

Sauk Valley Community College
July 28, 2025

Agenda Item 3.1.1

Topic: Northern Illinois University LEAP Program

Strategic Direction: Workforce Development – Sauk Valley Community College meets the workforce needs of the region through effective and responsive programming and services for all learners.

Presented By: Drs. David Hellmich and Jon Mandrell

Presentation:

The College is proud of its many partnerships aimed at strengthening the teacher pipeline by providing education and training opportunities to area students and district staff. In support of this pipeline, administration has worked closely with K-12 partners and ROE #47. This work has led to a partnership with Northern Illinois University to offer LEAP, the Licensed Educator Accelerator Pathway, an innovative, state-funded bachelor's degree program. This tuition-free initiative is made possible through Congressional Discretionary Funding secured by Senator Durbin. Beginning this August, approximately two dozen paraprofessionals from school districts across Northwest Illinois will enroll in the program, which will be housed at SVCC.

A review of the partnership will be provided.