Ferris State University and You:
The Art of Partnership

David L. Eisler, president
Ferris State University and Grand Rapids Community College

- 17 bachelor degrees
- 6 masters degrees
- 8 certificates
Kendall College of Art and Design

• 1996 – 500+ students
  $4 million budget

• 2014 – 1,400+ students
  $19 million budget

• New programs – MBA in Innovation and Design, MFA in Architecture, Fashion Studies, Collaborative Design, Medical Illustration
Ferris State University
College of Pharmacy
Center for Innovational Learning and Research

25 Michigan St. NE
Grand Rapids
Urban Institute for Contemporary Art
Our vision is to be –

The premier educational partner

My plea in Michigan and it will be my plea to the last breath I Draw and the last word I speak – is education for all children, all men and women of Michigan, all the people in all our states all the time.

Woodbridge N. Ferris
Some Grand Rapids examples –

- Believe 2 Become
- Careers 102 for Parents
- Center for Latin@ Studies
- Challenge Scholars
- Clinical Pharmacy Services Collaborative
- Kent County College Access Network
- Latino Business and Economic Center
- Talent 2025
- West Michigan Center for Arts & Technology
- Woodbridge Summer Bridge Promesa
Concurrent Education

Rockford High School and Ferris State University
Concurrent Education

• College courses taught by college-approved high school teachers.

• Low-cost, scalable model for bringing accelerated courses to high school students.

• Close collaboration between high school teachers and college faculty aligns secondary and postsecondary curriculum.

• Students –
  – gain exposure to the academic challenges of college while in supportive high school environment
  – earn transcripted college credit when they pass the course.
Program Description

• Ferris State University general education courses offered at Rockford High School

• Classes taught by RHS faculty reviewed, approved, and prepared by FSU

• College courses are identical in content and rigor to classes offered on FSU campus

• Courses are offered during regular school day to fit the RHS schedule
Students

• Interested RHS students screened and recommended by RHS administration

• RHS students fully admitted to FSU based on 18 ACT or 19 on ACT plan test

• Must maintain 2.5 gpa to remain in program
Finances

- RHS faculty employed and paid by RHS as part of regular contract
- FSU reduces tuition to $120 per credit, one third regular tuition rate
- RHS pays student tuition
Current Success

• Pilot program began Fall 2013
• 143 students enrolled for Spring 2014
• Current Courses –
  – English 150
  – Literature 150
  – Math 220 (Calculus 1)
  – Math 230 (Calculus 2)
  – Math 320 (Calculus 3)
  – Career and Education Planning (CARE 102)
Advantages for Rockford High School Students

• College study begins in the supportive home environment

• Students graduate with FSU transcript and up to 30 credits of general education courses

• Students can graduate with one year of college completed and without student debt
• We have created a new collaborative, cost-effective approach without new administrative structures.

• In doing so we have eliminated the gap between a high school and education.

• Working together we are helping students.
Thank you
Superintendent Michael Shibler
and
the Rockford Public Schools Team.
We want to partner with you. Together we can make a difference for your students and their future. Thank you for considering how we can make this partnership a reality.

David L. Eisler, president