Early Childhood I-BEST Expansion

Wenatchee Valley College (WVC) received approval for Integrated Basic Education and Skills Training (I-BEST) expansion in Early Childhood Education. I-BEST is a program that offers dual enrollment in pre-college and college-level classes. I-BEST courses feature two instructors: one to teach college-level academic or technical content, the other to teach basic skills in reading, math, writing or the English language. The program aims to help underprepared students transition successfully into college classes. The approved expansion is an I-BEST model for a full, one-year Early Childhood Education certificate. Previously, the certificate was a short, 20-credit I-BEST certificate.

Mish ee twie Construction Complete

WVC finished construction and named a new building in fall 2021. Mish ee twie is named in honor of higher education advocate, respected tribal elder and Wenatchi Advisory Board founding member Mish ee twie (Gloria L. Atkins). Gloria served as Colville Tribes Higher Education Director and worked more than 45 years in the tribes’ education department. She was active in the community up until her passing in 2019. Construction on the new building began in fall 2019. Mish ee twie now houses 25 classrooms and multiple program and instructor offices. In addition, the building houses the Jack and Edna Maguire Conference Center and the Chelan County Emergency Operations Center.

TRIO Renewal

WVC’s TRIO Student Support Services grant was renewed for the 2020-25 grant cycle. TRIO SSS is a federally-funded program that supports low-income, first-generation or disabled college students. TRIO SSS has served over 400 students since it began in 2015 and aims to provide individualized support to 140 participants every year in financial literacy, tutoring, academic advising, transfer assistance and more. Nearly 80% of TRIO students complete an associate degree, and 60% of students earn an associate degree and transfer to a four-year university.