



Northeastern Junior College October - November 2022 Board Report

- **Transform the Student Experience**

Plainsmen Baseball Recruiting Weekend was a huge success this year! We had ten high school and club teams compete in a tournament on our field, tour our campus, and meet with Coach Kachel on September 24. Almost 200 prospective student athletes, five teams from Colorado and five from out of state, got to experience why Plainsmen Baseball is the premiere team to play for!



The NJC Livestock Judging Team has had a very busy fall with practices and contests.



The Theater Department at Northeastern held a Lip Sync Battle the evening of October 6. Prizes given out were: first place – ice cream maker; second place – karaoke machine; third place – record player and crowd favorite – bluetooth speaker.

The Northeastern Wrestling Program had a big weekend on October 14. They had an intrasquad dual starting at 5:00pm in the Event Center. Following the dual, they held a wrestling social at a local restaurant. They had many athletes' families in town who were at the social along with friends and local wrestling fans. The next morning, they hosted a cornhole tournament fundraiser in the Event Center beginning at 10:00am. At the fundraiser, they held a full tournament, 50/50 games to enter, and lunch.

The Northeastern Junior College Athletic Department held its 16th annual Cajun Boil on October 22. All proceeds benefit Northeastern Athletics.

NJC was very excited to have Miss Colorado Rodeo, Ashley Baller, on our campus on October 25 with our Ranch Horse Versatility team! With the help of our amazing instructor Amanda Morgan and her students, Ashley is completing her 50 Horse Challenge here at NJC!



Northeastern's Rodeo Team had a very successful fall season. This was the first team to qualify for five out of five short rounds! Overall, the team improved massively in a short amount of time. We look forward to their progress in the off-season as they prepare for the five rodeos in the spring season.



Northeastern has been celebrating diversity on our campus this fall.

Diversity events included an Open Forum on October 27 with Esthela Nunez Schnee, NJC Business Instructor. Esthela is a best-selling author, an immigrant from Mexico, a business professional, and educator. Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) was celebrated on November 1. This event included the showing of the beautifully animated movie Coco. After the movie, participants learned about the components of an ofrenda (home altar). There is also new bilingual campus signage put up around campus and the amazing new graphic decals welcoming everyone to our academic buildings! There were seven Hispanic Heritage Month artworks placed around campus. These incredible pieces of art were created by residents at the Sterling Correction Facility and were funded by the RISE Grant. There were also two Día de los Muertos trees in the ES French Atrium.

The NJC Phi Theta Kappa chapter once again participated in the Operation Christmas Child program. They asked for donations to build 50 shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child for children in third world countries. They received enough items to pack 80 shoeboxes! Donation items that were gathered included toothbrushes, bars of soap, combs/hairbrushes, hair clips, wash cloths, pencils/pencil sharpeners, colored pencils, erasers, school supplies, small toys, cards, mini stuffed animals or faculty/staff/students could donate money to help purchase items.



Northeastern Nation was pleased to honor students and staff that are Veterans on Veteran's Day. As you made your way around campus, you could find Missing Man Tables set up in the cafeteria, Hays Student Center, and ES French. In addition, several of our students and staff were highlighted in social media posts that day that honor their military service including our very own President, Mike White!



NJC received recognition from the All In Campaign as a Most Engaged Campus for Student Voting! This recognition was only given to around 394 colleges among the thousands in the U.S.



Northeastern held the traditional Hanging of the Greens on November 29 from 3:30-7:00pm in the E.S. French Atrium. The evening featured a recreation of a European Christmas Market, complete with community vendors, live music, traditional food and drink!

The Northeastern Volleyball team qualified for the NJCAA National Tournament in West Plains, Missouri held November 14-20. Northeastern finished their season with 22 wins and an appearance in the National Tournament.



The NJC Theater Department held a Desserts on Broadway theater production on Friday, December 7 at 7:00pm. An evening of musical numbers and scenes from Broadway shows.

- **Transform Our Own Workforce**

Clint Rothell, Northeastern Philosophy Faculty, lead the State Faculty Curriculum Committee on revising PHI 141-001 Old Testament and getting this course to be part of the GT Pathways, which ensures reciprocal transfer among Colorado's participating public institutions. The process of accomplishing this requires different committees to approve it. It was officially approved unanimously. Clint detailed and mapped how the course aligns and attains Colorado Community College System's and the Colorado Department of Higher Education's course learning outcomes, goals, and competencies, which paves the way for assessment improvements here and at other colleges.

Lisa Schaefer, Northeastern Registrar, attended the Academic Management Institute in Vail on October 12-14. AMI brings together women professionals in higher education from across Colorado and Wyoming to train future leaders and foster excellence in the region's colleges and universities.

Clint Rothell, Northeastern Philosophy Faculty, attend the FIRE Faculty Network Conference in Los Angeles, CA on October 20-22. This conference will assist Clint in giving him the knowledge he needs to serve NJC's campus in creating a robust policy on freedom of expression. This policy is best for students because it helps them grow; gives everyone a time and place to express themselves in a manner that fulfills our college mission; and protects the college from a lawsuit.

Carrie Knudson, Northeastern Concurrent Enrollment Director, attended the National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Conference in Minneapolis, Minnesota on November 6-8. She attended workshops on advising, student support, concurrent enrollment, career and tech education, equity, access and program development, management and innovation.

- **Education Without Barriers Through Transformational Partnerships**

Through the support of Mr. Richard Garcia from our State Board, NJC hosted a meeting on our Yuma, CO campus for leaders in the Hispanic Community. Over 47 community members attended to hear presentations on adult and community education, financial aid, bilingual business courses, the Finish What You Started program and from President, Mike White. Three of the presentations were delivered in Spanish. NJC provided food and childcare and met new friends and partners in education. We continue to collect feedback to make our Yuma campus a vital part of the community.



A huge thank you to all who made our Applied Technology Campus Expansion Celebration a huge success on September 23! In addition, special thank you to @bigironauctions Cal West Family and Jennifer Wagner for their generous scholarship donation for our Ag and Diesel students! This expansion project will create so many amazing opportunities for current and future students! Stay tuned for more news as we begin construction!



Everyone has been hearing about the dangers of Opioid overdose, particularly with the growing presence of Fentanyl around the country. Andrew De Souza, Northeastern's Safety Director, has done a terrific job procuring NARCAN, which is a lifesaving drug when administered to a person who has overdosed on an opioid. You will find NARCAN around NJC's campus near fire extinguishers in the residence halls and in AED kits. We will continue to place more NARCAN on the campus as we get it.

The NJC Alumni Association led by Alumni Director, Heather Brungardt, did the groundwork and worked with the State Department of Transportation to get a memorial sign put up for "Mr. NJC" – Jack Annan who was a long-term employee at NJC. The sign is on Highway 138 leading to NJC.



The NJC Foundation hosted a Pumpkin Decorating Contest. The grand prize was a \$500 scholarship.



Congratulations to Kenzie Weathers, the winner of the \$500 NJC Foundation Scholarship at Preview Day held on November 11.

