

Date: May 13, 2026
To: Montana Board of Regents
From: Chad Knudson
President, Dawson Community College
RE: Campus report for May 2026 Board of Regents Meeting

- Dawson Community College held its 85th Commencement on May 7th. Approximately 70 degrees and certificates were conferred. This included four with presidential honors (4.0), 16 with high honors (3.75-3.99) and 10 with honors (3.5-3.74). In addition, nine HiSet completers were recognized.
- In addition, approximately 40 students have completed their certificate (13 credits) in the ParaPathways program. This program serves ALICE (asset limited, income constrained, employed) classified students, most of whom are mid-career, and many of whom had no prior college experience. They were located across Montana and proved to be highly motivated and successful students.
- Despite high attrition in the original Second Chance Pell cohort, which DCC served at the Montana Women's Prison, success continues. Of the original cohort of 10 addiction studies students, only two remained in prison long enough to complete their degree while incarcerated (awarded in December 2024). Two of the original cohort reenrolled in the program post-release and both earned their degrees this spring. One of the four graduates is continuing to pursue a bachelor's degree. A fifth of the original cohort has reenrolled in the associates program for fall.
- A non-traditional student joined the Montana Space Grant Consortium trip to NASA's Langley Research Center this spring. Having worked as a custodian for seven years, he will pursue a science degree from Concordia-Moorhead in the fall.
- DCC has partnered with Dawson County High School on a welding program crosswalk. The first cohort of three students will take a blend of high school and college courses, which will allow them to earn a welding certificate during their senior year. The curriculum alignment will put them on-track to complete an associate's degree the following year.
- DCC Buccaneer athletic teams finished strong. Both softball and men's basketball were NJCAA Region XIII champions.



Three Glendive high school seniors will earn a welding certificate their senior year.