

# COLORADO NORTHWESTERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

President's Report  
Ron Granger, President  
June 2020

## **Transform the Student Experience**

Several of our students have started their classes for the summer. Many of those classes are face to face because of the CTE component needing labs and/or hands on instruction. Our instructors and students have been very cognizant of the procedures for wearing face masks, social distancing, and washing their hands on a continual basis.

Many of our students have sent us videos of what they miss about being at CNCC. The videos have been put on our YouTube channel. The students had many positive things to say about CNCC, the faculty, and the staff.

We have spent over 75% of our CARES ACT funds for the students. The students are using those funds to offset expenses they have incurred because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Those funds are being used for rent, childcare, travel back to school to finish, computers, and other things necessary to continue their education.

Our faculty, staff, and administration have been reaching out to our continuing students and possible new students to check on them and see how things are going during this time. Over the last week we have called over 2,000 students and have been able to offer our assistance to them.

We are preparing for our fall semester to be back to as normal as possible with face to face classes with many students back on campus. We are developing contingency plans in case things change, and we have to go back to providing more remote learning opportunities. Along with the face to face classes we are instituting some "blended" courses. These classes will be setup so students can attend classes face to face or, if they are not comfortable in returning, can take the classes through Web EX and using recorded class materials. The Web Ex portion will be held during the normal class time so the students will have the possible to interact with the other students even if they are doing it remotely.

## **Transform Our Own Workforce Experience**

Many of our staff are still working remotely but more are returning to our campuses on a part-time basis. We are making sure that we are below the 50% mark and many are working with their colleagues to alter days they are on campus.

Lindsey Blake, Director of Facilities, will be going into the Army Reserves soon. She was supposed to head out in May but the date was postponed until October. She has developed a plan for our facilities personnel during her absence.

Each department is holding meetings and keeping in contact with the employees so they are informed on changes that are and will be occurring. This includes using emails, telephone calls, and Web Ex meetings.

The president is sending weekly updates to all employees on budget, class format, state guidelines, and other things that arise as we work through this unusual time.

## **Create Education without Barriers through Transformational Partnerships**

CNCC is working with a group from Utah on developing a program for Colorado for our nursing programs throughout the state. This program would provide more possibilities for clinicals and at the same time provide much needed assistance during the pandemic. Erika Yantzer, our Director of Nursing, is coordinating meetings with the Utah group and the directors of nursing throughout the state. We are hoping that we will be able to implement this soon. Besides helping her local hospitals, this should give our nursing programs more opportunities for clinicals this upcoming year.

CNCC has been working with several different organizations during this pandemic. We have met remotely with board members, county commissioners, community leaders, business owners, hospital personnel and county health personnel. The subject of those meetings vary from controlling the outbreak, providing assistance with trainings for businesses, and looking to the future and how all of us can be a part of keeping our economies moving forward.

Sasha Nelson, Community Education Director, has setup some free online training for our local communities. Much of this training is working with people who need to learn soft skills to help them find new jobs or to advance in their present positions.

## **Redefine Our Value Proposition through Accessibility, Affordability, Quality, Accountability, Resource Development, and Operational Excellence**

We have been working diligently on our budget. We have cut expenses by reducing our spending on travel, supplies, and not rehiring all positions that become vacant. Our goal

is to reach our budget objectives without reducing services to our students and communities and without reducing our present workforce.

Although we expect decreases in our enrollment, we are working with continuing and new students to get them enrolled for both summer and fall. Presently, we are down around 6% for summer and less than 2% for fall. We do know, however, that these numbers, especially fall, can change quickly so we are monitoring the progress of enrollment on a daily basis. All of our employees are getting involved in talking to students and helping students through the process of applying and enrolling at CNCC.

We have refocused our marketing campaign to include more social media post, advertising, and outreach. Although we don't know the total effect of this effort, we are seeing more interest in the college and the programs.