



PIERPONT COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE WINTER 2023

NETWORK

EVERY GIFT MATTERS

The Pierpont
Foundation offers
scholarships that
benefit students just
like these [PG.6](#)

PG.4 CLARKSBURG
Peek inside our
new preschool
laboratory

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Brand-new
culinary academy
facility opens

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A MESSAGE

From the President

Greetings from Pierpont Community & Technical College!

Please allow me to begin by wishing you and your family a very happy new year! As we break out the new calendar and embark on the year 2023, we can all look forward to the many exciting opportunities and adventures ahead.

With a new year comes a new semester for our students. Throughout my time here, I have witnessed the love and care our faculty and staff have for each of our students. I believe I speak for everyone when I say we are thrilled to see your shining faces back on campus. We also want to welcome all the new students beginning their Pierpont journeys this spring. We are thrilled to have you joining us!

This year promises to be a thrilling one for the Pierpont community. We recently opened our all-new Food

Service Management kitchen at the Middletown Commons in

White Hall, as well as opening our Veterinary Technology facility in downtown Clarksburg this spring! These new facilities promise to bring a brighter future for the Pierpont community by allowing our students to receive an even more state-of-the-art and hands-on education than ever before.

This year will also bring forth a new class of alumni, as many students prepare to take on their final semester of classes and graduate this spring. To those graduates, we say congratulations and a job well done! Whatever your future brings, whether it be beginning a career or continuing your education, please know that you are forever a member of the Pierpont Pride!

Now, go and enjoy this new year and let's make it the best one yet!

We are Pierpont Strong!

Sincerely,



Dr. Kathleen Nelson
Interim President

"[N]ew facilities promise to bring a brighter future for the Pierpont community by allowing our students to receive an even more state-of-the-art and hands-on education than ever before."

DR. KATHLEEN NELSON

ON THE COVER Pierpont Respiratory Care student receives hands-on training to make her the best in her field.

Healthcare Careers Articulation Agreement with Fairmont State

On Wednesday, November 2, 2022, Pierpont Community & Technical College and Fairmont State University (FSU) signed an articulation agreement between Pierpont's healthcare-related associate degree programs and FSU's Healthcare Management bachelor's degree program.

The agreement was signed by Pierpont's Dr. Kathleen Nelson, interim president, and Dr. Michael P. Waide, provost and vice president of academic affairs, along with FSU's Interim President Dr. Dianna Phillips and Dr. Timothy Oxley, interim provost and vice president of academic affairs, at Pierpont's Advanced Technology Center.

"We are pleased to announce an articulation agreement between [Pierpont] and Fairmont State University," said Dr. Nelson. "As two strong institutions in North Central West Virginia, it is imperative that we offer academic partnerships to continue moving this community forward."

"The signing of this articulation agreement is a public acknowledgement of the partnership between Pierpont Technical & Community College and Fairmont State University -- and our shared commitment to serve our students and the community of North Central WV," adds Dr. Phillips. "It's a win for everyone, and most especially our students!"

The articulation agreement will allow students who are attending and/or have completed a health sciences degree at Pierpont to further their academic careers

in a healthcare-related discipline to advance their professional credentials by enrolling in FSU and its Healthcare Management bachelor's degree program.

"After completing their two years at Pierpont, our students are ready to go directly into the workforce," said Dr. Waide. "But students looking to continue their educations can now do so at another institution right here in Marion County."

Along with the credit hours received from Pierpont healthcare programs, students can also receive credits for professional certifications and additional courses.

"This [articulation] agreement will enable students in one of the defined health-care related programs to receive 21 credit hours of articulated credit toward the

B.S. in Healthcare Management degree at Fairmont State," said Dr. Oxley. "Another three credit hours are available if they hold a professional certification in their respective fields. Students may also receive additional credit for a number of courses that have been articulated on the General Studies and Course Equivalency Transfer Agreement through the WV HEPC and WV Council for Community and Technical Education."

The articulation agreement will become effective upon approval by FSU and Pierpont during the academic year 2022-23.

"With this new articulation agreement, one thing is for certain," said Dr. Nelson. "North Central West Virginia will have some of the most qualified healthcare heroes around, and that is an incredible thing!" ■



Front Row L-R: Dr. Kathleen Nelson, interim president of Pierpont Community & Technical College and Dr. Diana Phillips, interim president of Fairmont State University; Back Row L-R: Dr. Tim Oxley, interim provost and vice president of academic affairs at Fairmont State and Dr. Michael P. Waide, provost and vice president of academic affairs at Pierpont

A small section of Pierpont's new laboratory preschool at its Gaston Caperton Center campus in Clarksburg. **INSET:** Pierpont's laboratory preschool art room, where students can work on their art projects.



Pierpont
holds ribbon
cutting
event for

P R E
S C H O O L
L A B O R A T O R Y



On Tuesday, November 1, Pierpont Community & Technical College held a ribbon cutting ceremony to officially open its new laboratory preschool.

Located inside Pierpont's Gaston Caperton Center in downtown Clarksburg, the laboratory preschool will be another addition to Pierpont's Clarksburg campus.

"We have created a space that we are proud to present to the community," said Lori Barrett, assistant

professor of early childhood education and director of the Pierpont laboratory preschool. "The new facility will encourage children to learn in a fun and exciting way."

The Pierpont Laboratory Preschool, which is used to train students within Pierpont's early childhood education program, is a Reggio-inspired preschool that focuses on the interests of the children and creates project-based units of study around those interests.

"As the children are learning through play, teachers are documenting their learning and using that information to determine how to expand on what the children have learned," said Barrett.

Previously located in Fairmont, the new location will be in downtown Clarksburg and service students in Harrison County.

"Our transition from Fairmont to Clarksburg has been a long process filled with many hours of preparation, dedication, and hard work," said Barrett. "It is our mission to create a partnership with the Clarksburg community and to provide quality childcare to those in this area. We are excited about our move here and are eager to begin working with the community and businesses around us to create learning experiences for the children who attend our preschool."



"We are thrilled to be able to provide our students with a state-of-the-art learning facility that will help them become even better educators," added Dr. Michael Waide, provost and vice president of academic affairs at Pierpont. "We are continuing to grow our campus in downtown Clarksburg and investing in that wonderful community."

The Preschool Laboratory is currently accepting children who will turn four by July 1, 2023. The preschool is tuition-free and began in January. To enroll a child or ask any questions, call Lori Barrett at 304-367-4846 or email lelliott1@pierpont.edu.

For more information about Pierpont Community & Technical College, visit pierpont.edu. ■

BELOW: Pierpont and Harrison County officials cut ribbon to officially open the laboratory preschool.




"As the children are learning through play, teachers are documenting their learning and using that information to determine how to expand on what the children have learned."

LORI BARRETT, assistant professor of early childhood education; director of the Pierpont laboratory preschool

**PIERPONT FOUNDATION
PREPARES FOR FIRST ANNUAL**

GIVING

More than
\$150,000
has been raised since January 2022



Nearly **30**
scholarship
funds available
for students

G

Serves
BOTH
Pierpont college
students and dual
enrollment high
school students

Pierpont Foundation Inc. is pleased to announce its first annual Giving Day to be held on Tuesday, April 4 in celebration of the anniversary of Pierpont Community & Technical College officially becoming an independent institution.

“Our foundation is thrilled to be able to host its first annual giving day event this year,” said Kathy Hypes, director of the Pierpont Foundation and vice president of institutional advancement and public relations at Pierpont. “We hope that as our foundation grows, the event will continue for many years to come.”

The Pierpont Foundation was incorporated in 2014 with the express mission of providing funding to support Pierpont Community & Technical College’s mission to provide an accessible, responsive, comprehensive education that works for North Central West Virginia.

With causes that range from student and program-specific scholarships to the student emergency funds used to assist students in times of need, the Pierpont Foundation offers a variety of avenues to help grow North Central West Virginia.

“Our goal as a foundation is to ensure that the students of Pierpont receive the support they need to become successful,” said Hypes. “With support from our generous donors, we are able to provide students with the financial support needed to make their college dreams a reality.”

(continued on page 8)

Student emergency fund is used to help students in need, including paying bills and gas to assist in making it easier for students to

STAY

in school.



The Pierpont Foundation offers scholarships in a variety of areas, including program specific scholarships that benefit students just like these.



The Pierpont Foundation will be partnering with GiveGab to provide a user-friendly way for donors to contribute to Giving Day. GiveGab, a digital fundraising company used around the country, is renowned for its easy-to-use and effective digital platform.

“We wanted to give our donors as pleasant of an experience as possible,” said Matt Turner, director of marketing and communications at Pierpont. “GiveGab is utilized by many local foundations, which should bring some familiarity to our donors.”

With the newly established giving day, the foundation will launch a new initiative entitled the “President’s

Circle,” where donors will receive exclusive recognition for their contributions to Pierpont.

“It is important that our donors receive the recognition they deserve,” said Pierpont Interim President Dr. Kathleen Nelson. “Their generosity betters so many lives of this region, and they need to know how much they are appreciated.”

Although Giving Day will officially be held on April 4, contributions can be made at any time.

To donate, email khypes@pierpontfoundation.org or mail a check addressed to the Pierpont Foundation to 500 Galliher Drive Fairmont, WV 26554. ■



Executive Chef and Culinary Instructor, Tony Anobile, shares his wisdom with Pierpont students. **INSET:** The baking and pastry lab, one of two full sized kitchens at the new campus location, offers everything a student will need for the baking and pastry concentration.

“One of the obstacles of our previous location was not enough space for the equipment needed to train students,” added Allison

McCue, Instructor and Program Coordinator for Pastry and Baking Arts. “The new facility will provide our students with the opportunity to work with a wide range of modern equipment that will prepare them for a career in the food service industry.”

The facility will not only prepare students to become future chefs, but will also give them the knowledge of the nutritional value of the foods.

“The Nutrition and Dietetic Technology specialization prepares students to earn an associate degree integrating food service management and nutrition science,” says Pam Hamilton, Coordinator of the NDT option. “This state-of-the-art facility will prepare graduates for management positions and support their application of food preparation to both community nutrition and healthcare settings.”

Successful completers of this program are eligible to sit for the credentialing exam to become Dietetic Technicians, Registered.

Pierpont expects that the new facility will allow students and the program to continue building on its great relationship with the community.

“By having our facility located at the Middletown Commons, it makes our program more accessible than ever,” said Natalie Feltz. “People walking or shopping at the Commons will be able to see our students working in the kitchens and witness why the Food Service Management Program is so highly acclaimed.”

“It will allow our students to be more involved with local restaurants,” added Culinary Instructor, Chef Sara Feltz. “It will provide our students an opportunity to build those relationships with potential future employers.”

Pierpont will be holding a ribbon cutting for the new Culinary Academy in the coming weeks. For more information on Pierpont and the Food Service Management Program, visit pierpont.edu. ■

PIERPONT OPENS

Brand-New Culinary Academy Facility

Pierpont Community & Technical College officially opened its brand-new Culinary Academy on January 23. This new facility is housed at the Middletown Commons in White Hall and saw its first students as the college’s spring semester began.

“We are thrilled to be able to provide our students a new learning environment,” said Natalie Feltz, Associate Professor and Food Service Management Program Coordinator at Pierpont. “Through months of preparation and hard work from everyone in our program, we are so proud to unveil this facility.”

Pierpont’s Culinary Academy houses Pierpont’s award-winning Food Service Management Program, which offers degree specializations in Culinary Arts, Pastry & Baking Arts, and Nutrition & Dietetic Technology.

At its previous location, the Food Service Management Program’s three-degree specializations shared a single kitchen. Now, the program is equipped with two state-of-the-art training kitchens, a classroom, locker rooms, and a variety of other training spaces for students to utilize.

“Previously, we had only one small kitchen for our three concentrations,” said Executive Chef and Culinary Instructor, Tony Anobile. “Now, we have kitchens specific to the culinary and baking concentrations that provide students an authentic, professional, ‘real-world’ training experience.”



Pierpont Holds Major Trick-or-Treat Event

FOR LOCAL COMMUNITY MEMBERS

On Friday October 22, 2022, Pierpont Community & Technical College hosted local community members for their first annual Community Trick-or-Treat event. This event, in which they partnered with the Tygart Valley United Way, saw more than 400 local children enjoy some exciting holiday fun.

"We were so pleased to hold this event at our Advanced Technology Center," said Dr. Kathleen Nelson, interim president of Pierpont. "We wanted to give local children a safe and unique Halloween experience, while taking an opportunity to show how important this community is to our institution."

Trick-or-treaters and their families could visit with more than 35 uniquely designed tables and booths, each decorated by Pierpont faculty and staff members or other local businesses.

During the event, participants could purchase raffle tickets to win a community basket worth more than \$800, all of which was donated by local businesses. All proceeds from the raffle went directly to benefit the Tygart Valley United Way.

"It was a true blessing to partner with the United Way for this event and help them raise some money," said Dr. Michael Waide, vice president of academic affairs and provost at Pierpont. "We want to thank all of the local businesses and individuals who donated to the United Way. You are the reason this community is so special."

For more information about Pierpont Community & Technical College, visit [pierpont.edu](https://www.pierpont.edu). ■



TOP: Dr. Kari Coffindaffer, dean of Pierpont's School of Business, Aviation and Technology, hands out candy at Pierpont's Community Trick-or-Treat event. MIDDLE: Pierpont Program Specialist, Joe Loureiro passes out candy to a local trick-or-treater. BOTTOM: Dr. Brad Gilbert, director of Pierpont Aviation Technology, shows his Halloween spirit as he takes a picture with a few trick-or-treaters.

GET TO KNOW

VP Kathy Hypes

In November, Pierpont welcomed the newest addition to its administrative team. Kathy Hypes, the new vice president for institutional advancement, public relations and director of the Pierpont Foundation, brings with her a wealth of knowledge that has been gained throughout her illustrious career. Learn more about VP Hypes below:

Tell me a little bit about your career prior to Pierpont? Recently, I retired from the K-12 public school system in West Virginia. I held various administrative roles at the school, district, regional, and state levels.

Most recently I was a county school superintendent and a former senior administrator with the West Virginia Department of Education. Prior to my last two positions, I served as the Executive Director for RESA 7 in Clarksburg, and spent years in Nicholas County, WV as a teacher, principal, and county-level administrator.

What brought you to Pierpont?

I value the role Pierpont, and all community and technical schools play in the lives of students, workforce preparation, and economic development. Pierpont is an affordable and accessible answer for many students, while providing a strong student-centered environment.

As a practitioner in the K-12 school system, I saw the overwhelming need for our students to be able to further their skill sets and fast-track to employment in

relevant careers that provide a wage to raise families, or as a secure transition to their next level of education.

What have you enjoyed about your time here at Pierpont, so far?

The people. I believe strongly in the mission of Pierpont and it's very enjoyable to be with colleagues, board members, students, and external supporters who strive daily to fulfill the mission of PCTC for the betterment of students, surrounding communities and economic growth in north central West Virginia.

Can you give us a few quick facts about you?

I was born and raised in North Central West Virginia and am a graduate of East Fairmont High School. When the weather is warm and the sun is shining, I can be found cycling the rail trails of WV. ■

"It's very enjoyable to be with [those] who strive daily to fulfill the mission of PCTC for the betterment of students, surrounding communities and economic growth in WV."

KATHY HYPES, new vice president of institutional advancement, public relations and foundation director at Pierpont



Visit us!

SPRING 2023 OPEN HOUSES

This spring, Pierpont is hosting multiple open houses for future and prospective students at its Advanced Technology Center. The events will focus on programs, financial aid, support/disability services, scheduling and what makes Pierpont a great invest for the future.

DATES

Saturday, February 25
Saturday, April 15
Saturday, June 17

For more information and to sign-up, scan the QR code or visit <https://pierpont.my.salesforce-sites.com/events#/calendar>



DON'T MISS A THING!

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