



DATE: August 4, 2020
FROM: Dr. Joseph T. Nairn, Founding President
RE: NPRC Bi-monthly Status Update

A Status Update on Northern Pennsylvania Regional College, a two-year, associate degree-granting institution supported by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. NPRC proudly serves students in Cameron, Crawford, Elk, Erie, Forest, McKean, Potter, Warren, and Venango Counties. NPRC is currently pursuing candidacy status with its regional accrediting body.

Annual Report

The First Annual Report of the Northern Pennsylvania Regional College accompanies this email, or can be accessed at <https://regionalcollegepa.org/message-from-the-president/annual-report/>

COVID 19 Update

Like most other institutions of higher education and schools across the Nation, we have been working to address the Covid-19 virus and ensure the health and safety of all our students, faculty, and staff. Our decision to remain “remote” for fall 2020 appears to have been timely and good, as the virus is showing no signs of abating. A decision about “in-person, site-based” classes for the spring 2020 semester will be made in November at the latest.

We at NPRC want to maintain high-quality educational experiences for our learners with minimum disruption. While our model made it possible to “pivot” back in March, we hope not to experience another significant disruption and so will use the best information and knowledge available before returning to our site-based teaching model.

PDE Decision regarding Erie County Community College

Many students, educators, and others in the region have asked how the Erie County Community College decision will affect NPRC. The answer is, quite simply, it does not change anything about our outreach, our approach, or our offerings. We are charged to serve Erie County as part of our nine-county service area and will continue to do so.

We are currently exploring facilities for more “hands-on” experiences, such as labs and demonstrations. The pandemic has affected our ability to bring groups of students together, and we want to ensure that we have agreements for facilities that are ready and able to accommodate our needs effectively and safely. More information will be forthcoming soon as we enter into these agreements across the service area.

Area visits

As the Covid-19 related restrictions begin to ease, I ask you to please invite me or our Student Success Specialists or Workforce Development staff to meetings or gatherings where we can share college information with interested parties. We have a great story to tell, and some of our staff have lived the life of an NPRC student to share how the degree created new opportunities for them. The Annual Report noted above, and linkable from <https://regionalcollegepa.org/message-from-the-president/annual-report/> also shares some great success stories and information about how NPRC changes lives. Please contact my office to schedule a visit.

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FALL 2020 Classes

NPRC's fall schedule includes over 30 different academic courses offered at 28 locations across the nine-county service area:

<https://regionalcollegepa.org/class-schedule-years/2020/>

Workforce development classes are offered in Elk, Erie, and Warren counties in Commercial Truck Driving, Powder Metal, Emergency Medical Responder, and Communication Linework:

<https://regionalcollegepa.org/workforce-dev/>

Progress toward Accreditation

NPRC continues to make progress toward regional accreditation and expects to submit our application for candidacy to the regional accreditor in the next two months.

Advisory Committees

Two advisory committees, one for our rural counties and one for Erie County, have been formed to provide input and insight for the administration as the college moves ahead and begins to develop new programming.

Northern Pennsylvania Regional College

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