

Northland Pioneer College  
Summary Of Heber/Overgaard Outreach Meeting  
April 2009

Attendance:

Era Harris  
Bruce McLaws  
Rosemary Vanasco  
Donna Krieser  
Dick Heimann  
Donna Rehman

Jesse Horn  
Rick Honsinger  
Bobbi Goode  
Paul Rehman  
Mark Vest  
Mary Lou Schroeder

1. Mark Vest welcomed everyone and had introductions.
2. Mark said he wanted to hear from the community members regarding what they thought NPC can do to better serve people in this area. He explained that the purpose of the NPC outreach meetings was to bring business, community leaders, students and instructors together and discuss their suggestions and ideas
3. Mary Lou talked about all the new “things” going on at the Heber Center. Including all the new classes that were being offered here.
4. Rick Honsinger asked if it would be possible to offer a quick SEI class for his instructors that needed it here in Heber. He was told by Dick Heimann that it was a possibility as long as the school district could make sure they had a minimum of 15 students.
5. Paul Rehman asked for more EMT courses to be taught locally. He said there was a need for these classes for local community members as well as for people from Forest Lake, Young and Christopher Creek. Paul asked if the students could consolidate and then drive to SCC or other campuses. He also wanted us to know that the new Heber-Overgaard Fire Department would offer NPC to use their new meeting room free of charge. The room will seat approximately 100 people in chairs without tables or 50 people at chairs if they also need tables for writing on. The Open House will be sometime in June.
6. Bobbie Goode wanted to thank Mark Vest and NPC for keeping the Heber Center open. She did want to know how long it would stay open – only one year? Mark answered her that one year wasn’t necessarily accurate. The truth is he can’t really answer that question. He reassured the group that the president and vice presidents were not asking to close Heber because of the work performances of Mary Lou and the Donnas, but it was for budget cutting purposes. He explained that Heber was the smallest site, that students could drive 35 miles to Show Low or Snowflake to attend classes and the ability to expand course offerings wasn’t possible because of being located inside the high school. Rick wanted to know where NPC was making their cuts. Mark informed him that NPC eliminated high salary positions, and froze salaries just to name two of the things that NPC was doing to cut costs. Mark said that NPC will still run dual enrollment. He told the group that NPC classes work because of Nap’s staff. Mark mentioned that Dusty Parson, a NPC Board member offered the room we were using at the new Navajo County Complex in Overgaard free of charge for audio and video rooms if we needed it. That would also save NPC money.
7. Donna Rehman also was glad that the Heber Center was staying open. She works at the Center with students and expressed they were happy to hear the good news too. She said our academic students have less money and just couldn’t have afforded to drive to another campus for classes.
8. A new program being offered at NPC and open to the community is automotive. This course will not be offered in Heber however because there is no place to work on cars. Paul Rehman told us that the Heber-Overgaard Fire Department has a new truck bay and pit for diesels and he is sure we could have classes taught on that site. Mark made a note of this. Other new programs, degrees and certificates of proficiency are going to be offered in the CIS programs, such as web development and web design, with updated software and new faculty members; welding for plastic piping; heavy equipment,

construction, business and home repairs are also going to be added to the schedule. And there has been some discussion about bringing back law enforcement courses.

9. NPC is offering a Life-Line Scholarship for anyone who has lost their job within the past six months. This scholarship will include the cost of tuition, fees and books.
10. Dick Heimann recommended that college bond students first take HDE105, Success in College course. This will teach students how to take notes, listen to instructions etc. He said that "college is a marathon, not a sprint". This is not a mandatory class but it is highly recommended.
11. Rick Honsinger told us that the high school lost more students this year, mostly because of transit, housing situation, and parent's losing their jobs. Universities are getting expensive and NPC would be the way for students to go especially for the first two years. Mark said that our financial aid has increased 18% this year.
12. Era asked if we could offer solar technique courses "Green". NPC's president Jeanne Swarthout has a committee working on a "green" curriculum. Solar water heaters, solar in the construction trades and windmills were some of the suggestions.
13. Rosemary reported that she was glad for NPC's video classes. She was able to take a course and not drive a long way after a hard day at work. But sometimes taking a video or audio class is difficult because of all the technical issues. Mark told her that NPC is working on a wide area network upgrade and that Heber should have this upgrade within one year. This upgrade would increase the system 6 – 10 times of what is running now.
14. Rick Honsinger told us that the high school was adding a new room, a large room that NPC could use for larger events.
15. Classes that Heber needs to offer locally are: Small Business Seminars, Concealed Weapons and CPR-1<sup>st</sup> Aid.