



Curt Freed, Ph.D., President

September/October/November 2021

Transform the student experience.

MCC hosted the annual Roadrunner Rush event for students on September 9. The event included games and activities that facilitated interaction with representatives from student groups and staff from financial aid and advising.



MCC students Benjamin Grydosky, J.D. Nelson, Cody Jones, Matthew Holdren, Ricardo Reyes, Brody Hammer, and Guillermo Hernandez were each awarded a \$500 scholarship at the 2021 Fort Morgan Fall Harvest Car Show to use towards classes in MCC's Automotive Service Technology or Auto Collision programs.



MCC Multicultural Club hosted the second Annual Salsa Contest on September 28. Staff and students were encouraged to enter their favorite homemade salsas or serve as testers and voters. First place was awarded to Robert Sakamoto, MCC employee, for his “Atomic Wedgie” salsa. Crystal Manes and Daniel Kline, also MCC employees, tied for second place.

SGA President and Media Design student, Citlaly Quiroz, created a film recognizing and honoring Native American and other Indigenous People of the Fort Morgan area. Citlaly interviewed a Fort Morgan High School student who shared about her family’s culture in the film. The film premiered October 11 on the Fort Morgan campus.

MCC’s Student Nurse Association (SNA) Club hosted a blood drive October 25, open to students, employees, and community members. The SNA Club exceeded their goal by 50%, with a total of 24 full donations and several partial donations.

Transform our own workforce experience.

MCC employees gathered October 19 for a Professional Development Day that focused on emergency preparedness on campus and teambuilding. The primary activity involved working in-person in small groups to review and discuss key emergency responses and debriefing virtually as a large group. During the last few hours of the day, staff participated in Work-Life Balance activities such as disc golf, corn hole, gentle stretching, aroma therapy, book club, board/card games and more, fostering a fun and team-oriented atmosphere.

MCC Bennett Center Regional Director, Robbin Schinke, participated in the Trunk or Treat event in Bennett, Colorado on October 28. Robbin brought her MCC unicorn recruiters to attract trick or treaters during the event. Cotton and Eddie are miniature horses trained to provide therapeutic care.



MCC is offering a professional development series for faculty in inclusive teaching, using Title V grant funds. Dr. Michael Benitez, VP of Diversity and Inclusion at Metro State University of Denver and Fleurette King, Equity Educator at CSU will facilitate these workshops. These sessions will include topics that demonstrate why inclusive teaching is important; barriers to inclusive teaching; what inclusive teaching looks like in class syllabi, classroom management, and student engagement; implicit bias; inclusive leadership; and power and privilege. The fall series began September 2021 and will conclude December 2021.

Create education without barriers through transformational partnerships.

In partnership with Northeast Colorado Health Department, MCC has been the host site for a free drive-thru COVID testing clinic on Saturdays from 10 AM - 2 PM at the Fort Morgan campus.

MCC hosted the first annual “GrowHer” event for sophomore girls from high schools throughout the MCC service area. The objective of the event was to inspire young women and demonstrate how an entrepreneurial spirit can develop into a career. Fifty-eight girls and their chaperones participated in presentations and activities exposing them to possible careers in the agriculture industry.



The learning sessions focused on animal health, entrepreneurship, precision agriculture technology, and agriculture literacy, all taught by women from communities located in Morgan County. Eleven local vendors participated in the Cottage Industry Showcase, providing items from their small businesses for purchase.

The vendors helped the girls understand the role agriculture plays in items they purchase and consume. The students received Roadrunner Bucks to purchase items from the participating vendors.

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

Morgan Community College (MCC) received a Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) Program Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) grant in the amount of \$4.7 Million over five years. This grant will provide additional resources to increase outreach and develop STEM curriculum for K-12 students and provide a variety of resources such as improved facilities, advising/tutoring support, and opportunities to participate in research that will bring equity among students, regardless of ethnicity and background.

Morgan Community College (MCC) was awarded \$1.1 million through HB21-1264 to support the Industrial Electrical/Mechanical Maintenance program, implemented in 2016, in response to industry need to prepare individuals to register as an electrical journeyman applicant. The \$1.1 million will be used to construct a larger building to accommodate the growing program and create sufficient space to house the large equipment necessary to provide students with an ideal learning environment.

Morgan Community College (MCC) received notice on November 12, 2021, from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) that its Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) Program was approved for accreditation. The accreditation is retroactive to February 17, 2021. The BSN program is the first baccalaureate degree offered by MCC.