

2023 Annual Report
Casper College

Refurbished, Glowing, and Delightful, T-Bird Sign Beautiful Sight at CC

If you haven't noticed a red neon glow emanating from the hill at Casper College, you have missed a beautiful sight: the newly refurbished, glowing, and delightful Thunderbird sign at Casper College.

The all-metal Thunderbird sign was originally erected sometime during the 1966-1967 school year on the hill where the new "Swede" Erickson Thunderbird Gymnasium was under construction. The sign's design, a Thunderbird, was based on the original emblem for Casper College.

For roughly 57 years, the sign has overlooked many changes to the school. And, let's not forget about the elements the sign has had to endure: blazing sun and heat in the summer and snow and subzero temperatures in the winter. Oh, and of course, on the hill, wind. Lots of wind.

But, thanks to Casper College President Darren Divine, the sign underwent a complete restoration project that included Divine's idea, a spectacular addition of red neon outlining the sign to light up the area beautifully. "It seemed like the neon would make the T-Bird really come out at night and further enhance the iconic and prominent tradition for Casper College," said Chris Lorenzen, director of public relations.

Casper College alum and neon artist Connie Morgan was sought out, and the college asked her for input on the design. "From beginning to end, the whole idea of placing neon on the Thunderbird took about a year. From the planning phase to the finished product, there was a lot that needed to happen in order for this project to become a realization," Morgan said.

Meanwhile, the college's facilities and maintenance department was busy at work, first digging up and removing the sign for significant refurbishment in the shop, then sanding and repainting the sign, digging a hole for the base, fabricating the base, installing electricity to the base, path work, and installation of flagstone around the base. The sign then silently stood, awaiting its neon coat.

The renovated sign was put into place, the neon was installed, and finally, the switch was flipped. The sign contains 60 feet of 15-millimeter clear glass filled with neon gas. According to Morgan, the beautiful red color that viewers see when they look at the glass is the true color of neon gas when it is electrically charged.

"I've been working with neon for almost 27 years, and it makes me absolutely thrilled that people still want to do things like this. I'm very grateful for the college and all the work they have given me. I'm a Casper College alumni, and it gives me great pride that my art has a permanent place on the campus," Morgan said.

You are missing a treat if you haven't seen the sign at night. You can see it from College Drive around the front of the campus or drive through the lower part of the campus. For an even better up-close and personal view, go to the far north side of the Thunderbird Gym and view it from your car, or take a short walk up the path to stand next to the beautiful red neon Thunderbird.



Unidentified Casper College students erect the Thunderbird sign during the 1966-1967 school year. (Casper College photo)

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Letter from the President



Throughout 2023, we focused on bringing greater community awareness to our college while at the same time enhancing and expanding opportunities for our students and our community. While fall enrollment was slightly higher compared to last year, if we're going to fully address the workforce needs of our community and our state, we'll need to continue to increase interest in a variety of career fields, and ultimately attract, and graduate, more students. Casper College is not alone in this venture as this challenge is mirrored at two and four-year institutions of higher education all across our country.

Our strategic enrollment efforts are designed to focus on providing transformative educational experiences and eliminating barriers to educational access and success. Our supportive enhancement efforts are broad and extend to many different in-demand degree, certificate, and professional education programs, including a revamp of general education requirements that was completed this past spring.

Casper College was excited to team with our foundation and bring Mike Rowe to Casper in October. Mike spoke with students from across Natrona county in the afternoon in Wheeler Concert Hall, and later gave a sit-down conversational-style talk to an audience at the Ford Wyoming Center. Although likely best known as the creator and star of the TV show "Dirty Jobs," I believe Mike's greatest achievement may be the mikeroweWORKS Foundation.

It is here Mike has translated his experiences and observations of the widening skills gap in our country into direct action by providing scholarships to those wanting to enter the trades workforce.

Mike's hard-hitting message is one that says, wake up America, "skill and work ethic aren't taboo." His message resonates with those of us in Wyoming that value hard work and where we see firsthand, the direct impact of the skills gap in our workforce. "Our society didn't, and still doesn't, have a trained workforce standing by or willing to fill the positions that actually exist."

In this year's report we also want to highlight our many local community partners who provide a tremendous array of opportunities to our students. Whether it is community leaders sitting on program advisory boards to ensure program alignment with current needs, sponsoring internships and direct work experience opportunities, or simply sharing their expertise with our students. These partnerships are making the difference and enhancing the quality of education for students while bridging the gap for entry directly into the workforce, or entering into a career after additional education.

As I close out this introduction, I want to relay how very proud I am of this organization and the role it plays in our community and state. I also want to assure our stakeholders and our community that Casper College will never cut corners in attempting to meet the varied needs of our community. Our faculty and staff have long focused on the quality and academic excellence of the education our students receive, and such excellence will not be sacrificed or diluted to meet increasing demands.

You'll find evidence of the commitment to student success that we all share at Casper College throughout this annual report.

Sincerely,

Darren Divine, Ph.D.
President

Casper College Board of Trustees



Back row:

Susan D. Miller
Trustee

Steve Degenfelder
Chair

Todd Milliken
Treasurer

Scott Bennion
Trustee

Front row:

Kathy Dolan
Trustee

Dave Applegate
Vice Chair

Liz Batton
Secretary

Casper College Deans



Back row:

Rachel Chadderdon, MBA
Dean, School of Business, Industry, and
Workforce Development

Jerry Hawkes, Ph.D.
Dean, School of Science

Front row:

Peter Van Houten, Ph.D.
Dean, School of
Social and Behavioral Sciences

Julia Whyde, Ph.D.
Interim Dean, School of
Fine Arts and Humanities

Not pictured:

Douglas Neubert, BS
Interim Dean, School of Health Science

Casper College Executive Council



Back row:

Chris Lorenzen, MBA
Director of Public
Relations

Kent Brooks, M.S.
Director of Information
Technology

Rhonda Franzen, PHR
Director of Human
Resources

Brandon Kosine, Ph.D.
Vice President for
Academic Affairs

Front row:

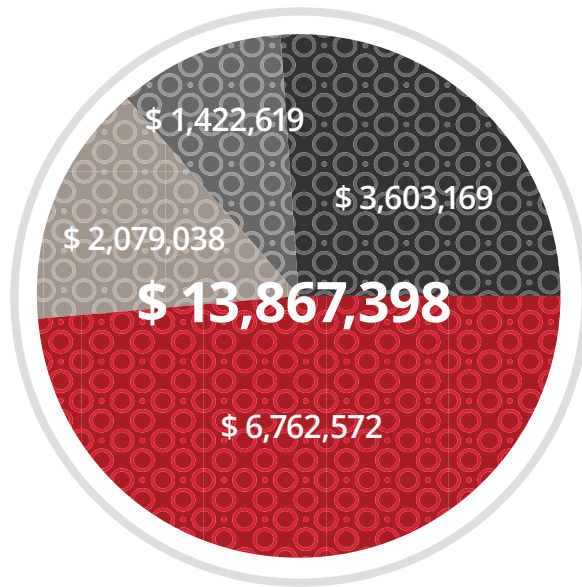
Lynnde Colling, CPA
Vice President for
Administrative Services

Darren Divine, Ph.D.
President

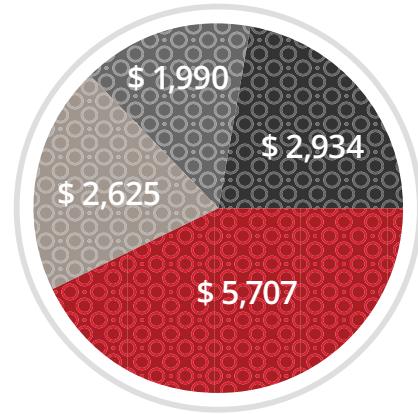
Linda Toohey, MPA
Vice President for
Student Services

Financial Aid and Scholarships

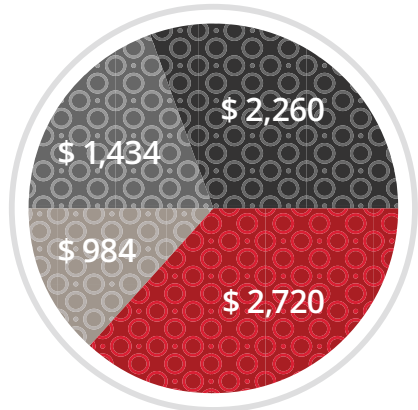
Financial Aid Awarded



Average Financial Aid



Financial Aid Offered to Students



Scholarship Funds:
Foundation, State and Institutional

360

Kickstart Wyoming

Began in the Fall 2023
Students to-date: **32**
Total tuition awards: **\$66,890**
Average award: **\$2,090**



Wyoming Works Grant

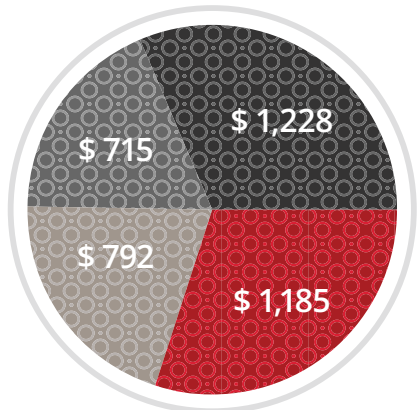
Students to date: **87**
Total tuition awards: **\$312,447**
Average tuition award: **\$3,591**



Ellbogen Opportunity Scholarship

Students to date: **49**
Total tuition awards: **\$173,342**
Average tuition award: **\$3,537**

Students Who Accepted Financial Aid



- Institutional Aid and Scholarships
- State Aid, includes Hathaway
- Other Aid, includes Foundation
- Federal Aid

CC Veteran Center Opens in Gateway

The Casper College Veterans Center is in the Walter H. Nolte Gateway Center.

The new center features two sections: a social side featuring a kitchen, a TV viewing area, comfy furniture, and anything else that a student would need to connect with other student veterans on campus.

The other side has been set up to accommodate and promote academic excellence. Here, students can sit, study, and do their homework. The space even features laptops and noise-canceling headphones for students to use. There is also office space dedicated to the day-to-day operation of the center. The location change was needed to accommodate the growth of the military-affiliated student population at the college and the school's commitment to serving those students.



The opening of the new Casper College Veterans Center featured a ribbon cutting. Pictured l-r: Jeannie Hensley, Jordan Janski, Josh Bannister, Caleb Lindsay, Darren Divine, Dustin Smart, Shawn Moore, and John Petley. (Casper College photo)

Hunter Jensen, Animal Science Major

“One thing I’d like future Casper College students to know is you get in what you put out. If you come here and you just want to stay under the radar, you definitely can do that. But, if you want to gain experience and learn not only inside the classroom but outside, if you talk to the instructors and just put in that little bit of extra effort, there’s plenty of opportunities for you to learn to grow and to develop new skills that will help you out in the real world.”



Hunter Jensen



Casper College instructors Kristi Hann, RN, MS, CAP, LPC and John Ordiway, MS, LPC, LAT. (Casper College photo)

Demand for Counselors

Casper College's addiction studies program is using a Wyoming grant to combat substance use in the state. Instructors John Ordiway, MS, LPC, LAT and Kristi Hann, RN, MS, CAP, LPC, are using the funds to provide scholarships to addiction studies majors while also working to create a new curriculum to increase the number of certified addiction practitioners and licensed addiction therapists in Wyoming.

A recent Wall Street Journal article estimated the shortage of mental health professionals was nearly 8,000 in 2022, up from 2,593 in 2013. These shortages, according to the Health Resources and Services Administration, are even worse in rural areas.

"The substance abuse issue is made all the worse in Wyoming, which Mental Health America ranks as one of the 15 states with the least amount of overall access to mental health care. Substance abuse is an issue across the country that impedes our quality of life while creating economic and community challenges. Some of these negative impacts would be lessened with more licensed professionals across the state," Ordiway said.

CC Among Top Small Employers on Forbes 2023 'America's Best Small Employers' List

Casper College was named to the Forbes 2023 "America's Best Small Employers" list at No. 104 in the country. The list features companies with between 200 and 1,000 employees.

The survey used various assessment tools, including anonymously surveying employees, tracking job-related websites, and social listening, which included text analysis of news websites and blogs, including social media.

"From an initial pool of 10,000 businesses, the 300 companies with the highest scores made it onto the final list," according to the article.

"We are just thrilled at this recognition," said Rhonda Franzen, human resources director. We had no idea this was occurring behind the scenes as we didn't know about this survey until after it was finished," Franzen said.



Kassidy Brooks, Animal Science and Agribusiness Major



Kassidy Brooks

"Casper College is a good stepping stone especially before going to a university. When I came here, I found out a lot about myself and what I wanted to do for the rest of my life, which is something that's super scary. So Casper College was a stepping stone for me to kind of branch out and find other things that I could be interested in. If you're struggling on finding where to go, I think Casper College is a great place."



The fire engine as seen in the Casper College diesel technology shop. (Casper College photo)

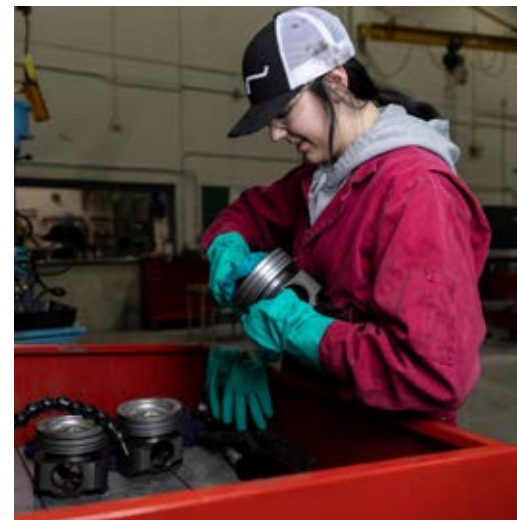
Wyoming LAST and Casper College Collaborate on Procession Fire Engine

The Wyoming Local Assistance State Team and the Casper College diesel, welding, machine tool, and auto body programs showed off in March 2023 the progress of a collaboration to restore the diesel engine of a 1970s vintage fire engine to be used for funeral processions for fallen first responders.

“Former Wyoming State Fire Marshal Mark Young initially approached Mike Johnson, diesel power technology instructor, and me about getting the truck driving again,” recalled Steven Bartolic, diesel power technology instructor. The partnership has allowed Casper College students to work on a rare piece of equipment and restore it from the ground up. “During the project’s first phase, we completely rebuilt the Detroit Diesel engine,” noted Bartolic.

According to Rachel Chadderdon, dean for the school of business and industry, college officials didn’t hesitate to take on the challenge. The partnership, she said, has allowed Casper College students to work on a rare piece of equipment and restore it from the ground up.

“It is important that our students have real-world learning opportunities, and the restoration of this fire engine has provided three of our departments with that very thing,” she said. “We at Wyoming LAST are super energized about this project. We are grateful for Casper College’s partnership,” added Young. In total, the diesel, welding, machine tool and auto body departments will be involved.



A Casper College diesel technology student cleans engine parts. (Casper College photo)

PowWow

Over 225 community members enjoyed a warm and colorful spring day last April at the first powwow hosted by Casper College's Indigenous Student Alliance.

The traditional powwow is a way for Indigenous tribes to come together to celebrate the community and to make sure everyone is doing well, according to club president Lysander Blackbird, a medical laboratory technician major, who is a two-spirit of Northern Arapahoe and Assiniboine Sioux descent.

Club members invited Casper community members, as well as residents of the Wind River Indian Reservation, to take part in the fun event. Those who attended enjoyed watching dancers and drum groups in traditional apparel competing before judges.

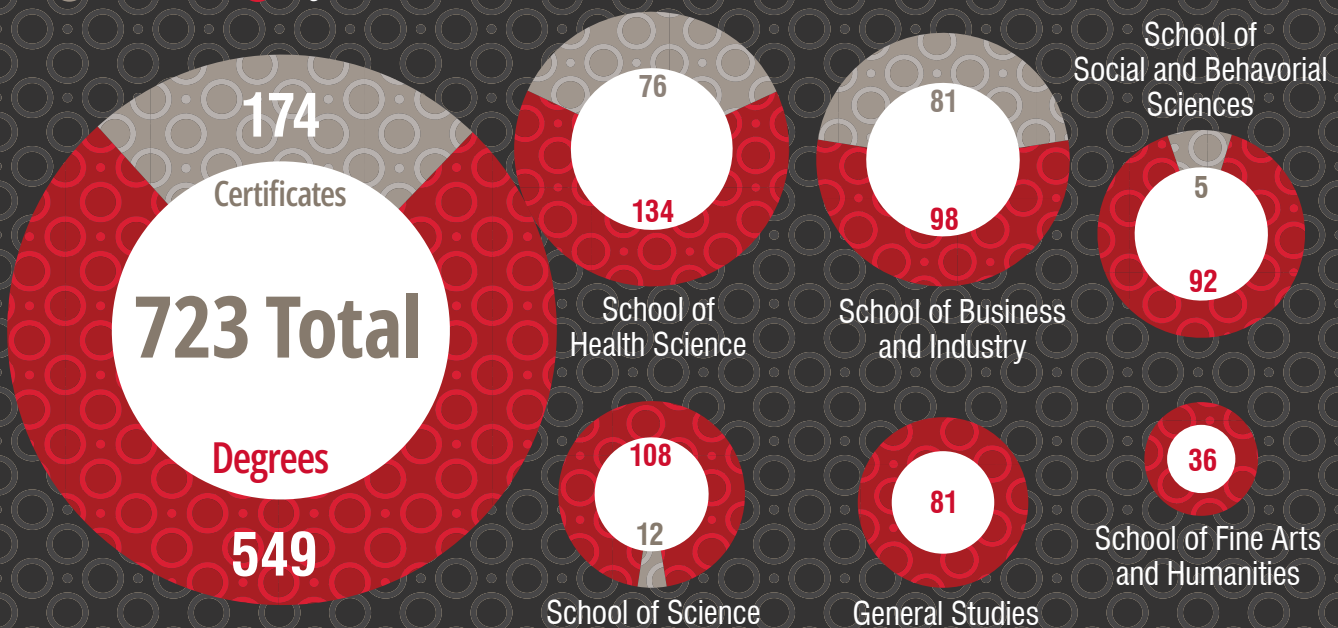
Plans are already underway for the next event in spring 2024.



Spectator and participant at a powwow sponsored by the Casper College Indigenous Student Alliance. (Casper College photo)

Academic Degrees and Certificates Awarded

● Certificates ● Degrees



Statement of Net Position

Casper Community College District for the years ended June 30, 2023 and 2022

	2023	2022
Assets		
Current Assets	\$ 68,705,191	\$ 49,715,480
Restricted Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 59,471	\$ 1,711,949
Restricted Investments	\$ 1,324,737	\$ 6,143,036
Deposits with Bond Trustee	\$ 5,588,446	\$ 2,406,398
Investments - Endowment Challenge Prog.	\$ 17,739,410	\$ 16,771,210
Capital Assets, net	\$ 99,988,554	\$ 101,006,082
Total Noncurrent Assets	\$ 124,700,618	\$ 128,038,675
Total Assets	\$ 193,405,809	\$ 177,754,155
Deferred Outflows of Resources		
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	\$ 15,451,923	\$ 11,950,344
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities	\$ 7,463,522	\$ 6,382,389
Noncurrent Liabilities	\$ 68,750,942	\$ 72,103,367
Total Liabilities	\$ 76,214,464	\$ 78,485,756
Deferred Inflows of Resources		
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	\$ 40,332,646	\$ 33,098,801
Net Position		
Net Investment in Capital Assets	\$ 57,125,060	\$ 58,630,423
Restricted	\$ 35,970,111	\$ 32,577,297
Unrestricted	\$ (784,549)	\$ (13,087,778)
Total Net Position	\$ 92,310,622	\$ 78,119,942

The college's financial statements are presented in accordance with the requirements of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) for state and local governments, and public colleges and universities. For more information from the college's audit, go to caspercollege.edu/about/audits-budgets/.

Mike Rowe Hosted by Casper College



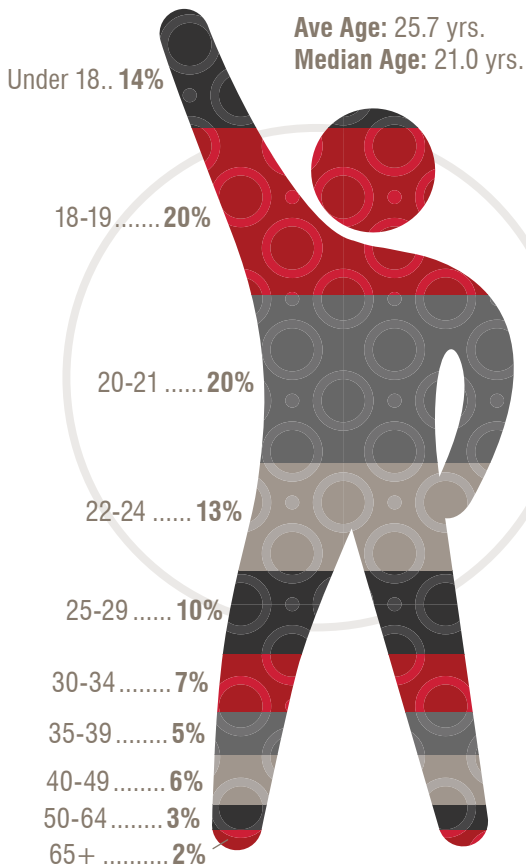
Mike Rowe, the host of the popular Discovery Channel series “Dirty Jobs,” was at the Ford Wyoming Center on October 26 to present “An Evening with Mike Rowe.” Rowe is a writer, narrator, producer, recording artist, Emmy Award-winning TV host, New York Times bestselling author, and the CEO of the mikeroweWORKS Foundation.

The event featured a moderated Q&A followed by an audience Q&A. The Lecture series was sponsored by the Carl & Georgina Grosz Health Science Lecture Series, Philip O. Doornbos Agriculture Lecture Series, and Roy Chamberlain Business Enrichment Lecture Series.

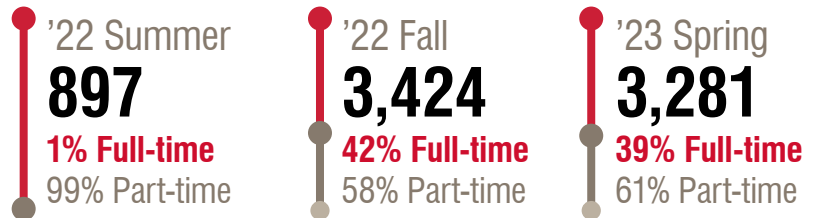
Casper College and Natrona County School District high school students were able to pick Mike Rowe’s brain in the afternoon. (Casper College photo)

Enrollment for 2022-2023 Academic Year

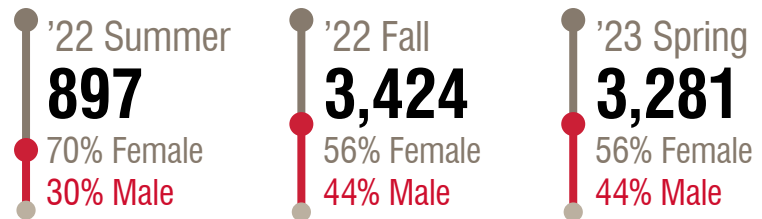
% Students by Age



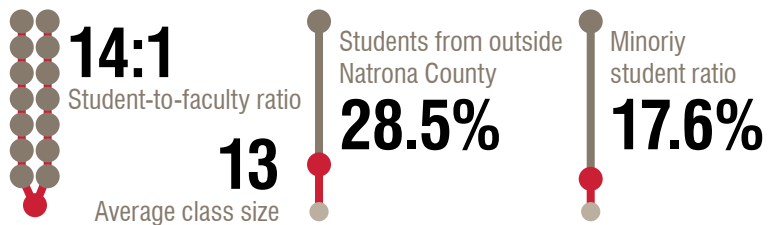
Total Part time vs. Full time Students



Total Male vs. Female Students



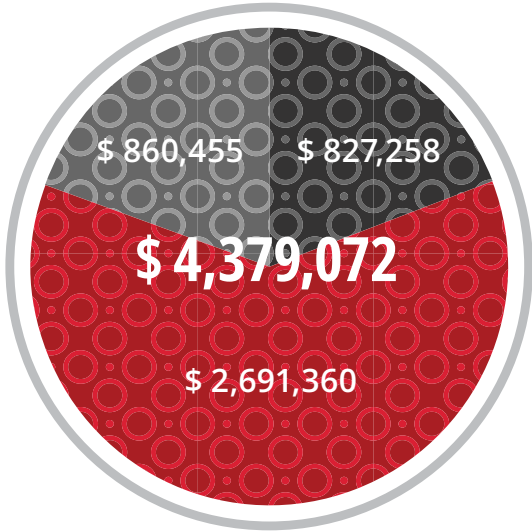
Student Body



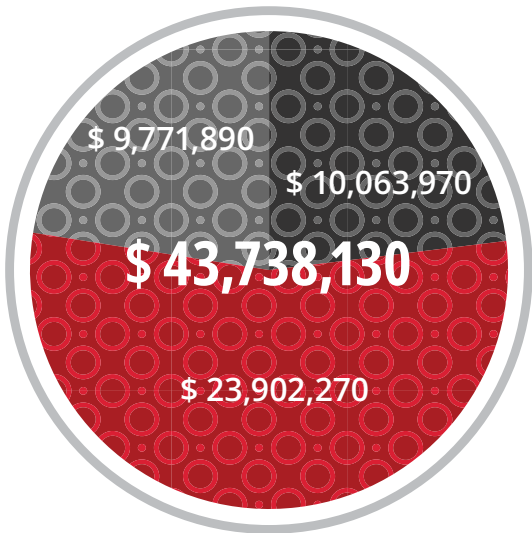
Outside Grants Received by Casper College

Grants are an important funding source in support of the college's mission. Much of the grant funding comes from sources outside Natrona County and supports programs and services of the college and students.

FY2023 Totals



10-Year Total



- Federal Grants and Contracts
- State Grants and Contracts
- Private Grants and Contracts

Examples of Federal Grants and Contracts:

- The Carl Perkins Grant provides federal funding to improve secondary and postsecondary career and technical education programs. Grant money has been used to purchase equipment, instructional materials, Career and Technical Education-related software, and support programs such as work-based learning programs, career guidance and placement, and professional development and training.

- GEAR UP**, which stands for Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs, provides funding to increase the number of eligible students who are prepared to enter and succeed in postsecondary education through guidance, community support, and resources.

Examples of State Grants and Contracts

- State of Wyoming Library Grant** provides funds for the purchase of subscriptions for the Goodstein Foundation Library.

- State of Wyoming — Wyoming Innovation Partnership and the University of Wyoming Innovation Partnership Subaward** provides funding for a workforce needs assessment and implementation for customer service and hospitality and tourism, funding for instruction for search and rescue, and adds two academic courses that integrate principles of marketing and graphic design with computers that are capable of running the most current graphic design software.

- Department of Family Services Emergency Childcare Grant** provides urgent financial relief for part-time and full-time students to offset the costs of child care while attending community college and help stabilize the child care sector.

Wyoming Innovation Project and Grants

Phase I

WIP Phase I Project — Hospitality and Tourism

Casper College's Phase I project focused on integrating the marketing, hospitality and tourism, and graphic design programs, providing training to community and business/industry partners, and equipping training and classroom space with updated technology.

The college was also awarded funding through a sub grant from the University of Wyoming to bring the Disney Institute to campus, where approximately 400 community members, Casper College employees, and students participated in the various sessions. Casper College Hospitality and Marketing instructor Ginny Garner led the project along with the Casper College

Workforce Development's efforts to offer search and rescue related training courses free of charge to 54 individuals from the Natrona County Sheriff's Department and multiple local fire departments, including Casper, Evansville, and Mills.

Phase II

WIP Phase II Project — Advanced Manufacturing

Casper College's component proposed for Phase II is enhancing the current manufacturing technology and automation degree by incorporating hybrid computer numerically controlled technician and collaborative robot work environments into the curriculum. This project aims to integrate advanced manufacturing and automation technology into small to midsize enterprises while exploring opportunities for larger production runs in new markets such as aerospace and medical. The proposal and project are led by Casper College Engineering Technology and Design instructor Paul Brutsman.

Examples of Private Grants and Contracts

● The **Board of Cooperative Educational Services**, or **BOCES**, provides innovation grants in addition to funding a wide variety of programs that support education at all levels in Natrona County. Innovation grants have supported college programs this past year, including the STAR grant, Successful Transition & Academic Retention; the Second Chance Adult Education Grant; the Testing Center Grant; the Balloon Engineering Eclipse Project grant; the American Sign Language Signfest Grant and American Sign Language Art grant; and the Veterans Services grant.

● The **Osher Lifelong Learning Institute**, or OLLI grant provides an engaging variety of classes, field trips, lectures, and social events geared towards adults aged 50 and above, but anyone over 18 is welcome. Casper College was the first community college in the U.S. to offer an OLLI chapter in their community and is also the only OLLI chapter in Wyoming.

Recognitions and Highlights

February



Gordon Goodwin's Big Phat Band returned to Casper College for the 56th Annual Kinser Jazz Festival. Goodwin won a 2006 Grammy for his instrumental arrangement of "Incredits" from the Pixar Animation Studios film "The Incredibles." Goodwin has also garnered three Emmy Awards and 13 Grammy nominations. The Big Phat Band consists of 18 musicians under the direction of Goodwin.

Aerial work highlighted

"circlesWEshare" at Casper College, a new dance concert conceived, choreographed, and directed by Jodi Youmans-Jones premiered. The dancers learned how to move and be comfortable in aerial work through silks and harnesses, flying, spinning, and partnering on the ground at all levels through a week of intense training with Andrea Gentry, a senior flying director with ZFX, Inc., a service provider for flying effects.

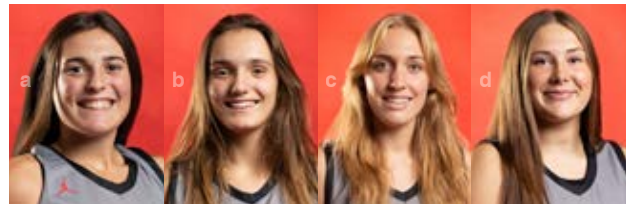
"CommUNITY" was the topic for the 38th Annual Casper College Humanities Festival and Demorest Lecture. The event presented a variety of speakers on the topic.

Marcela Caballero, a sophomore accounting major at Casper College, was chosen by Casper College as its "Shaping Wyoming's Future Student Awards" recipient for the 2022-2023 school year. Caballero

represented CC at the Wyoming Business Alliance's Legislative banquet. The WBA sponsors the Shaping Wyoming's Future Student Awards and provides \$250 to each community college's winner.

March

For the sixth year in a row, **Dwight Gunnare, the Casper College Women's Basketball** team's head coach, was named Coach of the Year for Region IX North for the 2022-2023 season. It also marked the 11th time since Gunnare began coaching at Casper College in 2008 that he was named Coach of the Year for Region IX North.



Following the completion of the Region IX Tournament, individual players, including four Lady Thunderbirds, were named to the All-Tournament team: sophomores **(a) Sandra Frau-Garcia, (b) Julia Palomo, (c) Flora Goed, and (d) freshman Logan Alvar.**

Jill Bolte Taylor, Ph.D., was the 2023 Grosz Health Science Lecture Series speaker. Bolte Taylor's presentation was titled "Whole Brain Living." Her memoir, "My Stroke of Insight," documents her experience with stroke and eight-year recovery. The book spent 63 weeks on The New York Times nonfiction bestseller list. The 2023 Grosz Health Science Lecture Series was made possible through Carl and Georgina Grosz's generosity through the Casper College Foundation.



April

Those seeking full-time, part-time, and seasonal work attended the **Casper College Spring Job Fair**. The job fair featured employers from over 60 companies with current job openings in Casper and/or Wyoming.

Casper College geology instructor Kent Sundell

discussed the recently discovered Wyoming impact crater field. Sundell was part of a team of U.S. and German geoscientists who discovered the craters in exposed sedimentary layers dating back around 280 million years ago.



For one day, **Casper College sophomore volleyball player and student Milena Franzini** was “President for a Day.” “It was nice to see how the college works and to talk to everybody,” said Franzini, a native of Sao Paulo.



Once again, **Casper College was the site for the three-day Wyoming SkillsUSA Championship**. “Wyoming SkillsUSA is humbled to be back on the campus of Casper College this year. Since 2018, Casper College has opened its doors and has hosted the majority of our contests,” said Janie Wilcox, director for the Wyoming Association of SkillsUSA. A total of 649 career and technical education students from 33 high schools

Emma Brummer, General Education Major

“Casper College is a great place to start out your college journey. Small class sizes, really nice buildings and facilities, there’s lots of variety of classes to choose from. There’s all kinds of things you can try if you’re not sure what you want to do like I was when I started. There’s lots of things you can try lots of different foreign languages like Japanese or Russian or the typical things like business and English. There’s lots of really good health science stuff here, so it’s a great place to get started. I think people should give it a chance, rather than going off to college somewhere else. This is a great place locally, to kind of dip your toe in the waters, so to speak.”



Emma Brummer

and colleges across the state competed in contests demonstrating their skills in career areas, including manufacturing, transportation, construction, hospitality, and human services. The winners competed in the national SkillsUSA Championships in June in Atlanta.

May



The 77th Annual Casper College Commencement Ceremony was held in the Ford Wyoming Center. Over 250 students marched at the ceremony. The student speaker was Dalton Peterson.

Casper College's **Vice President for Academic Affairs, Brandon Kosine**, was chosen as one of only 30 Phi Theta Kappa National Honor Society's Distinguished College Administrator award winners.

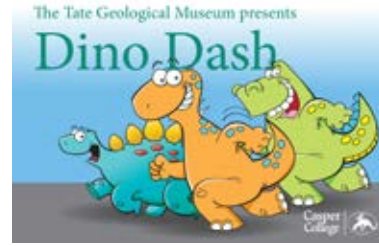


Casper College employees were recognized with 2022-2023 year-end honors during the college's annual retirement and recognition reception. Nina Stairs, Robert O. Durst Classified Staff Award; Outstanding Administrator, Chelse DePaolo-Lara; the Judith Bailey Scully Award, Jared Bowden; the Shanklin Faculty Leadership Excellence Award, Valerie Innella Maiers; the Shanklin Adjunct Faculty Teaching Excellence Award, Aleczandra McAulay; Jake McIntyre and Dino Madsen, the Rosenthal Outstanding Educator Award; Chad Hanson, Phi Theta Kappa Terrific Learning Coach of the Year; and the Kim Byrd Service to Students Award, Brandon Kosine.

June

The Tate Geological Museum hosted its first "Dino Dash." "Dino Dash"

was for children 12 and under and featured prizes for the best dinosaur costume, best-dressed dog, and best-decorated scooter or bike. The event will become a yearly event, thanks in part to the success of this first one.



The popular Tate Conference was back for its 27th year with "The Triassic: Gateway to the Mesozoic." The conference featured a day of speakers and two days of field trips. The featured keynote speaker was Hans Sues, Ph.D., senior research geologist and curator of vertebrate paleontology at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History.

An exciting and free summer camp

for teen girls just entering or graduating from high school, the Teens Exploring Careers Camp, was held at Casper College. TECC is a creation of CyberWyoming Alliance and Casper College, funded by a grant through the Daniels Fund and was based on young women's career interests and hobbies.



Casper College was named to the top 10 overall in the country to the 2023-2024 Military Friendly Schools list, No. 2 in the Small Community College category, and a Gold Award recipient by Victory Media. Casper College was the only school in Wyoming to receive these designations.



Casper College hosted the **Rocky Mountain Cybersecurity Symposium.**

Business owners were invited to attend this event, which addressed security topics common to any business.

July

Jason Eggemeyer,

Casper College engineering technology and design instructor, received the Wyoming Association for Career and Technical Education's post-secondary educator of the year award for his contributions to the association and education. Eggemeyer was the co-author and presenter on a paper titled "An Exploratory Research Study on a University-Directed Co-Teaching Initiative with a Community College, High School, and Industry in Support of Aligned Learning Outcomes" that

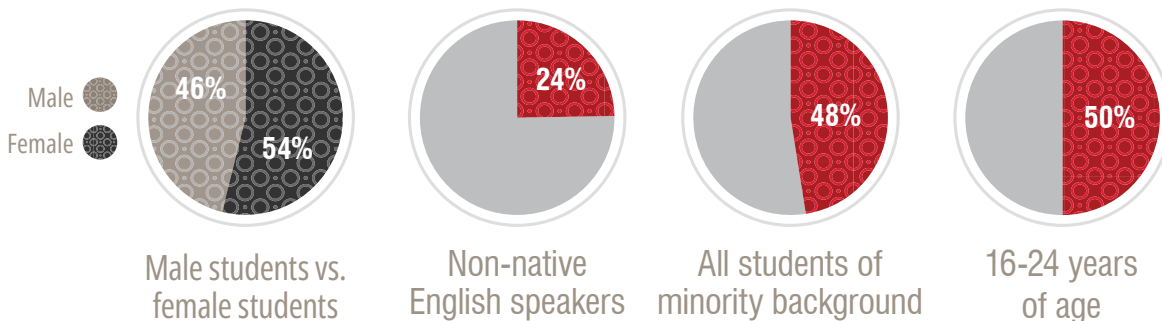
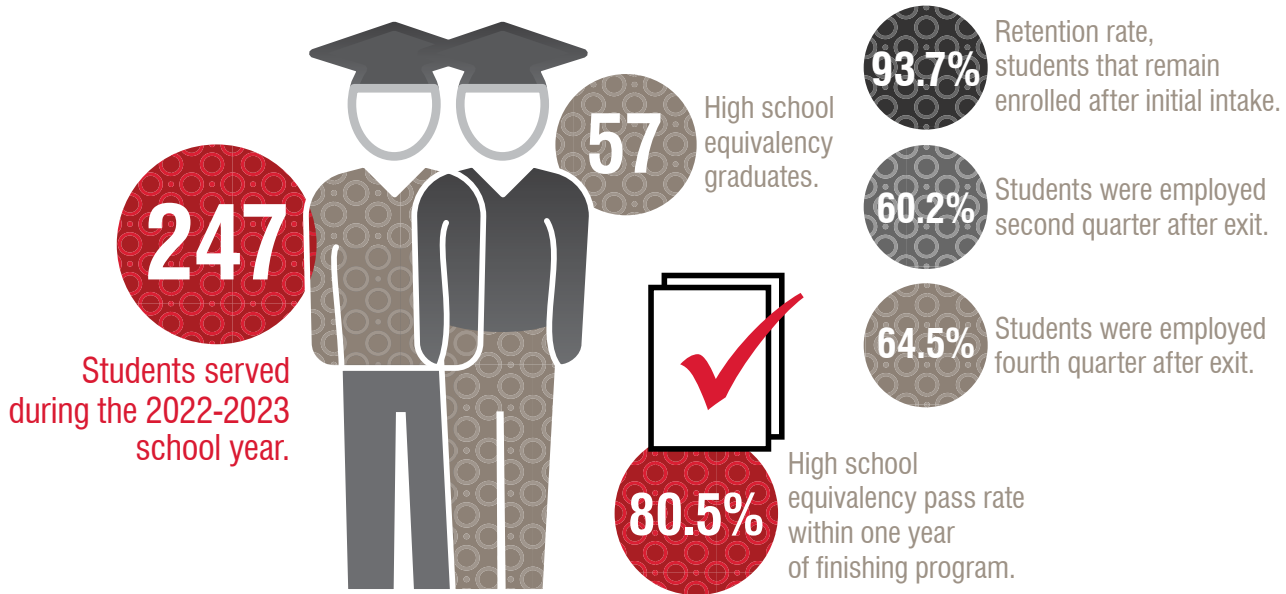


was presented at the 59th Annual Associated Schools of Construction International Conference in Liverpool, UK. The paper looked at how high school, community college, and university students' learning outcomes improved under the co-teaching and co-learning model.

Casper College hosted the **second Quantum Science Summer Camp in as many years**. The camp delved into selected principles of quantum science in the first week. The second week examined applications of quantum science to the study of quantum biological systems. The Quantum Science



Castellow Adult Learning Center Statistics



Summer Camp partners include Wyoming Community Foundation, Wold Foundation, BOCES — Board of Cooperative Educational Services, Zimmerman Family Foundation, John P. Ellbogen Foundation, Kemmi Creek Foundation, McMurry Foundation, Tate Foundation, and the Rocky Mountain Power Foundation. Partners included the Institute for Quantum Science & Engineering at Texas A&M University, Texas A&M University, Princeton University, Baylor University, Marlan Scully, Casper College, and Natrona County Schools.

Three Casper College athletic teams were named to the National Junior College Athletics Association 2022-23 All-Academic Team of the Year. The women's basketball team placed eighth in the nation with a team GPA of 3.63, while the men's soccer team was ranked 19th with three other teams, all with a team GPA of 3.29. The women's soccer team ranked in the top 60 with a GPA of 3.19.



NASA selected Casper College and Natrona County School District #1 to participate in the **Nationwide Eclipse Ballooning Project** for an annular solar eclipse on October 14, 2023, and a total solar eclipse on April 8, 2024. Much of the hardware for the launches was built during the spring 2023 semester to allow for the summer test launches. Students were composed of both Casper College and Natrona County and Kelly

Walsh high school students, and all were enrolled in the Casper College class ES 1490, "Special Topics, High Altitude Ballooning." The class continued into both the fall 2023 and spring 2024 semesters.

The OLLI program turned 15 and held a birthday celebration on campus.



UND's satellite occupational therapy program on the Casper College campus celebrated 30 years of rural health delivery.

The desperate need for health providers in a state even more rural in scope than North Dakota is at the heart of what led Casper College science instructor Tom Clifford Jr., the son of the former University of North Dakota President, Tom Clifford Sr., and the late LeRoy Strausner, who served as Casper College's President from 1991 to 2004, to push for an OT program in Wyoming back in the early 1990s. Founded in 1954 and continuously accredited since 1956, UND's OT program officially established its "mirror" site in 1993, offering a Bachelor of Occupational Therapy degree in Wyoming. Today, the bachelor's degree has been upgraded to an occupational therapy doctorate, OTD, the profession's entry-level degree, and can be earned in both Casper and Grand Forks.



August

Casper College was named **Oil City's Best Reader's Choice 2023 No. 1 School.** 2023 marks the first year that Oil City News ran the competition. In addition, the Tate Geological Museum took second place in the Museum category behind the National Historic Trails Interpretive Center.

September

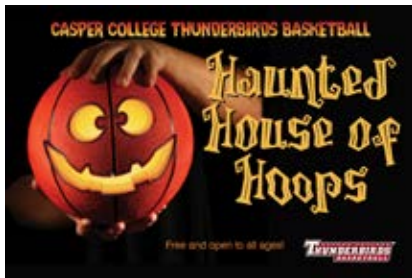
As industries embraced or battled AI technology, Casper College took on the topic at this year's Social and Behavioral Sciences Seminar. The event's theme was **"AI: A Fork in the Road, Navigating Turns in the Tech."** The keynote speaker was The Wall Street Journal and USA Today bestselling author of "Adaptable," A.J. Juliani. He serves as faculty for the University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Education and is the former director of learning and innovation for Centennial School District. Juliani is also an award-winning blogger, speaker, and author of multiple other books, including the bestsellers "Empower," "Launch," and "The PBL Playbook."

Everyone was invited to attend the 18th year of



success with GEAR UP staff and alumni during a special celebration in the GEAR UP offices. The celebration was part of **National GEAR UP Week**. GEAR UP, which stands for Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs, is a federally-funded, statewide grant in Wyoming that provides services to seventh-12th grade, income-eligible students annually. Two hundred and eighty Natrona County students participate in the program, services are free to qualifying youth in Natrona County.

October



The Casper College Men's and Women's Basketball teams held a free and fun event for children and their families with the **"Haunted House of Hoops."**

The entertaining

event attracted many participants who competed in 3-point shooting, a kids' uniform relay race, a dunk contest, musical chairs, and a costume contest. Fans could also meet the teams, watch the women's and men's teams do a little scrimmage, take pictures with the players, and get an autographed team picture.



Seventeen Casper College students enrolled in "Foundation: Three-Dimensional Design" had their creepy and creative work displayed at ART 321, for the second consecutive year. "Our open call for creepy art has become a hybrid assignment for students from Casper College's 'Three-Dimensional Design' class," according to ART 321.

Heidi Loucks, Casper College nursing instructor, was presented with the **2023 Wyoming Nurses Association Inspiring Future Nurses Award**.

"Over the past 23 years at Casper College, she has had a profound influence on her students, colleagues and nursing education, locally and statewide," stated the organization.

November

"Wilderness" was the theme for The 37th annual Casper College Literary Conference.

Workshops were led by writer and naturalist Elizabeth Bradfield, nonfiction writer Christine Peterson, fiction writer Rich Chiappone, and photojournalist Natalie Behring.

Dan Dalen, physical education instructor, was awarded the Wyoming Distance Education Consortium Innovative Educator of the Year.

He was presented the award during the Wyoming Innovations in Learning Conference.

Casper College hosted five events for **Veterans Appreciation Week from November 6 to 11.** The events included

a military cadence run, "Operation Thunderbird Military Kids' Night," Gold Star Family Awareness Day, the "Casper College Veteran Champions Thank You Reception Luncheon," and the Third Annual Veterans Ball.

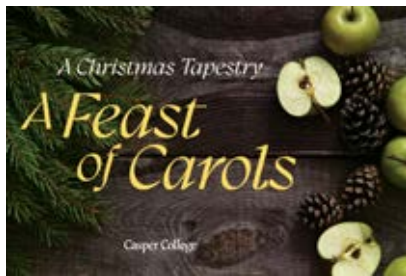


Thirty-nine businesses involved in health professions participated in **Casper College's Health Care Job Fair**. The event was well attended by both CC students and the community.

Medical Lab Technician faculty **Sarah Steinberg** was awarded an Ascending Professional Leadership Award by the American Society for Clinical Lab Sciences in Washington, D.C. The award recognizes someone who has contributed significantly to clinical laboratory science and ASCLS in their first five years in the profession.

The **Occupational Therapy Assistant program achieved re-accreditation** and will hold accredited status for 10 years. The OTA program has held accreditation since 1997.

December



“A Feast of Carols” was the ninth Annual Casper College Christmas Tapestry concert theme. This year’s concert featured the Casper College Chamber Singers, Contemporary Singers, and Chamber Orchestra.

lost their opening match to No. 3 Miami Dade College but defeated No. 11 Blinn College and No. 9 New Mexico Junior College. In the match to see who would take home ninth place, the Birds lost to No. 13 Indian Hills Community College and took 10th place in the country. At the end of the tournament, the CC Volleyball team ended up first in the nation with total matches, 44; sets, 161; kills, 1,917; total attacks, 5,545; receptions, 2,990; points, 2,586.5, and ended the season with a 30-14 record.

Casper College **Men’s Head Soccer Coach Ben McArthur was named the Northwest Plains District Coach of the Year and the Region IX Coach of the Year.**



Five Casper College Women’s Soccer players were named to the 2023 Region IX All-Region Teams, including (a) Haley Seaich, (b) Haylee Anderson, (c) Kaylenn Gallup, (d) Michelle Cave, and (e) Emma Goetz. The Thunderbirds ended their season ranked No. 14 in the country by the National Junior College Athletics Association.



McArthur, right in photo above with assistant coach Conner Schmidt, led his team to a 10-7-5 overall season and a record of 7-1-4 in conference play. The men’s team won the Region IX and Northwest Plains District Championship, beating the Otero Rattlers of Otero College 5-4 in penalty kicks after the game was tied 1-1.

At the national championships, the Thunderbirds were placed in Pool A with No. 1 seeded Arizona Western College and No. 8 seeded Louisiana State University-Eunice. The Birds lost to Arizona 1-0 but won against LSUE 2-1.



Under the leadership of **head coach Angel Sharman, who was also named Region IX Coach of the Year**, the Casper College Volleyball team had an unprecedented year of success. After winning the Region IX North Championship, the team competed in the Region IX Championships, winning the

Region IX Northwest Plains District B Championship, which got the team into the NJCAA National Volleyball Tournament for the first time in nine years. The volleyball team went into the tournament with a record of 28-12. The T-Birds

Breaking Barriers: The success of the STAR Program at Casper College

The STAR Program Grant began at Casper College in February 2020 and has had continuous student participation since the fall of 2020. Casper College's then Vice President for Student Services, Kim Byrd and Greta Hindelighter Spencer, a Natrona County School District teacher on special assignment to work with homeless students in the district, joined forces to see if there was a way to transition high school graduates to college successfully. They looked specifically at three groups of students: homeless, those aging out of foster care, and first generation.

The two presented a draft request to the Board of Cooperative Education Services. The grant fell under the organization's third rubric: "To meet the ongoing needs of the community by serving as a catalyst for the development and implementation of innovative programs benefiting both institutions."

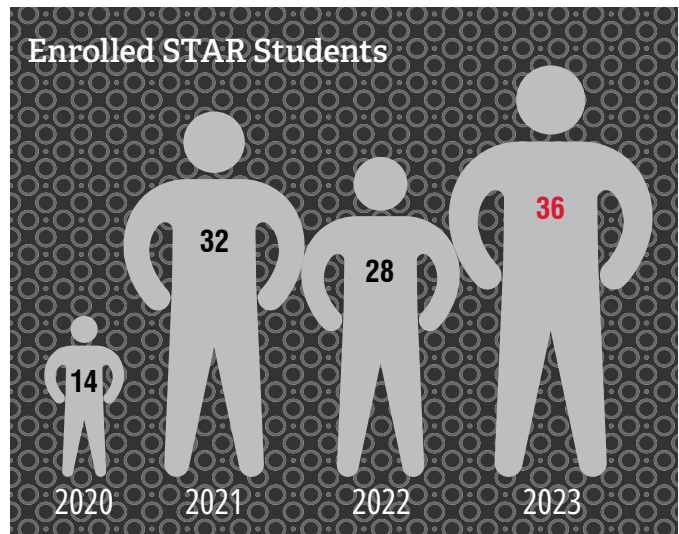
The proposed program, Successful Transition and Academic Retention or STAR received a warm reception and support from BOCES board members.

The specifics of the program were put into place, and noted the services STAR would provide to students in the program. These services included academic coaching, financial aid assistance, year-round on-campus housing, professional and personal development, and other services needed to help each student complete college degrees.

To qualify, students must have been registered in the NCSD within the last five years, qualify for a Pell Grant, and not have already earned an associate degree. Finally, students would need to fall into one of the three groups of students the program was designed for: homeless, aged out of foster care, or first-generation.

"In addition, our Student Success Advocate, Dannielle Anderson, serves as a resource for these young adults by assisting them with the development of the interpersonal skills necessary to become self-supporting, community leaders,

role models, and competent professionals in their selected programs," said Linda Toohey, vice president for student services at Casper College. To stay in the program, each student must maintain a 2.0 GPA, be enrolled in 12 hours, meet with the STAR student success advocate twice a month, follow through on appointments, and work part-time when living on campus.



The numbers speak volumes as to the success of the program so far. When the program began in the fall of 2020, 14 students were enrolled. That number climbed to 32 for the fall of 2021, followed by 28 in 2022 and 36 for the fall of 2023.

According to Toohey, highlights of the last three years, from the fall of 2020 to the fall of 2022, include a retention rate of 69% in the first year, and 62% in the second year, a graduation rate of 31%, and an average GPA of 2.54.



97 Degrees and 33 Certificates Offered

General

General Studies, A.A., A.S. ☐

Business and Industry

Accounting, A.B. ☐
Architectural Graphics and Design, Cert.
Auto Body Repair Technology, A.A.S., Cert.
Automotive Technology, A.A.S., Cert.
Aviation, A.A.S., Cert.
Bookkeeper, A.A.S., Cert. ☐
Business Administration, A.B.
Construction Management, A.S.
Construction Technology, A.A.S., Cert.
Cyber Security, A.A.S., Cert.
Diesel Power Technology, A.A.S., Cert.
Economics, A.S.
Electrical Apprentice, Cert.
Electronics Technology, A.A.S.
Engineering Technology and Design, A.A.S., Cert.
Entrepreneurship, A.A.S.
Fire Science Technology, A.A.S., Cert. ☐
Hospitality and Tourism Mgmt., A.A.S. ☐
Industrial Electronics, Cert.
Machine Tool Technology, A.A.S., Cert.
Management, A.A.S.
Manufacturing and Automation
Technology, A.A.S.
Manufacturing Technology, Cert.
Marketing, A.S., Cert.
Mechanical Graphics and Design, Cert.
Office Management, A.A.S., Cert. ☐
Outdoor Recreation and Tourism, A.S. ☐
Technical Studies, A.A.S.
Web Design and Development, A.A.S., Cert.
Welding, A.A.S., Cert.

Fine Arts and Humanities

American Sign Language Studies, A.A.
Art Education, A.F.A.
Art, A.A.
Dance, A.A.
English, A.A.
Fine Art, A.F.A.
Graphic Design, A.F.A.
Liberal Arts, A.A.
Museum/Gallery Studies, A.A.
Music, A.A. — Five areas of emphasis
Instrumental Music Ed Emphasis
Instrumental Performance Emphasis
Music Composition Emphasis
Vocal Music Ed Emphasis
Vocal Performance Emphasis
Musical Theatre Performance, A.A.
Photography, A.F.A.
Spanish, A.A.
Technical Theatre, A.A.
Theatre Performance, A.A.

Health Science

Assistive Technology, Cert.
Athletic Training, A.S.
Coaching, Cert.
Community Emergency Medical Services, Cert.
Equine Assisted Therapy, Cert.
Foundations of Interprofessional
Health Care, Cert.
Gerontology, Cert.
Health Science, A.S. ☐
Kinesiology and Health Promotion, A.S.
Medical Laboratory Technician, A.S.
Nursing, A.D.N.

Occupational Therapy Assistant, A.S.
 Paramedic Technology, A.S.
 Personal Trainer Education, Cert.
 Pharmacy Technology, A.S., Cert.
 Phlebotomy Technician Training, Cert.
 Physical Education, A.S.
 Practical Nursing, Cert.
 Radiography, A.S.
 Respiratory Therapy, A.S.

Science

Agribusiness, A.A.S., A.S. ☐
 Agriculture Communications, A.S.
 Agriculture, A.S. ☐
 Animal Science Technology, A.A.S.
 Animal Science, A.S.
 Biology, A.S.
 Chemistry, A.S.
 Computer Science, A.S.
 Engineering, A.S.
 Environmental Science, A.S.
 Geographic Information Systems, A.S., Cert.
 Geology, A.S.
 Mathematics, A.S.
 Nutrition, A.S.
 Physics, A.S.
 Pre-Dentistry, A.S.
 Pre-Medicine, A.S.
 Pre-Occupational Therapy, A.S.
 Pre-Optometry, A.S.
 Pre-Pharmacy, A.S.
 Pre-Physical Therapy, A.S. ☐
 Pre-Veterinary, A.S.
 Ranch and Agrotourism Management, Cert.
 Range Management, A.S.
 Wildlife and Fisheries Biology
 and Mgmt., A.S.

Social and Behavioral Sciences

Addiction Studies, A.S., Cert.
 Anthropology, A.A.
 Criminal Justice, A.A., A.A.S.
 Early Childhood Education, A.A. ☐
 Elementary Education, A.S.
 Forensic Science, A.S.
 History, A.A.
 Human Communication, A.A.
 International Studies, A.A.
 Mathematics — Secondary Edu., A.S.
 Media Communication, A.A.
 Paralegal, Cert.
 Paralegal Studies, A.A.
 Political Science, A.A.
 Psychology, A.S. ☐
 Social Studies — Secondary Edu., A.S.
 Social Work, A.S.
 Sociology, A.A.
 Women's and Gender Studies, A.A.

A.A.	Associate of Arts
A.A.S.	Associate of Applied Science
A.S.	Associate of Science
A.B.	Associate of Business
A.D.N.	Associate Degree in Nursing
A.F.A.	Associate of Fine Arts
Cert.	Certificate
☐	100% online option



Casper College

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