

April 13, 2021

Re: Prepared for the Castle Rock Town Council:

State of the Campus Update, Arapahoe Community College (ACC) Sturm Collaboration Campus, and Request for extension of Phase 2 funding support.

Dear Castle Rock Town Council Members, Jason Gray, Dave Corliss, and Frank Gray:

It is my pleasure to provide you with this State of the College update on the growth and activity of Arapahoe Community College's presence and participation as a thriving member of the Castle Rock community. A year and eight months after the opening of the ACC Sturm Collaboration Campus, the campus continues to flourish alongside Castle Rock's own community growth.

On October 10, 2011, ACC opened the doors to its first campus in Castle Rock on Castleton Way. With the gracious support from the Castle Rock Economic Development Council, the college was able to renovate a 7,000 sq.ft. leased space to begin our presence as the higher education provider for the community. We opened our doors to 58 students that first semester. Less than a year later that enrollment increased to almost 300 students. At that point we all knew that this would be the beginning of something special, serving Castle Rock citizens with the first two years of a 4-year degree as well as with a trained workforce ready for employment.

Fast-forward to May 2018, with the exciting groundbreaking of the 42,000 sq.ft. Collaboration Campus on 15 acres, an unprecedented partnership solidified between Arapahoe Community College, the Town of Castle Rock, Castle Rock Economic Development Council, Douglas County School District, and Colorado State University. Fifteen months later, on August 16, 2019, we opened the doors of the unique and progressive ACC Sturm Collaboration Campus, bringing a world class educational model to Castle Rock. We had hoped to have 500 students attend classes at the campus that first semester; instead, we were excited to welcome 653 students!

Enrollments:

The chart below shows the steady enrollment growth each semester at the Sturm Collaboration Campus. You will note that even with the start of the COVID-19 impact, and throughout the past year in the midst of the pandemic, the campus continues to grow in both numbers of students and program development, exemplifying ACC's and our partners' commitment to success.

ACC Sturm Collaboration Campus Fall 2019 - Spring 2021 Enrollment Details							
Fall 2019		Spring 2020		Fall 2020		Spring 2021 (as of 2/25/2021)	
Unduplicated Headcount (individual students)	FTE (fulltime equiv.)	Unduplicated Headcount (individual students)	FTE (fulltime equiv.)	Unduplicated Headcount (individual students)	FTE (fulltime equiv.)	Unduplicated Headcount (individual students)	FTE (fulltime equiv.)
653	139.70	710	153.73	908	163.80	1034	161.63

Also of note:

- Most community colleges in Colorado experienced an enrollment decline of 10% or higher from Fall 2020 to Spring 2021 semesters. The Sturm Campus grew in enrollments during this unprecedented pandemic due to our strong partnerships with DSCD, CSU-Pueblo, local industry, and AD/WORKS!
- Our original enrollment projections estimated not reaching 1000 unduplicated headcount until 2022; we are ahead of projections by reaching over 1000 students this semester.
- While our unduplicated headcount increased this semester, FTE remained flat (due to COVID course delivery pivot to remote learning) because many of these students were placed in additional online courses as opposed to on-site Sturm Campus courses. We expect FTE for Sturm Campus to increase for Fall 2021 as we return to higher numbers of on-campus courses.

Current Programs and New Programs Expansion/Development:

Despite the impact of the pandemic, current programs at the Sturm Collaboration Campus continue to expand and new programs continue to be developed based on the college actively anticipating and responding to student and community needs.

Of note:

- ACC plans to renovate two existing classrooms into a second health lab as both our Physical Therapy Assistant and Certified Nursing Assistant programs have had strong demand. We are well versed in offering hybrid courses and plan to maximize our current classroom space with additional hybrid offerings as we return post-pandemic.
- The college will launch a pathway in Public Health in Fall 2021 with direct transfer to CU-Denver's program.
- All original programs offered in Fall 2019 are still running strong, and we are expanding cohorts for Cyber Security and Secure Software.
- CSU-Pueblo will begin the Junior year programming for Cyber Security and Secure Software students in Fall 2021.

Apprenticeships and Internships:

Apprenticeship/internship opportunities with local employers continue to be cultivated, giving students hands-on experience and avenues to employment. This has proven difficult during the pandemic, but we have made solid progress:

- The Sturm Campus team helped launch a community association management apprenticeship with 5 different companies (conversation and partnership originated in Castle Rock with

TMMC and then expanded to metro Denver). This partnership received the Outstanding Corporate Partnership of the Year at the Colorado Apprenticeship Awards in December of 2020.

- A second apprentice with Castle Rock Water was hired in Fall 2020. We were invited to lead a national webinar with the EPA on workforce development for April 2021 to teach other water utilities about the program created through Sturm Collaboration Campus.
- Centura Health apprenticeships still remain strong, and we have served 75 apprentices to date. This is an ACC-wide program, but the Sturm team initiated the partnership and program. Centura has yielded a 90% retention rate after one year for graduates.
- We are currently working with local businesses such as Lockheed Martin, Farmers Insurance, Christian Brothers Automotive, and others to create new workforce partnerships.

Other highlights since the opening of the Sturm Collaboration Campus:

- ACC received the Proud Partner of the Year Award in December 2020 from the Rocky Mountain Workforce Development Institute due to the strong partnership with AD/WORKS in implementing nimble programming for displaced workers in Arapahoe and Douglas Counties.
- Work continues with Douglas County School District on aligning career pathways and expanding Concurrent Enrollment opportunities at the Sturm Campus to make post-secondary options available for all students regardless of which high school they attend. 15% of Sturm Collaboration Campus students are in high school.
- Associate Vice President Eric Dunker was selected to the Reskill and Recovery America Colorado team as part of a national initiative sponsored by the National Governors Association and American Association of Community Colleges in the fall of 2020. This partnership provided ACC and the Sturm Campus access to best practices relative to post-pandemic recovery strategy efforts around programming and talent development.
- ACC has raised over \$1 million in matching funds from Fall 2019 to Spring 2021 for the Sturm Family Foundation gift matching requirement. We have \$500k to go to fully match the Phase 1 scholarship and innovation fund endowment. We were given 5 years to match this requirement, and while we are ahead of projections we will be thrilled to be introduced to any potential investor through the greater Castle Rock network to assist us in completing the full match.
- Phase 2 programs and facilities will be informed by Phase 1 activity and experience, partners' needs, and industry scope and talent need.

Moving Forward and Request to Castle Rock Town Council:

ACC is committed to the continued forward momentum at the Sturm Collaboration Campus to serve student, industry, and community needs. We have been extremely grateful for our partnership with and continued support from the Town of Castle Rock. We are aware that the contract with the Town Council for the additional \$1million funds for the Phase 2 building runs until July 30, 2022. As you can see from this update report, the Sturm Campus has continued to make solid progress despite the pandemic. However, COVID-19 has had a significant impact on ACC. ACC's ability to plan for Phase 2 has been severely hampered and delayed by the impact of the pandemic on college operations and opportunities to engage in pursuing potential partners,

donors, sponsors, and investors for Phase 2. Additionally, I will be retiring as President from ACC on June 30, 2021, and so continued growth of the Sturm Collaboration Campus will fall to the next, yet-to-be-named, ACC President.

On behalf of ACC, I respectfully request the Castle Rock Town Council continue to maintain its strong partnership with ACC and extend its \$1million funding commitment for Phase 2 of the Sturm Collaboration Campus to 2025. This extension would allow the new ACC President the opportunity to appropriately plan for the campus' future with college personnel, the Castle Rock Town Council and Economic Development Council, the Sturm Collaboration Campus Advisory Council, the ACC Foundation, the current Sturm Campus partners, and potential new partners, employers, donors, and investors needed to bring Phase 2 to fruition.

With great and sincere appreciation for the partnership between Castle Rock Town Council and Arapahoe Community College,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Diana M. Doyle". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and "M".

Diana M. Doyle, Ph.D.
President