

Sauk Valley Community College
July 22, 2024

Action Item 5.7

Topic: ICCB FY 2025 Capital Project Requests (RAMP) for FY 2026 Budget

College Health Metric: Campus Environment – College facilities and grounds are clean and updated; the campus is safe, secure, and welcoming.

Presented By: Dr. David Hellmich

Presentation:

The Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) annually requires each district to submit State-funded capital project requests through the Resource Allocation and Management Program (RAMP) process. Project requirements and ranking criteria are detailed in the ICCB System Administrative Rules. RAMP submittals are due each year on August 1, and project applications require a Board Resolution to commit the required 25% local match requirement.

Recommendation:

The administration recommends the Board adopt the attached resolution approving the attached RAMP projects and committing estimated local funds if a project is selected for State funding.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MATCHING FUNDS COMMITMENT

I hereby certify that the Board of Trustees of Sauk Valley Community College, District #506, meeting in their regular session on July 22, 2024, with a quorum present, officially authorized the submission of the Fiscal Year 2025 RAMP Community College Capital Project Request.

- I certify that the board reviewed and approved the attached programmatic justification, scope of work, and related forms for the project(s) identified below.
- I further certify that board has made a commitment to either use available assets and/or credits, or to make local funds available for the project requested as indicated below, should a project be approved.

Project Name	CTE Expansion	Corporate and Community Space	Learning Commons Upgrades
Priority Ranking	1	2	3
Total Project Cost	\$ 16,654,000	\$ 16,653,000	\$ 7,862,000
Local Match %	25%	25%	25%
Local Match Need	\$ 4,163,500	\$ 4,163,250	\$ 1,965,500

**Proposed Source(s) of
Local Funding**

Available Local			
Fund Balances	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Protection, Health, and			
Safety Tax Levy	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Other Debt Issue	\$ 4,163,500	\$ 4,163,250	\$ 1,965,500
Other	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Local Match	\$ 4,163,500	\$ 4,163,250	\$ 1,965,500

ADOPTION: This 22nd day of July, 2024

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF SAUK VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT NO. 506, COUNTIES OF WHITESIDE, LEE, OGLE, HENRY, BUREAU, AND CARROLL, AND THE STATE OF ILLINOIS (THE "DISTRICT").

Chairman, Board of Trustees, Sauk Valley Community College District No. 506, Counties of Whiteside, Lee, Ogle, Henry Bureau, and Carroll, and State of Illinois

Secretary, Board of Trustees, Sauk Valley Community College District No. 506, Counties of Whiteside, Lee, Ogle, Henry Bureau, and Carroll, and State of Illinois

CTE Expansion

Estimated Local Funds (25% minimum)	4,163,500
Estimated State Funds	12,490,500
Estimated Total Funds	16,554,000

The project planning phase will encompass a college-wide assessment to determine critical enhancements necessary to ensure SVCC's CTE space and equipment is suitable to serve the District's students. Additionally, the College will engage a certified architect/engineer to assist with project planning and construction oversight.

The CTE expansion at SVCC will require a 10,000 sq ft. addition to the west-end of the SVCC's main facility. The expansion will make room for SVCC's CTE programs, including but not limited to, Agriculture, Welding, Multicraft Technology, HVAC, and Electrical Engineering. Site preparations for the expansion footprint will require the demolition of two existing substandard structures and excavation of existing employee parking.

The expansion will also require additions to SVCC's main facility's electrical and HVAC infrastructure.

Sauk Valley Community College's mission is rooted heavily in the need to respond to community needs, most notably workforce development. Approximately 40% of the college's students are enrolled in career/technical education programs that feed directly into the local workforce pipeline. Currently, the college operates most of its career/technical programming, such as the manufacturing programs, within the westward area of the college campus. The demand to continue producing workforce professionals in Welding, Multicraft Technology, HVAC, Robotics, and Electrical Engineering is growing at the local, state, and national levels. Having more space to expand these programs and training is essential to fill the dire needs of our local manufacturing workforce, but to also bridge the skills gap that threatens their growth and the local economy's potential to grow through providing an educated workforce. Not only is classroom space vital to fulfilling these needs, but housing the necessary equipment that aligns to the workforce training will be necessary.

Sauk Valley Community College is also embarking upon a multi-year, multi-dollar fundraising initiative to launch the Sauk Valley Community College Impact Program, an earned-tuition program that provides eligible students, who graduate within the Sauk district, the opportunity to earn tuition and fees for up to three years at SVCC, or until they earn their certificate or degree. This initiative is expected to heavily increase enrollment, which will further require the college to provide additional space for education and training.

Throughout the state, there is great work and collaboration happening between community colleges and K-12. Most notably, both sectors of education are working on multiple career/technical education pathways, which will further drive high school students into these high-demand fields. Sauk Valley Community College will be launching its first pathway initiatives in local high schools next year, one of which is the manufacturing pathway. Students will now begin receiving dual credit in higher volume and in more local K-12 districts than

before. This pathway will assist local employers to hire educated workers at an earlier age, particularly those that will be college and career ready.

To provide and prepare for these future students and serve our local economy, expanding the campus further west will assist in meeting these essential needs for growth by our students, but also our industries. Currently, space is being shared by multiple programs in the area and the need to separate the programs is imperative to maximize student learning and prepare for increased demand. Additionally, the west end of the college's land is available for further expansion to the building. Since 2016, the Agriculture program has been operating in a declining building that was built in 1965 and no longer conducive to today's learning environments. Moving them inside to new space inside our primary campus building would not only provide growth opportunities for the program, but also resolve accessibility issues, as well as technological limitations that are needed in today's ever-evolving agricultural world.

Corporate and Community Space

Estimated Local Funds (25% minimum)	4,163,250
Estimated State Funds	12,489,750
Estimated Total Funds	16,653,000

The phase of the project will encompass thorough college-wide and community input to ensure the reconfigured space is designed to effectively support the College's district for the next 50 years. Additionally, an architect/engineer will be engaged to assist in the planning and construction oversight phases of the project.

The area in question still contains asbestos in the ceiling and possibly the floor. This asbestos can be removed during renovation making it safer for human occupation.

The current floorplan of 32,290 will be reconfigured to facilitate a common community and corporate learning area focusing on Business and Community Education (BACE), Adult Education and Family Literacy Programming, and the Small Business Development Center (SBDC). Existing walls, flooring, and utilities will need to be renovated to allow for energy efficient improvements.

Besides needing a modern look, the original floor design can no longer be used appropriately or effectively as training, teaching, and office areas. For example, one classroom houses multiple piano closets that are approximately 7ft/7ft, therefore, the space is not being utilized, ineffective as an office, and unavailable as a training/meeting area. All of the spaces in 1M and 1K areas can be reconfigured to provide for a more efficient learning, meeting, and work area for the Foundation, BACE, Adult Ed, and SBDC. This would include the construction of:

- (1) two small classrooms (seating for 20),
- (2) two medium classrooms (seating for 40),
- (3) one large classroom (seating for 100)
- (4) one medium conference room (seating for 15);
- (5) and one large conference room (seating for 50).

Classrooms will be redesigned to act as flexible, collaborative learning spaces that include projectors, screens, and smart board technologies.

Conference room spaces would have large round or “U” shape tables with projectors, screens, and smart board technologies.

The theater, which is utilized less than 10 times a year by outside agencies, will be transformed to accommodate the large conference room (or classroom) that will not only be utilized by Sauk departments, but by any community organization requiring such a meeting space.

Finally, a multimedia digital studio will be constructed that will be used as an area where Sauk can produce its own commercials and videos. This area would need to have a high ceiling, state of the art flexible lighting, a sound booth, green screen technologies, microphones, cameras, teleprompter, and camera dollies. This studio will not only be used for marketing purposes, but for academic videos for teaching and learning in this digital world. Again, other community agencies could rent this space for a fee, creating an additional revenue source for the college.

Sauk Valley Community College (SVCC) is the community's college and it is important for the college to invest and elevate the Community/Corporate Visitor Entrance to achieve the college's mission to better engage the community in lifelong learning, public service, and economic development. Sauk's community and corporate departments align with the college's mission of economic service and lifelong learning. These departments include the Sauk Valley College Foundation, the Small Business Development Center (SBDC), Business and Community Education (BACE), and Adult Education. All of these departments are bringing alternative revenue streams into the college, therefore, they must be in a prime location that is accessible to the community in order to participate in these services, the east mall.

SVCC's east mall remains the only area on the first floor that has not been remodeled since its original construction in 1965. All other first floor areas have been remodeled to provide a welcoming front door for students. As one walks toward the east end of campus from the west mall, it is clearly noticeable where the renovations stopped. It is vital to Sauk's mission that cohesiveness exists in the spaces that are most seen by students and the community.

The east end of campus is prime real estate that remains vacant, dark, and asbestos ridden. A once robust fine arts program was long ago outsourced to area community theaters, and classrooms remain underutilized because of it. It is also important to note that when a person or business wants to invest in Sauk, they should not have to seek out dark hallways, winding staircases, or hidden hallways to do so. These offices should be housed at Sauk's “front door.”

The proposed east mall renovations will showcase the services that SVCC provides for our community. A new innovative conference space would allow BACE, SBDC, and Adult Ed to bring in large groups for training. Adding additional conference room space and classroom space in the east end of the building would allow our community programs to be more self-sufficient, in that the college would not have to rely on community locations for program/training spaces. This large conference space could also be rented to agency partners for their meeting needs and could potentially bring in additional monies to the College.

Finally, in order to operate in the virtual world, a multimedia studio is necessary to produce high quality commercials and ADA compliant videos. This multimedia studio would also be available for rent to community agencies for a fee, creating an additional revenue stream for the college and an accessible state of the art service for our rural agencies. An investment in the east end of SVCC's campus will yield a strong return on investment.

Learning Commons Upgrades

Estimated Local Funds (25% minimum)	5,896,500
Estimated State Funds	1,965,500
Estimated Total Funds	7,862,000

The project planning phase will encompass a college-wide assessment to determine critical enhancements necessary to ensure SVCC's Learning Commons (library and student success center) will have the necessary features to serve the District's students for coming generations. Additionally, the College will engage a certified architect/engineer to assist with project planning and construction oversight.

The Learning Commons space has been identified to encompass asbestos insulation. A qualified professional will be required to be retained to investigate and appropriately remove any asbestos during the project.

The existing walls and flooring will be required to be removed to facilitate further renovations. A new floor plan, flooring, and walls will be constructed to facilitate a flexible use space that encourages student learning and collaboration.

Energy efficient electrical and HVAC elements will be considered during project development.

Sauk Valley Community College was established in 1965. As the College approaches its 50th year of serving students, staff of the College, and the larger Sauk Valley community, there are aspects of the building that have gone largely without update or renovation during that time. One such space is the third floor, northwest corner of the College. This area of the building currently houses a significant portion of the College's academic support services.

More than ever, institutions of higher learning are focused on preserving enrollment and fostering retention and eventually completion of students. The central focus of academic support services is to provide access to high quality resources, cutting edge technology, and personalized learning services for students.

The academic support service areas of the College serve to bolster learning outcomes for students, advance the College's mission, and foster a sense of community and belonging for individuals with a multitude of learning needs. Academic support departments are housed under the larger umbrella area known as the Learning Commons. This includes the Learning Commons

Library, the Learning Commons Tutoring Center, and the Learning Commons Writing Center.

While the physical footprint of this area of the College is quite expansive, much of the space is either underutilized or not being used effectively. As the College looks to the future of its next 50 years of serving students, this is an area in desperate need of modernization. The learner of 55 years ago was vastly different from the 21st century learner we see today. Where once physical books and stationary furniture were the focus, today's learner is more mobile and digital than ever before.

In its current state, the Learning Commons can be described as both dated and aesthetically unappealing. This is a high traffic area that seeks to serve students and patrons of all walks of life, both in space and delivery. Ideally, this space would attract people to College and impress through both its physical appeal as well as its access to cutting edge technology. At this time, the Learning Commons lacks both appropriate independent work and collaborative spaces that are conducive to productivity and success. This space needs to be both inviting and utilitarian, at this time neither exists to be true.

The Learning Commons could benefit from major updates from floor to ceiling. This is an area of the College that contains original asbestos that needs to be abated. There are accessibility concerns for individuals with varying needs. The furniture of the Learning Commons is both dated and largely fixed. Heights of counters and bookshelves do not all meet current accessibility guidelines. The space lacks functionality and flexibility. The space needs to be updated to support new technologies as well as access to a sufficient amount of electrical plugins for learners with various technology demands. Soundproofing, additional private work spaces, modular furniture, and a new layout will all serve to enhance the purpose of this space.