Student Access Goal: All Coloradans shall have access to comprehensive community college educational programs.

Dr. Brenda Dann-Messier, Assistant Secretary of Vocational and Adult Education with the U.S. Department of Education, was on the campus of Northeastern Junior College on August 27th visiting the adult and family education program. The Colorado Department of Education recommended the program as a model for transitioning adult students into post-secondary education. In addition to the tour, a round table discussion was held with NJC officials, area business people, and instructors from the wind-tech and adult education programs.

Jeff Schiel, NJC Anthropology Instructor and six students enrolled in his summer anthropology course at Northeastern Junior College, embarked on a two week "Idaho Mountain Archeology" trip. The class, an immersion into the Salmon-Challis National Forest of central Idaho, centered on a more memorable, hands-on way to both learn about and experience archeology of the area. Schiel, whose background is forensic anthropology, has taught everything from osteology and anthropology at University of Montana to sociology and now archeology here at Northeastern Junior College. Under Schiel, the class, which was limited to only six students by Federal Land Bureau rules and regulations that require that there be one qualified, approved professor per every six students entering these protected sites, spent four days of the trip as volunteers for the Salmon National Forest White Bark Pine Restoration Project. Schiel estimates that during the four days spent with the Restoration Project their group surveyed more than 300 acres as well as recorded a very large mine. Over the 14-day trip, the class visited abandoned mine sites, camps, historic boom towns and sites of prehistoric occupation. In addition to visiting and studying the archeological sites and participating in the restoration project, the group got a significant bit of outdoor education on the trip.

Northeastern Junior College was the site of the Veterans’ Appreciation Day held on August 24th. The Logan County Veterans Service Department and the Sterling Workforce Center invited all military personnel, veterans and their family members to attend Veterans’ Appreciation Day. The all-day event, which will took place on Northeastern Junior College's campus, brought benefits, services, information, food and a free concert to all who have or are currently serving in the U.S. military.

Student Success Goal: The demands of Colorado businesses and communities shall be met through the development of a high skilled work force.

The ten new State FFA Officers were on the NJC campus during July for a week-long, three credit public speaking class. The class was taught by Andy Long, NJC’s Dean of Enrollment/Student Transition and Terry Ruch, Assistant Director of Admissions at NJC. Terry Ruch, himself, a past Colorado state FFA officer and now a very accomplished public speaker,
offered some public speaking training to the newly appointed officers. Both Ruch and Long are seasoned speakers who spend most of their time on the collegiate recruitment circuit from August to February, talking at various venues to potential NJC students and parents. They are often asked to be guest speakers at other venues. This year Long was honored to be the keynote speaker for the Colorado Council on High School and College Relations annual conference, which attracts about 500 participants from all over the state to a Denver meeting. Ruch, who is a Denver-area recruiter for NJC, is one of the most sought after speakers at college night programs in the metro area. Both have a fabulous way of connecting with their audiences and have created their own fan clubs. At the end of the week-long training, instructors hope that the officers take what they learned in the class and put it to good use during their year of service. Most of State FFA Officers will drive more than 25,000 miles, visiting local chapters and attending ag-related events. Five of the 10 state officers this year have attended, or will be attending Northeastern Junior College. Since the college began tracking it in 1976, an average of seven current or past Colorado FFA state officers are on the campus each year. The college has enjoyed a long and equally beneficial partnership with this state youth organization.

**Student Success Goal:** Colorado students shall have the opportunity to succeed through high quality, cutting-edge instruction and educational services.

Connie Henderson, Biology Professor at NJC, participated this July in the second CREATE Health Faculty Advisors Event. CREATE Health was seeking faculty and advisors from Colorado universities, colleges, post-secondary institutions and high schools to form a coordinated network to share consistent messaging about preparation for health professions and about the broad array of careers that are essential to the health of communities. CREATE Health Faculty Advisors participate in a yearly workshop and networking event, and offer guidance to students participating in CREATE Health community projects. The goals for the two-day event were to introduce CREATE Health Advisors to the wide spectrum of: 1) Health career educational opportunities; (2) Admissions requirements for medical, dental, pharmacy, physician assistant, nursing, behavioral health, public health, and graduate schools; (3) Job prospects for pre-health professional students; and (4) Regional Health Challenges and collaborative projects to address them. The CREATE Health Faculty Advisors event included: Networking opportunities; Symposia lead by health care professionals and admissions counselors from graduate programs all over Metro Denver and success stories of advising non-traditional students, financial aid/scholarships for professional schools, writing letters of recommendation, and course work requirements for health professional programs.

**Operational Excellence Goal:** The financial stability of the system’s institutions and the physical safety of its students shall be ensured.

The Northeastern Junior College Adult Education Program received a $150,143 Colorado AEFLA grant for Adult Education. In addition, an EL Civics grant was received for upper level ESL, totaling $33,504.

This spring Northeastern Junior College was pleased to be one of 10 Colorado businesses recognized by Xcel Energy for outstanding efforts to save energy. The awards honored commercial, industrial and small-business customers in Colorado for participating in Xcel Energy's 2011 energy-efficiency programs. Collectively, these companies saved more than 38 million kilowatt-hours of electricity, which avoided production of more than 22,000 tons of carbon dioxide -- the equivalent of keeping 5,000 cars off the road for a year. Northeastern was specifically honored with the 2011 Standard Offer Achievement Award. The college had an energy savings of 1,380,031 kilowatt hours and a carbon dioxide reduction of 785 tons. There were a number of ways in which Northeastern was able to save energy. In 2009 it entered into a
U. S. Department of Energy sponsored Energy Saving Performance Contract. Energy Performance Contracting is a financing mechanism used to pay for energy efficiency improvements all at once that are then paid back through annual energy savings. Through this program, Northeastern was able to undergo a comprehensive energy audit by an energy service company (ESCO) during which improvements to save energy were identified. The ESCO, who was Ennovate Corporation of Englewood, CO, designed and constructed a project to meet NJC’s needs and arranged for the necessary funding. The ESCO guarantees that the improvements will generate energy cost savings sufficient to pay for the project over the term of the contract, which in NJC’s case is 15 years. The savings are measured and verified on an annual basis. After the contract ends, all additional cost savings accrue to the college. Improvements were done to many of the buildings on campus and included new windows, new lighting fixtures, restroom fixtures, computerized monitoring of heating and air systems, variable speed HVAC motors, high efficiency boiler replacement, and de-stratification fans.

**NJC received a Higher One Financial Literacy Grant in the amount of $2,200.** Higher One is deeply committed to promoting financial literacy and ensuring that college students have the tools they need to effectively manage their money. The purpose of *Financial Literacy Counts* is to help support financial literacy promotional programs and initiatives on college and university campuses. With the grant, students will have the opportunity to win entries into a drawing for an Ipad and around $500 in other prizes. Only 13 of these grants were awarded across the nation.