

## Northland Pioneer College St. Johns Center Community Outreach

March 5, 2014

- Center Manager Nicole Ulibarri gave a brief overview of the past year at the center.
- Dr. Swarthout discussed changes in with the strategic plan to make it more concise and spoke about the four tuition proposals that are pending board approval.
  - 50% tuition for summer classes and ABE classes
  - 7 credit per semester tuition waiver for high school juniors and seniors
  - Tuition waiver for last 12 credits of degree for all students
  - 3 year tuition rate planning to allow students to plan for upcoming enrollment
- Vice President Hatch spoke about the current fiscal condition at the college which is in a stable condition for now. NPC currently does not have any long term debts and the state support has declined but other changes are not expected.
- Vice President Vest talked about the increase in GED testers in the fall 2013 semester before the 2014 GED changes were implemented.
  - The Show Low campus has been approved as a GED testing to start the end of March with the Holbrook site to follow a week to two weeks after. Mr. Vest also spoke about upcoming additions in certification programs with the new Pearson certification center being available
  - NPC plans to add more afternoon and evening classes.
    - Discussions about how the High School student tuition waiver could affect numbers and help St. Johns fill more evening classes. This could help adult students take more classes in town.
  - The group discussed the importance of completion and the movement towards completion vs. access for community colleges. NPC's plan of mandatory advising has increased the number of graduates, and there are plans to add more mandatory advisement checkpoints in the future.
- Questions and comments were addressed from community members.
  - The community would like to have more marketing within Apache County
    - Especially highlighting the new skill center at PDC
      - Discussion took place about WIA assisting students with transportation costs to take classes at other locations.
- The group discussed what a trimester would look like at NPC and how that could affect Pell grants.
  - The group discussed what the benefits of summer would be for the community and the students.
- Von Stradling talked to the group about the expected amount of retirements at SRP; and asked that the community and NPC continue to encourage students to participate in the IMO program to fill that future need.