

Resolution Number:	W-20-07	Sponsored By:	President Eric-John Szczepaniak
Introduced On:	29 July 2020		Executive VP Kelly Dowker
Voted On:	29 July 2020		Vice President Grace McMahon
Result:	Passed		Vice President Joel Pagel
Vote Count:	25-0		Senator William Thayer
			Senator Alex Hicks

**A RESOLUTION TO:** Request that Allendale Charter Township establish a satellite clerk's office on the GVSU Allendale campus in advance of the 2020 U.S. general election, and to request that a voting precinct be established at an on-campus location, or location accessible by a GVSU bus route.

**Recognizing,** Grand Valley State University encourages students to be active citizens as an integral part of the mission of GVSU to "educate students to shape their lives, their professions, and their societies;"<sup>1</sup> and

**Whereas,** Student Senate believes that a strengthened partnership between GVSU and Allendale Charter Township could bolster the ability of students and residents to shape their collective future; and

**Whereas,** Student Senate believes that civic engagement and the democratic process should be as accessible for all residents as possible; and

**Recognizing,** that the creation of a satellite clerk's office at GVSU provides Allendale voters with an enhanced ability to easily request an absentee ballot and vote while on campus; and

**Recognizing,** that, with the assistance of Student Senate and the University at large, promotion and use of this satellite clerk's office has the potential to reduce wait times for Allendale voters on election day; and

**Whereas,** the Student Senate firmly believes that a voting precinct on the Allendale campus should be explored and established with redrawn precinct lines to include as many student-majority apartments as possible; and

**Recognizing,** that GVSU has identified several locations that could host a future voting precinct with the Ottawa County Clerk's Office for compliance with all relevant state and local laws;

**Therefore, Let It Be Resolved,** that the Grand Valley State University Student Senate, acting on behalf of the student body, requests that Allendale Charter Township establish a satellite clerk's office on the GVSU campus prior to the U.S. general election and that plans are developed to create a permanent voting precinct that is more accessible to Allendale voters who are members of the student population.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> <u>https://www.gvsu.edu/housing/employment/grand-valley-mission-statement-5.htm</u>