

## **College Report – April 10, 2024**

**Patty Erjavec, PhD, *President***

### Transform the student experience

**Renovated Health Science building reopens** – PCC’s Health Science building reopened in March after a \$6.3 million renovation. The building houses PCC’s dental hygiene program. Before the renovation, the program had to operate in separate buildings on campus. Students and instructors now are under the same roof with expanded and improved space.

In turn, space now is available on campus to move the cosmetology program – currently located in an off-campus building – back on school grounds later this year.



**Gateway to College national recognition** – PCC’s Gateway to College program, led by Jeanelle Soto-Quintana, again earned the National Program Excellence Award for exceeding all benchmarks for the 2022-23 academic year: first-term success, one- and two-year persistence, and graduation.

The program served 140 students last year. Of those who started the GTC program in 2022-23, 91% passed all first-term courses and their high school GPA average of 1.72 increased to 3.20. The two- and three-year persistence rates of Pueblo Gateway students far exceeded the network average. Of students who started the GTC program in 2021-22, 87% persisted into the second year. Among the 2020-21 cohort, which started classes during the pandemic, 84% earned a high school diploma in three years.

# Pueblo Community College



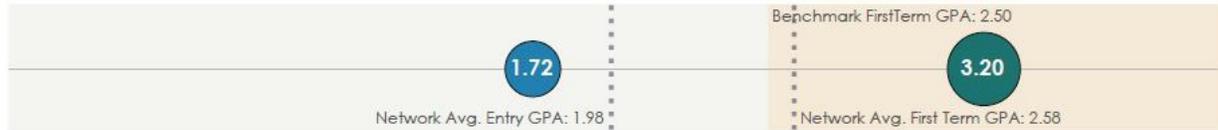
Enrollment 22-23: 140

Grad Count 22-23: 58

GATEWAY TO COLLEGE

## GPA at Entry (Blue Circle) & First Term GPA (Green Circle) in 22-23

(First Term GPA benchmark of 2.50 noted by orange section)



## Passed All First Term Courses in 22-23



### Transform our own workforce experience

**New Fremont administrator** – Mike Maffucci is the new administrator for the PCC Fremont campus. His first day on the job was April 1. Though this role is new to him, PCC is not: Maffucci worked for the college for seven years, first as director of student life and leadership on the Pueblo campus and then as director of student services on the Fremont campus. Most recently, Maffucci was director of operations for a land clearing company in North Carolina. He and his family are excited to return to Fremont County.



### Create education without barriers through partnerships

**PCC Southwest part of Opportunity Now grant project** – PCC Southwest will partner with Axis Health System in Durango as part of a \$1.3 million award from the [Opportunity Now Colorado Grant program](#). The award will fund the creation of a rural work-based learning program called the Healthcare Education Access Launchpad Southwest (HEAL SW). Axis will build a health science learning hub that PCC Southwest will operate at Axis' Durango Integrated Healthcare clinic, providing immersive learning opportunities that align with industry needs, according to Axis.

**PCC Southwest aids Habitat for Humanity**– Seven students in the new construction certificate program at PCC Southwest recently [completed building their first home](#) for Habitat for Humanity in Cortez. The project is part of a [partnership](#) established last fall between the college and the organization. Students earn three industry credentials by completing the 16-credit program. They also can get work experience through an internship with local contractors.

Students who enroll in the program this fall will help build a second home.



**Successful Senior Mini College** – The [38<sup>th</sup> Senior Mini College](#) at PCC's Fremont campus welcomed more than 300 participants over spring break. Community members were able to take classes in gardening, beekeeping, cooking, xeriscaping and many other subjects.



**SBDC entrepreneur workshop** – The Southern Colorado Small Business Development Center, under the umbrella of PCC's Corporate College, hosted Demystifying Entrepreneurship, a successful program for local entrepreneurs. The Pueblo Latino Chamber of Commerce sponsored the event. Erick Mueller and Visda Carson, LEEDS professors from the University of Colorado, joined four area entrepreneurs to provide an engaging, informative program.



Raise value standards through excellence & accessibility

**Black History Month events** – PCC celebrated Black History Month in February with multiple events. The Pueblo campus hosted a movie night, African American read-in, an all-campus lunch featuring a live band and hip-hop dance group, and a performance by poet and spoken-word artist Ashlee Haze that was broadcast to the Fremont and Southwest campuses. The branch campuses each held read-ins and Fremont had its own luncheon. PCC's Black Student Union also created a large display of Black artifacts, news, culture and art for the PCC Library.

**President contributes to national publications** – PCC President Patty Erjavec was interviewed for a [recent article from The Hill](#) about adult learners. She also [contributed an op-ed to](#) The EvoLLLution, an online newspaper about high education.