



December 2019 Director's Report

NEO Adult Education

Student Enrollment and Performance

149 students currently enrolled in NEO Adult Ed. This is a slight decrease from last year (165). However, our educational gains are significantly higher. Currently, 67.79% of all NEO adult ed students have made a gain compared to 60.61% of NEO's last year at this time and compared to current region 1 average of 58.07%.

Program Updates

The Vecinos Project: NEO's Vecino's Project Coordinator has achieved our goal of recruiting, onboarding and training four new volunteers for our adult education program for a total of six with three more pending! This is fantastic and will increase our capacity to provide individualized services.

The Vecino's project its third Intercambio ("exchange") program in December at the Lake Station Library. The focus was on issues facing immigrants in the workplace. Representatives from The Welcome Network and Work One presented. Three more Intercambios are planned for February, March and April.

NEO Testing Center

- 20 testers sat for the TASC (Test Assessing Secondary Completion) exam at NEO in December. 14 passed and earned their high school equivalency diploma (HSE = GED). The pass rate for those who DO study at an adult education program is 78% compared to with the pass rate of 45% of those who DO NOT study at an adult education program.
- 2 students took the Para-Pro certification test; one passed.

New Vistas High School

Student Enrollment and Performance

Enrollment: Current enrollment is at 223. Our goal is to be at 230 for the February 3 count day, up from September's 217 count.

Credit Completion: *(to be completed by Jan. Board Meeting)* The credit completion rate for Term 1 was . NVHS's goal for 2019-2020 is 76%

Credit Completion	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
	68.5	63.2%	76.5%	71%	67.0%	75.8%	75%	T1:72.3%

Attendance Rate: Term 1's average attendance rate was 90.48% the highest rate to date with October and November also having the highest monthly rate in New Vistas' 8-year history. NVHS's goal is to maintain or exceed an annual rate of 90%. December's attendance rate was 87.38%.

Month	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
September	80.91%	85.70%	88.41%	80.80%	76.09%	86.95%	90.00%	89%
October	74.32%	83.56%	89.94%	76.67%	76.95%	84.95%	87.87%	90.36%
November	77.45%	84.53%	87.41%	79.18%	86.75%	88.90%	86.17%	92.08%
Term 1 Average	77.56%	84.60%	88.59%	78.88%	79.93%	86.93%	88.01%	90.48%

Program Updates:

Term 2: Term 2 began on December 3rd.

NVHS's School Improvement Grant (SIG): We received final approval for our SIG grant that will fund intensive professional development work with teachers on instructional strategies tied to the data gathered from our Comprehensive Needs Assessment.

Giving Tuesday: NV's math department is very grateful for being the recipient of math software program as a result of the success of Giving Tuesdays fundraising event

Technology: Using various grant funds and as part of our three-year technology plan, NEO was able to purchase 108 Chromebooks and roll these out to support school-wide instructional technology initiatives.

Open Mic: NV's Science Club and Phoenix Voices hosted an Open Mic event on December 17. Mrs. Kochan led this initiative with support from Mrs. Valtierra, Mrs. Munguia, Ms. Grayer, Mr. Pryor, and Mr. Cvelbar. The evening will showcase an art exhibit and live performances (singing, poetry readings, etc.) by our incredibly talented students and staff. This event was open to students and their families.

Flex Friday: December's Flex Friday included an awards celebration for Term 1 graduates and honor roll students and our monthly Phoenix Award winners who are nominated by teachers for academic performance, growth, and citizenship. Nicholas Elliot presented information on the upcoming US Census and employment opportunities. Morning breakout sessions were Academic Remediation and afternoon breakout sessions focused on Social Emotional Learning.



Facility Update

Sun FundED: SunFundED has secured funding for the NEO project and has a final interconnectivity and metering agreement completed with NIPSCO. Ours will be the first in the State. They have submitted use variance applications to the Portage Board of Zoning Appeals. This is scheduled for February. The next phase will be the Preliminary engineering work, permits, and then the actual construction phase.

Community Connections

Donations from Health Linc and Golden Tech: Health Linc Community Health has donated 40 laptops to NEO. While old to them, these 3-year-old laptops (along with the Chromebooks) have allowed us to

retire 74 of our computers that ranged in age from 7 to 12 years and were incompatible with the required Window 10 updates. Golden Technologies, our IT provider, donated over \$20,000 in services to assist with the Windows 10 upgrades, recycling, and server work. We are very grateful to these wonderful community partners!

Geminus: NEO has entered a formal referral partnership with Geminus Head Start in which both of our organizations commit to distributing program information and hosting each other at high traffic events.

Portage Rotary: The Portage Rotary Club donated a “rainbow” bench to NEO. The club collected MANY tons of plastic bottle caps last spring that were recycled into making this bench.



REMINDER

The next NEO Board of Director’s Meeting is on
Thursday, January 23, 2020 at 8:00 AM

