

**Report of a Survey Visit
 Paris Junior College in Paris, Texas
 Vocational Nursing Education Program**

Summary of Request

Consider the report of the routine survey visit to Paris Junior College in Paris, Texas Vocational Nursing Education Program (See Attachment #1). The survey visit was conducted on March 18, 2013 by Gayle Varnell, PhD, APRN, CPNP-PC, Contract Program Evaluator.

Historical Perspective:

- The Paris Junior College (PJC) in Paris, Texas Vocational Nursing (VN) Education Program began in 1968 through the cooperation of the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word, St. Joseph’s Hospital of Paris, and McCuiston Community Hospital of Paris.
- The VN Program is part of the PJC Health Occupations Department. The Health Occupations Department also includes Associate Degree Nursing (ADN), Surgical Technology, Radiology Technology, Medical Records Coding, and Emergency Medical Services (EMT and Paramedic).
- PJC has three (3) campuses. Besides the main campus in Paris, Texas, campuses are located in Greenville and Sulphur Springs.
- The VN program is located on the main campus, but has practice areas and skills labs available to the students at the main campus, the Greenville Center, and at the Sulphur Springs Community Hospital.
- Marcia Putnam, MSN, RN, has been the Director of Health Occupations since Summer 2001. Ms. Putnam taught at PJC from 1984-1993 and at Baptist Memorial Hospital System School of Nursing from 1978-1984. Ms. Putnam has no scheduled teaching responsibilities.
- The VN program includes five (5) full-time and two (2) part-time faculty.
- The VN program currently has sixty-six (66) students enrolled in the program.
- The VN program has one (1) admission cohort per year and has the capacity to admit sixty (60) to seventy (70) students.
- Applications are accepted in early January through mid-February for classes beginning the first summer session.
- The VN program also includes a “non traditional” student group that began in 2007. The applicants are employed by Hopkins County Memorial Hospital. Up to ten (10) applicants are selected annually. There have been three (3) groups to date (2008, 2010, and 2012). This group of students receives the classroom content via DVDs. The curriculum and clinical requirements are the same for all VN students. Following the vocational year, the students continue in the ADN program as regular students.
- The NCLEX-PN® examination pass rates for the past six (6) years are provided in the following table:

Exam Year	NCLEX-PN® Examination Pass Rate	Number of First- Time Candidates (Passed/Total)	BON Approval Status
2012	93.44%	57/61	Full
2011	90.77%	59/65	Full
2010	94.23%	49/52	Full
2009	93.75%	60/64	Full
2008	96.49%	55/57	Full
2007	98.15%	53/54	Full

- A routine six-year survey visit to the Paris Junior College VN Program was conducted on March 18, 2013 by Gayle Varnell, PhD, APRN, CPNP-PC, Contract Program Evaluator (See Attachment #1).

Summary of Survey Findings:

- Board Representative identified many strengths in the program.
- Findings from the survey visit indicated that the program is in compliance with Board Rule 214.

Pros and Cons from Survey Visit:

Pros:

- The director and faculty reported that the VN program receives strong support from PJC administration.
- The program objectives/outcomes identify the DEC's that are applicable as do the course and clinical objectives.
- The program appears to have a cohesive, supportive faculty, and full time faculty turnover rates are low.
- Judith Smith, VN Coordinator will complete her master's degree in May 2013
- One full time faculty is funded to participate in the Texas Association of Vocational Nurse Educators (TAVNE) annual conference.
- Students interviewed expressed a high degree of satisfaction with the program and confidence that the coordinator/director and faculty are committed to their success.
- The program meets a need in the community for a vocational nursing education program and receives strong support from clinical affiliates.
- The program has adequate contracts with clinical affiliating agencies in order for students to meet all clinical objectives in the program.
- All clinical learning experiences occur in faculty supervised, direct-patient care, hands-on, clinical settings. The program utilizes simulation to prepare students for hands-on patient care and for remediation purposes.

Cons:

- The skills lab on the Greenville campus does not have hot and cold running water or adequate storage space.

Rationale for Staff Recommendations:

Requirement #1:

Rule 214.11(b) related to Facilities, Resources, and Services states "An appropriately equipped skills laboratory shall be provided to accommodate the maximum number of students allowed for the program.

(1) The laboratory shall be equipped with hot and cold running water.

(2) The laboratory shall have adequate storage for equipment and supplies".

Therefore, the program director shall ensure that the Greenville campus nursing skills lab is updated to provide hot and cold running water, as well as contains adequate storage space for equipment and supplies. The program director shall submit documentation of the identified physical changes to the nursing skills laboratory to the Texas BON by September 1, 2013.

Staff Recommendation:

Move to accept the report of findings of the routine six (6) year survey visit to Paris Junior College in Paris, Texas Vocational Nursing Education Program and issue one (1) requirement, as noted in the attached letter (See Attachment #2).

**Summary of Survey Visit
Paris Junior College in Paris, Texas
Vocational Nursing Education Program**

Purpose of Survey Visit: routine survey visit

Date of Visit: March 18, 2013

Board Staff Conducting Visit: Gayle Varnell, PhD, APRN, Contracted Program Evaluator

Board Representative met with:

- Marcia Putnam, MSN, RN, Coordinator, Director of Health Occupations including the Vocational Nursing (VN) Program
- L. Dwight Chaney, Vice President of Academic Studies
- John Eastman, Vice President of Business Services
- John Spalding, Vice President of Workforce Education
- Sheila Reese, Assistant Dean of Student Services
- Judith Smith, BSN, RN, VN Program Coordinator
- Linda Utley, ADN, RN, VN Program Faculty
- Kay Z. Miller, ADN, RN, VN Program Faculty
- Tammy Goodman, BSN, RN, VN Program Faculty
- Debbie Bookout, ADN, RN, VN Program Faculty
- Carla Jones, Secretary - FT
- Judy Frazier, Secretary - FT
- Diane Parks, Secretary - PT
- Fifty-six (56) VN Students (first level)

Board Representative conducted the following activities:

- held initial conference with director and administration;
- met with faculty members;
- interviewed students;
- observed classroom teaching;
- toured PJC campus and facilities;
- reviewed records and documents including: student and faculty files, minutes of faculty meetings, student and faculty handbooks, syllabi, clinical evaluation tools, and the Total Program Evaluation (TPE) Plan; and
- conducted exit interview with director and administration.

Summary of Findings:

Findings Related to Administration:

- Administration stated that the VN program adds value to the college and fulfills a need in the community.
- The administration expressed strong support for the VN program.
- Besides the VN program, The Health Occupations Department also includes Associate Degree Nursing (ADN), Surgical Technology, Radiology Technology, Medical Records Coding, and Emergency Medical Services (EMT and Paramedic).
- The organizational chart was reviewed with administration.
- Marcia Putnam, MSN, RN, has been the Director of Health Occupations since summer 2001.
- The director reported that the majority of graduates remain in the community and are able to find employment in local hospitals and clinical agencies.
- Administration stated that they encourage online instruction.

Findings Related to Program of Study:

- The VN program is a 12-month 45-credit hour program of study, based on sequential learning. There are a total of 1440 contact hours in the program of study, comprised of 576 didactic hours and 864 clinical contact hours.
- The program is well organized and includes all Board required content.
- The curriculum is designed to ensure students are competent in skills prior to entering the clinical setting.
- The curriculum does not include intravenous (IV) therapy.
- The VN curriculum design and college level pre-requisite courses allow a smooth transition into the PJC ADN program.
- The *Differentiated Essential Competencies (DECs) (2010)* have been incorporated into the curriculum.
- The teaching model is based upon face-to-face modalities, but faculty expressed interest for more online content.
- Admission policies have sufficient rigor to ensure that qualified applicants are admitted into the program.
- Standardized testing is used throughout the program for progression, remediation, and graduation purposes.
- The program has implemented required remediations as well as an NCLEX-PN® review course.

Findings Related to Faculty:

- The VN instruction is carried out by an experienced RN faculty group.
- The director does not carry a teaching load.
- Five (5) full-time and two (2) part-time faculty teach in the VN program.
- Faculty are actively engaged in curriculum planning, implementation, and evaluation.
- Faculty reported that morale is high and they receive strong support from one another as well as the program director.
- Profession development funds are available to send one faculty member to the annual Texas Association of Vocational Nurse Educators (TAVNE) conference, other faculty attend but pay own expenses.
- Faculty communicate frequently and meet regularly. Minutes of faculty meetings are maintained.

Findings Related to Students:

- There is one (1) admission per calendar year with students making application January through February 15th for classes beginning Summer I. Sixty (60) to seventy (70) students are admitted each year.
- Students stated that they enrolled in the PJC VN program because of location, tuition, class scheduling, and the reputation of the program.
- Students cited strengths of the program as being to enter the ADN program directly after completing the VN program without having to complete another application.
- Other strength of the program included the clinical experiences, and faculty.
- The majority of students reported they plan to seek further education to become registered nurses.

Findings Related to Clinical Learning Experiences:

- The program has active clinical contracts with affiliating agencies which provide a variety of appropriate clinical experiences for the curriculum.
- All clinical learning experiences occur in faculty-supervised, direct-patient care, hands-on clinical settings.
- The clinical experiences are scheduled to match related didactic in the classroom.
- The clinical evaluation tools are individually based upon the course content and measure progression of student behaviors across the curriculum. A new evaluation form will be piloted next semester.
- Formative and summative evaluations are evident.

- Board faculty-to-student ratios are maintained.

Findings Related to Facilities, Resources, and Services:

- The program is located in Paris, Texas.
- The program has the capacity and faculty to admit sixty (60) to seventy (70) students annually.
- The building housing the VN program is appropriately equipped and offers a positive learning environment.
- The director/coordinator has a large private office that is conveniently located to the other VN faculty offices.
- Full-time faculty are provided with fully-furnished private offices, and adjunct faculty share office space.
- The facilities include restrooms as well as faculty and student lounges and break areas.
- The VN program classroom and the ten (10) bed nursing skills laboratory are adequately equipped.
- The director stated that resources are adequate and meet the educational objectives.
- The nursing skills lab on the Greenville campus does not have hot and cold running water or adequate storage space.

DRAFT LETTER

July 22, 2013

Marcia Putnam, MSN, RN, Director of Health Occupations
Paris Junior College
2400 Clarksville Street
Paris, Texas 75460

Dear Ms. Putnam:

At the July 18-19, 2013 meeting, the members of the Texas Board of Nursing considered the report of the routine survey visit to the Paris Junior College in Paris, Texas Vocational Nursing Education Program. It was the decision of the Board to accept the report of the survey visit and issue the following requirement:

Requirement #1:

Rule 214.11(b) related to Facilities, Resources, and Services states "An appropriately equipped skills laboratory shall be provided to accommodate the maximum number of students allowed for the program.

(1) The laboratory shall be equipped with hot and cold running water.

(2) The laboratory shall have adequate storage for equipment and supplies".

Therefore, the program director shall ensure that the Greenville campus nursing skills lab is updated to provide hot and cold running water, as well as contains adequate storage space for equipment and supplies. The program director shall submit documentation of the identified physical changes to the Greenville campus nursing skills laboratory to Board Staff by September 1, 2013.

Requirements are mandatory criterion based on program assessment directly related to the rules that must be addressed in the manner prescribed.

If you have questions or if we may provide assistance, please contact Board Staff at 512-305-7660 or via e-mail at Virginia.ayars@bon.texas.gov.

Sincerely,

Kathy Shipp, MSN, RN, FNP
Board President

Virginia D. Ayars, EdD, MS, RN
Nursing Consultant for Education

copy: Texas Workforce Commission
Dr. Pamela Anglin, President of Paris Junior College