



Grand Rapids
Promise Zone

Development Plan

APPROVALS AND AMENDMENTS

January 13, 2020 | Approval of Development Plan

September 8, 2022 | Amendment to Section IV, Terms of the Scholarship

September 8, 2022 | Amendment to Section VII, Appeals

December 11, 2023 | Amendment to Section IV, Terms of the Scholarship

December 11, 2023 | Amendment to Section III, Eligibility Requirements

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I. PURPOSE

The Grand Rapids Promise Zone Authority (GRPZA) believes that the greatest investment we as a community can make is in our young people. Within them lies the promise of Grand Rapids' future. Currently, Grand Rapids lags behind other comparable communities in terms of educational attainment. Furthermore, there is great disparity among racial/ethnic populations in the number who have earned a post-secondary certificate or degree. It is with great purpose that the GRPZA establish its mission to ***support the young people of our City as they pursue their aspirations after high school graduation by removing financial, societal, and systemic barriers***. In doing so, we envision a community in which all students, regardless of their financial resources or background, have equal opportunity to acquire the college degree or post-secondary credentials necessary to reach their career and life aspirations.

The GRPZA provides a powerful, sustainable tax increment financing mechanism through which the community can remove the financial barrier of college tuition and fees while making further investments to prepare students for college and support them to ensure college success. This funding tool, combined with a meaningful partnership of public, charter, private, and parochial schools, provides the GRPZA an opportunity to impact thousands of young people. Therefore, the GRPZA is moving forward with the creation of the ***Grand Rapids Promise Zone Scholarship***.

II. GRAND RAPIDS PROMISE ZONE SCHOLARSHIP

As a first step to fulfilling its mission, it is the intention of GRPZA to establish a promise scholarship which will provide the opportunity for eligible students (defined in Section III) to earn at least a two-year college degree tuition-free from Grand Rapids Community College (i.e. eligible institution). Scholarship funds can be used during the Fall, Winter, and Summer semesters. The first graduating class eligible for the Grand Rapids Promise Zone Scholarship will be the Class of 2020.

Eligible students will receive funding for tuition, books, supplies, and mandatory fees up to the cost of obtaining an associate degree or its equivalent at the prevailing Grand Rapids Community College tuition rate. The amount of the promise scholarship will be calculated after the students' federal and state need-based grants are determined. Students will receive scholarship funds to cover the remainder of their bill for tuition, books, supplies, and mandatory fees. Beyond financial support, the GRPZA will promote post-secondary education pathways and provide assistance to prepare and support students for college and career success. These supports will be developed, implemented, and evaluated collaboratively with a broad base of educational, governmental, foundation, corporate, and community partners.

III. ELIGIBILITY

To qualify for the Grand Rapids Promise Zone Scholarship, students must meet all the following criteria:

- Reside within the boundaries of the City of Grand Rapids
- Graduate from a high school located within the Grand Rapids Public School District service area boundaries.
- Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) each year. If a student is not eligible to submit a FAFSA, this requirement is waived.
- Enroll at Grand Rapids Community College (see Section V).

IV. TERMS OF THE SCHOLARSHIP

The Grand Rapids Promise Zone Scholarship will fund up to 72 credit hours total at Grand Rapids Community College. Subject to that maximum, a student's scholarship amount will be the balance remaining for tuition, books, supplies, and fees after the student has applied for and accepted all federal and state need-based grants in a given year. Loans and student work-study awards will not be considered for these purposes. Scholarships will be paid directly to the Grand Rapids Community College. GRPZA funds will not be refunded directly to students if a financial aid surplus is available.

While scholarship recipients are not required to enroll within any defined period of time, they must expend their scholarship within five years of high school graduation to earn the maximum 72 credit hour award. Further, while enrolled at Grand Rapids Community College, scholarship recipients must enroll in at least six (6) credit hours per semester (does not apply for the Summer semester). Limited exceptions to the six (6) credit hour requirement can be made with the written approval of an academic advisor due to extenuating circumstances such as, enrollment limitations due to placement or when less than six (6) credit hours are needed to complete a degree or certificate. Finally, scholarship recipients must comply with Grand Rapids Community College's standards for satisfactory academic progress. Students who fail to comply with the Grand Rapids Community College's standards for satisfactory academic progress may continue their education and submit an appeal if they return to compliance.

Students must apply to renew their scholarships annually and supply a copy of their college transcript with each renewal application. They must also supply notice of any financial aid awards for the next year of college attendance. The amount of the promise scholarship may be adjusted each year based on any revised financial aid award information provided.

V. ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS

The Grand Rapids Promise Zone Scholarship may be used at Grand Rapids Community College beginning in the Fall 2020 semester.

VI. EXTENT OF BENEFITS

For eligible students, the amount of the promise scholarship will be awarded based on the length of consecutive residency within the City of Grand Rapids and consecutive attendance at a high school located within the boundaries. The prorated scale is detailed below in Table 1.

Table 1: Scholarship Proration Schedule

LENGTH OF ATTENDANCE AND RESIDENCY	SCHOLARSHIP BENEFIT
GRADES 9 - 12	100%
GRADES 10 - 12	100%
GRADES 11 - 12	50%
GRADE 12 ONLY	None

Residency requirements may not apply to students who qualify under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, have refugee status, have documented Foster Care placement, or are a ward of the court. Students who fall within these definitions will qualify for up to 100% of the scholarship based on meeting the remaining eligibility requirements. The Board retains the authority to conduct individualized reviews, assessing cases on a case-by-case basis within the framework of the appeals process.

VII. APPEALS

Students may appeal to the GRPZA Board to defer use of the promise scholarship beyond the five-year limit or to seek review of the denial of eligibility. Appeals must be made in writing to the GRPZA Board in a manner and form prescribed by the Board. At a minimum, the appeal shall contain the student's name, address, date of birth, email address, and phone number; high school and college transcript (as applicable); the basis for the appeal; and any other supporting documents the student would like considered. When all required materials are received, the GRPZA Chairperson will convene the Executive Committee of the Board to review the appeal and provide a final decision. The Executive Committee of the Board shall issue a written decision within 60 days of the date of the meeting at which the appeal was first considered. An appeal will be granted if the student seeking the appeal demonstrates good cause to the satisfaction of the Executive Committee of the Board members in attendance. Good cause for granting an appeal may include, but is not limited to, interruption of a student's continuous attendance, incapacitation due to illness, death of an immediate family member, incarceration, military service, or family obligations. The decision made, by quorum of the Executive Committee of the Board, will be final with no further ability to appeal. The Executive Committee of the Board will present the decision at the next Board meeting.

VIII. ADMINISTRATION

GRPZA staff, in partnership with Grand Rapids Community College, will provide ongoing monitoring, oversight, and assistance to the GRPZA Board as it plans and implements the Grand Rapids Promise Zone Scholarship.

IX. FUNDRAISING PLAN

The Grand Rapids Promise Zone Scholarship will be funded through a combination of private and corporate foundation gifts/impact investments, major gifts from private donors, tax increment financing as authorized by the Michigan Promise Zone Authority Act - Act 549 of 2008 (the "Act"), and federal and state need-based grants available to Grand Rapids students. The GRPZA is required under the Act to cover the "qualified educational expenses" (i.e. scholarships) defined in this Plan for a period of two years before tax increment financing funds are released to the GRPZA by the Michigan Treasury. The GRPZA plans to fund the first two years of expenses through community philanthropy. The total fundraising goal to meet the financial obligations for the first five years is \$2.9 million.

The GRPZA Executive Committee (comprised of the chairperson, vice chairperson, treasurer, and secretary) will take a lead role in identifying a short list of potential funders who could make a gift in excess of \$50,000 and develop cultivation strategies for each. GRPZA Board members and school leadership will be strategically involved in donor cultivation for prospects to which they are connected. To support the fundraising effort, a compelling case for support will be developed that communicates the mission and goals of the GRPZA as well as the design of the Grand Rapids Promise Zone Scholarship and its projected impact.

X. EVALUATION

The GRPZA will develop a comprehensive evaluation plan which will measure progress toward the organization's goals which are:

1. Provide equitable access to college and career training.
2. Create a city-wide culture of continuing education after high school.
3. Prepare Grand Rapids' diverse student population to meet the demand for talent within the region.

On an annual basis, the GRPZA will prepare an annual report pursuant to the Act. The report will be submitted to the Michigan Department of Treasury by October 31 of each year. At minimum, this report will include the following:

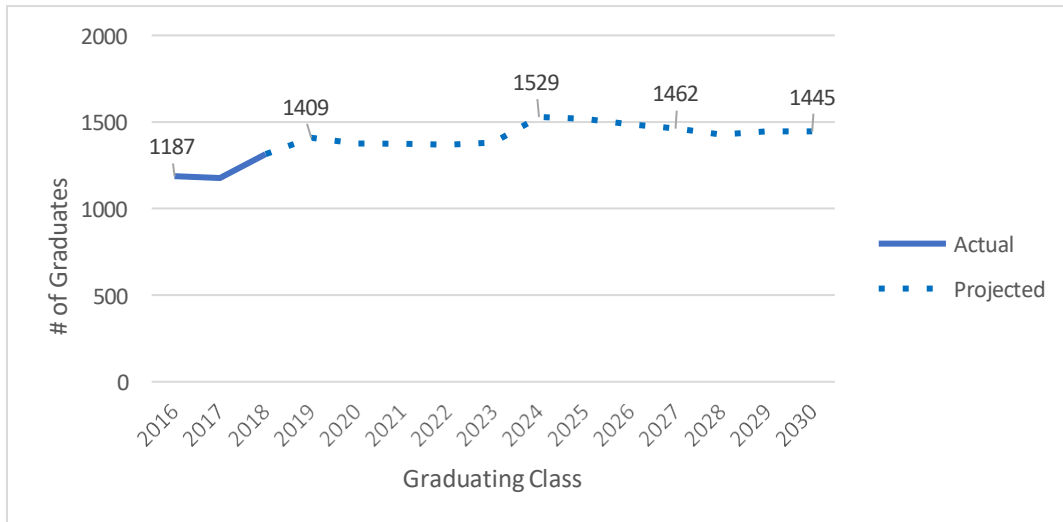
- The number of students who received financial assistance from the GRPZA (i.e. scholarship recipients) during the prior academic year.
- The number of scholarship recipients who successfully completed a certificate program, an associate degree, or a bachelor's degree during the prior academic year.
- The number of scholarship recipients who withdrew from their classes during the prior academic year.
- For scholarship recipients who have completed 23 or more semester credits during the prior academic year, the average time required to complete the equivalent of 24 semester credits.
- The six-year post-secondary graduation rate for scholarship recipients pursuant to this Development Plan.

The annual report may include additional information relevant to post-secondary outcomes as the evaluation plan for the GRPZA is completed. Students who receive financial assistance from the GRPZA will be required to provide the Promise Zone with access to the information needed to comply with the requirements of the Act.

XI. GRAND RAPIDS STUDENT POPULATION OVERVIEW

The number of graduates from eligible high schools within the Grand Rapids Promise Zone Authority reached a low of 1,176 in the 2016-2017 school year and is projected to reach 1,529 in the 2023-2024 school year. After 2023-2024, graduations are expected to decline very gradually (see Graph 1 below).

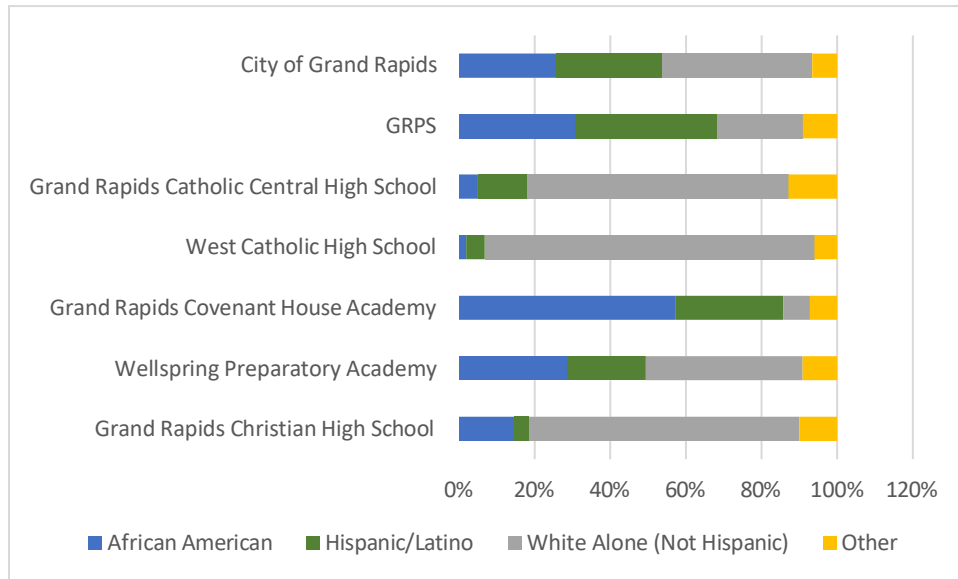
Graph 1: Grand Rapids Promise Zone Authority Eligible High School Graduation Projections¹



Grand Rapids has a diverse school-aged population that is majority minority in its composition. Graph 2 compares the racial/ethnic composition of each of the high schools within the City (GRPS has been aggregated). GRPS and Covenant House Academy serve a student population that has a higher percentage of students of color, with Wellspring Preparatory High School serving a population that almost mirrors the City’s student population. The other schools for which demographic information was available serve a less diverse student population.

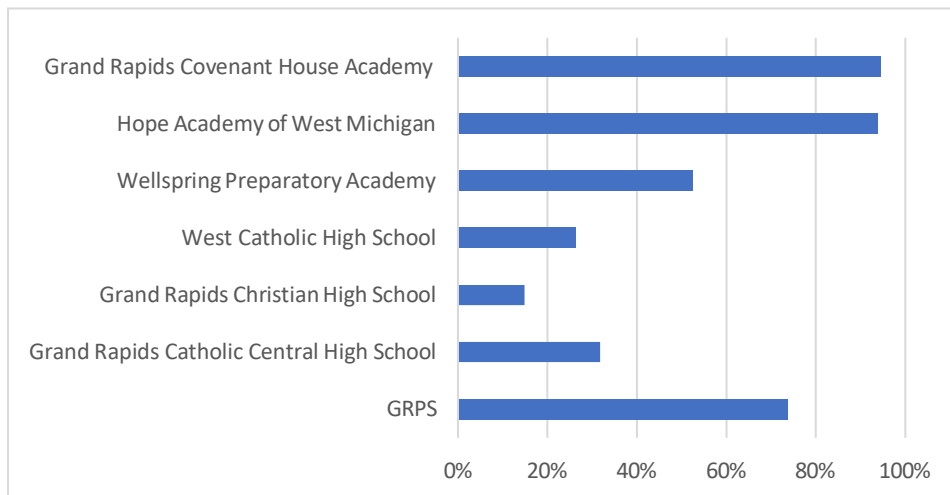
¹ Calculated based upon projections provided by Plante Moran which conducted a detailed graduation projection for GRPS.

Graph 2: Demographic Comparison of Student Populations – Race/Ethnicity^{2,3}



In terms of economic status of student households, GRPS, Covenant House Academy, and Hope Academy serve a student population with over 60% qualifying for free or reduced lunch (see Graph 3 below). Wellspring Preparatory High School is the only other school within the City with over 50% of students qualifying for free or reduced lunch.

Graph 3: % of Students Qualifying for Free or Reduced Lunch⁴



Graph 4 details the percent of students who met or exceeded the SAT college readiness benchmark. West Catholic High School, Grand Rapids Christian High School, Grand Rapids City

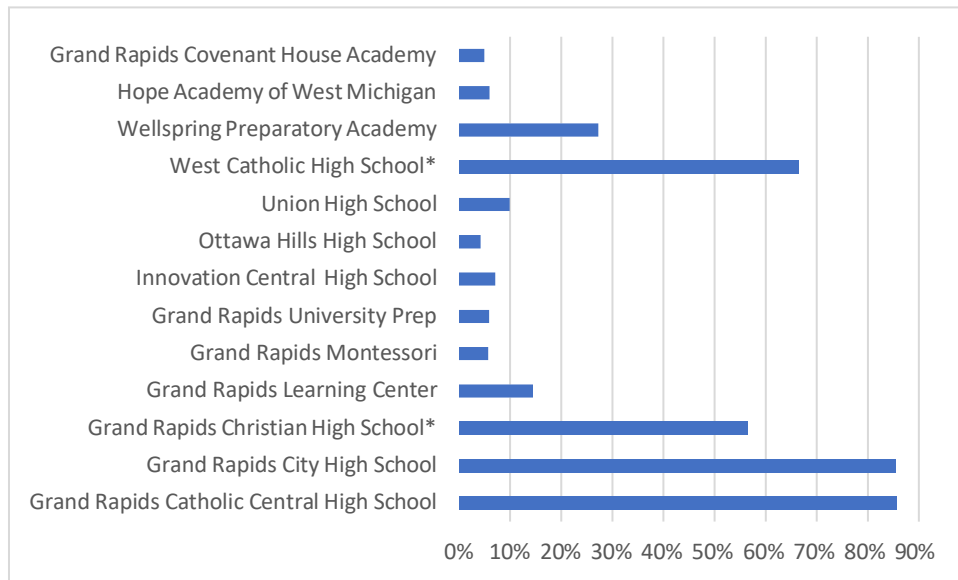
² American Community Survey (2017). “Children Characteristics: 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.” U.S. Census Bureau. Washington, DC.

³ MISchoolData (2019). “Student Count.” Michigan Department of Education. Lansing, MI.

⁴ Free or reduced lunch is calculated on a sliding scale based upon household size and income. The scale ranges from \$80,346 (household of 8) to \$16,237 (household of 1)

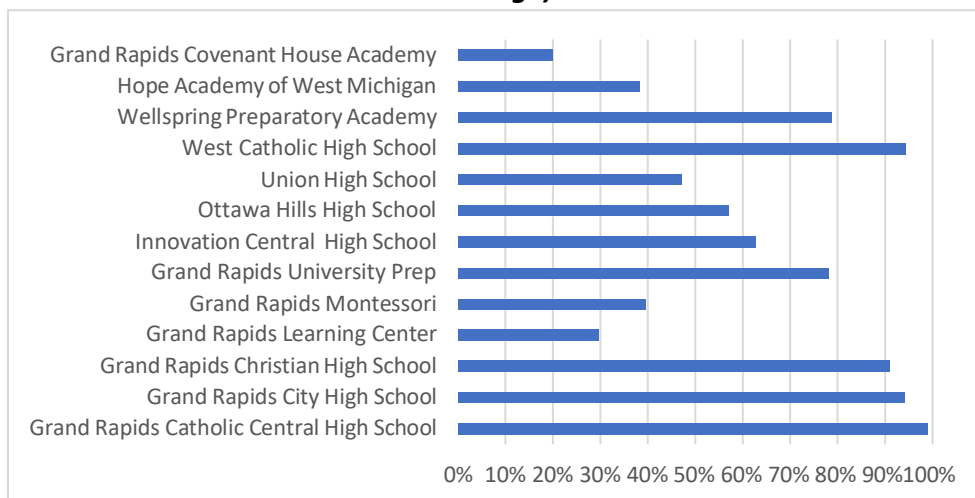
High School, and Grand Rapids Catholic Central are the only schools within the City in which over 50% of students met or exceeded the SAT college readiness benchmark. Comparing readiness to actual college enrollment (see Graph 5 below), there is some alignment. University Prep may be the exception with 6% meeting or exceeding the SAT College Readiness Benchmark but with 78% of graduates enrolling into college within 12 months.

Graph 4: % of Students Meeting or Exceeding SAT College Readiness Benchmark (3-Year Average)⁵



* 2-Year Average

Graph 5: % of Graduates Enrolling in a Post-Secondary Institution Within 12 Months (3-Year Average)⁶

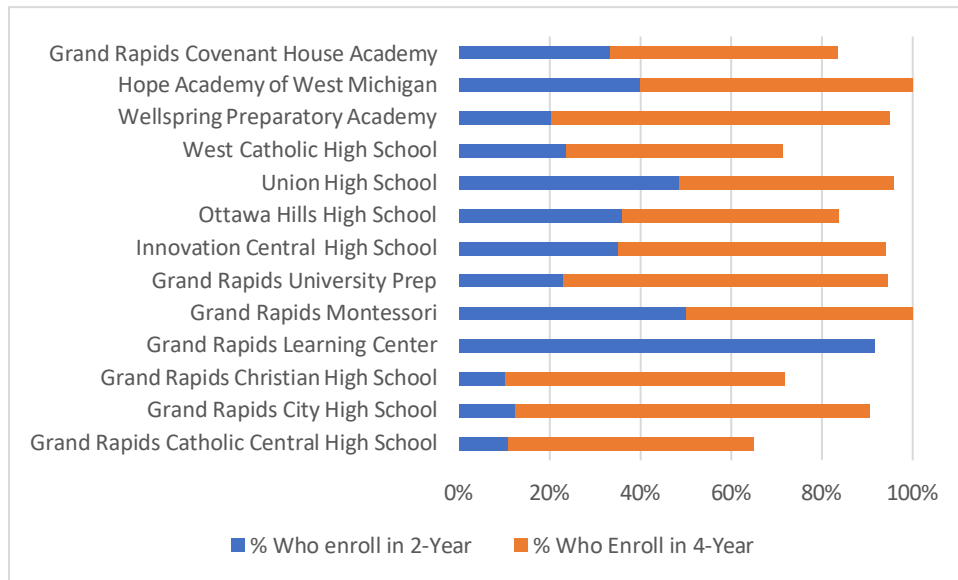


⁵ MISchoolData (2019). "College Readiness." Michigan Department of Education. Lansing, MI.

⁶ MISchoolData (2019). "Postsecondary Outcomes by High School." Michigan Department of Education. Lansing, MI.

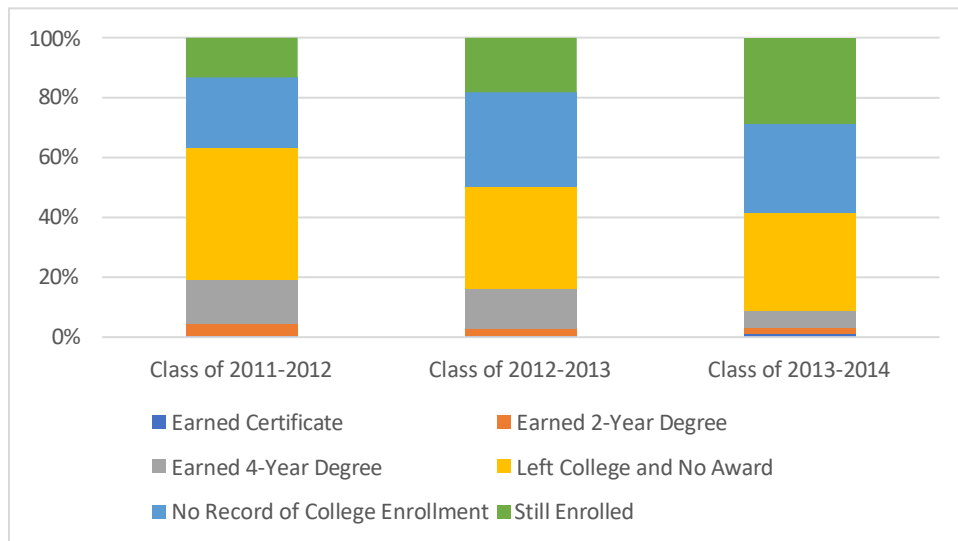
All schools within the Grand Rapids Promise Zone Authority for which data was available enroll over 60% of their college-bound graduates at in-state institutions as Graph 6 details. The parochial schools have the lowest percentage of graduates enrolling in-state.

Graph 6: % of College-Bound Graduates Enrolling In-State within 12 Months (2017-2018)⁷



College completion figures are not available for the parochial schools at this point. Data is available, however, for GRPS and for the public charter schools within the District (i.e. Wellspring Preparatory Academy, Covenant House Academy, and Hope Academy).

Graph 7: 3-Year Post-Secondary Outcomes for Public and Charter Schools in the City of Grand Rapids⁷



⁷ MISchoolData (2019). "Postsecondary Outcomes by High School." Michigan Department of Education. Lansing, MI.

Graph 7 details the combined post-secondary outcomes for all public and public charter schools within the City of Grand Rapids for three graduating classes.⁸ For the Class of 2011-2012, 19% earned some level of post-graduation certificate or degree. That level of attainment is fairly consistent with the class of 2012-2013 and 2013-2014, especially considering the percentage of students who are still enrolled. Considering the data available regarding the college readiness and socioeconomic background of students enrolled at the parochial schools, it is likely these figures are higher for all students in the City.

XII. GRAND RAPIDS PROMISE ZONE SCHOLARSHIP PROJECTIONS

The 10-year scholarship usage projections have been provided below in Table 2. To calculate the number of students who continue from year 1 to year 2 and from year 2 to year 3, a persistence rate of 65 percent was used. This is slightly higher than the 2018-2019 Grand Rapids Community College (GRCC) retention rate (53.9 percent). However, the GRPZA believes that the retention rate will be higher for scholarship recipients, based partly on data from other communities with promise scholarships. It is assumed that 40 percent of scholarship recipients will enroll part-time (compared to 46.8 percent for all GRCC students). The GRPZA is projecting that a higher rate will enroll full-time based upon data from other promise scholarship programs which have experienced an increase in credits attempted among recipients.

Table 2: Grand Rapids Promise Zone Scholarship Usage Projections

Year of High School Graduation	# of Eligible Graduates	% Enrolling at GRCC	College Academic Year										
			2020 - 2021	2021 - 2022	2022 - 2023	2023 - 2024	2024 - 2025	2025 - 2026	2026 - 2027	2027 - 2028	2028 - 2029	2029 - 2030	
2020	1376	19%	267	174	46	12	4	0	0	0	0	0	
2021	1374	22%		297	194	51	14	4	0	0	0	0	
2022	1368	22%			298	194	51	14	4	0	0	0	
2023	1381	25%				344	224	59	16	5	0	0	
2024	1529	29%					444	289	76	20	6	0	
2025	1518	30%						462	301	79	21	6	
2026	1486	31%							454	296	77	21	
2027	1462	31%								446	290	76	
2028	1428	31%									436	284	
2029	1445	31%										444	
			Total	267	471	538	601	737	828	851	846	830	831
			Full Time	160	282	322	360	442	496	510	507	498	498
			Part Time	107	189	216	241	295	332	341	339	332	333

⁸ The graduating classes selected were the three most recent when students can expect to begin graduating with their 4-year degree.

XIII. GRPZA REVENUE PROJECTIONS

The Michigan Department of Treasury has provided projections for the City of Grand Rapids State Education Tax (SET) (see projections below). In 2020, the GRPZA will begin capturing half of the incremental growth in SET above and beyond the base year (2019). The Treasury will hold the capture for the first two years of capture and release it in 2022. Within the first 10 years, the GRPZA tax capture will total \$30,535,913.

Table 3: GRPZA Tax Increment Financing Projections

	City of Grand Rapids State Education Tax (SET)	Growth in SET Above Base Year	Percent Growth	GRPZA Capture
2019 (Base Year)	\$ 26,089,570			
2020	\$ 27,341,869	\$ 1,252,299	4.80%	\$ -
2021	\$ 28,654,279	\$ 2,564,709	4.80%	\$ -
2022*	\$ 30,001,030	\$ 3,911,460	4.70%	\$ 1,908,504
2023	\$ 31,411,079	\$ 5,321,509	4.70%	\$ 1,955,730
2024	\$ 32,824,577	\$ 6,735,007	4.50%	\$ 2,660,754
2025	\$ 34,301,683	\$ 8,212,113	4.50%	\$ 3,367,504
2026	\$ 35,845,259	\$ 9,755,689	4.50%	\$ 4,106,057
2027	\$ 37,099,843	\$ 11,010,273	3.50%	\$ 4,877,844
2028	\$ 38,398,337	\$ 12,308,767	3.50%	\$ 5,505,136
2029	\$ 39,742,279	\$ 13,652,709	3.50%	\$ 6,154,384

* In 2022 the captures for the previous two years are released.

XIV. GRPZA COST PROJECTIONS

A 10-Year cost projection was calculated using the assumptions outlined in Table 4 which were determined in collaboration with Grand Rapids Community College.

Table 4: Cost Projection Assumptions

GRCC Tuition, Fees, Books, Supplies - Full Time student (2020-2021)	\$4,996
GRCC Tuition, Fees, Books, Supplies - Part Time student (2020-2021)	\$2,910
Annual Tuition Growth	3%
Credits attempted per year for part-time students	18
Credits attempted per year for full-time students	30
Percent of students qualifying for Pell/TIP	57%
Average Pell/TIP Award	\$2,800

The total 10-Year cost of Grand Rapids Promise Zone Scholarship is projected to be \$22,245,251. Table 5 includes the detailed calculations for each college term year.

Table 5: 10-Year Grand Rapids Promise Zone Scholarship Projections

College Term	Full Time Scholarship Recipients			Part Time Scholarship Recipients			Total Gross Tuition Cost (Full Time & Part Time)	Total Pell Grant Injection	Annual Net Scholarship Cost
	#	Tuition, Fees, Books Per Student	Total FT Scholarship Cost	#	Tuition, Fees, Books Per Student	Total PT Scholarship Cost			
2020 - 2021	160	\$ 4,996	\$ 799,360	107	\$ 2,910	\$ 311,370	\$ 1,110,730	\$ (426,987)	\$ 683,743
2021 - 2022	282	\$ 5,146	\$ 1,451,138	189	\$ 2,997	\$ 566,490	\$ 2,017,628	\$ (753,224)	\$ 1,264,403
2022 - 2023	322	\$ 5,300	\$ 1,706,683	216	\$ 3,087	\$ 666,839	\$ 2,373,522	\$ (860,371)	\$ 1,513,151
2023 - 2024	360	\$ 5,459	\$ 1,965,335	241	\$ 3,180	\$ 766,340	\$ 2,731,675	\$ (961,121)	\$ 1,770,555
2024 - 2025	442	\$ 5,623	\$ 2,485,385	295	\$ 3,275	\$ 966,193	\$ 3,451,578	\$ (1,178,612)	\$ 2,272,965
2025 - 2026	496	\$ 5,792	\$ 2,872,700	332	\$ 3,373	\$ 1,119,998	\$ 3,992,698	\$ (1,324,140)	\$ 2,668,558
2026 - 2027	510	\$ 5,965	\$ 3,042,397	341	\$ 3,475	\$ 1,184,870	\$ 4,227,268	\$ (1,360,921)	\$ 2,866,346
2027 - 2028	507	\$ 6,144	\$ 3,115,236	339	\$ 3,579	\$ 1,213,258	\$ 4,328,494	\$ (1,352,925)	\$ 2,975,569
2028 - 2029	498	\$ 6,329	\$ 3,151,734	332	\$ 3,686	\$ 1,223,852	\$ 4,375,586	\$ (1,327,338)	\$ 3,048,248
2029 - 2030	498	\$ 6,519	\$ 3,246,286	333	\$ 3,797	\$ 1,264,364	\$ 4,510,650	\$ (1,328,937)	\$ 3,181,713
10-YEAR TOTAL									\$ 22,245,251

Table 6 provides an itemized list of administration items for each of the next 10 years. It is estimated that costs will increase 3 percent annually to account for inflation. The GRCC administration line item accounts for the addition of a full-time staff position who will be a GRCC employee but whose duties are solely dedicated to administration of the Grand Rapids Promise Zone Scholarship. To accommodate the growing number of scholarship recipients, an additional part-time staff member will be added in the 2023-2024 college term. That position will be expanded to full-time in the 2024-2025 college term.

Table 6: Itemized Administration Budget

College Term	Marketing	GRCC Admin	Audit	GRPS Accounting	Legal	Misc.	Program Development & Evaluation	Total
2020 - 2021	\$ 40,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 3,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 85,000	\$ 263,000
2021 - 2022	\$ 41,200	\$ 103,000	\$ 10,300	\$ 3,090	\$ 20,600	\$ 5,150	\$ 15,000	\$ 198,340
2022 - 2023	\$ 42,436	\$ 106,090	\$ 10,609	\$ 3,183	\$ 21,218	\$ 5,305	\$ 15,450	\$ 204,291
2023 - 2024	\$ 43,710	\$ 159,273	\$ 10,928	\$ 3,279	\$ 21,855	\$ 5,465	\$ 15,914	\$ 260,424
2024 - 2025	\$ 45,022	\$ 214,052	\$ 11,256	\$ 3,378	\$ 22,511	\$ 5,629	\$ 16,392	\$ 318,240
2025 - 2026	\$ 46,373	\$ 220,474	\$ 11,594	\$ 3,480	\$ 23,187	\$ 5,798	\$ 16,884	\$ 327,790
2026 - 2027	\$ 47,765	\$ 227,089	\$ 11,942	\$ 3,585	\$ 23,883	\$ 5,972	\$ 17,391	\$ 337,627
2027 - 2028	\$ 49,198	\$ 233,902	\$ 12,301	\$ 3,693	\$ 24,600	\$ 6,152	\$ 17,913	\$ 347,759
2028 - 2029	\$ 50,674	\$ 240,920	\$ 12,671	\$ 3,804	\$ 25,338	\$ 6,337	\$ 18,451	\$ 358,195
2029 - 2030	\$ 52,195	\$ 248,148	\$ 13,052	\$ 3,919	\$ 26,099	\$ 6,528	\$ 19,005	\$ 368,946

Finally, Table 7 outlines the total cost of the Grand Rapids Promise Zone Scholarship, administration, and student supports. As the table below reflects, the GRPZA will need to raise approximately \$2.9 million to cover the first five years of expenses.

Table 7: Net Cost of GRPZA

College Term	Annual Scholarship Cost	Administration Cost	College Readiness Cost	GRPZA Capture	Variance
2020 - 2021	\$ (683,743)	\$ (263,000)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (946,743)
2021 - 2022	\$ (1,264,403)	\$ (198,340)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (1,462,743)
2022 - 2023	\$ (1,513,151)	\$ (204,291)	\$ (211,817)	\$ 1,908,504	\$ -
2023 - 2024	\$ (1,770,555)	\$ (260,424)	\$ (250,000)	\$ 1,955,730	\$ (325,249)
2024 - 2025	\$ (2,272,965)	\$ (318,240)	\$ (250,000)	\$ 2,660,754	\$ (180,451)
2025 - 2026	\$ (2,668,558)	\$ (327,790)	\$ (393,838)	\$ 3,367,504	\$ -
2026 - 2027	\$ (2,866,346)	\$ (337,627)	\$ (925,446)	\$ 4,106,057	\$ -
2027 - 2028	\$ (2,975,569)	\$ (347,759)	\$ (1,578,582)	\$ 4,877,844	\$ -
2028 - 2029	\$ (3,048,248)	\$ (358,195)	\$ (2,123,482)	\$ 5,505,136	\$ -
2029 - 2030	\$ (3,181,713)	\$ (368,946)	\$ (2,629,258)	\$ 6,154,384	\$ -

**Resolution to Approve the
Grand Rapids Promise Zone Authority
Development Plan**

**Grand Rapids Promise Zone Authority
County of Kent, State of Michigan**

At a regular meeting of the members of the Grand Rapids Promise Zone Authority Board, County of Kent, Michigan, held on Monday, January 13, 2020.

PRESENT: Bliss, Cuevas, DeJonge, Faber, Gorman, Grant, Huizenga, McComb, Sieger, Pew Wolters, and Chairperson Weatherall Neal - 11

ABSENT: None - 0

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Member Cuevas and seconded by Member Bliss:

WHEREAS, on January 16, 2018, the Board of Education of Grand Rapids Public Schools adopted a resolution to initiate the application process to establish a Michigan Promise Zone. The Board of Education authorized and directed Administration of the Grand Rapids Public Schools to submit an application to the Michigan Department of Treasury seeking approval to establish the intended Promise Zone throughout the geographic boundaries of the Grand Rapids Public Schools pursuant to the Act.

WHEREAS, on July 9, 2018, the Michigan Department of Treasury officially designated Grand Rapids as a Michigan Promise Zone under The Michigan Promise Zone Authority Act, Act 549 of 2008, as amended.


WHEREAS, on August 5, 2019, the Board of Education of Grand Rapids Public Schools adopted a resolution to support the Superintendent's appointment of nine initial locally appointed Grand Rapids Promise Zone Authority members and recognized the legislative appointments by the House Majority Leader of the Michigan Congress and the Senate Majority Leader of the Michigan Senate.

WHEREAS, The Michigan Promise Zone Authority Act requires that the Grand Rapids Promise Zone Authority Board of Directors submit a promise zone development plan to the Michigan Department of Treasury within 5 years after the eligibility to establish the promise zone was certified.

WHEREAS, the Grand Rapids Promise Zone Board of Directors met in an open meeting on December 3, 2019 to develop the parameters and scope of the plan.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Grand Rapids Promise Zone Authority Board of Directors approves the Grand Rapids Promise Zone Authority Development Plan.

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Grand Rapids Promise Zone Authority Board of Directors authorize the Chairperson to submit the Development Plan to the Michigan Department of Treasury.



Secretary of the Board

Upon vote for the adoption of said Resolution, the vote was:

YEAS: Bliss, Cuevas, DeJonge, Faber, Gorman, Grant, Huizenga, McComb, Sieger, Pew Wolters, and Chairperson Weatherall Neal - 11


NAYS: None - 0

The resolution was thereupon declared adopted.

CERTIFICATE OF SECRETARY

I, the undersigned, being the duly qualified and acting Secretary of the Grand Rapids Promise Zone Authority Board of Directors, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Grand Rapids Promise Zone Authority Board of Directors, of Kent County, Michigan at a regular meeting held on the 13th day of January, 2020, the original of which is on file in my office, and that public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976.

Dated this the 13th day of January, 2020.



Secretary of the Board

**Resolution
to Increase the Credit Limit of the Grand Rapids Promise Zone Scholarship**

**Grand Rapids Promise Zone Authority
County of Kent, State of Michigan**

At a regular meeting of the members of the Grand Rapids Promise Zone Authority Board, County of Kent, Michigan, held on Monday, December 11, 2023.

PRESENT: Mayor Bliss, Mr. Cuevas, Mr. Faber, Mr. Huizenga, Mr. McComb, Ms. Weatherall Neall, Dr. Roby, Ms. Sieger, and Chair DeJonge – 9.

ABSENT: Ms. Johnson – 1.

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Member Mayor Bliss and seconded by Member Mr. Cuevas.

WHEREAS, the Grand Rapids Promise Zone Authority Development Plan indicates that students will be funded up to 60 credit hours at Grand Rapids Community College (GRCC); and

WHEREAS, students often need additional credit hours to complete an associate's degree due to being placed into developmental or English as a Second Language (ESL) coursework and/or GRCC programs exceeding 60 credit hours.

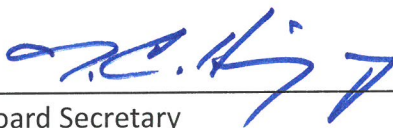
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that:

1. The Grand Rapids Promise Zone will increase the number of credit hours that students will be funded up to 72 credit hours at Grand Rapids Community College.
2. The Grand Rapids Promise Zone Authority Board authorizes the Grand Rapids Promise Zone Director to submit this change to the Development Plan to the Michigan Department of Treasury.

CERTIFICATE OF THE SECRETARY

I, the undersigned, being the duly qualified and acting Secretary of the Grand Rapids Promise Zone Authority Board of Directors, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Grand Rapids Promise Zone Authority Board of Directors, of Kent County, Michigan at a regular meeting held on the 11th day of December, 2023, the original of which is on file in my office, and that the public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976.

Dates this the 11th day of December, 2023.



Board Secretary

Resolution
to Expand the Residency Boundaries of the Grand Rapids Promise Zone Scholarship

Grand Rapids Promise Zone Authority
County of Kent, State of Michigan

At a regular meeting of the members of the Grand Rapids Promise Zone Authority Board, County of Kent, Michigan, held on Monday, December 11, 2023.

PRESENT: Mayor Bliss, Mr. Cuevas, Mr. Faber, Mr. Huizenga, Mr. McComb, Ms. Weatherall Neall, Dr. Roby, Ms. Sieger, and Chair DeJonge – 9.

ABSENT: Ms. Johnson – 1.

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Member Mr. Cuevas and seconded by Member Ms. Weatherall Neal.

WHEREAS, the Grand Rapids Promise Zone Authority Development Plan indicates that in order for a student to be eligible for the scholarship, they must reside within the boundaries of the Grand Rapids Public School (GRPS) District service area, graduate from a high school located within the GRPS district service area boundaries, complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) each year, if eligible, and enroll at Grand Rapids Community college (GRCC); and

WHEREAS,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that:

1. The Grand Rapids Promise Zone will expand the residential boundaries to include those who live within the City of Grand Rapids and meet all of the other eligibility criteria.

2. The Grand Rapids Promise Zone Authority Board authorizes the Grand Rapids Promise Zone Director to submit this change to the Development Plan to the Michigan Department of Treasury.

CERTIFICATE OF THE SECRETARY

I, the undersigned, being the duly qualified and acting Secretary of the Grand Rapids Promise Zone Authority Board of Directors, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Grand Rapids Promise Zone Authority Board of Directors, of Kent County, Michigan at a regular meeting held on the 11th day of December, 2023, the original of which is on file in my office, and that the public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976.

Dates this the 11th day of December, 2023.



Board Secretary