MORGAN
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Curt Freed, Ph.D., President

August 2021

Transform the student experience.

MCC offered its third annual Summer Bridge Program August 9-12. Over 30 students participated in the week of activities designed to prepare them for college. During the four-day camp, students learned about a variety of topics, including using the MCC portal and D2L, purchasing textbooks, understanding Title IX and financial aid, and how to sign up for the Navigate app and campus resources such as technology rentals and tutoring services. Students joined in a campus scavenger hunt that helped them become familiar with the Fort Morgan campus and staff. MCC provided accommodations for transportation and lodging to students who live throughout the 11,500 square mile service area.

The GED/ESL program at MCC has been re-designed and re-launched for fall semester. All courses are being offered with a virtual-only option (students log in via Zoom at scheduled class times) or a Hyflex option, which includes a combination of virtual and in-person instruction. This high-demand program is coordinated by Kseniya Walcott, MCC's new Student Retention and Basic Skills Specialist.

Citlaly Quiroz of Fort Morgan was crowned the 2021 Colorado State Fair Fiesta Queen and awarded a $3,000 scholarship. Citlaly is majoring in political science and criminal justice at MCC and is a leader in student government and the College Council.

Transform our own workforce experience.

MCC Staff and Faculty met virtually for a Fall Semester Kick-off event on August 19. President Curt Freed and President's Staff introduced new staff and shared college updates.

Faculty participated in a day of professional development August 18. The all-day workshop was dedicated to inclusive teaching.

New MCC faculty and staff participated in the Brush and Fort Morgan Chambers' teacher/administrator welcome events on August 17. The chambers host events each year to honor new K-12 and college employees. Several MCC administrators and staff attended the events to support the new educators.

Create education without barriers through transformational partnerships.

MCC received the 'Large Business of the Year – 2021' award from the Yuma Chamber of Commerce. Staff participated in the Yuma parade on August 10 with the MCC ambulance in honor of the recognition.

MCC launched the first cohort of the Industrial Controls and Telematics (ICT) program on August 23. The ICT program, developed with funding from a National Science Foundation (NSF) grant, will prepare students for a technical career managing automated systems. This program was developed in response to the needs of local industry partners to help meet the demand for knowledgeable technicians in northeast Colorado. MCC offered fall semester in-state tuition scholarships to the first ten students who enrolled in the program.

Redefine our value proposition through accessibility, affordability, quality, accountability, resource development, and operational excellence.

Upgrades were made to the heating and ventilation filters on MCC's Fort Morgan campus to improve the health and safety of students and staff by increasing protection against the spread of viruses and other harmful agents. Enhancements included installing high MERV and electrostatic filters as well as ultraviolet C (UVC) lights inside the ductwork. The exterior campus buildings were added to the main control system to increase efficiencies and enable the ability to monitor and troubleshoot concerns in a timelier manner.

MCC offered a free "Help for QuickBooks" community workshop at the Limon Center on August 18. The two-hour session was designed to help participants learn more about this tool for managing personal or business financial records.

The MCC Center for Arts and Community Enrichment's (CACE's) Gallery of Fine Art is hosting an exhibit by Colorado watercolor artist Jeff Stoddard August 5 – September 2. An artist reception was held August 19 in conjunction with the CACE "Third Thursday Art Walk" in downtown Fort Morgan. The exhibit and reception were offered free to the public.