

St. Johns Center

Community Outreach Minutes

11/15/2016 9:00am

In attendance: Ann Hess, Rickey Jackson, Josh Rogers, Becky Caballero, Mike Colwell,

LarryVon Stradling, Nicole Ulibarri, Barry Williams, Ryan Patterson, Tina Gonzalez

Josh Rogers welcomed everyone to the meeting, and gave an overview of where the college is today. He discussed the decline in property tax, state funding is better, and explained how changes to expenditure limit have helped the current financial position of the college. He discussed current enrollment, which is down at this time. This has to do with losing classes at DOC, and other classes due to being short staffed on the faculty side. He also informed the group that Dr. Swarthout announced her retirement in 2018.

Rickey Jackson added to Josh's comments about enrollment saying the while FTSE is down, headcount appears to be close to the same. This shows that we are serving about the same amount of students, but they are taking fewer classes for one reason or another. The group discussed the current FTSE numbers and how that number is calculated. The group discussed St. Johns specifically; and that FTSE may be down because of more students taking course through TALON instead of using College Bound Scholarship. We also discussed that IMO 210 lab was offered in Round Valley instead of St. Johns this semester which may have had an impact.

Rickey also explained the group about the current TALON project, which is offering dual enrollment courses at 10 area High schools. St. Johns is one of the schools participating in this grant, and they expect to expand to 16 High schools by the end of the grant.

Becky Caballero brought up that the high school students have loved the experience of the Talon Classrooms, and that she feels the technology and the opportunity have helped prepare students for college. She feels it is brilliant and is very happy with the program. The group discussed the need for certified teachers being in the classroom to help students grasp material being taught. Rickey stated St. Johns is the only high school that has chosen to have a certified teacher in those classrooms, and the results show that it was a good choice.

The group discussed the need for reaching out to students who need their GED, and Rickey informed the group there is a possibility of a program that may allow adult students to take classes and earn a high school diploma instead of having to take the GED test. Nicole informed

the group that increasing GED participants is her goal for the center this year, with hopes that GED students will eventually become college students.

Becky Caballero discussed a need to have better communication with NPC and be able to reach out more successfully between students, faculty and staff within the college. Josh explained the college's current PASS initiative and how that may be able to help with removing some of the barriers to student success. He described the current starfish software and how that would be used to communicate and track student progress.

The group had a discussion about how college bound scholarship is bringing more students in to the center. This has led to more students wanting to stay after high school and finish their degrees at home before moving away. The group also briefly discussed Kids College and how it is helping the kids associate themselves with NPC and getting into their head early about going to college.

Ryan Patterson discussed the need for talking to high school students early on about NAVIT and other opportunities. There was a group discussion about what is currently being done to reach out to these students, and it was suggested that we try to further reach them by doing more classroom presentations about what is available through NPC. The group discussed that some of the barriers for recruiting high school students may be that parents are unaware, or may have a stigma towards letting their child take college classes during high school. We need to find ways to educate them on the opportunities available to parents and students.

LarryVon Stradling talked about the open house hosted by SRP; it was suggested that combining other programs and departments with the open house could help increase awareness. The group discussed how this could be beneficial because parents attend the event with their students and this would allow us to reach out to them as well. It was discussed that we need to do a better job marketing NAVIT and other programs that are available to parents. Many parents are unaware of what NAVIT is and how they can help their child participate in the program.

Larry Von also mentioned that NPC needs to be more accommodating to SRP and TEP in regards to course curriculum. While he understands there are requirements for accreditation purposes; he feels there is room for improvement in this area. The current curriculum is not covering what they need to prepare future employees.

Ryan Patterson stated that he wants to make sure that students are able to obtain an AA degree in Apache County and that we are offering the courses necessary to do so. Mike and Rickey discussed that we are offering more science and transferable courses; and that this is currently a possibility for Apache County students.