

# Vote no on MCCC millage request

As a Monroe County resident, particularly south county, I would like to take this opportunity to make tax-paying residents aware of the truth behind the Monroe County Community College (MCCC) countywide additional millage request.

Currently, south county residents pay 2.1794 mills to MCCC. That represents approximately \$2.1 million a year from south county residents alone. This millage has been in existence for the past 34 years and will continue in perpetuity, which means forever.

MCCC is now asking south county residents to pay an additional 1 mill on top of the already-existing 2.1794 mills which will also continue in perpetuity. Combined, it will total 3.1794 mills.

MCCC states in their literature that, "MCCC has proven to be an excellent financial steward of the county's tax dollars..." That statement is false and insulting to the intelligence of tax-paying residents. The truth is

that MCCC was financially stable until the board of trustees voted to build its multi-million-dollar technology center without having the financing secured. They made this decision during one of the worst economic times our country had seen since the Great Depression. The technology center was an estimated \$17 million project. The only financing that was secured was \$8 million from the State of Michigan, thus leaving an enormous shortfall.

MCCC has not, "... proven to be excellent financial steward[s]..." as they stated. What has been proven is that MCCC expects a financial bailout from tax-paying residents. Also, they have proven that they are grossly negligent in decision-making, leadership, and are fiscally irresponsible by mismanaging taxpayer funds.

Join me in voting "no" to this additional millage request.

**Scott Ruetz**  
**Lambertville**