



# NEW MEXICO MILITARY INSTITUTE

Office of the President / Superintendent

101 West College Boulevard  
Roswell, New Mexico 88201-5173

Office (575) 624-8001 • Fax (575) 624-8025

TO: All NMMI Constituents

FROM: MG Jerry W. Grizzle

DATE: 11 January 2021

Re: Start of the Second Semester

Happy New Year and welcome back to NMMI for the second semester of the 2020/2021 school year.

Our back to school process started on December 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> with the first round of testing for Staff and Faculty. We tested 171 employees and found one positive. Totally we have tested 278 employees and contract support staff, with three positive results.

On Monday, January 4, 2021, we started our first wave of Cadet arrival and testing. As of the end of the first week of arrival and testing, we have tested 232 Cadets with eight positives. A reminder that the number of Cadets arriving, and the number of Cadets tested will not always be the same. Cadets that tested positive in October and November, according to New Mexico Department of Health (NMDOH) and the Center for Disease Control (CDC), are “immune” for ninety days and do not require retesting. As of Friday, January 9<sup>th</sup>, we have 262 Cadets on Post.

Our next big arrival date is 11 January 2021. Mid-entry RATS arrive as well as the majority of all Junior College athletes. Our Admissions department has done an incredible job of recruiting, despite all of the challenges of COVID-19. They have accepted 115 for January entry. The key is to get them here.

A reminder of what will go on during this two week period of arrival and testing. Cadets are tested immediately upon arrival and put into single room isolation. As soon as the results are known, those testing negative are moved to permanent room assignments. Those testing positive will move to Lima Troop area where we have reserved the entire Troop area for isolation and quarantine cases. The room they were occupying during the isolation period will be deep cleaned and sanitized by our Facility Department. Positive results must remain in isolation 10 days from the date of test. Those testing positive on 4 January will be released on 14 January.

The RC and Staff are here and will be conducting Cadre training for those involved in RAT training. They will also be involved in the overall training for the remainder of the Corps as they arrive. First day of classes will be January 19<sup>th</sup>.

Our current biggest challenge is how to get our athletes playing. The State of New Mexico has released a COVID-19 Safe Practices for Intercollegiate Sports. We are in the process of analyzing the report and adopting our own policies and procedures that will allow us to play. The policy we adopt must be approved by our Regents and then sent to the State before we can play. We have scheduled a Board meeting for January 21<sup>st</sup> and the sports issue will be an agenda item. This policy will only deal with Junior College. We are still waiting guidance from the New Mexico Activity Association as it pertains to High School sports.

I ask that you frequently refer to our web page for updates. On the front page of our website, there is a COVID-19 Dashboard tab. Click on the tab and you will go to the dashboard which will provide up-to-date statistics about number of Cadets and employees on Post, tested and the results. Also, you will find all the documents that we have released dealing with our Second Semester Back to School plans.

I mentioned that the first day of class is January 19<sup>th</sup>. If you will review the Academic Calendar, you will see that we have built in a “free day” or “down day” every third week. This day will be for rest and relaxation, and mental health.

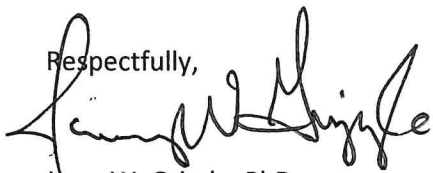
To compensate for the fact, we will not allow outside food deliveries, we have worked with Sodexo and they will extend the hours of all their facilities on Post. In addition, they will sponsor theme nights, like a “sushi bar.” Sodexo has also agreed to work with local vendors to have them agree to come on Post and have a special night featuring their food. This will allow us time to screen the individuals and then have them come into our facilities and make their food available. An example might be the new Dion’s Pizza would come onto Post and prepare and offer their food. Another option we are working on is the local food truck network. The first Friday of the month in Roswell, food trucks line up on Main street Downtown and offer their food. We will be working with the food truck community to have them pull their trucks onto Post and off their food. Again, the vendors would all be pre-approved and pre-screened before they are allowed on Post.

The Commandant and his staff are working diligently to increase the activities we can participate in. We will be increasing the number of movie nights and game activities that can be conducted within the current health order guidelines.

I close by asking you to work directly with us for answers. We do not need rumors or discussion based on inaccurate or incomplete information. Call us, email us, we will get you the correct answer. Your best point of contact is your Cadet’s TLA. All TLA contact information is available on the website. Finally, I ask the local parents, family and friends to respect the fact that NMMI is a closed campus. Please do not come to the campus, and visit, bring food, do the Cadet’s laundry, etc.

I personally will continue to send out updates.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jerry W. Grizzle". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "G".

Jerry W. Grizzle, PhD

Major General, USA, Retired

President and Superintendent