



DATE: Wednesday, August 22, 2018
TO: Board of Regents
FROM: Scott R. Mickelsen, President
RE: **Campus Report – September 2018 Board of Regents Meeting**

MISSION

Dawson Community College fosters a culture of excellence in education providing all students quality learning and opportunities for growth and partnership in local and global communities.

CORE THEMES

- *Excellence through Academics:* Provide curriculum and instruction through multiple learning pathways expanding opportunities in education adaptive to the needs of a changing student body.
- *Excellence through Student Engagement:* Provide a student-centered focus through student and academic support services, quality faculty and staff, residence life, clubs and organizations.
- *Excellence through Community:* Provide the greater community lifelong learning opportunities through open access to the College.
- *Excellence through Outreach:* Provide opportunities for workforce development, apprenticeships and internships, continuing education, personal enrichment and youth programming.
- *Excellence through Recruiting:* Provide opportunities to invite all learners to be a part of DCC, maintain sustained growth with not only more applicants, but also better-prepared students equipped with tools for success.
- *Excellence through Financial Practices:* Provide budget oversight and expanded opportunities in education for both transfer and career and technical education and workforce development, as well as personal enrichment for faculty, staff, students, and community.
- *Excellence through Property and Learning Facilities:* Provide for the management of all grounds and facilities to help provide the best learning environment possible.

KEY CHARACTERISTICS

- Low student to faculty ratio
- Seamless transferability for all core classes
- Quality career and technical programs
- Career readiness educational programming
- Highly qualified, dedicated faculty and staff
- Student-focused modern library facilities
- Campus-wide WIFI and independent computer labs
- Competitive athletic programs
- Active student government and student life programming
- Quality apartment-style housing
- Quality learning environment in a unique geographical region of the United States

REPORT:

- Dawson Community College is talking with potential key partners to develop “ownership” opportunities for our students in the fields of agriculture and business. In an effort to keep Montanans in Montana, this new and innovative structure is designed to help our graduates pursue their dreams of eventual ag or business ownership. Additionally, we hope to develop agriculture or business ownership pathways for our out-of-state graduates who wish to become Montana residents.



- Dawson Community College has recently restructured its food service. A contract with a new provider has been issued and additional changes have been made to more adequately meet the needs of our students. This is a step in the right direction to ensure our students have full nutritious meals while at DCC.
- Dawson continues to grow its partnerships to serve the youth of Montana. Our recent initiative assists underserved populations (homeless/unaccompanied youth or youth aging out of the foster care system) to obtain a debt-free education. Students can learn a trade and graduate ready to enter the workforce or be prepared to transfer to a four-year institution having completed their general education requirements. Our holistic approach supports these students upon graduation from high school, through earning their certificate or degree and most importantly, keeping them in Montana to add value and leadership to our Montana workforce.
- The DC Foundation has been very active in its outreach and fundraising efforts. In the past month, the Foundation has received thousands of dollars in donations and pledges for the creation of three new endowments.
- Last spring, Dawson developed a new strategic plan, an action plan, and a rough draft of new Key Performance Indicators (KPI). The KPI's are undergoing a final review and, within the next several weeks, we will begin using the newly structured KPI's to help measure and analyze our progress toward meeting the goals of the core themes.