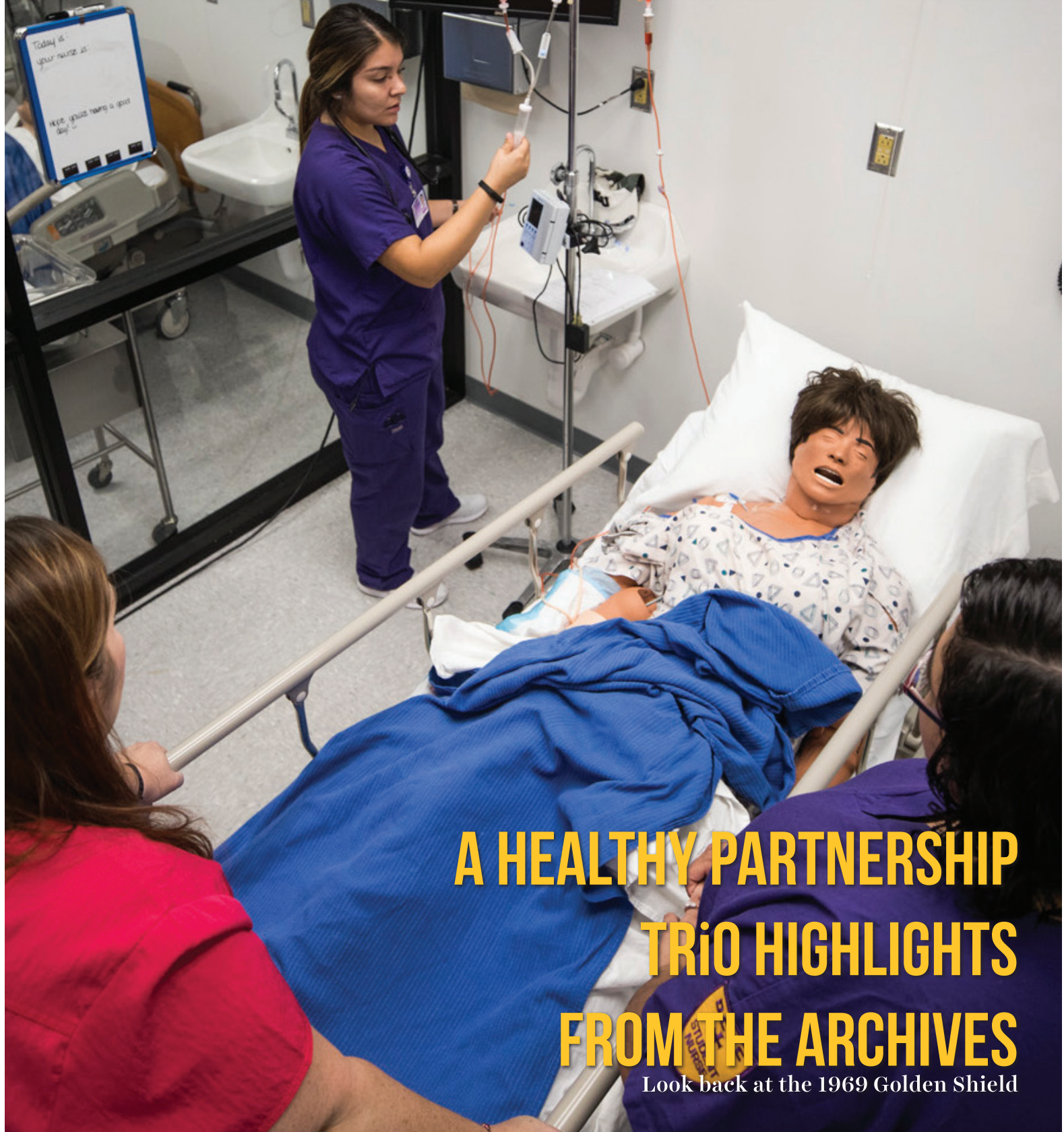


# The Conquistador

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## A HEALTHY PARTNERSHIP TRIO HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE ARCHIVES

Look back at the 1969 Golden Shield



# A HEALTHY PARTNERSHIP

With demand growing in the medical field, Dodge City Community College and Dodge City High School are partnering to meet the needs of the community

A partnership between Dodge City Community College and USD 443 will soon more than double the number of Dodge City High School students able to start their adventure in the medical field.

At its April 23 meeting, the Dodge City Community College Board of Trustees voted unanimously to expand the Certified Nursing Assistant program onto the DCHS campus.

Two rooms at DCHS will be devoted to the program. A classroom and lab will be provided by USD 443 and furnished with all the desks and classroom equipment, while DC3 will outfit the lab with the clinical equipment and medical mannequins. The college will also fund all of the lab consumables such as gloves, protective equipment, sanitation, etc., for the first year while USD 443 and DC3 work out the program budget going forward.

"This is a great partnership

opportunity," said Mechele Hailey, Director of Nursing and Allied Health at DC3. "The expanded CNA program serves a critical need in the community and will help grow programs here at DC3."

The CNA certification is a hot commodity at DCHS.

"The numbers have exploded," said Mike Martinez, Associate Principal and Career and Technical Education Coordinator at DCHS. "We are ecstatic at Dodge City High School to work together with Dodge City Community College like this to meet the needs of our students. With DC3 hiring an instructor to teach on our campus they enrolled fast."

Martinez said that 47 students already want to enroll in the DC3 CNA program for the fall semester, and 30 are already signed up for the spring 2020 semester. There will now be three sections of the course offered, with two

being held at DCHS and one still on the college campus.

Students are enrolled concurrently at DCHS and DC3 through the statewide Career and Technical Education initiative begun in 2012. Students who successfully complete the program earn college-level credit and are certified by the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services.

Even with the expansion, the program capacity is at 30 students per semester, so demand can quickly outstrip supply. Scaling up the program isn't as simple as adding more classes.

The CNA courses require a suitable classroom as well as clinical lab space to practice skills. The lack of available space on the college campus has been a barrier to expansion.

In addition to the needing more space, state regulations keep a lid on class sizes, so the college must locate

additional qualified instructors – always a difficult task in this remote area.

"The State of Kansas requires a maximum of 10 students per instructor in the clinical setting, so this limited the number of students that can take the class at one time," Hailey said. "We've also faced very limited classroom and lab availability at the college. With this partnership, we can overcome these barriers."

For several years, DCHS students have been able to obtain a CNA license through the college. There were some summer offerings, but throughout the regular school day only one section was offered and students had to come to the DC3 campus. That meant only 20 students a year could enroll.

"Now with this collaborative effort students will be able to stay on our campus," Martinez said, "and receive the training through DC3."

**“The numbers  
have exploded.”**

— Mike Martinez,  
DCHS Associate Principal  
& Career and Technical  
Education Coordinator



Classes will be daily for the semester-long course. Upon completion, DCHS students are eligible to take the Kansas Nurse Aide test for certification.

“We are looking forward to working with DC3 to offer CNA courses on the high school campus,” said Dodge City High School Principal Jacque Feist. “We have quite a few students interested in this course and it meets a gap we currently have in our community. More of our students will get this certification while they are in high school, so we are hoping this will help with the job demands right here in Dodge City.”

As part of the Health and Human Services Pathway at DCHS, the CNA program can lead directly into in-demand jobs. The expansion will likely increase demand for the college's nursing program, which currently has a waiting list for admission. Demand for registered nurses continues to soar, and while the DC3 nursing program is demanding, Hailey encourages students who believe they can rise to the challenge.

“Nursing is such a rewarding profession,” she said. “It takes dedication and persistence to be successful. The nursing program at DC3 is demanding to ensure that our graduates provide the best quality nursing care to patients. Our instructors maintain high standards, but they are dedicated to helping students succeed.”

For more information the nationwide shortage of nurses or to learn about the Dodge City Community College Nursing Program, contact Cameron Brown at 620-227-9240 or [cbrown@dc3.edu](mailto:cbrown@dc3.edu).

— By Scott Edger

# TRiO HIGHLIGHTS

The DC3 TRiO Student Support Services has completed the 2017-2018 year-end-report revealing that the TRiO students exceeded all of their objectives again this year. These objectives set by the US Department of Education include:

1. Persistence at a rate of 60%. DC3 TRiO students attained an 88%.
2. Good Academic Standing (Set by DC3) at a rate of 80%. DC3 TRiO students attained a whopping 94%!
3. Completion of an Associate's Degree or Certificate at a rate of 33%. DC3 TRiO students attained a 49%.
4. Completion of an Associate's Degree or Certificate AND Transferred to a 4 year institution at a rate of 23%. DC3 TRiO students blew this out of the water at a 35%!

The TRiO staff would like to thank Administration, Faculty, DC3 Staff and Coaches for all of their support in helping the students accomplish these objectives.

Student Support Services targets first-generation, low-income or disabled college students from Dodge City Community College, assisting them in retention, graduation, and transfer to a four year college. The TRiO SSS program provides services that are required by the US Department of Education to include advising, academic tutoring, career exploration, assistance with completion of university applications, scholarship searches and assistance with Financial Aid applications.

Students can drop by to pick up an application or find one online at our website at <https://sites.google.com/dc3.edu/trio/home/application>.

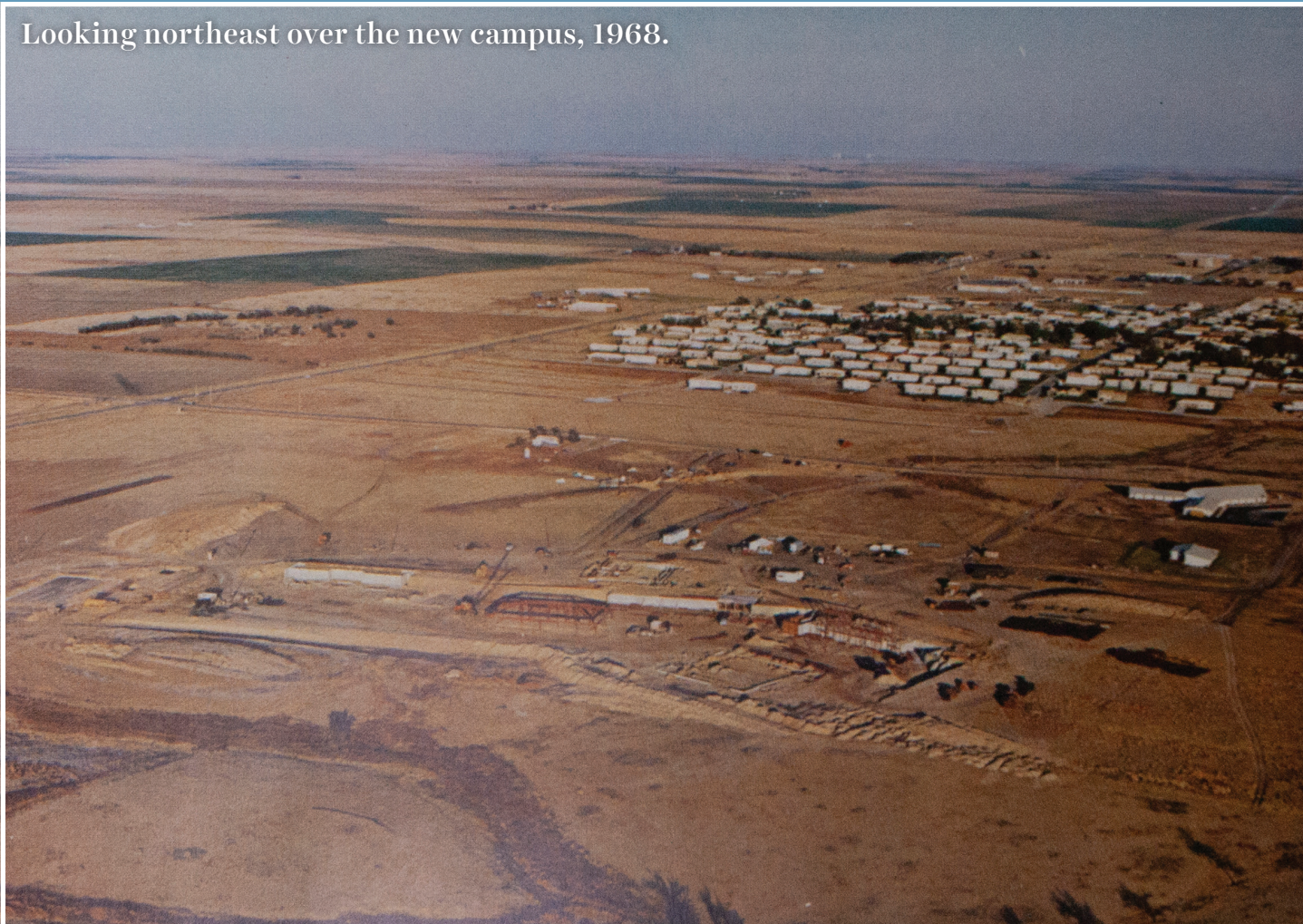
The DC3 TRiO program is honored to highlight a past DC3 TRiO students and their educational success and TRiO journey. We'd like to honor Nikki Atwood for her hard work and dedication to her academic and life goals!



“The TRiO department at DC3 is something that I will never forget about. I was a student athlete and it wasn't easy keeping up with classes sometimes. TRiO services helped me out so much. I was able to meet with my advisor weekly to go over certain material for the different classes I was taking. My advisor was really nice, and when it came to graduating she made sure I was on track to get my degree. My advisor knew many of the professors, so she gave me a layout on how they ran their classes and what to expect. The goals we set throughout the semester were always achievable. One of the biggest things TRiO helped me with was the use of the laptops and the iPads (now computer lab). This helped me succeed in the classroom because I was able to have access to the course materials online. I am truly thankful for the TRiO services at DC3. They care about the students' needs and work hard to help them succeed in achieving their goals and graduate. With the assistance I received from TRiO I was able to continue my education at Southwest Minnesota State University and graduate with a Bachelor of Science in Physical Education with an Emphasis on Recreation and Coaching.”

— Nikki Atwood

Looking northeast over the new campus, 1968.



## FROM THE ARCHIVES

### The 1969 Golden Shield Yearbook

*Bookended with images of the construction progress at the future home of Dodge City Community College, the 1969 Golden Shield eagerly awaited the opening of the new campus in 1970. The foreword shows the building site as it appeared at the beginning of the school year, and it includes these words:*

“In a technological age when man suddenly faces the realization that he will confront new philosophical ideas, astronomical scientific gleanings, and interstellar cultures, Dodge City and Ford County, through the medium of Dodge City Community Junior College, have accepted the challenge of involvement. As astronauts lessened the cosmoseconds to the moon, the Dodge City milieu meets the demands of a space age education for western Kansas youth, as residents and businesses both contribute to the culmination of dreams of a new campus. The 1968-69 school year has witnessed the emergence of this campus, as new buildings have mushroomed where the prairie once reigned, monoliths which will orient future students to a cultural, religious, residential, business, and recreational life paralleling a moon trek. At the beginning of the school year, the emerging campus consisted of little more than heavy equipment. The end of May spotlights the vision of a pot of gold at the end of the “space-age” educational rainbow, a rainbow overarching the fabled Seven Cities of Gold—that long desired treasure—now translated into a journey into the infinite, one eagerly anticipated by undefeated and indefatigable space warriors ever known as Conquistadors.”

*And on the final page of the 1969 Golden Shield are images of the new campus as it appeared at the end of that school year. The yearbook closes with these words:*

“While students structured their education at the Junior College facilities in town, the structure of the college’s future home progressed steadily during



Looking south, 1969.

the year. As the college complex spread out over the plains, so the widening horizons of the students expanded to meet the future they face—one that will encompass beautiful new buildings, vaster knowledge, and trips to the moon. So this book represents—not an end—but a beginning.”

— *The Golden Shield Yearbook*  
Volume IV, Pages 2-3, 128

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