

COMMUNITY OUTREACH MEETING AT NPC-KAYENTA CENTER October 14, 2013

Lorraine Benally called the meeting to order at 11:10am (DST). She began with an introduction of the purpose of the Community Outreach Meetings, and she recounted the history of Northland Pioneer College's Kayenta Center. She stated that since opening the center had not had any system failures. There were 41 prospective students who took the Compass test in the month of August, but she explained that not all the testers registered for classes due to Financial Aid still pending, incomplete paperwork, or applying too late. In conclusion, Lorraine also mentioned that the CNA courses were now available as distant learning but the barrier is still the required lab course at LCC which involves eight hours of round trip travel.

Introductions took place, those present included nine (9) community members, two (2) Kayenta Center staff, and four (4) Administrative Staff from Holbrook.

President Swarthout talked about the College's Strategic Plan, as well as resources not connected to federal funding, and scarce funding from the State. The president stated it is time for community colleges in Arizona to take their case to the State Legislature to remind them that community colleges are here and we do make a difference.

President Swarthout responded to a question about revenue sources: maintenance/operation; soft capital-stopped three years ago; equalization to only three colleges right now.

Blaine Hatch discussed expenditures, network services, and facilities.

President Swarthout talked about Pedal the Petrified bike ride fundraiser that was held on September 21, 2013.

Andre Cordero asked what NPC's plans are since the Diné College closure. Mark Vest stated that there are General Education courses that are available for Dine College students but NPC does not specialize in Diné Studies. Lorraine Benally stated that Diné College has asked to rent a classroom to offer Diné Studies courses.

Mark Vest offered to provide a tour of the model classrooms which are less expensive to run than video classrooms. He also stated that Lorraine and Myrtle help customize which courses to bring to Kayenta. In addition, the online competency exam is new this Fall 2013 semester. The joint technical education district, NATIVE, and NPC offered a Certified Nursing Assistant course; MVHS helped with a successful result - six of the seven students in the first group passed the state board exam.

Carol Todecheenie (KUSD#27) asked if NPC has a culinary art program. President Swarthout stated that currently there is no culinary arts program.

Mark Vest stated that some of the challenges to providing science courses in Kayenta are finding instructors and providing a facility for the science lab.

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Carol Todecheenie (KUSD#27) stated that the school district provides busing from MVHS to the NATIVE District for classes and asked if NPC could consider providing transportation from MVHS to an NPC Center for classes.

President Swarthout noted that dual enrollment for HS and NPC require instructors with master degrees to teach transfer course(s).

Mark Vest discussed loss of Pell Grant eligibility due to Pell requirement changes and the impact this change has had on student enrollment. He also stated that the 96 credit limit at Community Colleges worked well with NPC students as historically 78% of NPC Students are part-time, now that there's a semester limit on Pell funding part-time students are having a difficult time with completion. Orientation is changing to help students move to full-time to work around this limit.

President Swarthout stated that changes in Pell funding have frustrated students. Mark Vest stated that the College wants students to use their Pell Grant funding as wisely as possible as the changes will limit many students.

President Swarthout stated that one priority is helping students finish current courses and then to help students work towards finishing a degree. President Swarthout also stated that the College is looking into how to schedule remedial courses, as these can deplete Pell Grant funding for degree completion.

Andre Cordero: Asked about the Hospital and Justice Center and discussed what types of jobs NPC had in regards to homecare, and he also asked how successful NPC's Cosmetology program is.

Mark Vest responded and noted success depends on available and prepared faculty. He also discussed the physical space requirements of that kind of program.

TANF Director, Jamie Harvey: 1. Survey GED for Adults not comprehensive. 3.0 Score, we need to raise this to 9.0; 2. Competency skills for job ready: very basic computer skills.

Mark Vest explained that the College is currently implementing computer based instruction in GED preparation courses because of the requirement to move GED testing to a solely computer-based testing environment.