

Spring Update 2023

High Desert College Collaborative: Year 3 Highlights



Bliss Scholarship Awards Assembly

As the school calendar transitions to the glorious days of summer, I hope this HDCC June update celebrating Year 3 finds you well and enjoying the open doors and windows to the outside wherever you are.

The smiles from our aspirational scholarship recipients at year-end assemblies speak to HDCC's vision of helping change the way students view their education and strive for opportunities beyond high school.

“My daughter has never talked about college or even considered going to college. After receiving an HDCC aspirational scholarship last week, she is all of a sudden saying she is indeed interested. Citing that she hopes to be a behavioral therapist, the scholarship has opened up new possibilities after she graduates from Dietrich.”

Parent of a Dietrich 7th Grader and Dietrich Board Member

“College has become important to me and this (scholarship) essay helps me think about what is important and what I can do to help myself with that. This also makes me really think more about what I do in the future and make sure I have it all planned out in high school.”

8th Grade Student at Glens Ferry

Highlights from Year 3 (2022-2023)

- Richfield, Dietrich, and Shoshone School Districts joined the collaborative, bringing our total collaborative membership to eight school districts in southern Idaho.
- Boise State University students continued to inspire and delight middle schoolers with their sharing of personal educational narratives.
- The College of Southern Idaho ([Idaho's first federally designated Hispanic Serving Institution](#)) joined as a new partner and offered college mentors for our aspirational workshops.
- HDCC was invited to join BSU's newly established [Rural Education Collaborative](#) (REC), an initiative to further advance Idaho's post-secondary efforts.
- HDCC conducted 39 aspirational workshops across the collaborative during January and February.

- After hosting eight scholarship review committees, HDCC awarded 201 aspirational scholarships of \$125 to students in grades 4-8 at year-end assemblies.
- KMTV in Twin Falls ran a [feature story](#) on HDCC's promotion of 529 Plans with the [IDeal College Saving Program](#).
- The Carey Panthers will join HDCC as our ninth member this coming fall, representing the first school in Blaine County.
- HDCC's official Car of the Year - 2004 Subaru Forrester - safely navigated 38 trips down Route 75 and Routes 26/24 in Y3. Hallelujah!



Sharing the Spirit of Support and Appreciation

“Thank you, Bags and HDCC! We appreciate your investment in our student’s future!” ES Principal at Shoshone School

“HDCC is such an inspiring program that gives our students hope. I feel fortunate to play a small role in the process.” Counselor at Bliss School

***“We SO need outside perspectives on what is possible, and HDCC provides both the opportunity and the means!”
7th-Grade Science Teacher at Wendell***



Camas County Awards Presentations

KMTV Feature Story (Twin Falls)

The following [clip](#) on KMTV features HDCC's promotion of 529 Plans through its partnership with the [Ideal College Saving Program](#). Ideal Executive Director Marilyn Whitney and Project Coordinator Goldie Bishop attended the student celebration.

Bliss students plan for the future thanks to a local non profit

High Desert College Collaborative



HDCC on KMTV

Spring Awards Assemblies



Wendell Scholarship Awards



Glenns Ferry Scholarship Awards



Camas Scholarship Awards

Dietrich Scholarship Awards



Richfield Scholarship Awards Assembly

Tribute to Kevin Lancaster

After thirty plus years at Bliss School District, SUPERintendent Kevin Lancaster is retiring. Kevin, I want to thank you so very much for your collaboration and belief in High Desert College Collaborative. Without your support and vision that we might be able to improve the lives of children in Gooding County by inspiring and supporting their aspirations, HDCC would have never happened. You have been a tremendous partner (and friend) in helping us launch HDCC and for that I am forever grateful. As you said after our first year, "this may be the start of something big." If indeed we get there, you will always be one of its visionary pioneers. And by the way, retiring from Bliss has nothing to do with staying involved with HDCC!



And, finally, my favorite excerpt from our Year 3 pool of 374 applications follows.

"I want to really be a military chef on sea because I love to cook. I think I'm smart enough for the test. I love the seas and boats. But the real reason is I have five cookbooks and I go through them every day. I cook biscuits and gravy with eggs. I make five, maybe six, pancakes which are my mom's favorite. She loves them. I'll make my most famous dessert in my family which is my apple crisp or pumpkin pie with homemade whip cream. It is so

good. I also make coffee cake. That is good with milk. My favorite is my double, chocolate fudge cupcakes with strawberry frosting.

I want to be on water because I love the bioluminescence in water. I would cook for men and women on board and most of it would be free because soldiers are dying every day just for us. Women would always get what food they asked for.....” 5th Grader, Bliss School

Thanks again for your engagement and interest in our educational efforts in rural Idaho with special gratitude to Sun Valley Community School for its sponsorship. Have a wonderful and safe summer.

On behalf of HDCC,

Bags Brokaw
Chief Mechanic



HDCC Banner in Wendell Middle School

Consider Supporting HDCC

If you are interested in supporting HDCC's continued growth and efforts, please know that your contribution is tax-deductible through our partnership with Sun Valley Community School. Information on how to donate can be found on our website under *Support Us*.

