Miles Community College hosted eight S.O.A.R. (Student Orientation, Advising & Registration) Sessions this summer. Two hundred students took part in the all day events. Students were able to get acquainted with the college, register for classes, receive their college id cards and meet future classmates. Special breakout sessions were held for parents and non-traditional age students.

Summer enrollment reports for Miles Community College revealed conflicting results compared to previous years. The report showed increases in several categories but due to a low average credit load, the total FTE number was down 24%. Total headcount was 285 resulting in a 14% increase from the previous year.

Dr. Stefani Hicswa served as a member of the faculty for the American Association of Community Colleges Future Leaders Institute and the Future Leaders Institute Advanced which took place in Baltimore, Maryland June 28-July 1, 2011.

Miles Community College hosted the Annual Pioneer Scramble Golf Tournament August 27, 2011. The Pioneer Scramble is a fundraiser for the athletic program. Over 90 golfers took part in the day’s event, including alum that traveled many miles across Montana to show their support for Pioneer Athletics.

The employees of Miles Community College participated in the Welcome Wagon Program August 20-21, 2011. The Welcome Wagon is a volunteer effort by the employees to assist students moving into the Residence Halls. Employees carried luggage, televisions, refrigerators, computers and much more to the students’ new dorm rooms. Lunch was served both days for students and their families. The campus Bookstore, Business Office and Financial Aid Office were open Saturday and Sunday so that students and parents could take care of last minute details.

The Annual Planning Session for the President’s Cabinet took place August 3-5, 2011 in Miles City. Framework for an updated strategic plan was developed.
Strategic Plan includes goals, performance indicators, timelines, responsibilities, and accreditation core themes designed to guide the institution for the next five years. Input from the campus community took place during convocation activities held August 22, 2011.

- Miles Community College underwent several facility improvement projects during the summer. Improvements to the exterior of Lucas Hall began in August and the Centra upgraded several pieces of weight equipment including newer weight machines purchased in Sidney, MT. Two golf simulators were purchased and installed in the Centra and will be used by students, golf team participants and community members. The improvements are very noticeable and have upgraded the look of the college substantially.

- NJCAA Region IX has voted to go to 2 sub-regions (instead of 4) for Basketball. This means in 2011-12 and beyond Miles Community College will no longer play in the MonDak Conference in Men’s and Women’s basketball. MCC will instead have home and away games with teams in Wyoming and Colorado. Total expenditures for travel will be relatively the same. Competition will be at a higher level.

- The Center for Academic Success held two GED boot camps during the summer. These intensive training sessions produced 9 new GED graduates with two additional students still waiting to take the full battery of final tests.

- Banner implementation continues. The Human Resources module is the latest module to go live. The Business office and student modules continue to gain functionality.

- The 2011 Summer Teachers Institute, under the direction of Workforce Development Coordinator Kassie Taylor, was held during the months of June and July. Ninety-eight teachers from eastern Montana were able to obtain the credits they needed for teacher recertification. An additional 5 teachers chose to take online credit bearing courses through MCC’s Ed2Go offerings.