



# **2020-2021** ANNUAL REPORT

# GREETINGS FROM

**RYAN PURDY**  
MPCC PRESIDENT



The 2020-21 year was a success despite many challenges presented as a result of the continued COVID-19 Pandemic...

## GREETINGS ALUMNI, FRIENDS, AND STAKEHOLDERS,

The 2020-21 year was a success despite many challenges presented as a result of the continued COVID-19 Pandemic.

Mid-Plains Community College (MPCC) was the only community college in Nebraska with enrollment greater than the previous year. Nationwide, enrollments at community colleges were down nearly 10%. We attribute our stable enrollment in part to our commitment to provide a variety of options to serve our students including on-campus options. It wasn't always easy, but our faculty, staff, and students did an outstanding job of following the COVID-19 safety precautions put in place to ensure as little class disruption as possible during the year.

After more than 30 years, Louie Stithem, Board of Governor representing District 3, did not seek another four-year term on the Board. Louie was first elected in 1984 and served from 1985 – 2004 and reelected in 2008 and served from 2009 - 2020. Louie held every officer position except Treasurer during his time on the Board. He represented MPCC well

at national, state, and local levels. He was a great ambassador for community colleges. His service to MPCC is greatly appreciated and his experience and presence at the MPCC Board table will be missed. Succeeding Louie is Kirk Crawley of Broken Bow. Kirk ran unopposed for the Board in the 2020 election. Kirk was raised on a ranch west of Arnold. Kirk's experience is in education having served as a teacher, administrator and coach for Broken Bow Public Schools for his entire career prior to his retirement.

As you flip the pages of this 2020-21 annual report, you'll see many new and exciting opportunities taking place on our campuses. The Electrical Automation Control Program had its first graduating class. The Building Construction Auction House sold for a record high of \$236,500. Several faculty were recognized for excellence at National, Regional, and State-wide conferences. We continue to build new business partnerships within our communities. Facility improvement projects could be found at many campuses. Fresh Ideas became the new food service provider at our McCook and North Platte Campuses. Transact, our mobile electronic card system provider, partnered with Fresh

Ideas and MPCC to provide for mobile ordering through a MPCC Dine-Out App in addition to many other card access functions such as dining hall and concession stand purchases, printer access, door lock access, and attendance tracking in classes, activities, and events.

Mid-Plains Community College student-athletes representing McCook Community College, North Platte Community College and the MPCC Rodeo Team continued to shine in the classroom and on the field of competition. The NPCC men's basketball team was named the top men's basketball academic team in the nation with a combined 3.62 GPA. The MPCC men's rodeo team won the Great Plains Region team title while the women's team was fourth. At MCC, 29 student-athletes were named to NJCAA All-Academic teams. At NPCC, 25 student-athletes were named to the NJCAA All-Academic teams.

We said goodbye to two of our very best. In February, Garrett Nokes, MPCC Rodeo Coach, passed away following a horse accident. Garrett was posthumously awarded the Great Plains Region and National Coach of the Year awards in addition to many other recognitions around the rodeo community. In May, Janet Stalder, MCC Business Instructor of 40 years, passed away following a courageous battle with cancer. Janet was frequently awarded with recognitions of her teaching excellence. She was a long-time sponsor of Phi Beta Lambda and mentored hundreds of students as they pursued their educational goals. Garrett and Janet were two amazing people and leave giant holes in the hearts of their MPCC family. Thank you all for your continued support of Mid-Plains Community College. We take pride in serving our communities. We always want your input on how we can better serve you as we desire to continue to improve in all areas to sustain and grow our region.

Ryan Purdy,  
MPCC President

# OUR MISSION

**Transforming lives through exceptional learning opportunities for individual student success.**

## OUR VALUES

The College believes that certain values should guide each decision made in the operation of the College. We value excellence in education through:

- Integrity
- Programs that enhance the quality of life for people and our region
- Accessibility and affordability
- Respect for our college, communities, and the people we serve
- Open and honest communication
- Safe, quality, and engaging environments
- Continuous collaboration among all campuses

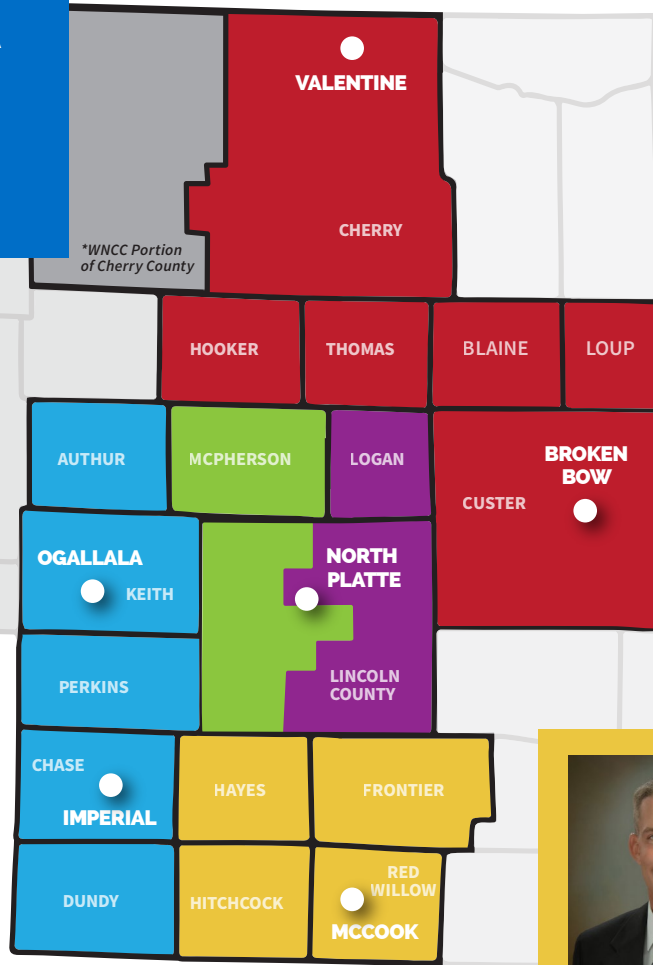
## OUR ROLE

MPCC seeks the following instructional and service priorities:

- **Applied technology and occupational education** and, when necessary, foundations education
- **Transfer education**, including general academic transfer degree programs, or applied technology and occupational programs which may be applicable to the first two years of a bachelor's degree program, and, when necessary, foundations education
- **Public service**, particularly adult continuing education for occupations and professions, economic and community development focused on customized occupational assessment and job training programs for businesses and communities, and avocational and personal development courses
- **Applied research**



# SERVICE AREA & BOARD OF GOVERNORS



**1** Matt Broz  
Alexis Davidson

**2** Pam Abbott  
Jo Etta Brown

**3** Cynthia Duncan  
Louis Stithem  
Kirk Crawley

**4** Dr. Ben Lashley  
Kent Miller

**5** Karen Knisley  
Ernie Mehl

**AT  
LARGE** Ted Klug, Jr.



**Matthew Broz**  
District 1



**Alexis Davidson**  
District 1



**Pam Abbott**  
District 2



**Jo Etta Brown**  
District 2



**Cindy Duncan**  
District 3



**Louie Stithem**  
District 3  
July - December 2020



**Kirk Crawley**  
District 3  
January 2021 - Current



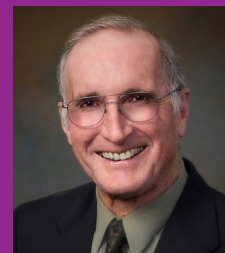
**Dr. Ben Lashley**  
District 4 (Chair)



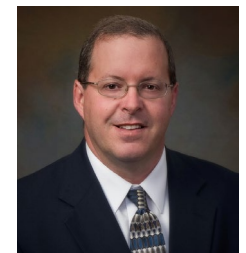
**Kent Miller**  
District 4



**Karen Knisley**  
District 5



**Ernie Mehl**  
District 5



**Ted Klug, Jr.**  
At Large





## COVID-19 RESPONSE

Mid-Plains Community College resumed in-person classes in the fall of 2020 and offered a variety of options to best serve students within their 18-county service area. Classes had been moved to remote formats in March of 2020 to limit exposure to the coronavirus.

MPCC administrators spent all summer consulting with state and local health officials in preparation for on-campus instruction, and numerous safeguards were put in place as a result.

That included staggering move-in times so that not all students arrived on campus at once. Students were contacted ahead of time to make sure they were not running fevers, were not showing symptoms of COVID, had not been exposed to someone with COVID and had not been asked to quarantine.

Dining halls, lobbies and lounges were reconfigured to adhere to the six-foot social distancing guidelines. Signs reminding visitors, students, faculty and staff to social distance, wear masks, wash hands frequently and stay home if sick were posted throughout buildings at all campus locations.

Students, employees and visitors were required to wear face coverings that covered their mouths and noses in all indoor public areas of the college.

Protective barriers were implemented at MPCC's Welcome Centers, advising desks

and other locations where there could be frequent face-to-face conversations.

Additionally, all facilities were disinfected daily, and hand sanitizer was made available in classrooms and public spaces.

As outlined in the governor's Directed Health Measures (DHM) regarding travel, international students were required to quarantine for a minimum of 14 days and be symptom-free before they could be released to participate in normal campus activities.

Housing units were set aside as quarantine spaces for any students who tested positive for or were exposed to COVID-19. The case count was monitored daily, and the ever-evolving situation was evaluated on a weekly basis through COVID-19 meetings among MPCC administrators and local, area and state officials.

All athletic competitions and public events at the college were canceled for fall.

By spring, MPCC had not only weathered the storm, it also showed the smallest decline – less than one percent as compared to fall of 2019 – in enrollment out of all community colleges in Nebraska.

Online enrollments increased by 27 percent, and enrollment at MPCC's four community campuses showed a six percent increase for fall.

As a vaccine became available, on-campus activities were added back. Athletic seasons began in January and all teams ended up

having their seasons in the spring with little to no changes in their season schedules.

DHMs gradually changed from 14-day quarantines to 10 days for anyone who has been exposed but does not receive a test and doesn't experience any symptoms, or seven days if a person tests negative for the virus.

Guests were still asked to social distance and masks were worn at the commencement ceremonies on May 7.

As the vaccine became available a survey was sent out to employees at the end of the semester that showed 80 percent supported relaxing the mask mandate. The mandate changed from required to recommended on May 24, and by June, masks were recommended for only unvaccinated individuals and those who felt more secure by wearing one.

Updated signage replaced the original coronavirus signage, and the website was also changed to reflect the new information.



## FRESH IDEAS TRANSACTION

Mid-Plains Community College started the fall 2020 semester with a new food service provider as well as a new, more convenient card system.

The college was with its previous food service provider for 16 years. After input from students and staff, the decision was made to explore other options. Fresh Ideas was the overwhelming choice based on the quality of food, overall structure, management and safety protocols the company has in place.

By mid-semester, food could be ordered through a MPCC Dine-Out mobile app. The option was part of a new card system MPCC implemented through electronic commerce platform Transact.

The Mid-Plains Campus Card allows students and employees to use their ID cards to handle the majority of their access needs on campus. The cards can be used to purchase food in dining halls and at concessions stands, print on campus printers and record attendance in study sessions and at college events.

As part of the process, MPCC signed an agreement to be the first community college to deploy Transact's Mobile Credential.

Mid-Plains was subsequently recognized with a Transact 360° Distinction Award for Student Experience in Campus ID and Commerce Solutions.

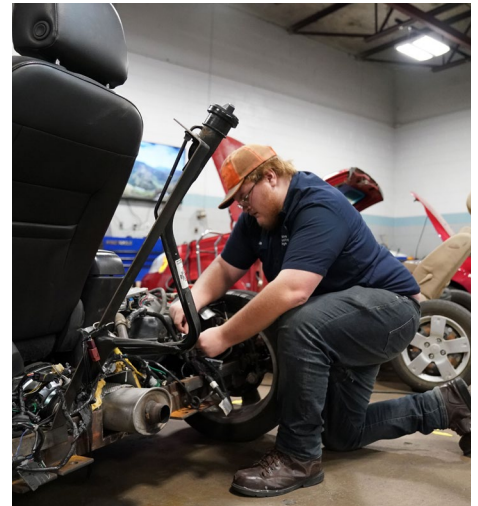
The award honors institutions whose technological innovations improve total student experience. That includes addressing new and changing dynamics in fields such as student recruitment, engagement and retention.





# APPLIED TECHNOLOGIES DIVISION

**Steve Kramer,**  
Division Chair  
for the Applied  
Technologies



The Electrical Automation Control Program had its first graduating class of five students in 2021. The new associate degree program is designed specifically for those currently employed in the field.

No other community college in the state offers the degree in the hybrid format that's provided through MPCC. Lectures take place during the week online utilizing the College's Learning Management System. Students are then on campus in North Platte on Fridays for the lab portion of the courses.

Phase Two of the remodel on the Center for Applied Science and Technology in McCook was completed. That included removing existing wall structures to expand the shop space, creating both an air compressor

room and a tool room, adding a storage area for information technology and replacing all existing windows to let in more natural light. LED lighting was also added, the interior was painted and two classrooms in the front of the building were expanded.

This year's NPCC Foundation Auction House sold for a record high of \$236,500. The winners were Paul and Percilla Lattin, of Mullen. Proceeds will go back to building trade students in the form of scholarships.

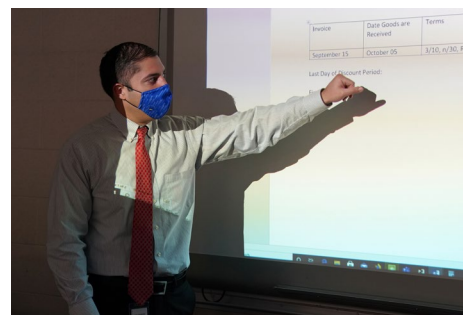
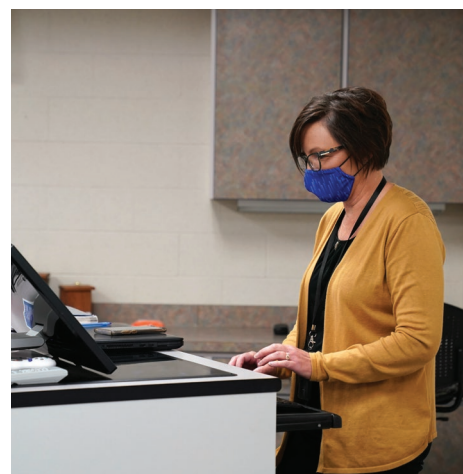
CDL program development continues in cooperation with the Business and Community Education department at MPCC. The goal is to be able to offer training and testing for students and the public.





**Jean Condon,**  
Division Chair  
of Business and  
Technology

## BUSINESS & TECHNOLOGY DIVISION



MPCC's Business and Technology division received a \$1,500 grant from the North Platte Community College Foundation to use for QuickBooks certification. The funds will allow 14 students the opportunity to earn their certification in QuickBooks and Desktop Publishing.

Business instructor and chair of the college's Business and Technology division Jean Condon won the 2021 Dr. Donald L. Moore Leadership Award from the Mountain-Plains Business Education Association. The award, which recognizes outstanding leaders within the M-PBEA, is the most prestigious honor that a member can receive. Recipients have provided countless hours of service toward business education on both the regional and national levels.

Lorrie Mowry was named Postsecondary Business Teacher of the Year by the National Business Education Association. Contributions to business education

through teaching, participation and publishing – to include major articles, grant proposals and both scholarly and non-scholarly publications were considered.

Business instructor Cathy Nutt was recognized by the Nebraska State Business Education Association. She received the Teacher of the Year Award for Outstanding Contributions to Business Education by a Postsecondary Teacher.

The Phi Beta Lambda state leadership conference was conducted virtually and McCook Community College's PBL chapter placed in multiple events, including first and second in Desktop Publishing and second in Administrative Support Technology and Digital Media.

Additionally, the chapter earned the Gold Level of Excellence award based on service to the college and community, leadership responsibilities and promotion of the chapter and its goals.

The "Outstanding Chapter" traveling award also returned to McCook. The award was initiated five years ago, and MCC has won it four times.

MCC's PBL chapter then advanced to the 2021 Phi Beta Lambda National Leadership Conference – placing in the top 10 in six of the eight categories entered.







**Marina Makovicka,**  
Division Chair  
of Health Occupations

## HEALTH OCCUPATIONS DIVISION

The Nebraska Board of Nursing continued approval of the college's Associate Degree Nursing and Licensed Practical Nursing programs.

The next site visit will be in four years. The training of nurses was taken to another level with the purchase of the world's most life-like childbirth simulator and accompanying baby - the first newborn simulator developed to meet the challenges of neonatal care specialist training in real environments.

The college's nursing assistant classes were expanded through an online offering in McCook. Additionally, the MPCC Broken

Bow Campus, Jennie M. Melham Memorial Medical Center and Broken Bow High School partnered to offer a nursing assistant course for Broken Bow High School students.

The college began offering an EMT class on weekday afternoons as well to accommodate high school students.

In August, the college hosted the Flat Rock EMS Conference, which featured training on a mock large-scale mass casualty incident. It was attended by emergency responders from across the state.





**Jean Miller,**  
Division Chair of Humanities  
& Social Sciences

## HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES DIVISION



Five students graduated with Associate of Fine Arts degrees during the 2021 spring commencement ceremonies.

The Wrightstone Fine Arts Gallery hosted the American Watercolor Society's 153rd annual traveling exhibition. The exhibit featured 40 of the top watercolor artists in the world and stopped five places in the United States.

Wrightstone also received a facelift before students returned for the fall 2020 semester. The drawing and painting labs were completely renovated. The stairwell is now hidden and lockable, a storage room

and new display areas were added and cabinets were placed so that students can store supplies.

The building was repainted, windows and lighting were updated and an overhead projector and screen were installed so that art instructor Rick Johnson can better project demonstrations to students.





## MATHEMATICS & SCIENCE DIVISION

**Chad Swanson,**  
Division Chair  
of Mathematics & Science



One of the most notable accomplishments in the Mathematics and Science division will begin in the fall of 2021.

The Associate of Science degree will now require 15-17 credit hours of math and science – up from the previous requirement of 10-15 credit hours. The change will keep MPCC in line with other Nebraska community colleges and benefit math and science transfer students.

Non-lab science course options will now be available within the Associate of Science degree. In the past, students could take lab science courses for general education only, and any course without a lab was given elective credit.

There continues to be a lab requirement and a math requirement, but remaining hours can be filled with non-lab science if the student desires.

Also in the Math and Sciences division, North Platte Community College's STEM Club joined forces with the Lincoln County Historical Museum to offer souvenir kits to tourists.

Each kit contains wooden pieces that can be used to construct an old-fashioned model windmill. The kits are sold in the museum's gift shop and proceeds are split between the museum and STEM Club.



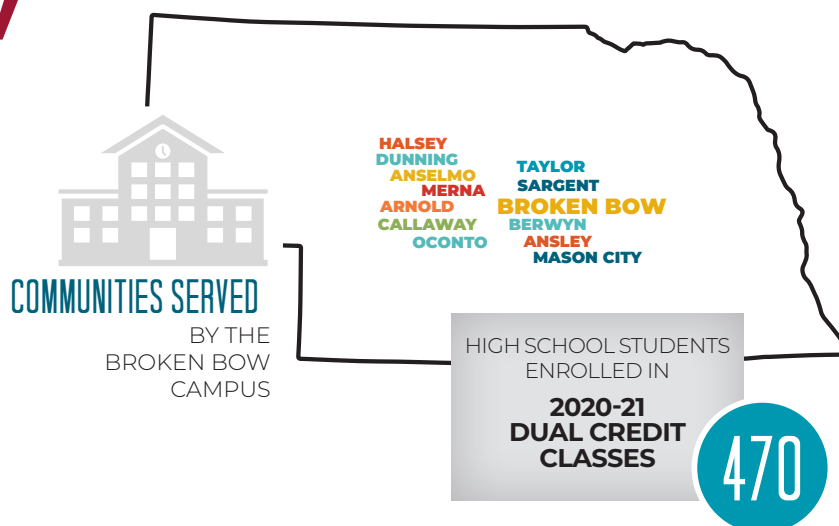
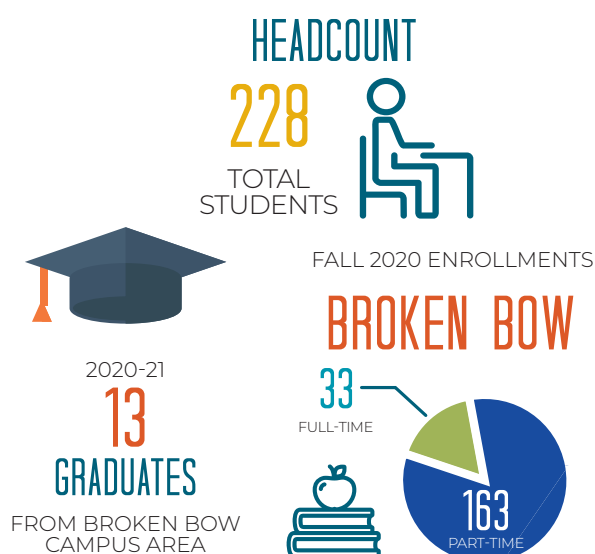


**Gail Knott,**  
Associate Dean of  
Outreach

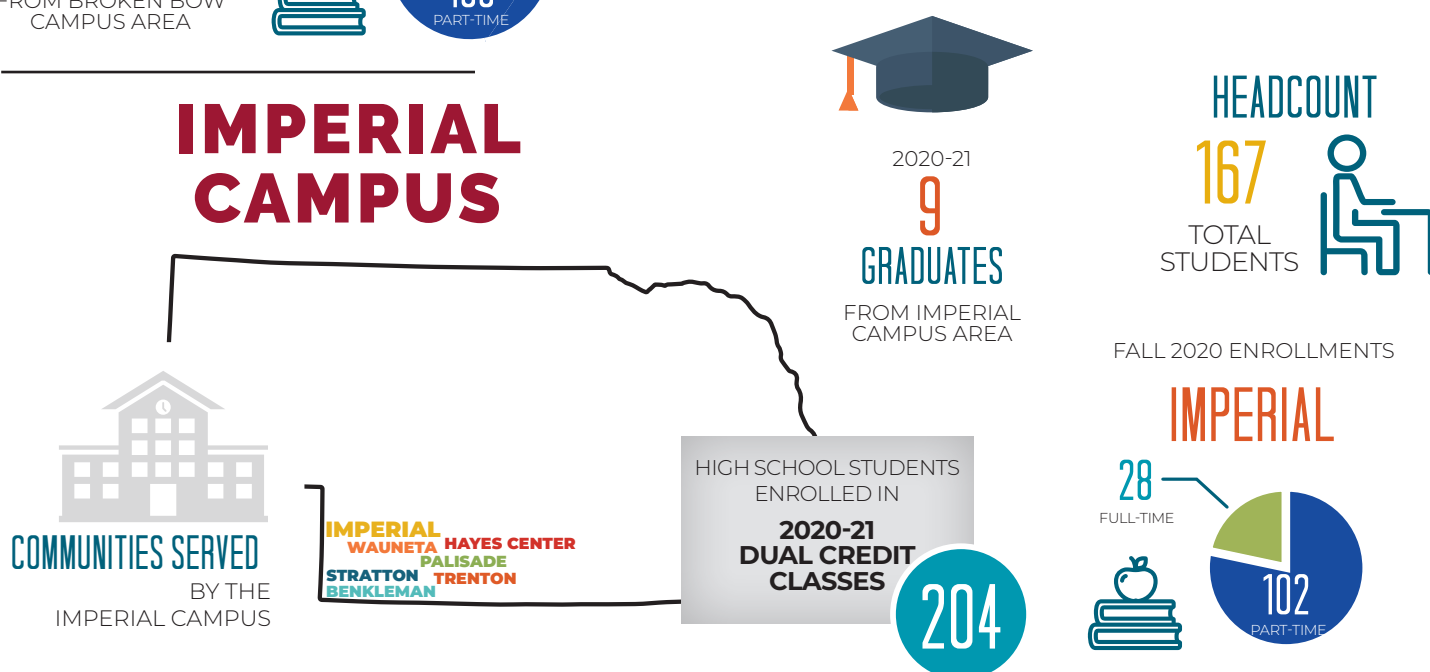


## COMMUNITY CAMPUSES

### BROKEN BOW CAMPUS



### IMPERIAL CAMPUS







2020-21

**14**  
GRADUATES

FROM OGALLALA  
CAMPUS AREA

HEADCOUNT

**251**

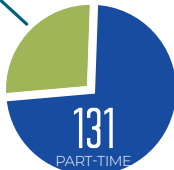
TOTAL  
STUDENTS



FALL 2020 ENROLLMENTS

**OGALLALA**

48  
FULL-TIME



COMMUNITIES SERVED

BY THE  
OGALLALA  
CAMPUS

ARTHUR  
**OGALLALA**  
BRULE PAXTON  
GRANT

## OGALLALA CAMPUS

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS  
ENROLLED IN  
**2020-21  
DUAL CREDIT  
CLASSES**

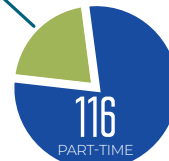
**218**

## VALENTINE CAMPUS

FALL 2020 ENROLLMENTS

**VALENTINE**

31  
FULL-TIME



2020-21

**6**  
GRADUATES

FROM VALENTINE  
CAMPUS AREA

CROOKSTON **VALENTINE**  
KENNEDY WOOD LAKE  
BROWNLEE  
MULLEN  
SENECA THEDFORD



COMMUNITIES SERVED

BY THE  
VALENTINE  
CAMPUS

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS  
ENROLLED IN  
**2020-21  
DUAL CREDIT  
CLASSES**

**283**

HEADCOUNT

**181**

TOTAL  
STUDENTS





**Gail Knott,**  
Associate Dean of  
Outreach

## BUSINESS & COMMUNITY EDUCATION



Working collaboratively with the community campuses, trainings and programs are offered through the Business and Community Education (BCE) department. BCE's reach is broad – offering program opportunities to large national businesses and local main street stores, continuing education courses for the upkeep of certificate/credentials, Ready for Work training programs, as well as community education classes for everyone, from the youth to the elderly.

The BCE department added a new team member this year, Tim Zehnder. Tim joined the team and will be providing Fire Science safety courses area wide. Traveling to all MPCC campuses, he has offered both Grain Bin Safety and Fire Ground Mistakes courses, as well as several Grain Bin Safety courses to community and rural fire departments in Nebraska. As a result of his safety programming, the college was awarded a grant of \$10,000 from the NE Grain and Feed Association to continue the Grain Bin Safety courses, expanding its outreach to rural Nebraska farmers and first responders.

COVID-19 presented new educational challenges which the BCE and Outreach teams met head-on. Educational delivery methods broadened to include an area-wide

perspective coined “Cyber School Interactive (CSI)”, courses developed through BCE using multiple delivery methods (zoom, DL, Canvas, hybrid) designed to assist our community education students in making them excited to join classes again! Through CSI, students were offered courses such as couponing, cooking, history, crime scene investigation, and early childhood education, just to name a few.

BCE's Motorcycle Safety program ended its pilot year in the fall of 2020, growing the program with 16 additional sections beginning in April 2021, and continuing into the fall of 2021. During the weekends, motorcyclists learned safety measures taught using the Motorcycle Safety Foundation's curriculum. Riders can get a license and learn essential riding skills all in one course.

McCook hosted the 2020-21 Hormel Entrepreneurship Business Competition with 15 area businesses, representing 5 different counties. In April 2021, seven of the fifteen businesses presented their business plans to a panel of judges. Chris and Paula Sandberg of Stratton, Nebraska won the competition and was awarded a first-place prize of \$8,000 to expand their business,

Heritage Acres, LLC, a virtual farmers market selling their own products as well as items from local vendors. Second place was awarded to Impact Closet Boutique LLC, Casha and Dan O'Byrne, of Culbertson, NE received a \$7,000 to expand their mobile clothing boutique. Third place was Happy's Feed Store and Fuel Center, owned by Camie Cox of Wauneta, NE. Happy's is a 24-hour fuel station/convenience store, also selling bagged animal feed, mineral and supplements.

BCE continues to oversee several grants, enabling additional programming to specific populations. Those include the Community College GAP Assistance, the Nebraska Workforce Retraining Initiative, and the West Central Nebraska Development District Pandemic Preparedness and Business Resiliency Service Grant. Robotic youth programming was expanded through a grant from Burlington Northern Railroad, which allowed resources to be shared and courses offered at four campuses.

The BCE department structure was reorganized to include a Director of Business and Community Education who reports directly to the Area Associate Dean of Outreach.

## MID-PLAINS RODEO

The Mid-Plains Community College Rodeo Team saw a lot of changes over the past year - beginning with its coaches.

Aukai Kaai, a former MPCC bull rider, was named as the team's assistant coach on July 1, 2020. He took over the responsibilities for former MPCC roughstock coach Dustin Elliott, who stepped back into more of a volunteer role.

MPCC's timed event coach, Garrett Nokes, became the head rodeo team coach during that time. When Nokes passed away in February, all team responsibilities fell on Kaai.

In May, Wyatt Clark, of McCook, was hired to lead the timed events in Nokes' place, so Kaai could return to focusing on the roughstock events.

Nokes was recognized with numerous memorial events and awards after his passing. The college's fundraising timed event rodeo in March was conducted in his honor. He was also posthumously honored with a President's Award at the McCook Community College commencement ceremony in May.

Nokes was named Coach of the Year for the Great Plains Region for the second year in a row and also received the National Intercollegiate Rodeo



Association Coach of the Year title. Those were two of many accolades for the team. It was also acknowledged for having the region's Rodeo of the Year with the MPCC Stampede.

Competition-wise, Mid-Plains entered the College National Finals Rodeo with the number one men's team in the region - the first time since 2017. The women's team was ranked fourth.

A total of six team members qualified for the CNFR: Wynn Schaak, Zane Patrick, Koby Jacobson, Austin Madison, Sterling Lee and Danielle Wray. Jacobson entered nationals as the number one bull rider in the Great Plains Region, and Patrick was the region's top steer wrestler.

## NORTH PLATTE **KNIGHTS**



### VOLLEYBALL

The North Platte Community College Knights volleyball team saw its fall season shifted to the spring semester following a decision by the National Junior College Athletic Association.

The Knights went on to do big things, including winning the DII Region IX Championship and advancing to nationals. The Knights ended their season with an overall record of 16-16 and a perfect record against DII Region IX opponents.

Head Coach Alexa McCall was named Region IX Division II Coach of the Year by the NJCAA, and four of her players were named to the All-Region IX Team. They were Erica Hopping, Taylor Hansen, Peyton Negley, and Ruby Valle.

Negley led the region in kills and finished 18th in the nation. Valle was number one in the region for digs and 28th in the nation. Hopping ended up second in the region for assists and 17th in the nation while Hansen was third in the region for kills and 43rd nationally.

The team received a U.S. Marine Corps and American Volleyball Coaches Association Team Academic Award for the 2020-21 season and was designated as a Team Academic Honor Roll school.

Additionally, the NPCC volleyball team's GPA of 3.64 earned it a spot on the NJCAA's list of Volleyball Academic Teams of the Year, and multiple NPCC volleyball players were recognized by the NJCAA for their dedication to academics.





## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

The Knights finished the 2021 season with a 10-13 overall record and a 5-1 record against DII Region IX opponents. North Platte swept through the postseason claiming the DII Region IX Championship and the Northwest Plains District Championship. The Knights earned a trip the NJCAA DII National Tournament were their season ended with a loss to Pima Community College.

North Platte had three members receive All-Region IX honors including Janay Brauer, Kayla Pope, and Diamond Moore-Heath. Pope and Moore-Heath each received recognition as First-Team All-Nebraska Community College Athletic Association team selections, while Moore-Heath rounded out her freshman campaign by being named a Third Team NJCAA DII All-American. Moore-Heath is just the second All-American in school history.

Additionally, the Knights posted a 3.58 cumulative team GPA and had six players named to the All Region and All-American Academic Teams.



## MEN'S BASKETBALL

The North Platte men's basketball team finished the 2021 season with a 7-13 overall record and a 4-2 record against Nebraska Community College Athletic Association teams. The Knights were once again crowned conference champions and have either been outright NCCAA champions or co-champions in 15 of the past 17 years.

The Knights finished the year with three members selected to the NCCAA team including German Plotnikov (First Team), Trevon Dennis (Second Team) and Jevarrick Butler (honorable mention). Plotnikov was also named to the All-Region IX second team and to the Omaha World Herald All-Junior College team. Butler rounded out his postseason accolades by being named to the Omaha World Herald Junior College honorable mention list.

Over the summer, the men's basketball team was named the NJCAA Academic Team of the Year, while posting a 3.62 cumulative GPA. Additionally, the Knights had eight players named to the NJCAA All-Academic teams.

## SOFTBALL

The North Platte Community College Knights softball team had a successful year both on and off the field.

The athletes played their way to a Region IX Championship and earned the right to host districts. Their season came to an end May 15 after falling in the North Plains A District Championship game to No. 7 ranked Kirkwood.

Seven members of the team were subsequently recognized for their efforts on the field, and NPCC head softball coach, Janelle Higgins, was named Coach of the Year. The recognitions were voted on by Division II Region IX coaches.

Jayden Horner, Jordan Young and Nevaeh Ramirez were all named All-Region IX athletes. Additionally, Ramirez; Essence McRae, Morganne Brown, Zoey Bredleau-Beehler and Madisyn Hamar were named to the All-Region IX Tournament Team.

Later in the summer, the National Junior College Athletic Association recognized six NPCC softball players for academic achievement. Brown and Horner were named to the NJCAA's All-Academic Second Team. To receive the honor, they had to have a grade point average of 3.80-3.99.

A GPA of 3.60-3.79 was required to make the NJCAA All-Academic Third Team. The Third Team representatives from NPCC were Hamar, Sophia Kiss, Kyleigh Sullivan and Ashlyn Wheeling.





# McCOOK INDIANS

## VOLLEYBALL

The McCook Community College volleyball team finished the regular season 15-10 and gained the third seed in the Region IX South Division (5-5). The Lady Indians won their first two matches in the Region IX tournament over Western Wyoming and Central Wyoming before falling to Western Nebraska and Laramie County Community College to finish the year at 17-12.

Six MCC volleyball players selected for post season awards. Sophomore Fernanda Canedo was selected to the All-Region IX south team, the all-tournament team and the all-Nebraska Community College Athletic Conference team. She led MCC with 375 kills and finished the season with the fourth most kills in the nation among players from the 91 schools competing in Division 1. She will continue her volleyball career this fall in Olathe Kan. for Mid-America Nazarene.

Emily Barr was selected to the all-region south team and the all-tournament team. She will play volleyball in the fall at William Penn University. Sophomore outside hitters Kallie Cathcart and freshman Jordan Jerome were also named to the all-region south team. Cathcart signed on to continue playing volleyball at Tabor College. Sophomore Mackenzie Anderson and sophomore Heiata Tauota were selected to the all NCCAC team. Anderson will continue playing in the fall at Blue Mountain College in Mississippi.

MCC had five volleyball players placed on the NJCAA All-Academic team, and eight on the Region IX all-academic team.



## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

The Lady Indian Basketball team went 15-9 on the season after winning the first two rounds of the Region IX Tournament. During a 13-8 regular-season, MCC earned the No. 3 seed in the tournament and hosted an opening round Region IX Tournament game where they downed Lamar 53-47. In La Junta, Colo. MCC took down second-seeded Eastern Wyoming 61-49 before falling in the semi-finals to top-seeded Otero.

One of the highlights of the season was a 65-57 win over No. 9 Western Nebraska at home on March 21.

Brandon Pritchett was named the Nebraska Community College Athletic Conference Coach of the year for the second straight season, posting a perfect 6-0 mark against conference opponents. Three Lady Indians received both conference and region honors.

Sophomores Amiya Dartest, Estrella Avalos and Gail Whiting were all named to the all NCCAC team. Dartest and Avalos were named to the all-Region IX team and Whiting was named to the all-Region IX Defensive team. Dartest moved on to Louisiana Collee, Jessika Espinoza to New Mexico Highlands and Whiting to Middle Georgia State.

Three MCC women made the NJCAA All-Academic team and seven earned the all-region academic designation.







## SOFTBALL

The Lady Indians finished the year 38-14. Those 38 wins are the second most ever by an MCC softball team, trailing only the 2015 team that finished with 45.

Under second-year coach Kevin Kaalberg, the Lady Indians went 18-8 in Region IX play and gained the No. 3 seed in the post-season tournament where they won the opening game 6-1 over Western Nebraska, lost to No. 2 seed Northeastern Junior College 7-3, downed Lamar 6-0 in the consolation round before losing to Western Nebraska 16-11.

In addition the team set records in winning percentage (.731), batting average (.368), on-base percent (.453), slugging (.564), OPS (1.016), runs (464, 8.92 per game), walks per game (4.12) pitcher strikeouts (281) and strikeouts per seven innings (6.03).

Two players were named to the all-Region IX Division 1 team in sophomore Taryn Jenkins, a shortstop/outfielder and freshman Alexis Cortez, an outfielder. Combined they set five individual offensive MCC records.

Jenkins, set the MCC homerun record with 20, set the RBI record with 79, and shattered the single-season slugging record of 1.000. For the season, she batted .477 in 49 games with 13 doubles, three triples, 64 runs scored, 24 walks, 14 strikeouts, 151 total bases, and an on-base percentage of .549. Following the season she signed on to play Division I softball for the Mastodons at Purdue-Fort Wayne, an NCAA Division I institution competing in the Horizon League and Midwestern Intercollegiate Volleyball Association.

Cortez set the Lady Indian record for walks in a season with 38 as well as a .563 on-base average. MCC's leadoff hitter appeared in 48 games, had 154 at bats, scored 61 runs, had 69 hits, 17 doubles, two triples and three home runs. She batted .448, drove in 38 runs and stole 25 bases.

Alice Midiri, a catcher/infielder for the Indians signed on with Division II University of New Mexico Highlands.

MCC had had seven softball players on NJCAA All-Academic teams and 11 who made the all-region academic team.



## MEN'S BASKETBALL

For the first time since 1997 the MCC Men's basketball played in the Region IX Tournament Championship game, but fell to top-seeded Northeast Junior College 89-71.

In his first year coaching the Indians, Jacob Brandl led MCC to a 14-11 season mark.

The Indians went 11-10 in the regular season, (5-7 against Region IX south opponents) and drew the No. 4 seed earning a first-round home tournament game against North Platte Community College. MCC opened post-season play with a 73-68 win over the Knights, advanced to the second round in Cheyenne, where the team toppled the top-seeded Laramie County Community College, 89-82. In the semi-finals, the Indians made nine of 12 second-half 3-point shots in a 90-82 win over Western Wyoming to earn the team's first conference final appearance in 24 years.

Five McCook Community College men's basketball players garnered post-season honors this year. Players garnering awards include sophomores Damien Perry, Cortland Blake, Rahkiem Petterson, and freshmen William Lee and Julian Lual.

Perry was named to the Omaha World Herald Junior College team, first team all-Nebraska Community College Athletic Conference, and third team all-Region IX. Blake was named to the Region IX all-tournament team, first-team all-NCCAC and received honorable mention on the Omaha World-Herald Junior College team.

Petterson was tabbed first team all-NCCAC and also received honorable mention on the Omaha World-Herald all Midlands team. Lee was selected to the Region IX All-Tournament Team. Lual was an honorable mention pick for the World-Herald's Junior College squad.

Academically, Martin Poznanovic was named to the NJCAA All-Academic team with a 4.0 average.



## BASEBALL

The Indians went 29-25 during the regular season and placed second in the Empire League's north division with a 19-15 record in Region IX earning MCC a first-round home best-of-three games series against Luna Community College. At the Jaycees Sports Complex MCC opened up with a 6-3 win and swept the series with a 10-2 win to advance to the region's final four in Colorado Springs. There, MCC dropped a 9-8 decision to Lamar Community College in the double-elimination tournament and lost to Southeast Community College 8-7.

Finishing with a 31-27 record, the Indians batted .319, and hit 85 home runs, the 13th most in the nation.

Six Indians were named all-region in the record-setting season. Four players were named to the all-Region IX first team, two more were named to the second team, and one player was named Freshman of the Year.

Daniel Bannon was named the Region IX Freshman of the Year, and also selected to the first-team along with teammates Kade Wroot, Ricardo Hernandez, and Arjun Huerta. Second-team selections included Max Mrakovcic and Zack Beatty.

Bannon, set single-season MCC records this year in three categories: batting average (.439), total bases (156), and the on-base record (.525). He also tied single-season records with 77 runs and six triples. He played in 57 games, with 13 home runs, 15 doubles and 52 RBIs.

Hernandez, a catcher/designated hitter batted .389 and hit 17 home runs and led the Tribe with 66 RBIs. Those totals ranked 17th in the nation. He had 16 doubles, 141 total bases, a .458 on-base percentage and slugged .783 to set the MCC record, previously held by current New York Yankee farmhand Jake Sanford (Class A- Hudson Valley) who slugged .663 in 2017. His 66 runs driven in were also an MCC record. He also garnered NJCAA National Player of the week honors in April, when over a seven-day stretch totaled 11 hits in 15 at bats (.731 batting average), hit five homers, four doubles, 10 RBIs, 30 total bases and a 2.000 slugging average.

Wroot, appeared in 52 games and batted .339 with 15 home runs and 54 RBIs. The former walk-on, has signed to continue his baseball career at Division I Toledo, Ohio.

Huerta was selected as a first-team Region IX pitcher but also played outfield for the Indians. On the mound the left-hander pitched 12 times and went 5-3 with a 4.03 earned run average. In 60.1 innings he allowed 62 hits, walked 28 and struck out 88 hitters. He appeared in 41 games in the outfield/off the bench and batted .293 with four home runs, 20 RBIs and a team-high 15 stolen bases.

In being named second team all-Region IX pitcher, Mrakovcic went 6-3 for the Indians appearing in 16 games, starting 14, finishing three with a 7.07 ERA. In 70 innings pitched he allowed 77 hits, walked 47 and struck out a team-high 96 hitters.

Beatty, a first baseman broke the MCC single-season home record with 18. Beatty appeared in 56 games during his freshman campaign, batted .354, slugged .719 and drove in 63. Those 18 round-trippers were 10th in the nation. He had 138 total bases, reached base 44.7 percent of his 228 plate appearances and led MCC while his 719 slugging average was third on the team it is also third-best all time, trailing only Hernandez and Bannon.

Baseball had nine players on NJCAA All-Academic teams and 13 players topping 3.25 GPA's



## GOLF

The McCook Community College golf team finished up the regular season second in Region IX to Eastern Wyoming, but for the third time in four years competed in the National Junior College Athletic Association Championships. MCC, the NJCAA's top academic golf team in 2020, compiling a 3.67 grade-point average – tops from among 180 junior college golf programs across the nation.

The McCook Community College golf team wrapped up the National Junior College Athletic Association Division I Golf Championship with a 22nd-place finish and capped off the regular season ranked 21st in the NJCAA rankings.

At the Rawls Course in Lubbock, Texas MCC fired back-to-back rounds of 312 on the final two days to finish the tournament with a score of 1,275, good for 22nd place.

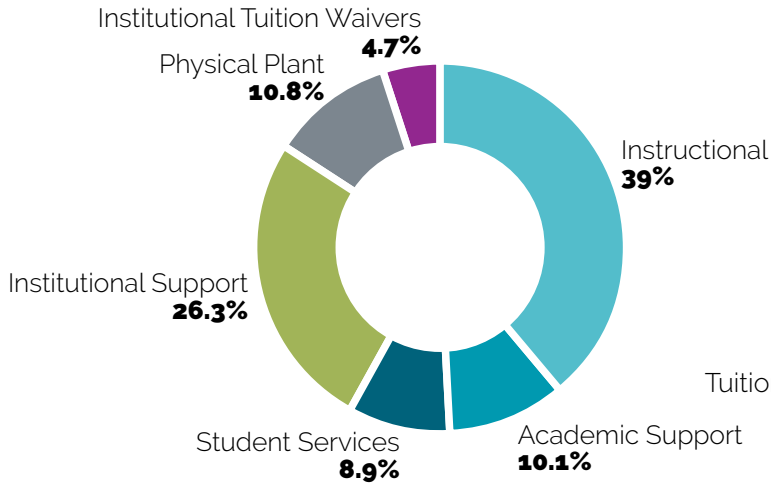
Freshman Filip Lanc and sophomore Deniz Sari were both named to the All-Region IX team as well as the NJCAA Division I PING All-America and All-District Teams.

Sari will continue his collegiate career with Delta State, a Division II school in Cleveland, Mississippi. KC Carlson signed on to play at William Woods, an NAIA school in Fulton, Missouri and Kojie Santos signed on with Wilson College, a Division III school in Chambersburg, Penn.

MCC had four golfers on NJCAA All-Academic team and the all-region academic team.

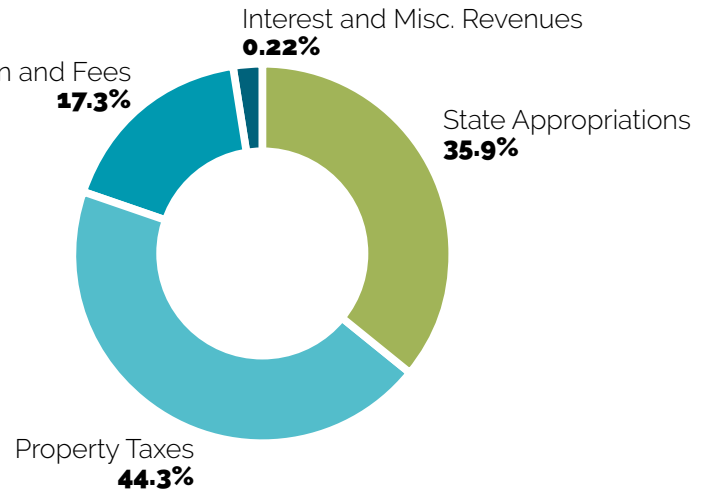


## 2020-21 GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES BY PROGRAM CLASSIFICATION



## MPCC FINANCIAL DATA

## 2020-21 GENERAL FUND REVENUE BY SOURCE



# 1

**FTE Audit Findings**  
**Financial Audit Findings**  
**Financial Aid Audit Findings**

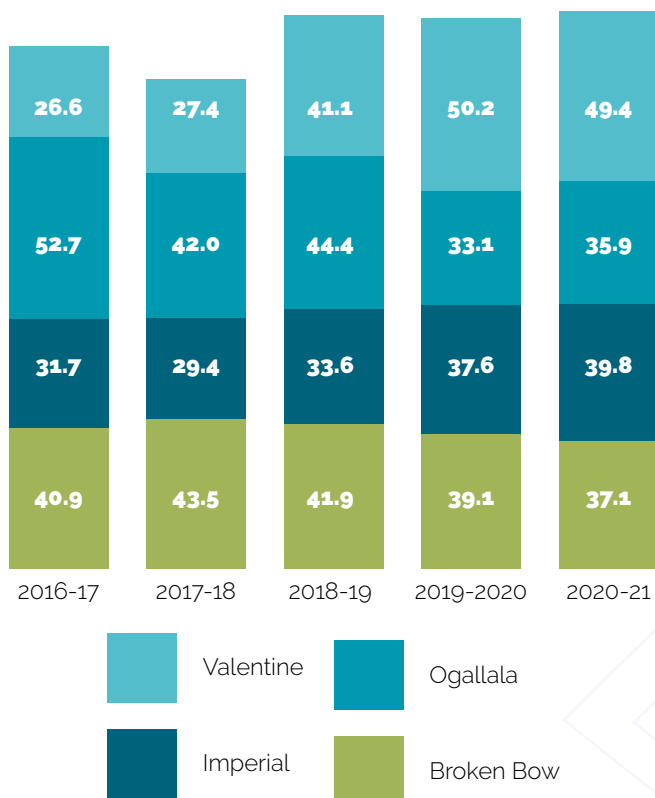
### 2020-21 ACTUAL BY FUND

	YEAR-TO-DATE ACTUAL	ANNUAL BUDGET	% COLLECTED SPENT
<b>REVENUES</b>			
State Appropriations	9,230,578	9,230,578	100.00%
Property Taxes	11,391,308	11,070,642	102.90%
Tuition and Fees	4,463,750	4,809,250	92.82%
Interest and Misc. Revenues	578,701	460,000	125.80%
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>25,664,337</b>	<b>25,570,470</b>	<b>100.37%</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>			
Instructional	10,303,490	10,901,528	94.51%
Academic Support	2,673,071	2,843,204	94.02%
Student Services	2,354,630	2,512,387	93.72%
Institutional Support	6,936,688	7,854,847	88.31%
Physical Plant	2,855,707	3,090,376	92.41%
Institutional Tuition Waivers	1,248,427	1,076,456	115.98%
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>26,372,013</b>	<b>28,278,798</b>	<b>93.26%</b>
<b>NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN FUND BALANCE</b>	<b>(707,676)</b>	<b>(2,708,328)</b>	



# MPCC STUDENT DATA

## 5-YEAR TREND FTE COMMUNITY CAMPUSES



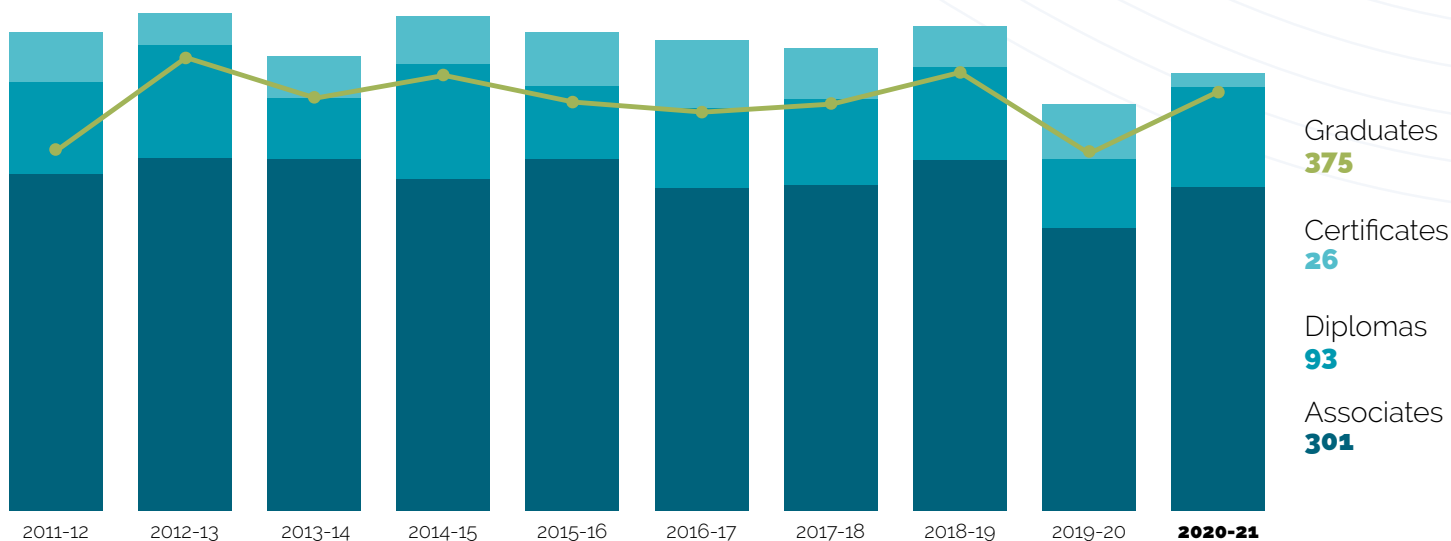
## FTE ENROLLMENT BREAKDOWN

MPCC CREDIT HOURS				
Credit	2020-21	2019-20	2018-19	2017-18
Online	26.4%	22.1%	13.8%	17.3%
Distance Learning	5.9%	5.6%	7.1%	7.2%
On-Ground	67.7%	72.3%	79.1%	75.5%
Dual Credit	16.9%	16.6%	16.5%	14.3%

MPCC FULL TIME EQUIVALENT				
All Reimbursable	2020-21	2019-20	2018-19	2017-18
Online	25.6%	21.5%	13.3%	16.9%
Distance Learning	5.7%	5.5%	6.8%	7.1%
On-Ground	65.7%	70.5%	76.5%	73.7%
Non-Credit*	3.1%	2.6%	3.3%	2.4%

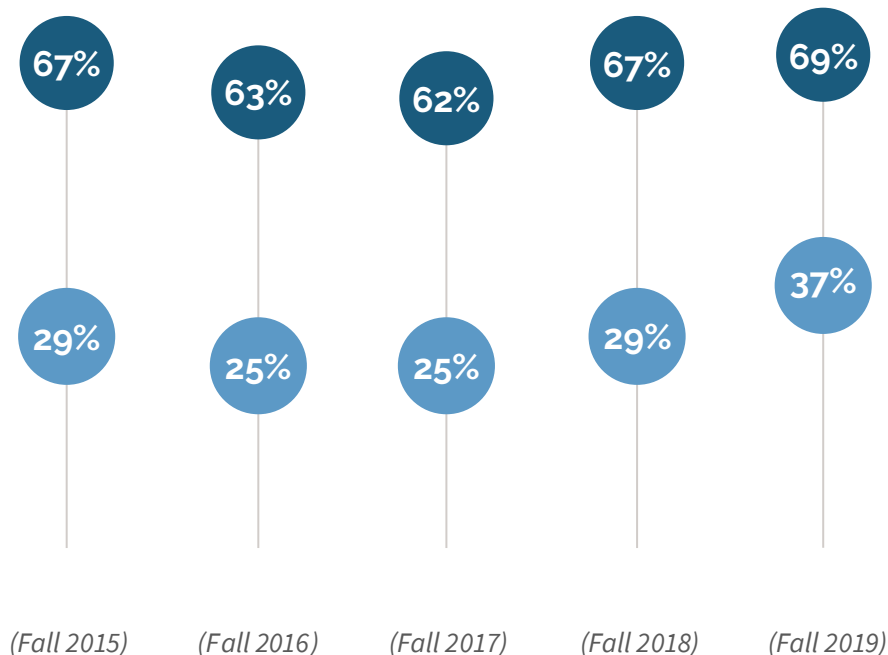
\*Delivered in Multiple Methods

## 10-YEAR TREND MPCC GRADUATE COUNT (375) & AWARDS (420) BY TYPE

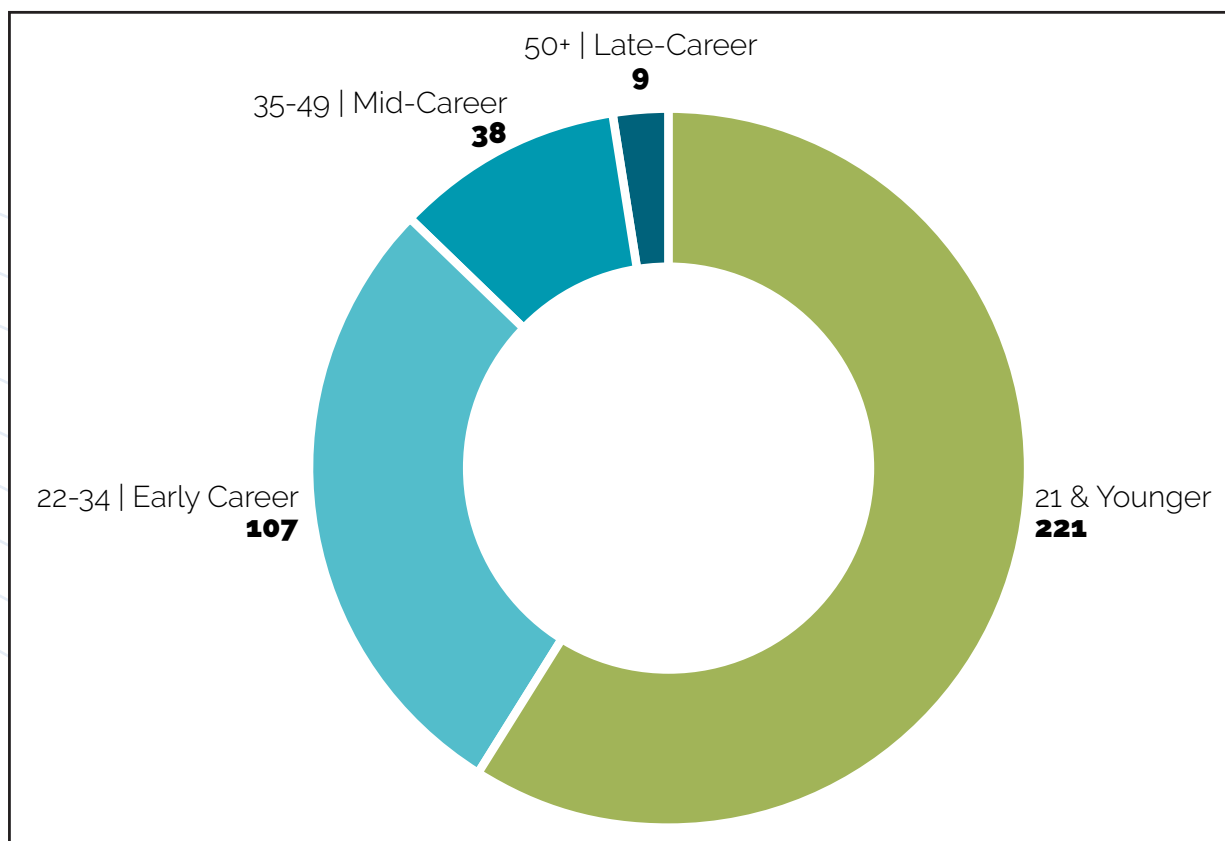


## FALL-TO-FALL RETENTION RATES FIRST-TIME IN COLLEGE

**Full-time student retention reached highest ever recorded, while part time student retention increased to the highest level in five years.**



## 2021 GRADUATES BY AGE





## MPCC RENOVATIONS

### FALL SEMESTER STARTS WITH RENOVATED FACILITIES

Mid-Plains Community College students began the fall semester in updated, fresh-looking facilities and spaces.

Construction has been almost nonstop over the summer as crews worked on projects at MPCC campuses in Imperial, McCook and North Platte.

“Having nice facilities is important in attracting prospective students, but it’s also important in the students’ day-to-day experiences at MPCC,” said Mike Steele, vice president of administrative services. “Not to mention, if we don’t keep structures up-to-date, they will fall into disrepair and cost us twice as much to fix down the road.”



#### IMPERIAL

An open house and ribbon cutting ceremony July 21 signified an end to the two-year expansion and renovation of the MPCC Imperial Campus.

That included a 2,500-square-foot addition built on the north end of the existing campus building. The annex consists of two new classrooms, a multi-purpose community room, an office that doubles as a storm shelter, restrooms, a mechanical room and a storage room.

In January, classes were moved into the new space so they could continue uninterrupted.

The second phase of the expansion project began a month later. Crews remodeled the south end of the facility – overhauling the distance learning classroom, creating a testing room, adding a simulation lab to the health sciences classroom, updating the building entry and implementing new furniture and equipment throughout.

The newly renovated Imperial Campus will be better set up to meet the needs of students, businesses and industries in the southwest corner of its service area.

#### MCCOOK BROOKS HALL

In McCook, crews began the first phase of an upgrade to replace the original heating and cooling systems in Brooks Hall, which dated back to the '60s. That involved complete removal of the ceilings on the second and third floor lounges, removal of a portion of the ceiling in each dorm room, drilling holes between the hallway and each dorm room, adding equipment to each room and creating a penthouse for equipment over the first-floor offices and computer room.

“Brooks Hall was still running off the old boiler and chiller style of heating and cooling,” Steele said. “Pieces were starting to fail, and parts were hard to find, so we had to come up with a solution that would allow us to abandon the old system and put in something more efficient.”

The first phase of the project focused on the south tower. The north tower will be improved next summer.



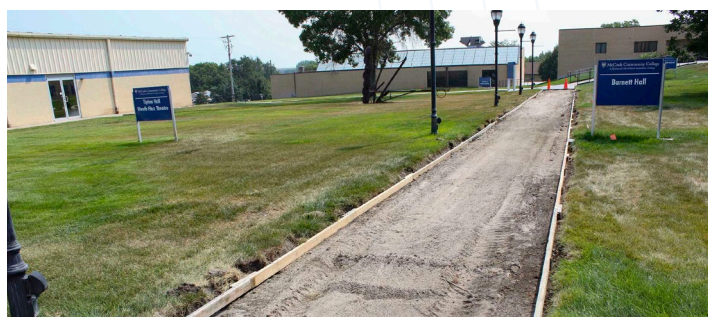
## CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

The remodel of the Child Development Center in McCook was more visible to the public. The daycare was temporarily moved to the Student Union during construction, which is expected last until mid-fall.

“The original CDC was put together over time by adding additional spaces here and there,” Steele said. “The setup was disjointed and outdated. It was crowded and did not result in a functional teaching environment. The new area will create more space as well as a state-of-the-art experience for students as they learn the ins and outs of early education.”

The old space was gutted, and the former playground was torn out. A concrete pad has since been poured for a new playground, and a sandbox is in place. An artificial hill, that will feature a concrete slide, stairs and climbing bubbles, will be constructed outside the building. Inside, new walls have been framed and drywalled. Electrical installation is underway. Once completed, the CDC will have an open concept center surrounded by a main cooking space/ Family and Consumer Sciences classroom, two additional kitchen stations, one of which will be set up per Americans with Disabilities Act regulations, and rooms designed for specific age groups.

Infant, toddler and pre-K groups will each have their own space. There will also be a multipurpose room for naptime or playing indoors during inclement weather.



## SIDEWALKS

Sidewalks throughout the McCook campus were also improved. A focus was put on those in greatest need of replacement because of tripping hazards, holes and other blemishes. The rest of the sidewalks will be replaced next year.



## MCCOOK & NORTH PLATTE CLASSROOMS

Business technology classrooms in both McCook and North Platte were refurbished during summer break. In McCook, that included Walsh Brady Room 203, and in North Platte, the classrooms were 205 and 126 in the McDonald-Belton building

“We relied on a lot of input from faculty on how those rooms should be set up,” Steele said. “We tried to make everything look similar across both campuses, so whether students are in McCook or North Platte, their experience is basically the same.”

Each classroom now has an Epson Brightlink projector, which is new technology for the college, as well as upgraded furniture.

McDonald-Belton 134 was also remodeled.

“It hadn’t been used much because the technology in there was outdated,” Steele said. “We repurposed it and added a fridge so that it can serve Project Search students. That’s where they will base out of.”



## NORTH PLATTE PAVILION

The biggest project of the summer in North Platte, however, was the pavilion on South Campus.

“The pavilion idea had been part of the college’s Facilities Master Plan for 30-plus years,” Steele said. “South Campus was originally a commuter campus, then in 2003 the dorms were added, and in 2012, the Health and Science Center was built. It was getting to a point where we needed a focal point for our campus, a space for students to do fun activities and a safer passage for them from the dorms to their classes.”

At the same time, the parking lot on the north side of the McDonald-Belton Building was 25-plus years old and, after years of patching and overlaying, needed complete replacement.



It was ultimately torn out to create the pavilion, which will be a grassy, landscaped area, featuring an amphitheater, a 50-foot by 60-foot pavilion, two gas fire pits, 220-volt outlets, a sound system, picnic tables, benches and charging stations.

“The pavilion is almost finished,” Steele said. “We’re just waiting on stonework. The process of seeding has begun, trees and bushes have been planted and final installation of light poles is underway. Through fall, security cameras will be placed, speakers and a microphone will be added and Wi-Fi accessibility will be finalized.”

The amphitheater will be able to seat 160 people, and the pavilion will house 15 picnic tables. The latter will offer shade any time of the day. Additional shade will come from trees planted on the east side of the pavilion. The west side will remain relatively open for events.

“We wanted the pavilion to be something that could be used for community events in addition to serving college needs,” Steele said. “That community engagement was why it was also important to us to connect to the city’s trail system. From the educational standpoint, instructors will be able to move classes they would typically conduct in the classroom outside. The pavilion will serve just about any purpose we could need it to serve.”

The first event at the pavilion was the Employee and Family Picnic on Aug. 18.



## STUDENT ACTIVITIES CENTER

Just north of the pavilion, Physical Resources employees put the final touches on the Student Activities Center over the summer. The college’s Student Life department was in need of a space better suited to hosting student events and activities. The previous space was small and outdated.

“Shawn Aten, our director of Physical Resources in North Platte, designed an area that is both attractive and functional,” Steele said.

The ping pong table and pool table are about the only original structures that remain in the core of the Student Activities Center. New seating and charging stations were installed around the north and east sides of the multipurpose room, and two large screen TVs were added to the west.

Behind them, used to be an apartment. The kitchen and tub in that unit were removed, and the apartment was converted into an office for Residence Life and Security staff, a conference room, a computer lab, a small bathroom and a vending area.

“In addition to housing beverage vendors, that space has a vending machine that can be loaded with salads and other snack options,” Steele said. “That’s based on input from students, who wanted to

be able to access food, beyond what is typically sold in vending machines, when the dining room is closed. A microwave, sink and cupboards were also placed in the vending area to accommodate student needs.”

Changes were made to the laundry facilities on the east side of the multipurpose room, too. New washing machines were added and stacked to create more space, and an individual shut-off valve was installed on each machine.

“The big impetus behind all of the renovations has been relevance,” Steele said. “We want our facilities to be relevant both to students and to the community members we serve. There is an expectation that our facilities be maintained and kept up to date. It has been a nine-year march to get to where we are now, but we have worked our way through facilities that were 40-plus years old and needing a facelift. The planning that has gone into improvements, as well as the resources available to us, has allowed us to make our campuses places students and employees can be proud of.”

# STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

## #1 ENHANCE RECRUITMENT METHODS

Two goals were established by the original session group. The first was to design a new position that would cultivate leads from MPCC website visits and getting more prospective students to apply and enroll. An outline for this role, Web-Based Recruiter, has been created and recruitment team roles have been adjusted for the 2021-2022 year for current staff to begin initial stages of implementation. Information will be tracked to determine the outcome of these efforts. If the information shows a correlation to a significant increase in enrollment, funds will be requested for a new position of Web-Based Recruiter. The second goal was to create a "Recruitment Squad" consisting of representatives from student services departments and faculty. This squad would work together to assist enrollment efforts in a collaborative manner, particularly with on-campus events and activities held at area high schools. A handbook has been created to implement this model and for use in training members. Due to COVID, the timeframe for these goals was extended, but initial application of both will begin with the fall 2021 semester.

## #4 STRENGTHEN PARTNERSHIPS WITH HIGH SCHOOLS

Multiple members from student services and academics have come together to form an on-going High School Relationships Committee, which collaborates in ways to better serve high school partners. So far this has focused on departments updating one another regarding on-going partnerships, the development of an online orientation, and a parent and student survey. The online orientation is for all students, but it will help fill a void for early entry students. This will help provide high school students with information to assist them in their MPCC journey. The parent and student survey will help direct this group on its next steps to better partner with high schools and their students.

## #5 ENGAGE BUSINESSES IN PARTNERSHIPS

Various businesses were invited to campus to participate in job fairs and during the COVID pandemic, invites were extended to participate virtually in events. Businesses visited specific classrooms and shared details about employment opportunities, how to be successful in the industry, and more. Businesses also were invited to participate in panel discussions for MPCC students and faculty to ask questions about their respective industries. A few field trips were scheduled with the intention of scheduling more for this upcoming academic year. Two other goals for this objective were shelved due to the major shift in climate for area high schools and businesses due to the COVID pandemic.

## #6 DEVELOPE A CAREER PLACEMENT SYSTEM TO SERVE STUDENTS AND EMPLOYERS

As part of the efforts to develop a career placement system to serve students and employers, instruction cards were designed to make access to College Central Network (online job board) easier for both students and employers with Career Services contact information on the reverse side. College Central Network instructional videos were made and shared with the faculty, students, and on Career Services' Facebook page. In-class instruction was also provided to students. Weekly job openings are posted on campus and emailed to instructors. Instructors receive degree-related openings to share with their students as they are posted. Career Services also shares one job opening from the MPCC service area each day on their Facebook page. A monthly newsletter that highlights an area business and job openings is sent to all MPCC users. A weekly podcast was started January 2021 which highlights a degree program and an area business during each episode. This podcast will move to bi-weekly during the upcoming academic year.



## #9 EMBRACE THE CULTURAL TENETS

The entire MPCC Area and every classification of employee has representation on the Embrace Cultural Tenets strategic objective work group, which kicked off in the spring 2021 term. The goal is to find a variety of opportunities to integrate the tenets in all aspects of college operations. Most notably has been the addition of evaluating the tenets as part of the annual performance appraisal process for classified and administrative employees. Open honest direct communication can be seen improving across the college as we work to find solutions internally with an ultimate focus on student success. As the project moves forward, the cultural tenets will be more visible in daily interactions, special events and overall improvements.

## #10 IMPROVE COLLABORATION BETWEEN ACADEMIC AFFAIRS & STUDENT AFFAIRS

In the last 18 months, Academic Affairs and Student Affairs have made collaboration a priority. Adding monthly vice presidents' meetings has enhanced communication, strategizing, and teamwork between the two departments. They have collaborated on Adjunct Faculty Orientation, Early Entry planning, offerings, and outreach. Additionally, they have been laying the groundwork for more informed and data-driven course offerings and scheduling, which has not only enhanced communication between the two departments, but also helped provide more comprehensive service to students, faculty, and partners. Faculty involvement in on-campus recruiting and onboarding events such as Registration Days, Inter-High Days, and Orientation has increased because of the focus on collaboration and this teamwork enhances the student experience. In the coming months collaboration will continue as Academic Affairs and Student Affairs will team up to update the Academic Master Plan with an emphasis on Recruitment and Marketing, and to build the Strategic Enrollment Plan with an emphasis on college wide collaboration to grow enrollment.

## Focusing on Strategic Objectives in 2021-2022

### STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE #2

Expand our programming, including re-packaging course offerings

### STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE #3

Improve marketing and messaging

### STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE #7

Deliver on the training and educational needs of businesses

### STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE #8

Provide strategic, timely communication related to college processes



**MID-PLAINS COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

[WWW.MPCC.EDU](http://www.mpcc.edu)

**McCook · North Platte · Broken Bow · Imperial · Ogallala · Valentine**

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