



## Northeastern Junior College May - July 2021 Board Report

- **Transform the Student Experience**

**Northeastern's annual Nursing Pinning Ceremony was held Thursday, May 13<sup>th</sup>.** Twenty-two nursing students received their nursing pins.




**375 graduates were recognized at Northeastern Junior College's 78th annual commencement ceremony on Friday, May 14<sup>th</sup>.** Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the college held two ceremonies this year, to allow all graduates and their families to be able to attend. A virtual ceremony was also released on May 29<sup>th</sup>. To view the virtual ceremony visit our YouTube Channel at [Northeastern Virtual Commencement Ceremony 2021](#)



**Northeastern held Registration Days on May 19, May 28, and June 18.** One hundred seventy-one prospective students and their families attended these registration day activities.

**Northeastern honored five students at the GED Graduation Ceremony on June 5.** This class marks the final graduates to take courses at the Northeastern ACE program's current location on campus. In June, the program moved to Knowles Hall on Northeastern's main campus, a move that came about because Northeastern will be providing that space for a new daycare that will be opening in Sterling.



 : Sterling Journal Advocate

**Northeastern released its honor roll list for the 2021 spring semester** and reports that 212 full-time students were given high academic achievement recognition, including 90 students who made the President's List by earning a 4.0 grade point average.

**Northeastern hosted the 2021 Colorado FFA Convention on our campus on June 9.** The campus was covered in blue and gold FFA jackets.

**Forty-four student athletes at Northeastern were honored as Academic All-Americans by the NJCAA on July 15.**

- **Transform Our Own Workforce**

**Northeastern's graduates honored three outstanding faculty members during this year's commencement ceremony.** The Joel E. Mack Award was presented to Amanda Kerker – Professor of Business; Brenda Zink – Department Chair of Math and Science, and Professor of Biology and Mike Anderson – Department Chair of the Ag Department and Ag Professor.



 : *Sterling Journal Advocate – Associated Student Government President, Garrett Cockroft and Professor Amanda Kerker.*

**On May 27<sup>th</sup>, the Colorado Community College System (CCCS) announced the start of its search for the next president of Northeastern Junior College and the appointment of members to the search advisory committee.** In April, current Northeastern President Jay Lee announced his plans to retire on December 31, 2021. Recruitment for the new Northeastern president will begin immediately and the best consideration given to candidates that apply before September 3, 2021. The search process is expected to take several months with the target to announce the next president in December. This is a confidential search process. The search advisory committee, comprised of college and community representatives, will screen applications and recommend finalists to the CCCS Chancellor for final selection in fall 2021.

**Northeastern employees, through C-SEAP, could attend the following Webinars during the summer:** Workplace Respect and Professionalism; Talking About Race and Racism at Work; Cognitive Behavioral Strategies for Sleep; Safe Zone Training; A Virtual Mental Health Fitness Program; College Invest; Society for Financial Awareness and Mental Health First Aid Certification Course.

**CCCS offered the following webinars to all system employees in July:** *Crisis Management* and *How to Win at Customer Service*.

**It is with great sadness that the Northeastern family mourns the devastating and sudden loss of Dr. Alma McArthur. Dr. McArthur passed**

away unexpectedly on June 5. Alma was the Director of the Monahan Second Chance Academy, a partnership between Sterling Correctional Facility and NJC to provide education for inmates. She held this position for over 20 years since being appointed by President Perryman. Alma will be greatly missed around our campus. She was such a bright, positive, and cheerful person. Northeastern will not be the same without her.



**President Jay Lee received an NJCAA Appreciation Award this summer.**

The Appreciation Award is handed out strictly at the discretion of the current NJCAA President & CEO to recognize superior contributions to the Association. This award can be bestowed to an individual, group or member college. On a national level, Dr. Lee served as a member of the NJCAA Presidential Advisory Council and the NJCAA Eligibility Committee. As a member of the Presidential Advisory Council, Dr. Lee assisted the Council in providing a platform for national and regional dialogues among member college presidents and assisted the association in setting the national agenda and strategic directions.



Copied from: [NJCAA Org Website](https://www.njcaa.org/)

**CCCS offered a free learning and development session on June 29<sup>th</sup> to all CCCS employees: *Getting Excellent at Change with Reinvention Skills*. This**

was an introduction to (Re)invention - A new way of thinking about change with new frameworks to apply to help employees become more resilient and to set up themselves and their organization for success. Employees could learn what Reinvention really means, why it's the most critical skill to master in the new era and some simple shifts you can do today to start building capacity for change.

**Northeastern held a Staff/Faculty Summer Barbecue at noon on June 30<sup>th</sup>.**

This annual summer event allowed employees that work during the summer to get together and have a little fun.

- **Education Without Barriers Through Transformational Partnerships**

**Northeastern held its annual Kid's College this summer.** This program is brought to the community by Northeastern, the RE-1 Valley Foundation Inc. and NECOM (Northeast Colorado Manufacturers). The Kid's College included many fun classes and workshops for students age Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Classes included Diamond Painting, Building a Birdhouse, Yard Games, You Can Do It! Try It!, The World of Philosophy in Picture Books, Piano, Photography, STEMology, Elementary Med, In Your Element, Sources of Strength, Riding the Waves, Comic Book Culture and Crime Scene Investigation.

**A new partnership between the Eastern Colorado Community Fund (ECCF) and Northeastern Junior College Foundation aims to benefit both entities.**

This collective venture will enable both entities to benefit, to use each other's strengths to continue to fund the needed financial assistance in Eastern Colorado, to secure and grow those assets to provide education for many students, and also support other nonprofits well into the future. For over 40 years, the NJC Foundation has helped convert its generous donors' assets into scholarships and grants to assist with improving the college. The ECCF will be the exclusive manager of the Northeastern Junior College Foundation endowment funds. ECCF and the Community Foundation of Northern Colorado will provide a sophisticated investment program, planned giving services, and enhanced regional recognition of the NJC Foundation's work to grow the endowment funds.

**In January 2021, Northeastern received the Response, Innovation, and Student Equity (RISE) grant to support the institution and meet the needs of the community by expanding Spanish language programs, outreach to the community, adult basic education, and support for career programs in nursing and solar energy.** Recently, Northeastern hired a RISE Grant Project Manager, two RISE Grant Outreach Coordinators, and a Nursing Aid Coordinator to spearhead the efforts and begin providing services for students to reduce barriers and create an inclusive campus environment.



*From left; Rene Nava, RISE Grant Outreach Coordinator in the Admissions Department; Sara Proano, RISE Grant Outreach Coordinator in the Adult and Community Education Center; Liz Krise-Thompson, Nursing Aid Coordinator; and Heather Reid, RISE Grant Project Manager.*

**Northeastern offered a Career Exploration Summer Camp on July 28-30.**

This Camp provided upcoming high school 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders the opportunity to come to campus for three days for exploration across a variety of academic and CTE areas. Camp included a full on campus experience. Students had the opportunity to explore in demand career fields through hands on activities with faculty. This summer camp was funded by the RISE Grant, which means students did not have to pay for the camp. Students stayed in the residence halls and ate in the cafeteria, had hands on experience with programs such as Nursing, Fire/EMT, Welding, and Wind Energy, participated in a career exploration workshop, had fun evening activities, and went on an industry tour.



- **Affordability, Quality, Accountability, Resource Development and Operational Excellence**

**The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act passed on March 27, 2020 and dedicated funding to Northeastern Junior College to support students with various expenses.** The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) signed into law on December 27, 2020 is an extension of the CARES Act and provides additional higher education emergency relief funding and grants for a broader population of students. To qualify for the funding, a student must meet the following criteria: They are a student who is experiencing financial hardship(s) due to the coronavirus and require financial assistance with costs of attendance or emergency costs because of the coronavirus; and these expenses were incurred after March 13, 2020. Recovery grants are available to all students. The funds can be applied to the student's account or refunded directly to the student. The Recovery grant will be applied to the student accounts after the last day to add or drop classes. It will be awarded as follows: \$1,000 for students in 12 or more credits; \$750 for students in 9 to 11.5 credits; \$500 for students in 6 to 8.5 credits; and \$250 for students in less than 6 credits. The application deadline is August 12, 2021. CRRSAA Student Financial Aid Grant funding is limited and will be distributed to students based on priority need and on a first come, first serve basis.