

TO: Staff and Faculty

FROM: MG Grizzle

DATE: 29 April 2020

Re: Week 5 Recap

Administrative to All: We have had questions from employees about returning to work May 1. The Governor extended her “stay at home” order and social distancing requirements until May 15th. We have been conducting some essential business at NMMI and some Faculty members are broadcasting their classes from their room, for the majority, we are following the Governor’s orders and working from home. NMMI is involved with HED in advising the Governor as to how and when we could begin a phased operation back to a regular schedule. Until then everyone is encouraged to stay safe, stay at home, and check your emails for regular updates.

Commandant – The Commandant and staff are focusing on returning personal belongings. They have extended the range for Cadets to come to Post and pick up their personal belongings to, “within driving distance.” A number of Cadets from surrounding TX, CO and AZ towns have indicated they could drive to Post, secure their belongings and return to their home, within a single day. The key for the Staff is to get the belongings of every Cadet out of the rooms so Facilities can begin to prepare the rooms for August matriculation. Corps leadership has been selected through RC, XO, CSM and the 3 Squadron Commanders. Regimental Staff has been selected and interviews continue to select Troop Commanders and First Sergeants.

Campus Security – We were awarded \$500,000 for campus security and safety. We are working with a contractor to encumber the money. We met with representatives from the contractor to discuss security gates at the entrances to our facility that are not presently covered with a gate, Campus Circle, McClure parking lot and Mustang Boulevard. The intent is to install security gates that can be closed completely during non-duty hours. Access would be by key pad or magnetic card.

Facilities – Work has resumed on Cahoon Armory. We are moving forward on the renovation of the Latrines (Sinks) and JRT. Buildings that are not occupied are on a “deep cleaning” schedule and then they will be closed until needed. Other buildings are receiving periodic cleaning based on the amount of use during the week.

Academics – Work on the virtual graduation continues. Again, the intent is to follow the same agenda and program as if we were in Pearson. One reminder, there will only be one graduation this year. We will virtually combine the High School and Junior College ceremony. The event will be broadcast on the web at 1300 hours on Saturday, May 16th. A copy of the program will be sent with the diplomas. We are also working on the Awards ceremony and Class Coins. We envision that a copy of the awards ceremony, the award itself (if applicable) and a Class Coin will be sent to each graduate or Award winner. Our intent is to make each ceremony mirror the original. For our May 2020 graduates, we will organize an actual ceremony for the December 2020 graduation program that will give them an opportunity to return and actually “walk across the stage” if they so desire.

Admissions – Reenrollment continues to increase and we are close to 400 at the present time. Applications are down about 12% from last year at this time but Accepts are up 17%. We are receiving

less applications but obviously they are quality applicants for the Accepts to continue at a high rate. A very broad projection for beginning head count would be a low of 700 and a high of 850. Not sure what the mix of online and in residence would be, but believe we will have some online to start the year based on domestic or international travel restrictions.

Senior ROTC – We have seven of our ECP Cadets who want to return and actually receive their commission in Pearson. The problem is four are out-of-state. I have coordinated with NM HED and they advise that they believe if we wait until after May 15, they may be allowed to return and commission. We are working with the families as to their availability and travel plans.

Alumni – We will cancel this year's Trail Ride. We are not expected to hear anything from the Governor's office about reducing any of our current restrictions until May 15th. I am being advised that even if some current restrictions are lifted, certain ones, like no large gatherings, will remain in place. We are still planning on the ATV rally August 13-16. Most of our Alumni events have been postponed. Our gracious hosts are insisting that we reschedule when the restrictions are removed and we will certainly do that. We hope that some of the events planned starting in June and beyond we can honor the dates that are in place.

IT – It was decided to extend the lease on our laptops for one year. This affords us time to recover the laptops and then prepare them for return to the vendor. In addition, it will give us an opportunity to better understand the number of machines we need to include in a new lease.

Athletics – The conference for our Junior College football program will host a call this Thursday to discuss options for the upcoming season. We have not heard anything from the conference for our other junior college sports. For High School, the NMAA has a meeting scheduled for May 15th to discuss parameters for starting fall sports.

State Funding -

Parents - I am addressing this last section directly to the Parents to deal with some questions that are being asked.

Refunds – We previously announced that refunds would be calculated and applied for board and laundry. Each Cadet and family have an account balance with NMMI. That balance is different depending on the payment arrangements that were made at the beginning of the school year. Throughout the year different charges and credits are applied to each individual account. We must finish the semester before each account will receive a full reconciliation and any credits issued to the account. Once the reconciliation has been completed, if there is an overall credit balance, a check will be issued or a credit applied to the fall semester. If the reconciliation concludes that a balance is due NMMI, after all credits have been applied, a final bill will be sent to the Cadet and Parents.

Payments – Since last week when I reported that we had \$216,000 in past due payments, that number has dropped to \$188,000. Thank you for responding. Thank you to parents who have already set up payment plans for next school year.

CARES – We are set to receive the student portion of the CARES money this week. Approximately \$207,800 will be received and then distributed to Junior College students based on guidelines and parameters established by the recovery funding stabilization act.

Future Plans – Our internal discussion continues on the three courses of action we developed last week.

COA 1 = Assume we will start in August as published but that we will have Cadets on Post and online.

COA 2 = Assume we can only start in August online and then move to residency in the second semester.

COA 3 = Assume a 30 to 60 day delay in starting the semester (September 1 or October 1).

Special considerations; social distancing, medical screening, formations, feeding, athletics

Once again, thanks to everyone involved in supporting us during this unusual times.

MG Grizzle