Pell-eligible students have not yet registered for Fall 2025 and will also require targeted outreach and support.

Impact of Proposed Pell Grant Changes on Students

2025-2026 Tuition, Fees, and Pell Impact by Credit Load (In-District)

Credit Hours	In-district	Student Dev Fee	Technology Fee	Total Cost	Pell Amount Prorated	Refund	Refund Lost
12	\$155	\$12	\$37	\$2,448	\$2,985	\$510	\$740
9	\$155	\$12	\$37	\$1,836	\$2,219	\$383	\$555
6	\$155	\$12	\$37	\$1,224	\$1,479	\$255	\$370

- The chart above shows the projected impact of credit enrollment on tuition, fees, and Pell Grant refunds for in-district students under the proposed 30-credit requirement for full Pell eligibility.
- Pell funding will still cover the full cost of tuition and fees for students enrolled in 6, 9, or 12 credits. Those enrolled less than full-time will receive smaller refunds, reducing the funds many students rely on to support costs such as housing, transportation, food, and educational needs (books).

Pell Grant / Accountability and Risk Sharing:

- Requires institutions to reimburse the federal government for unpaid student loans if students don't complete or earn enough, even if the college had no control over borrowing behaviors. This effort does not reflect the realities of community colleges.
- Bay College proudly serves well over 2,500 students annually, accepting all who apply to enter.
- Bay College may need to auto-award credentials to increase completion metrics and explore ways to track employment outcomes more rigorously.
- PROMISE Grants reward colleges graduating high percentages of Pell students within 100% of program time, though this is not reflective of community college student realities.

Overall Pell Funding Pool: The Pell Grant program receives both discretionary and mandatory funds to reach the maximum Pell award established annually.

- Congress has always funded the Pell Grant program with enough funds so that it can operate as a mandatory program despite not being written into law as such.
- Congress must either add more funds, change eligibility or make it a "first come, first serve" grant.
- Additional funding is proposed for the next 3 years to address the looming Pell shortfall.

Workforce or Short-Term Pell: Authorizes the Workforce Pell program that would offer dollars to recipients looking to complete short-term programs that range from 8 to 15 weeks (150-599 clock hours).

- Maintains several guard rails for program eligibility but would allow for-profit institutions and entities not defined as institutions of higher education by law to participate, increasing competition.
- Must meet 70% completion and job placement rates.
- Must show completers exceed \$31.45/hour earnings, a challenging benchmark for some programs.
- RISK: Institutions must front funding for one year without federal or state aid. If benchmarks aren't met, programs lose eligibility.

Direct Loan Program and Loan Repayment:

- Eliminates subsidized student loans so students would no longer receive interest-free loans while in school. Maintains the unsubsidized loan program. In 2024-2025, 362 students borrowed \$1,130,449 in subsidized funding while attending Bay College.
- Creates an income-based repayment plan called the Repayment Assistance Plan and eliminates the Income Contingent repayment plans; makes significant changes to the standard repayment plan.
- Borrowing limits tied to median program costs minus Pell. Colleges must map out and publish program costs with clarity.

Regulation Elimination:

- Elimination of the "gainful employment" language in the higher education act is proposed.
- Secretary of Education significantly limited from conducting rule making in the future and to eliminate the 90/10 rule that applies to for-profit colleges.

Anticipated Future Changes

On Friday, 05/02/2025, President Trump released an overview of his 2025-2026 budget. In it, he has requested to eliminate funding for the following programs, which could affect Bay College:

Federal Supplemental Education Opportunity Grants (FSEOG), to be eliminated.

- In 2024-2025, 1,396 Bay College students received some type of financial aid.
- Bay awarded \$62,794 in Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG)
- This grant is discretionary funding to provide aid to students from the lowest income background



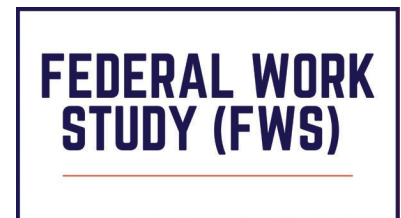
TRIO Student Support Services program (SSS), to be eliminated.

- This would mean a loss of \$361,949 annually - our 5-year grant expires on 08/31/2025.
- The TRIO SSS program provides services at both the Iron Mountain and Escanaba campuses, serving 160 students each year.
- Bay College's TRIO Student Support Services program has helped students to navigate college admissions, financial aid, career exploration and enrollment. The Trio program has been a part of Bay College for over 30 years.
- TRIO dollars are discretionary, funded through a U.S. Dept. of Education's competitive grant.



Federal Work Study:

- President Trump proposed an 80% cut to this student employment program.
- Bay College has \$176,474 of federal work study dollars budgeted for 2025–2026 to hire student workers. With this proposal, our available federal work-study allocation would reduce to \$35,295.
- Federal Work-Study (FWS) funding is considered discretionary.



TIP Impacts via Medicaid Reduction:

- Participation in a Michigan Medicaid program is a prerequisite for the state's Tuition Incentive Program (TIP), which provides financial support for low-income students.
- A reduction in Medicaid enrollment could lead to fewer students qualifying for TIP, further diminishing college access and affordability for those who need it most.
- Bay College had 255 students use TIP funding this year, representing \$1,024,258.



Actions Already Completed

Library Cuts - 03/14/2025 – An Executive Order (EO) targeted the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), which provides resources to our nation's libraries, museums, and archives. Libraries and museums, as well as Bay College students, will feel the effects of these cuts due to the loss of:



- The Michigan Electronic Library (MeL and MeLCat) – a centralized catalog and resource-sharing service (inter-library loan) created to lend and share materials among Michigan libraries
- MeL databases that are used extensively by our academic library students
- *Michigan's Attorney General Nessel joined a lawsuit to try to stop the dismantling of IMLS.*

AmeriCorps Cuts - 04/28/2025 –\$400 million for Michigan AmeriCorps programs was cut by the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE). The Michigan Community Service Commission was informed that all MCAN AmeriCorps grants were terminated.



- AmeriCorps operates 4 programs hosted by MCAN, including the College Completion Corps (as well as Pathways Planning Grant, the Universal FAFSA VISTA program, and AdviseMI).
- Approximately 80% nationwide of all AmeriCorps States received notice of termination.
- Bay College had 2 approved positions (both filled and working). Individuals were informed that their work was discontinued and MCAN agreed to pay them through May, when high school students completed their year.
- These individuals helped students explore their college-going options, complete the college-going process, and support them on their journey to persistence and completion.
- Bay's Co-advisor students through this program served a cohort of 377 students, with approximately 40–50 student contacts each week, to proactively monitor class attendance, academic performance, and financial aid requirements.
- While the Serve America Act establishes national AmeriCorps priorities, the funding is generally considered discretionary.

Community Changes

AdviseMI cuts - 04/28/2025 – These AmeriCorps advisors in high schools in our region were cut.

- High school seniors lost their college adviser at a critical time in the college-going process. Advisers and coaches were contributing directly to the state's college attainment goal of Sixty by 30.

USDA cuts - 03/13/2025 - The U.S. Department of Agriculture cut two federal programs that provided funding to schools and food banks to buy food directly from local farms, ranchers and producers.

- The decision came through DOGE. The USDA programs were funded through the agency's Commodity Credit Corporation, a Depression-era fund created to buy products directly from farmers.

Medicaid Reduction Potential Impacts:

- Proposed cuts to Medicaid could have significant downstream effects on our students and the support services Bay College provides.
- If external resources become less accessible, we anticipate increased reliance on campus-based supports—including our food pantry, personal counseling services, and emergency assistance.
- Many of these services are in high demand, and we may exceed our current capacity.

Head Start Reduction or Elimination:

- 04/18/2025 - The Trump administration asked Congress to eliminate funding for Head Start as part of deep cuts at the Dept. of Health and Human Services, which oversees the program.
- The administration released its preliminary budget on 05/02, which lays out the executive office's discretionary spending priorities. That budget doesn't contain a proposal to shut down Head Start.
- Many Bay College students may depend upon Head Start to serve their children.

Background on the Budgetary Process

1. **Reconciliation:** Budget process that addresses mandatory federal spending and only requires 51 votes in the Senate to pass.
2. **Appropriations:** Annual funding process Congress must complete to provide discretionary funding to federally authorized programs. To enact funding levels, a simple majority is needed in the House, while 60 votes are needed in the Senate.
3. **Mandatory Funds:** Funds for programs that are required to be paid and do not change without a change to their underlying law. Examples: Social Security, Medicaid
4. **Discretionary Funds:** Funds for programs that must be allocated each year and do not include a guaranty benefit. Examples include Federal Work Study, Corporations for Public Broadcasting.

