



DATE: August 18, 2020
TO: Board of Regents
FROM: Scott R. Mickelsen, President
RE: **Campus Report – September 2020 Board of Regents Meeting**

MISSION

Dawson Community College fosters a culture of excellence in education providing all students quality learning and opportunities for growth and partnership in local and global communities.

CORE THEMES

- *Excellence through Academics:* Provide curriculum and instruction through multiple learning pathways expanding opportunities in education adaptive to the needs of a changing student body.
- *Excellence through Student Engagement:* Provide a student-centered focus through student and academic support services, quality faculty and staff, residence life, clubs and organizations.
- *Excellence through Community:* Provide the greater community lifelong learning opportunities through open access to the College.
- *Excellence through Outreach:* Provide opportunities for workforce development, apprenticeships and internships, continuing education, personal enrichment and youth programming.
- *Excellence through Recruiting:* Provide opportunities to invite all learners to be a part of DCC, maintain sustained growth with not only more applicants, but also better-prepared students equipped with tools for success.
- *Excellence through Financial Practices:* Provide budget oversight and expanded opportunities in education for both transfer and career and technical education and workforce development, as well as personal enrichment for faculty, staff, students, and community.
- *Excellence through Property and Learning Facilities:* Provide for the management of all grounds and facilities to help provide the best learning environment possible.

KEY CHARACTERISTICS

- Low student to faculty ratio
- Quality career and technical programs
- Highly qualified, dedicated faculty and staff
- Active student government and student life programming
- Campus-wide WIFI and independent computer labs
- Seamless transferability for all core classes
- Career readiness educational programming
- Student-focused modern library facilities
- Quality learning environment in a unique geographical region of the United States
- Competitive athletic programs
- Quality apartment-style housing

REPORT:

Fall Semester

As we move forward through the coronavirus pandemic, DCC continues to work with the county's health department and is following local, state, and federal guidelines. We are prepared to pivot to distance learning should the need arise; however, we are excited to welcome new and returning students to campus and to offer them a top-notch Buccaneer experience! The Bucs are back!



Students residing in housing will arrive on August 22; orientation takes place August 24 and 25; and, in-person classes begin August 26. Of course, none of this would be possible without the efforts of DCC employees ensuring that health and safety protocols are in place to protect students, faculty and staff, and campus visitors. I commend the work of DCC's dedicated employees – they are truly awesome!

Enrollment

We are extremely pleased to see significant growth in enrollment this fall. Residence halls are full, and we are in conversations with community partners to meet additional housing demand.

The summer term ended August 17. Resident FTE increased 88% from the 2019 summer term!

Esports

In July, DCC launched an esports team and almost immediately, coaches signed a number of students to play for Dawson. We thank Mid-Rivers Communications for their generous support of this new program. We will host a GameCon event in September, and look forward to competing with other esports teams in the region.

Workforce Development

DCC's Office of Workforce Development is currently assisting 22 displaced workers from the coal and railroad industries with skills re-training.