Cite policy requirement, or explain why item is on the Board agenda:
Board Policy 3.24 System and Institutional Missions, Part 2: Review and Approval of Institutional Missions requires institutions to have new missions approved by the Board. As required by procedure, the institution must indicate:

a. How its mission and vision respond to the definitions in procedure 3.24.1.
b. The extent to which the institution will meet expectations of law, how it relates to other institutions of higher education, and how its mission, vision and purposes support fulfillment of the system mission and vision.
c. Its purposes and the array of awards it offers.
d. How the new mission compares with the former mission.
e. Ample consultation with faculty, students, employers and other essential stakeholders.

Scheduled Presenter(s):
Richard Shrubb, President, Minnesota West Community and Technical College
Linda L. Baer, Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs

Outline of Key Points/Policy Issues:
The proposed vision, mission and purposes of Minnesota West Community and Technical College meet the criteria identified in MnSCU Board Policy 3.24 System and Institutional Missions, Part 2: Review and Approval of MnSCU Institutional Missions. The Higher Learning Commission requires accredited institutions to get approval from their governing boards for new missions.

Background Information:
The mission for Minnesota West Community and Technical College has been reviewed and found to meet all Board requirements for institutional missions.
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The proposed vision, mission and purposes of Minnesota West Community and Technical College meet the criteria identified in Board Policy 3.24 System and Institutional Missions, Part 2: Review and Approval of Institutional Missions.

Minnesota West Community and Technical College’s vision, mission, purposes and array of awards are:

Vision: Minnesota West Community & Technical College provides dynamic, responsive, creative, and quality education to a diverse population in an ever-changing educational, business and cultural environment.

Mission: Minnesota West Community and Technical College is dedicated to serving the varied educational needs of our diverse populations in affordable, accessible and supportive settings.

Purposes: Minnesota West Community and Technical College’s purposes are to:

• Create learning opportunities for the citizens of southwest Minnesota that reflect the rapidly changing demographics of the region.
• Create a campus atmosphere that embraces the needs of the students and encourages the desire for learning both inside and outside of the classroom.
• Create a learning environment that broadens the capabilities of student, staff and faculty by expanding its instructional horizon to include all possible learning tools.
• Collaborate with businesses and communities in southwest Minnesota to identify opportunities for the enhancement of the economy and to provide coordinated political action.
• Secure external funds to maintain high quality and affordable learning opportunities for the citizens of southwest Minnesota.

Array of Awards: Minnesota West Community and Technical College offers the Associate in Arts, Associate in Applied Science and Associate in Science degrees as well as a variety of technical certificates and diplomas.
An institution’s mission, vision and purposes shall support achievement of the system mission and vision: Minnesota West Community and Technical College’s mission “dedicated to serving the varied educational needs of our diverse populations in affordable, accessible and supportive settings” supports the system mission by focusing on affordable educational opportunities provided in supportive and accessible settings.

An institution’s mission, vision, and purposes shall provide a foundation for evaluation, accountability, and regional accreditation: Minnesota West Community and Technical College’s vision, mission, and purposes provide a basis for evaluation, accountability, and regional accreditation.

Compliance: Minnesota West Community and Technical College’s vision, mission, and purposes are consistent with statute, policy, and regional accreditation requirements.

BACKGROUND

In 1945 the Minnesota State Legislature passed the Area Vocational Technical School Enabling Law (Laws of Minnesota 1945, Chapter 304). This legislation marked the beginning of what was to ultimately be called the Minnesota State Technical College System by 1989. The system had several name changes during the 1980’s. In 1985 the area vocational technical institutes were renamed technical colleges. In 1985 the system was configured into 34 campuses and 30 administrative units. Campuses at Canby, Granite Falls, Jackson and Pipestone were consolidated to form one regional college. Southwestern Technical College was officially formed on July 1, 1984. At that time the K-12 boards of Canby, Granite Falls, Jackson and Pipestone entered into an agreement to establish a joint vocational-technical district. Soon after the merger of the four technical colleges (STC) the consolidated colleges moved to credit-based and course based delivery.

In 1991 the Minnesota Legislature passed legislation that merged Minnesota State Universities, Minnesota Community Colleges and Minnesota Technical Colleges, effective in 1995. During this period, the former Worthington Community Colleges (which was primarily a liberal arts college) joined the four technical colleges.

Campus Profiles:

Canby – Located in Yellow Medicine County in a city of 1800 population. The campus was founded in 1965. Programs currently (2008) being offered are: Accounting, Administrative Assistant, Automotive, Dental Assistant, Diesel, Electrician, Liberal Arts, Medical Coding, Wind Energy and Windsmith.

Granite Falls – The campus located in eastern Yellow Medicine County was founded also in 1965. It is located in Granite Falls with a population of 3,100. Current programs are: Accounting, Administrative Assistant, Child Development, Collision Repair, Computer Support, Computerizing Small Business Management, Fluid Power, Information Security, Liberal Arts, Machine Tool, Manufacturing Engineering, Medical Administrative Secretary, Medical Coding,

Jackson – Established in 1964 the campus is in the city of Jackson, population of 3,500. Current programs are: Accounting, Administrative Assistant, Automotive, Computer Engineering Technology, Computer Support, Cosmetology, Electric Utility, Electrician, Emergency Medical Services, Liberal Arts, Medical Administrative Secretary, Medical Coding, Networking Specialist, Power Sports, and Powerline.

Pipestone – Was built on the site of the previous Pipestone Indian Vocational School. The Indian School was founded in 1893. The current campus was founded in 1967. The population of Pipestone is 4,500 in Pipestone County. Current programs are: Accounting, Administrative Assistant, Carpentry I & II, Computerizing Small Business Management, Cosmetology, HVAC, Lamb & Wool Management, Liberal Arts, Massage Therapy, Medical Administrative Secretary, Medical Coding, Nursing Pathway – 1st Year and 2nd Year, Plumbing, Small Business Management.

Worthington – The Junior College was founded in 1936. The population of Worthington is 12,000 and is in Nobles County. Worthington Community College merged with Southwestern Technical College formally in 1997. Historically the Worthington campus offered liberal arts, general education coursework and degrees.

Currently liberal arts courses, AA degrees are offered through ITV, onground and online courses through all campuses and locations.

The Worthington campus offers technical programs in: Accounting, Administrative Assistant, Agriculture, Biotechnology, Business, Computer Information, Law Enforcement, Liberal Arts, Medical Assistant, Medical Lab Technician, Networking Specialist, Nursing Pathway 1st Year and 2nd Year, Truck Driver and Web Development.

The four technical colleges and the liberal arts campus now form a comprehensive community and technical college – Minnesota West Community and Technical College.

Mission, Vision and Purposes Application Analysis

The proposed vision, mission, and purposes of Minnesota West Community and Technical College meet the criteria identified in Board Policy 3.24 System and Institutional Missions, Part 2: Review and Approval of System Institutional Missions.

As required by procedure, the institution must indicate:

a. How its mission and vision respond to the definitions in procedure 3.24.1.

b. The extent to which the institution will meet expectations of law, how it relates to other institutions of higher education, and how its mission, vision and purposes support fulfillment of the system mission and vision.

c. Its purposes and the array of awards it offers.

d. How the new mission compares with the former mission.

e. Ample consultation with faculty, students, employers and other essential stakeholders.
Additionally, the institution’s mission must be compliant with statute, policy, and regional accreditation requirements.

**Review of Minnesota West Community and Technical College’s Mission, Vision and Purposes**

Minnesota West Community and Technical College’s vision, mission and purposes meet these requirements.

a. **The mission and vision respond to the definitions in the procedure:**

Minnesota West Community and Technical College’s mission “dedicated to serving the varied educational needs of our diverse populations in affordable, accessible and supportive settings”, emphasizes that the college focuses on not only technical education for careers but also provides students with life skills and a full learning experience through accessible delivery in supportive settings, which is particularly noteworthy in a rural region that is experiencing significant demographic and economic change.

The mission for Minnesota West Community and Technical College is guided by a vision that reads “Minnesota West Community & Technical College provides dynamic, responsive, creative, and quality education to a diverse population in an ever-changing educational, business and cultural environment.”

Minnesota West Community and Technical College envisions a future in which:

The institution will continue to be responsive, creative in an ever changing environment that includes increasingly diverse population and needs, more electronic means and uses for educational delivery, more measures of accountability, and increasing opportunities for partnerships.

b. **The extent to which the institution will meet expectations of law, how it relates to other institutions of higher education, and how its mission, vision and purposes support fulfillment of the system mission and vision:**

Minnesota West Community and Technical College is a regionally accredited institution of higher education that has consistently worked with many other colleges and universities, community organizations, and K-12 schools.

The Minnesota West Community and Technical College vision, mission, and purposes are consistent with statute, policy, and regional accreditation requirements. The Minnesota West Community and Technical College mission and vision supports the system mission and vision by enabling the people of Minnesota to succeed by providing accessible, high quality, and high value education through innovative instruction, collaborative partnerships, relevant programs, highly trained staff, and state-of-the-art technology in an exemplary learning environment.
c. Its purposes and the array of awards it offers:

Minnesota West Community and Technical College’s purposes are:

1. Create learning opportunities for the citizens of southwest Minnesota that reflect the rapidly changing demographics of the region.
2. Create a campus atmosphere that embraces the needs of the students and encourages the desire for learning both inside and outside of the classroom.
3. Create a learning environment that broadens the capabilities of student, staff and faculty by expanding its instructional horizon to include all possible learning tools.
4. Collaborate with businesses and communities in southwest Minnesota to identify opportunities for the enhancement of the economy and to provide coordinated political action.
5. Secure external funds to maintain high quality and affordable learning opportunities for the citizens of southwest Minnesota.

The purposes support Minnesota West Community and Technical College efforts to:

- Increase the level of underrepresented students.
- The college will provide services/education to diverse populations.
- The college will expand distance learning opportunities.
- Minnesota West will increase economic opportunities for businesses and communities.
- Minnesota West will secure external funds to maintain affordable learning opportunities.
- The college will improve student retention.

Minnesota West Community and Technical College offers Associate in Applied Science and Associate in Science degrees, as well as technical certificates and diplomas.

Minnesota West Community and Technical College has a profoundly unique role within the system because of the demographics:

- An agricultural setting with abundant natural resources for biofuels, wind energy and traditional farming.
- A population of increasing diverse populations and in some towns 15 or more languages.
- Increasing health care facilities, aging population and health care needs.

Unique Responses

1. The multi-faceted delivery system places Minnesota West 3rd in small colleges in the nation for quality digital educational delivery.
2. New programs in biodiesel fuel and wind energy production are unique.
3. Diversity student programs on five campuses.
4. Online and ITV delivery to a wide range of constituent partners.

5. Partnership with Sanford Health, utilizing hospital facilities.

Ample consultation with faculty, students, employers and other essential stakeholders:

Minnesota West Community and Technical College has had a thorough planning process. Beginning prior to merger advisory committees, partners and constituents had been included in identifying the mission and purposes. In August of 2001 Minnesota West Community and Technical College contracted with the Clements Group (consulting firm) to conduct an extensive strategic planning process which, for the next year, included students, staff, faculty, businesses and industry, and college wide constituents. The result of the process concluded with a revised mission statement, goals, vision and articulated purposes. Group advisory feedback, surveys, interviews and research of relevant demographics were used to reach a comprehensive statement.

RECOMMENDED COMMITTEE MOTION

The Academic and Student Affairs Committee recommends that the Board of Trustees approve the Minnesota West Community and Technical College vision, mission, purposes, and array of awards as listed in the executive summary.

RECOMMENDED MOTION

The Board of Trustees approves the request by Minnesota West Community and Technical College to approve its vision, mission, purposes, and array of awards as listed in the executive summary.