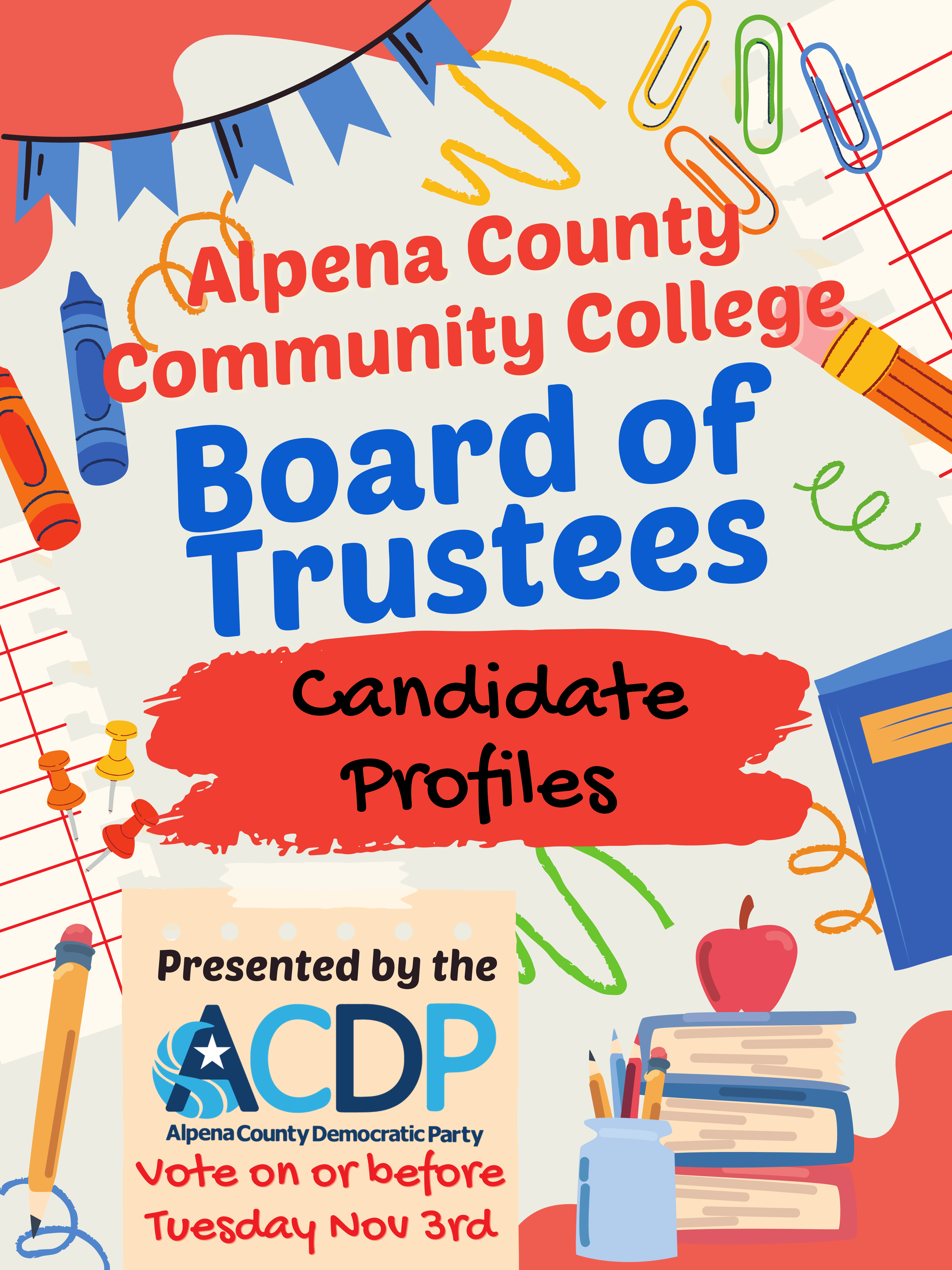




Alpena County
Community College

Board of Trustees

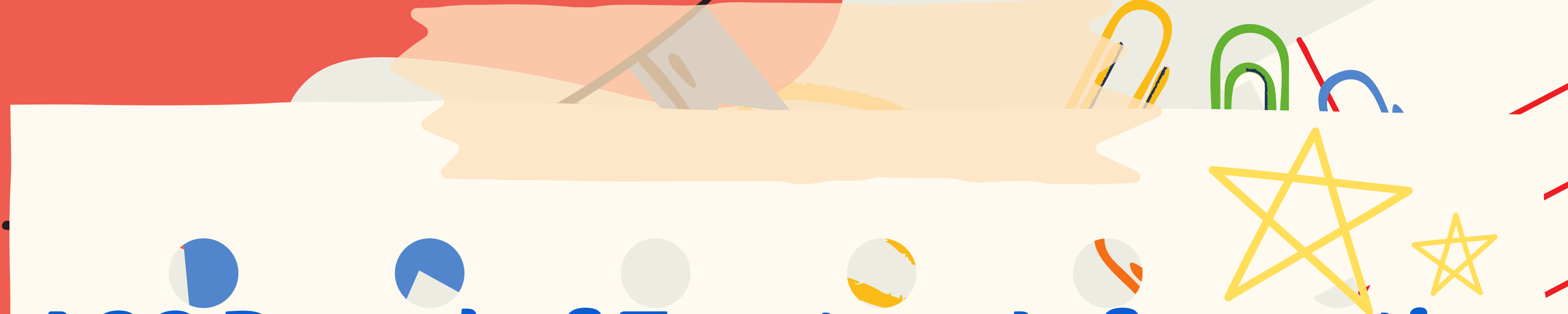
Candidate
Profiles

Presented by the



Alpena County Democratic Party

Vote on or before
Tuesday Nov 3rd



ACC Board of Trustees Information

What is the role of the ACC Board of Trustees?

FROM ACC: Each member of the Board of Trustees has the duty to attend the Board meetings, both regular and special; to perform special responsibilities as authorized by the Board and directed by the president or chairperson to support the best interests of the College; and to faithfully represent the district in all matters before the public.

The Board of Trustees, as the legally constituted authority for the governance of Alpena Community College, recognizes its ultimate responsibility for all aspects of the College including the following:

1. Selection and hiring of the president
2. Establishing the mission and goals of the College
3. Reviewing and developing policy
4. Monitoring the College's financial condition to assure a sound financial base
5. Establishing tuition and fees
6. Acquiring and conserving College funds and property

The officers of the Board consist of a chairperson, a vice chairperson, a treasurer (who shall be members of the Board), and a secretary. The secretary shall be a member of the staff and a non-voting officer of the Board. The officers shall be elected by the Board of Trustees for two-year terms.

A majority of four members of the Board of Trustees is a quorum. No act is valid unless voted on at a meeting of the Board by a majority vote of the members of the Board and a proper record made of the same.

The Board of Trustees shall conduct its meetings and business in conformance with Act No. 267, State of Michigan Public Acts of 1976, the Open Meetings Act.

How long are ACC BOT terms? How many seats are there?

The ACC Board of Trustees consists of seven members, elected at large in the community college district on a nonpartisan basis for staggered terms of six years. The election is held the first Tuesday in November in even-numbered years. The term of office is from January 1 to December 31. You may vote for as many as 2 of the 3 candidates on your ballot for this race.

Why isn't the ACDP endorsing candidates for BOT?

The ACC Board of Trustees seats are nonpartisan by design. We feel it would be inappropriate to endorse candidates in this race as board members' obligation should be to students, staff, and the community— not political parties or agendas.

In the interest of voter education, we are providing a short profile on each candidate so our community can make an informed decision when casting their ballots.



ACC Board of Trustees Candidate Guide

Mark Grunder

Mark Grunder retired from his role as Director of Information Technology last year after 27 years of employment with ACC. Upon his retirement, he was awarded rank of Emeritus-- a status achieved following "continuous, honorable regular service" as a member of faculty, staff, or as a board trustee. In an interview with The Alpena News during his unsuccessful run for the Board in 2024, Mr. Grunder is quoted as saying "The reason I want to serve on the board is I've worked IT for the college for the last 27 years. So I've done a lot of innovative things for the college, and we're trying to keep things rolling forward." and pledged to focus on innovation if elected.



Florence Stibitz

Incumbent

Florence Stibitz is a current member of the ACC Board of Trustees since her election in 1983, and a long-time resident of Alpena. Trustee Stibitz attended both ACC and University of Michigan in pursuit of a degree in education. She has founded or chaired (or both) multiple initiatives at ACC, as well as several other community organizations, and has received a number of ACC and community accolades including Zonta Club Woman of the Year 1998, 2024 ACC Fellow of the College, and 2026 Alpena Sports Hall of Fame Booster of the Year.



Thomas R. Townsend

Incumbent

Thomas R. Townsend is a current member and vice chair of the ACC Board of Trustees since his election in 2001, and President of family-owned RA Townsend Company located in Alpena where he began nearly 50 years ago. Trustee Townsend graduated from ACC in 1971, and also holds degrees from Michigan State University and Ferris State University.