



VISION

SUNY Sullivan is the heart of higher education and culture in the Catskills.

MISSION

SUNY Sullivan is the leader of innovative higher education and a catalyst for workforce development throughout the Sullivan Catskills and beyond.

Our diverse community cultivates personal growth and professional advancement, preparing students for success in a sustainable and interconnected world.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Quite simply, the world has changed. Our graduating class of 2021 was commended for their perseverance and tenacity that allowed them to learn how to overcome fear and go forward no matter what obstacles were thrown in their path. Themes of testing our resolve and commitment to ourselves and caring for those around us were the encouraging messages of the ceremony imparted to our newest alumni.

While we are all focusing on the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on our community, I wanted to take an opportunity to let you know of some of the things that are happening at SUNY Sullivan to support our students and our county now and in the future.

The entire College has pulled together to support our students and local community. Our amazing faculty and staff are working with the entire SUNY system and our community partners such as Sullivan County BOCES, local school districts and Sullivan 180 to provide high quality educational opportunities and social support at a time when it is needed most.

The impact of COVID-19 will last. This situation presents many opportunities to address students' needs in innovative ways. We recognize that many people will need retraining to participate in the inevitable economic recovery in which many employment sectors may no longer provide the jobs they once did. So, in addition to offering our current two-year degrees and certificates, SUNY Sullivan is looking to the future by building new professional development and certification programs, in the fields of Healthcare, Sustainability, and Business and Entrepreneurship for example, which will be both accessible and affordable.

At times like this, I'm reminded of words recited by kids all across the country: the 4H pledge. As a person from a family with a long history in 4H, I think about what an impact this simple pledge has had on me and my life. It really sums up how I think about my job as a community college professional. Now more than ever:

I pledge my head to clearer thinking,
My heart to greater loyalty,
My hands to larger service,
and my health to better living,
for my club, my community, my country, and my world.

As we move forward, we will all look for ways to better educate ourselves, engage in professional development programs, and expand community engagement, I remain optimistic that the members of our community will emerge from this trying time as better prepared citizens. I am confident that we will come out stronger, more skilled, and smarter than when this started. SUNY Sullivan is here and we are #sunysullivanstrong.

JH HD

Jay Quaintance, President, Sullivan County Community College



New Strategic Plan: 2021-25

Over the past year, a team of 13 faculty, staff, students, and members of the Board of Trustees collaborated on a new strategic plan for the college, for 2021-25. The Committee met together and through working groups from December 2020 through April 2021, during which they completed a SWOT Analysis and engaged with stakeholders college-wide to engage diverse voices and perspectives into the planning process.

Core Values

The SUNY Sullivan community values these elements as core to our identity:

- 1. Equitable access to educational opportunities.
- 2. Critical inquiry and creativity as paths to transformation.
- 3. Enhancement of mind-body wellness and social belonging.
- 4. Educational and cultural partnerships across our communities.
 - 5. Sustainable stewardship of resources.
- 6. Student-centered physical activities and athletic programs.
 - 7. A culture of social inclusion and respect.
- 8. Development of civic-minded leadership, accountability, and responsibility in society.

WHY SUNY SULLIVAN

- SUNY Sullivan is a forward-looking, top-tier community college in New York offering over 40 degree programs, certificates, and micro-credentials for learners at all levels of their educational goals.
- We value critical inquiry and creativity while supporting our students in a culture of inclusion and respect.
- SUNY Sullivan's 405-acre campus provides a living sustainability lab with an organic farm, geothermal heating and cooling, solar farm, wind turbine, and apiary.
- We commit to environmental and social responsibility to inform our campus operations and curriculum. Whether from an urban environment or local hometown, our students benefit from our mind-body wellness initiatives and excel in championship Division II Athletics programs.
- ✓ We partner with Garnet Health, New Hope Community, Sullivan County Partnership for Economic Development, The Sullivan Catskills Visitors Association, Sullivan Renaissance, Sullivan 180, The Center for Discovery, and other regional organizations to offer educational and cultural opportunities for our students and the wider community.
- SUNY Sullivan is housed in facilities designed by the classic New York firm of Edward Durrell Stone and Associates. Our Catskill Mountains campus thrives with its cosmopolitan student community, many of whom come from outside the county and live in our residence halls.
- Since the college opened its doors in 1963, we remain at the forefront of meeting the ever-changing needs of society, and will continue to do so into the future.

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2021-2025

The Strategic Planning Committee met together and through working groups from December 2020 through April 2021, during which they completed a SWOT Analysis and engaged with stakeholders college-wide. The committee included 13 members from across the college community to engage diverse voices and perspectives into the planning process.

- Maura Caycho, Director of Executive Operations and Administrative Associate to the Board of Trustees
- Phyllis Coombe, SUNY Sullivan Board Trustee
- Eleanor Davis, Dean of Communications & Admissions
- Nancy Hackett, Chair, SUNY Sullivan Board of Trustees
- Jeffrey Keefer, Director of Institutional Research, Strategic Planning Committee Lead
- Thomas Martin, Associate Professor, International Student Liaison
- Tom McManus, Director, Associate Professor Respiratory Care
- Michelle Miralle, Board of Trustee, Student Member
- Kim Phillips, Principal Account Clerk
- Larry Reeger, Associate Professor, Sustainability Coordinator
- Diane Riegal, Professor, Catskill Hospitality Institute
- Brent Wilson, Assistant Director of Athletics, Head Men's Basketball Coach
- Migs Wright, SUNY Sullivan Foundation Board Treasurer

Approved by President Jay Quaintance on May 3, 2021 Approved by the Board of Trustees on May 20, 2021





SUNY Sullivan's 57th Commencement Ceremony

"Graduation is the highpoint of the academic year where we celebrate the accomplishments of students and the collaborative work that makes up the academic enterprise. Last year, the pandemic forced us to do so virtually. While it was appropriate given the circumstances, this year we committed to a more traditional face-to-face commencement. With the help of Bethel Woods Center for the Arts we were able get together and mark these important milestones! Congratulations to our students and thank you to the faculty and staff for making it possible!"

– Jay Quaintance

Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence The Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence honors State University of New York students who have best demonstrated their integration of academic excellence with other aspects of their lives, which may include leadership, campus involvement, athletics, career achievement, community service or creative and performing arts.

Michelle Miralle, 2021 Chancellor's Award Winner and class speaker for her outstanding record of community service and sound academic achievement, accepted the award for General Excellence and provided remarks representing the Class of 2021.

We laugh about it now, but I think I can speak on behalf of the cohort when I say the journey to get here wasn't easy. The last two years came with the typical college jitters, stress, late night study sessions, and way too much caffeine. Throw a pandemic into the mix, and that's a recipe for disaster.

As a class, we had committed ourselves to finish what we started. We pushed to do incredible things and now we stand here at the finish line.

When March of 2020 came and we were hit with the COVID-19 pandemic. We were ripped from classes and transitioned to a life of remote learning. We were forced to learn in ways we never expected. The transition was hard. No one tells you that online schooling requires a lot of discipline, and if you've never done it before, it can get pretty discouraging, uncomfortable and challenging.

Here I was during "the year of the nurse," about to finish my second semester of nursing school halfway

to my goal, ready to consider a career change. After a couple of weeks, the shock wore off, and I remembered the famous words of my instructor Ms. Dorothy Valese, "Nursing is an ever-changing, ever-evolving profession." There was no option to quit or to change careers.

Eventually online learning was no longer frightening and intimidating. Zoom was easier to maneuver and though we spent our last year of school away from our peers, and only seeing them in virtual classrooms, we persevered.

I'm blessed to have grown so much in this time at Sullivan. I became a member of the Student Government as a Student Trustee, I was a member of the Board of Trustees, and I worked with the Strategic Planning and Academic Board on a new 5-year plan for the school.

People can take many things away from you, but they can never take your education.





Omar Gai, 2021 Chancellor's Award Winner, accepted the award for General Excellence and class speaker for his outstanding record of community service and sound academic achievement.

A first generation college student, Omar immigrated to the United States from Ghana, West Africa at the age of fourteen.

Omar graduated with an Associate's Degree in Liberal Arts and Sciences, majoring in Business Administration and maintained a 3.6 GPA.

Today marks a beginning of a new journey. If we can win collectively during a pandemic, we can certainly win in the future. During the last year I remember juggling school and work, telling myself- things cannot get any worse.

I just want to encourage my fellow graduates that there is so much more we can win together in the future.

When I emigrated from a small country in West Africa,

things were not easy for me, especially in school. I had to adapt to a new environment and new learning system.

I am very grateful for the decision I made to attend SUNY Sullivan. This decision made me who I am today.

With the encouragement of the faculty and staff, I was able to excel by becoming involved on campus. I am a member of the National Society of Leadership and Success and the Phi Theta Kappa Honors Society. These platforms provided me access to meet intelligent, caring, and great leaders from around the world. I know there are other wonderful colleges out there; however, what we have here is unique.

A big thank you to my family, friends, faculty, and staff for their contribution to my success.

To my fellow graduates, do not take this moment for granted. Always strive to do your absolute best in whatever you are doing, never quit, and never give up. Put the degree you earned here to good use by making real change in the world.



The 2021 Commencement Guest Speaker

Bert McDowell Jr., '07, is a personal injury attorney in the State of Connecticut. He opened his own law firm, Bert McDowell Injury Law, LLC. Through his legal career, Attorney McDowell received multiple awards and honors.

Earlier this year, Bert was selected as one of Connecticut Magazine's 40 Under 40, for his success in the legal community and his passion for community outreach. He has been selected to the Super Lawyers Rising Stars three years in a row, a prestigious group of young lawyers throughout the country.

When Attorney McDowell formed his law firm, he created a scholarship for high school seniors, in honor of his late grandmother. Giving back to the community has always been a priority for him and his firm. He started a grocery card giveaway for those in need during the pandemic.

Before he was "Attorney McDowell," many at Sullivan County Community College knew him as "BJ". The starting shooting guard for the Men's Basketball Team.

In 2007, BJ was on the undefeated Men's Basketball Team that went on to win the NJCAA National Championship. In the following year, BJ was named NJCAA National Player of the Year. Aside from his highlights as an athlete, he also excelled as a student.

BJ graduated from Sullivan County Community College with a 3.8 grade point average. The same grind, determination, and drive that he showed in basketball practice and in class, is the same grind, determination, and drive that has propelled him as a young lawyer. He ultimately graduated with his Bachelor's in Arts from Pace University (2010), and received his Juris Doctors from Quinnipiac University School of Law (2013).

NEW PROGRAMS

Direct Support Practice Certificate Program

A one-year certification for students interested in pursuing a career working with individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, as well as current practitioners looking to advance their current position.



The Direct Support Practice Certificate Program prepares students to join the community of care that supports and promotes all the aspects of a productive, meaningful, and fulfilling life for people with disabilities.

Students gain an understanding of care through an inclusive model that safeguards and enriches the health and well-being of individuals with complex needs. Through academic courses and a practicum provided at a community organization, the program offers tangible ways to gain confidence and competence in specific skill areas.

"This groundbreaking program, developed in partnership with agencies such as the Center for Discovery, New Hope Community, ARC and Crystal Run Village, will help us to develop a sustainable workforce for the largest employment sector in Sullivan County."

Jay Quaintance,
 SUNY Sullivan President

The practicum offers students the basic building blocks needed to sustain a career in a dynamic and ever-growing field, and students have the opportunity to gain first-hand knowledge of caring for individuals through their human services placement. Local agencies may offer credit for onboarding training, and students may also have the opportunity to live in sponsored housing during their practicum. Students may also choose to continue on to complete an Associates degree.



Alcoholism & Drug Abuse Counseling Program

This new AAS Degree program is designed to introduce students to a career working with individuals struggling with addiction.

SUNY Sullivan announces a new Associate of Applied Science Degree program in alcoholism and drug abuse counseling designed to introduce students to a career working with individuals struggling with addiction. The program also offers students an opportunity to pursue their New York State Credentialed Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Counselor certification (CASAC). SUNY Sullivan is an approved training provider of the New York State Office of Addiction Services and Support (OASAS).

"We are very excited to offer this important program here in Sullivan County. Our graduates will play an important role in combating the ongoing substance abuse crisis that limits resident's ability to live healthy, productive lives. By their education and professional efforts, they will make a positive impact on individuals, families and communities in Sullivan County and our region."

Jay Quaintance,
 SUNY Sullivan President

The AAS program provides the opportunity for students to complete the required 350-hour educational training and begin field placement hours as a first step to becoming CASAC certified. In New York State, OASAS oversees treatment for substance use disorders. In addition to major-specific coursework this program offers a Liberal Arts base to help prepare students for advanced degrees.

SPOTLIGHTS

Faculty Spotlight:

Ken Luck, SUNY Sullivan Communications Professor

Luck's new academic journal article,
Emergence of Conspiracy
Theories in Print
Media, addresses
Coronavirus conspiracy
theories.



Mass media mentions of conspiracy theories appear to increase around major social, political and healthrelated developments, according to SUNY Sullivan Professor Kenneth Luck's recent research.

Luck's new academic journal article could help explain the challenges that government leaders and public health officials face in getting the public to follow coronavirus pandemic-related safety measures.

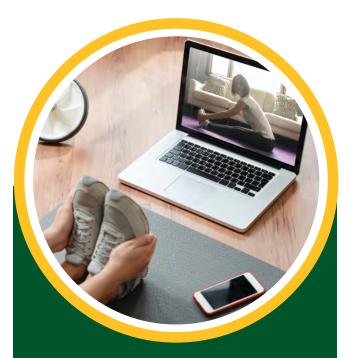
"People conspire to fill information vacuums related to big health events, political events and scientific breakthroughs. A pandemic like COVID-19 really fits the bill for an event for which people would conspire to fill in information."

Ken LuckSUNY Sullivan Professor

From 2017 to early 2019, Luck studied 15 conspiracy theories, from those surrounding President John F. Kennedy's assassination to 9/11 to public health crises. Using Google Books Ngram Viewer software, Luck analyzed millions of American books, magazines, and newspapers published between 1900 and 2008.

Luck's study, Emergence of Conspiracy Theories in Print Media, appears in the summer 2020 issue of the Journal of Applied Professional Studies, published by Marywood University in Northeast Pennsylvania.

Excerpts from Research Could Explain Coronavirus Conspiracy Theories. Daniel Axelrod, Times Herald-Record, July 5, 2020.



Community Spotlight:

Online Community Learning

In response to COVID, SUNY Sullivan is providing free, online community learning classes in collaboration with local, non-profit organizations. SUNY Sullivan is committed to providing programs and resources that educate, inspire and empower our broader community.

To address the needs of our community while ensuring safety protocols during COVID-19, SUNY Sullivan is offering free, online courses for all ages designed to engage our community members from the comfort of home. All of our personal enrichment classes can be accessed through Zoom from any computer.

Community courses include:

- Recycled Puppets for Kids
- · Container Gardening
- Beginners All Level Yoga
- Medicare 101
- Everyday Nutrition, Disease Prevention and Food Safety

SUNY Sullivan offers these classes in partnership with local, nonprofit community organizations including:

Sullivan Renaissance

Sullivan Renaissance is a beautification and community development program committed to building beautiful, healthy, active communities.

Sullivan 180

Sullivan 180 is a nonprofit organization created to turn around the health and wellness of Sullivan County, to make the County a healthier place to live, work, play and raise a family. It is a grassroots movement comprised of many but speaking with a single voice in favor of new policies, systems and programs to enhance the overall quality of life for all residents.

Catskill Mountainkeeper

Catskill Mountainkeeper's mission is to protect our region's forests and wild lands; safeguard air and water; nurture healthy, equitable, and sustainable communities; empower environmental justice communities, and accelerate the transition to a 100% clean and just energy future in New York State and beyond.

HIGHLIGHTS





The new SUNY Sullivan Food Pantry supports students, staff, and faculty experiencing food and financial insecurity, two urgent issues exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Operated in partnership with the Episcopal Diocese of New York Campus Ministry and The Delaware Catskill Episcopal Ministry, the pantry offers non-perishable food, toiletries, as well as weekly donations of fresh organic vegetables from the SUNY Sullivan Community Garden.

The Food Pantry was established with the generous support of the Ulster Savings Bank Community Foundation and SUNY Ulster Food Pantry, as well as donations from SUNY, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Sullivan County, SUNY Sullivan Community Garden, and Caring Hands Food Pantry St John's Episcopal Church in Monticello.





SUNY SULLIVAN Trail Network

We have begun to blaze new walking trails on our 405 acre eco-friendly campus. The SUNY Sullivan Trail Network begins with the establishment of the Woodland Trail, open summer of 2021. Plans are afoot to create additional trails over the next year, including the Connector Trail, Farm and Garden Trail, Solar Stroll, Lightbulb Loop, and more.

Photo credit: Darren O'Sullivan







Childcare

SUNY Sullivan has established an on-campus childcare center in collaboration with The Healthy Kids Early Child Learning Program for children ages 3 - 5. Children can be enrolled full or part-time.

The program offers an Early Learning Center classroom, with reading, art, and dramatic play areas, and has extended enrollment to children of Sullivan County residents, in addition to SUNY Sullivan students, staff, and faculty.





HIGHLIGHTS

Ranked #1 Community College In New York

Sullivan County Community College Ranks #1 Community College Among Top Colleges In New York

SUNY Sullivan has been awarded top ranking status for Best Colleges in New York by Intelligent.com. SUNY Sullivan was ranked #1 Community College and ranked #14 overall among New York colleges. The College was listed among thousands of public institutions in the nation, and the comprehensive research guide is based on an assessment of 2,277 accredited colleges and universities. Each university is evaluated based on curriculum quality, graduation rate, reputation, and post-graduate employment.





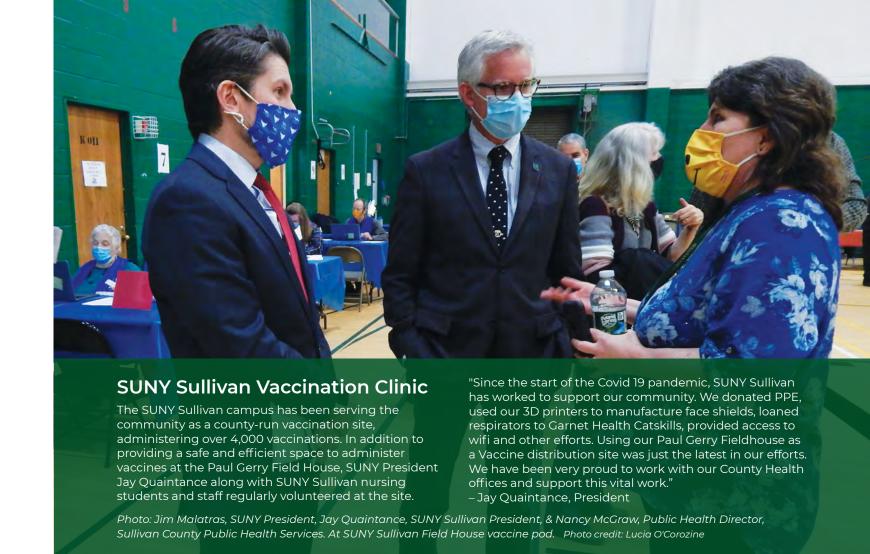


The Homestead School and **SUNY Sullivan**

Launched the New Collaborative Hub Campus, Welcoming Inaugural 9th Grade Class

The Homestead School and SUNY Sullivan proudly announced the opening of the Collaborative College High School (CCHS) during a ceremonial ribbon cutting event. The new high school program builds upon the advanced studies and hands-on learning of the Homestead's Montessori K-8 school, and in collaboration with SUNY Sullivan, will offer college courses for their inaugural class of 9th grade students.

True to the Montessori approach, The Collaborative College High School will continue to provide individualized academic guidance, offering appropriate academic challenge and direction to the needs of a wide range of individuals. CCHS will maintain the low student to teacher ratio that has helped make the Homestead School a caring and attentive academic environment. In tandem, the staff of the Homestead, SUNY Sullivan, and The Center for Discovery® will provide opportunities for mentorship and counseling that support student growth beyond academics.





The COVID-19 public health emergency continued to influence every aspect of our past year, and impacted the lives of our students on many levels.



The SUNY Sullivan Foundation Board responded to our students' needs with compassion and support with a \$15.000 food insecurity grant. Hundreds of food gift cards were distributed to students in need.





The Roscoe Nursing Home made a generous gift of \$251,987 to the SUNY Sullivan Foundation to support the development of a new Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) program at SUNY Sullivan.

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PROGRAM SPOTLIGHTS

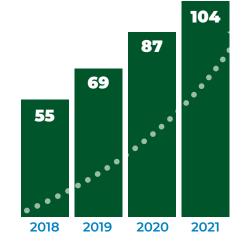


Our Dynamic Two-Year Nursing Program Keeps Growing!

Our partnerships with regional health care providers ensure that students enjoy rewarding clinical experiences and build relationships that lead to employment, and our partnerships with four-year colleges will accelerate BSN completion.

Nursing Program by the numbers

SUNY Sullivan's reimagined Associate Degree in Nursing program offers a supportive environment where students can grow as professionals and learn how to be Registered Nurses. Sullivan's unique blend of friendly faculty, tutoring, simulation opportunities, and accelerated admission means that students are enrolling in a dynamic two-year nursing program.



Theatrical Productions: The Great Experiment

Our five hybrid/concurrent theater productions allowed for students who are not in the county to be a part of our theater productions. And we learned that even though access/inclusion can be challenging, this form could be used for under-served populations.



Awards/Accolades:

- ★ 6 students represented SUNY Sullivan at the 2021 Region 1 Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival, and 1 won the Regional Award in Stage Management and represented the college in the National Festival.
- SUNY Sullivan's program was chosen to facilitate a workshop on creating Equitable/ Inclusive Theater for the Region 1 Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival.
- ★ 5 students from SPRING AWAKENING were nominated for the 2022 Region 1 Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival.
- The entire cast of SPRING AWAKENING was granted a special commendation for "ensemble excellence in virtual/ hybrid/concurrent theater."

The Season Stats:

50 people served in our virtual theatrical productions

20 community members, 10 students & 11 alumni from

countries stages

35 cities Time Zones Tribal Lands

2,271 on-line audience views **717** concurrent viewers



Building on our Tradition of **Athletic Excellence**

The Sullivan Generals are back for the '21-22 season and ready to compete. We've been working behind the scenes, expanding, recruiting and rebranding and are excited to get back in the game. Stay tuned!



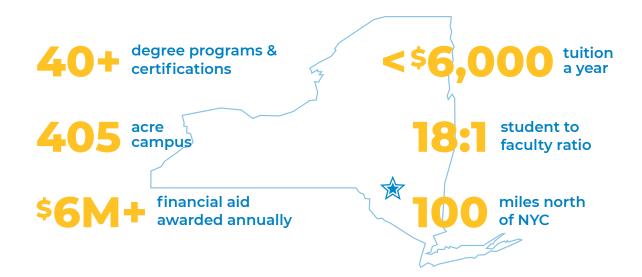






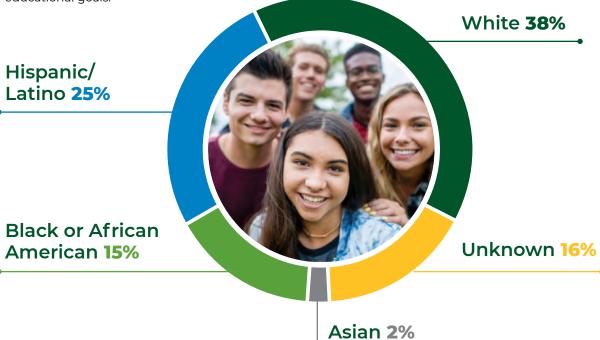
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PROFILE



Diversity is our strength!

SUNY Sullivan has been designated as a Hispanic Serving Institution. Through grant opportunities, we are currently creating supportive services to assist Hispanic students in attaining their educational goals.





Background

A 12-question graduation survey was sent in early May to 246 students who were scheduled to graduate in May, 2021 or August, 2021, along with those who also graduated in December, 2020. We had a 55.3% completion rate, with 136 students completing the anonymous survey.

Results: Some Particulars . . .

Why did you choose SUNY Sullivan?

- ☑ Because it is close to home, and all of my family.
- ☑ Because a friend of mine recommended it to me.
- ☑ It means I know I can do this
- ✓ I am graduating with honors, and without the Nursing Staff, this would have never been possible. They strive for excellence and are always there when you need a little extra push or if an emergency arises, they work with you to ensure you're okay and to figure out a way to keep you on track.
- ☑ I am proud to say I was a Sullivan general and graduate from a great Associates school
- ☑ This School was convenient, affordable, close to home, they accepted my GPA and had my major.

Do you feel proud to be a graduate of SUNY Sullivan?

97.90% Yes



"I am graduating with honors, and without the Nursing Staff, this would have never been possible..."



The Wellness Program and Garden Club hosted several socially-distant events, including this snowshoeing outing on campus, that included a one-mile loop from Hope Farm around the Solar Field.

SUNY SULLIVAN BOARD OF TRUSTEES 20-21

Dr. Nancy Hackett, Chair Dr. Theresa Hamlin, Vice-Chair Paul Guenther, Treasurer Patricia Adams, Secretary Phyllis Coombe Steve Drobysh Susan Jaffe Hon. Judge Anthony Kane Lyman Holmes



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