



Northwest Iowa  
Community College

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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### **Northwest Iowa Community College Announces a Mascot for the College**

After forty-six years in existence, a year of suggestions, and a three week voting campaign by Northwest Iowa Community College students, staff, faculty, alumni and the public, NCC is proud to announce the mascot... The NCC Thunder!

In the fall of 2008 NCC started taking mascot suggestions from students, faculty, staff, alumni and the public. Ballot boxes were set up on campus, at community home shows, and alumni were asked to submit suggestions through the College's student newspaper, *The Collegian*. In May of 2010 NCC announced a three week voting campaign to take place on its website for the top three suggestions. After three weeks of voting on the top three suggestions the results were:

1. The Thunder - 64.1%
2. The Mountain Lions - 24.9%
3. The 66ers - 11%

Kristin Kollbaum, Director of Marketing, stated, "The logo for the mascot features the words 'NCC Thunder' with a lightning bolt in the foreground and a mountain lion head in the background. We will be the NCC Thunder but the actual mascot suit will be in the form of a Mountain Lion, whose name is Thunder, holding a lightning bolt staff. We wanted the mascot choice to be an all-inclusive decision and having the suit in the form of a mountain lion, which came in second in the voting, and naming it Thunder seemed a natural fit."

Cassandra Schmith, Associate of Arts transfer student, said, "I think the mascot is quite unique. Overall I think it is a good fit for NCC. We may be a smaller community college, but we have a big soul in all that we do. Having "thunder" be our representation on us, it stands ground to who we are."

"I thought the decision to go with "Thunder" as NCC's mascot was a great idea" said Paul Jacobson, Industrial and Commercial Wiring student. "The main reason I am a fan of it is because it sets us apart from literally every other college because it is such a unique mascot. It is not a common name, such as the tigers, hawks, bears, etc. and for that reason I think it's very neat. Now, when people hear the name Thunder, they will associate it with NCC, and not mistake us for another school."

Dr. Bill Giddings, NCC President, commented, "We think the NCC Thunder is appropriate for the College and appropriate for the area. I am sure the students will have fun with it, and it illustrates that we as a college are 'thundering' into the future."