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Montgomery County Community College Celebrates 25 Years in Pottstown

This fall marks the 25th anniversary of Montgomery County Community College opening the doors of its Pottstown Campus to serve the Tri-County area. Through the years, MCCC has become a valuable resource and trusted partner, always ready to work closely with school districts, area businesses, organizations and agencies.

As the College approaches its quarter of a century milestone anniversary, MCCC's leaders are looking ahead to prepare for the future needs of students and communities. Exciting changes for the

Pottstown Campus are on the horizon – starting with the Challenger Learning Center, the first of its kind to open in Pennsylvania.

“We are thrilled about this innovative opportunity. The Challenger Learning Center will not only introduce youth to science, technology, engineering and math (STEM), but it also will inspire them to pursue higher education and lead them to rewarding careers in high-demand fields with life-sustaining wage jobs,” said Dr. Victoria L. Bastecki-Perez, MCCC President. “In the long-term, this strategic



Montgomery County Community College is partnering with Challenger Center to open the first interactive, space-themed Challenger Learning Center in Pennsylvania at its Pottstown Campus. Photo courtesy of Challenger Center

pathway will help to strengthen the workforce for Montgomery County and the region.”

For outreach, MCCC will provide transportation scholarships to bring area students to the interactive, space-themed Center, as part of a \$500,000 PAsmart Advancing Grant. For more details about the Center and its opening this fall, visit mc3.edu/challenger.

Other innovative projects are underway at MCCC's Pottstown Campus, too. “During the past year, we've met with business and community members, students, faculty and others to explore possibilities for the Pottstown Campus,” said Therol Dix, J.D., MCCC Vice President of Pottstown Campus and Educational Partnerships. “We listened to their ideas and are using that feedback as we make improvements.”

At North Hall, 16 West High St., MCCC will convert the existing macadam parking lot into a grass-covered area with tiered rain gardens into Manatawny Creek. The new design will provide both live learning laboratories for students and a public green space for the community.

At South Hall, 101 College Drive, MCCC is renovating the student support spaces to improve the overall educational experience, providing greater access to basic needs services.

Along with construction, MCCC will be offering new programs at Pottstown this fall, including Tourism and Hospitality Management and Sound Recording and Music Technology with a new state-of-the-art laboratory.

For more information about Montgomery County Community College, and its campuses and programs, visit mc3.edu.

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Montgomery County Community College is transforming its North Hall parking lot into a green space to provide live learning laboratories for students and a public green space for the community. Rendering courtesy of Spillman Farmer Architects