Summary of Request:
Consider the report of the April 16-17, 2019, regular survey visit to the San Jacinto College South Vocational Nursing Education Program in Houston, Texas.

Historical Perspective:
- The San Jacinto College South (SJCS) Vocational Nursing Education (VN) Program in Houston was established in 1980 and shares physical spaces with the Associate Degree Nursing Education (ADN) Program.
- SJCS is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges.
- SJCS offers over 40 Allied Health Programs district wide, Associate of Applied Science degrees and certificates, including a Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN)/Paramedic to ADN Transition Program.
- Myra M. DeBose, PhD, MSN, MSED, RN, is the Department Chair for the VN Program as well as the LVN/Paramedic to ADN Transition Programs. Dr. DeBose was approved by the Board in October 2018 and has over 14 years of nursing education experience.
- The last routine program survey visit was conducted in December 2013. The April 16-17, 2019, regular survey visit was conducted by Education Consultant Beverly Skloss, MSN, RN.
- The NCLEX-PN® examination pass rates for the past five years are provided below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NCLEX-PN® Examination Year</th>
<th>BON Approval Status</th>
<th>Pass Rates</th>
<th>Number of First Time Candidates (Passed/Total)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>Full</td>
<td>83.65%</td>
<td>87/104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>Full</td>
<td>90.63%</td>
<td>58/64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>Full</td>
<td>88.71%</td>
<td>55/62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Full</td>
<td>96.36%</td>
<td>53/55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>Full</td>
<td>85.54%</td>
<td>71/83</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- The program has a history of success on the NCLEX-PN® examination.

Summary of Survey Findings:
- Findings from the survey visit indicate the program is in compliance with Board Rule 214 (see Attachment #1).

Positive Aspects of Survey Visit:
- Myra M. DeBose, PhD, MSN, MSED, RN, Department Chair, has been a professional nurse 42 years and has over 14 years of nursing education and administrative experience.
• Dean Alexander Okwonna noted that SJCS has a great partnership with Memorial Hermann Hospital Southeast and frequently provides training programs specifically for them.
• Several faculty members are pursuing advanced degrees and five faculty members are studying to become a Certified Nurse Educator (CNE).
• The faculty members present as being committed to the success of their students.
• Students stated they enrolled in the VN program because family members attended the SJCS nursing program, the faculty and staff are student friendly, it is close to home, the program has a great reputation, classmates support each other, tuition is reasonable, and SJCS allows graduates to seamlessly advance their education in nursing.
• The program has implemented required remediation and tutoring.
• SJCS has over 15 active clinical contracts with a variety of clinical agencies including acute care hospitals, long-term care facilities, residential care homes, and primary care clinics.
• A Clinical Liaison is in place at SJCS, specifically for the nursing programs to procure contracts with clinical agencies, to evaluate clinical agencies along with faculty, to schedule clinical experiences, and to maintain a collaborative relationship with clinical sites.

Concerns of Survey Visit
• None identified.

Staff Recommendation:
Move to accept the report of findings from the April 16-17, 2019, survey visit to the San Jacinto College South Vocational Nursing Education Program in Houston, Texas (see Attachment #2).
Summary of Survey Visit
San Jacinto College South in Houston, Texas
Vocational Nursing Education Program

Purpose of Survey Visit: Routine Survey Visit
Date of Survey Visit: April 16-17, 2019
Board Staff Conducting Visit: Beverly Skloss, MSN, RN, Nursing Consultant for Education

Education Consultant met with:
- Administrators:
  - Brenda J. Jones, PhD, Provost;
  - Alexander C. Okwonna, Pharm.D., RPh, Dean of Natural Sciences and Health Sciences; and
  - Myra M. DeBose, PhD, MSN, MSEd, RN, Nursing Department Chair.
- VN Faculty:
  - Valerie C. Andrews, MSN, RN, CNE, CHSE, Clinical Liaison;
  - Becky Shuttlesworth, BSN, RN, Simulation Coordinator;
  - Laurene M. Mathews, PhD, MS, BA, RN;
  - Rosa Olivares, MSN-Ed, CNN, RN;
  - D'Anna Naranjo, MSN-Ed, RN;
  - Patricia Fincher, BSN, RN;
  - Karen Broussard, MSN-Ed, RN;
  - Theresa Ugo, MSN, RN;
  - Valerie C. Andrews, MSN, RN, CNE, CHSE;
  - Janis Boatright, MSN, RN; and
  - Kimberly Ottebert, DNP, MSN-NE, RN;
- Other:
  - Karla Findley, MA, Retention Specialist; and
  - David Payton, Sr. Administrative Assistant.
- Five VN students

Education Consultant reviewed:
- Curriculum plan and all syllabi;
- Faculty and Student Handbooks;
- Clinical evaluation tools and clinical affiliation agreements;
- Faculty and student files;
- Total Program Evaluation (TPE) Plan and data;
- Faculty meeting minutes; and
- 2018 Nursing Education Program Information Surveys (NEPIS).

Education Consultant:
- held initial conference with administration;
- toured program facilities;
- observed a class in session; and
conducted an exit interview with administrators.

Summary of Findings:

Administration:
- Administration indicated that the VN Program adds value to the college and allows students to seamlessly matriculate to the ADN Program.
- Dean Okwonna noted that SJCS has a great partnership with Memorial Hermann Hospital Southeast and frequently provides training programs specifically for the hospital.
- Dr. Okwonna stated that the college strategic leadership group has identified the need for a VN Program Director and a qualified candidate is being sought to work under Dr. DeBose.
- Myra M. DeBose, PhD, MSN, MSEd, RN, was appointed Nursing Department Chair in October 2018, has been a nurse for 42 years, and has 14 years of nursing education experience.
- Dr. DeBose is well qualified to administer the program and is accountable for the planning, implementation, and evaluation of all the nursing programs on campus.
- Dr. DeBose indicated she is fully supported by administration and has the authority to direct the VN Program in all phases. She does not carry a teaching load.

Faculty:
- Eight full-time faculty and three to six part-time faculty, depending on the semester, provide instruction. At the time of the survey visit, there were several part-time vacant faculty positions.
- A Clinical Liaison is designated for the nursing programs to procure contracts with clinical agencies, to evaluate clinical agencies along with faculty, to schedule clinical experiences, and to maintain a collaborative relationship with clinical sites. The Clinical Liaison fills in as a clinical instructor when needed and is pursuing a doctoral degree in simulation.
- There is one full-time Simulation Coordinator who manages the simulation laboratory for all nursing programs on campus. Faculty are responsible for planning and implementing clinical scenarios.
- Faculty offer a rich diversity in their education and experiential backgrounds. Several faculty members are pursuing advanced degrees and five faculty members are pursuing becoming a Certified Nurse Educator (CNE).
- Faculty members present as being committed to the success of their students.
- Several ADN faculty are cross trained to teach in the VN Program when needed.
- Three faculty are new with less than two years of nursing education experience. New faculty indicated orientation is structured with an assigned nursing faculty mentor and required attendance at the college’s new faculty academy that is one-year long.
- Faculty members are actively engaged in curriculum planning, implementation, and evaluation.
- Dr. Debose and the faculty are working to assure faculty are teaching the same courses each semester. Their goals are to decrease the amount of preparation time it takes to teach a course for the first time and to allow faculty extra time with students for remediation.
- Faculty meetings are held on a regular basis; minutes of meetings are maintained and reflect that faculty committee members are involved in planning and decision-making.
- Full-time faculty workload is 35 hours per week on a 12-month contract. Load hours include a combination of teaching hours, office hours, preparation time, and committee/curriculum work.
- Faculty Development consists of attendance at the Texas Association of Vocational Nurse Educators annual conference, completion of the National Council of State Boards of Nursing online courses, workshop participation, publication readings that are emailed to each one, webinars, and vendor presentations. Faculty may apply for tuition and registration fee assistance from the college.
- The Faculty Handbook includes all written policies required by Board rule. A test construction handbook is available for training on test blueprinting and item analysis review.

**Students:**
- Student policies are written, well-defined, provided to all students during orientation, and include all Board required content.
- Students have an active student governance, a Student VN Club, with student reps from each cohort elected by their peers. Students have representation on faculty committees including curriculum development.
- Student remediation is mandatory with faculty for any student making below a 75 on any exam.
- Students stated they enrolled in the VN Program because family members attended the SJCS nursing program, the faculty and staff are student friendly, it is close to home, the program has a great reputation, classmates support each other, tuition is reasonable and SJCS allows graduates to seamlessly advance their education in nursing.
- Students cited challenges with beginning clinical experiences due to not having previous healthcare experience, limited communication with instructors due to their busy schedules, and balancing family life with nursing school.
- The VN Program admits two cohorts of up to 60 students each Fall and Spring semester. The last two cohorts admitted consisted of 40 students each due to the limited availability of clinical sites for VN students. Current enrollment is 39 students in Level I and 48 students in Level II. The Fall semester consists of Level I and Level III students and the Summer semester consists of Level II and Level III students.
- Students have input into faculty evaluations by completing a faculty and course evaluation at the end of each course.

**Program of Study:**
- The VN Program is a one-year full-time training program consisting of three semesters with a total of 45 semester credit hours. Students completing the program are awarded a Certificate of Technology.
- Board Staff attended a class session related to gerontology for Level II students. The material was presented logically and was well organized. Students were interactive with the instructor, asked questions, and the faculty member was dynamic in her presentation of the material.
- The curriculum for the VN Program indicates leveling of nursing content, advancing in difficulty from simple to complex.
- The *Differentiated Essential Competencies (DECs)(2010)* are incorporated into the curriculum as evidenced in course syllabi.
Standardized testing is used throughout the program for progression, remediation, and graduation purposes. The program has implemented required remediation and tutoring. The use of simulation was recently incorporated into the VN curriculum.

Clinical Learning Experiences:
- SJCS has over 15 active clinical contracts with a variety of clinical agencies including acute care hospitals, long term care, residential care homes, and primary care clinics in Houston, Galveston, Webster, Clear Lake, and Pearland.
- Students practice in the skills lab and participate in simulation labs prior to providing hands-on care in the clinical setting. The Simulation Lab Coordinator assists faculty.
- Student assignments correlate to student learning needs identified in the course syllabi.
- The clinical evaluation tools include formative and summative evaluations throughout the program for clinical courses. These are progressive, based upon course content, and incorporate the DECs.
- If student clinical weaknesses are identified, faculty develop a remediation plan with the student which typically includes a referral to practice in the skills lab and simulation lab to reinforce concepts.
- Faculty provide supervision during all clinical learning experiences and Board required faculty-to-student ratios are maintained throughout the program. Preceptors are not utilized.

Facilities, Resources, and Services:
- The VN Program is housed in the modern, 155,002 square-foot, Allied Health and Health Science Building completed in April 2013. The campus is appropriately equipped and offers a rich learning environment.
- The director has a private office located on the second floor of the building along with other department chairs and program faculty. All full-time faculty have fully furnished private offices in close proximity to the program chair.
- The facilities include restrooms on each floor; well-lighted student lounges and break areas are located throughout the building. Lockers are available in the building hallways for student use.
- Library holdings include current nursing books and journals. These are available to VN students through links in the library catalog. The library is housed in the center of the campus in a separate building. Databases are available 24 hours per day and include national nursing databases, such as CINAHL and MEDLINE.
- The classrooms are modern, spacious, and equipped with state-of-the-art audio visual (AV) equipment. There are several auditorium style classrooms that include new comfortable chairs and granite countertops with AV connections for student use.
- The Simulation Center consists of six patient rooms, seven simulators, a nursing station with an electronic white board, storage rooms, a medication room, and a washer/dryer. Each patient room has an electronic white board inside and outside the room and all equipment to simulate a hospital environment. Students are able to practice documentation, including medication administration, using software for electronic charting. The control room has seven computers, one for each simulator. A large debriefing room is utilized and equipped with tables, chairs, and computers.
- There are three skills labs, two with 12 patient beds, and one with 10 patient beds. Each lab has sinks with hot and cold running water, an abundance of storage cabinets,
equipment and supplies, a washer/dryer, tables and chairs, and AV equipment. Each bed has an oxygen and suction set-up and an IV pole for student practice.

- A full-time senior administrative assistant serves solely as administrative and clerical support for the program.
- SJCS has a Student Success Center where free tutoring is provided on a variety of subjects. The school employs a master’s prepared retention specialist available to nursing students as a resource on time management, succeeding in nursing school, test taking skills, test anxiety, and referrals as needed.

Records and Reports:

- Student and faculty files are maintained with all required documents in a locked room in locked file cabinets and are compliant with Board Rule 214.12.
- Minutes of faculty meetings are maintained in the locked storage cabinets.
- Clinical affiliation agreements are current.
- The TPE is used for decision-making as evidenced in faculty meeting minutes and documentation on the TPE.
DRAFT LETTER

July 25, 2019

Myra DeBose, PhD, MSN, MSEd, RN
Nursing Department Chair
San Jacinto College South
13735 Beamer Rd.
Houston, Texas 77089

Dear Dr. DeBose:

At the July 25-26, 2019 meeting, the members of the Texas Board of Nursing (Board) considered the report of the survey visit to the San Jacinto College South Vocational Nursing Education Program in Houston, Texas. The program was found to be in compliance with all aspects of Rule 214. Therefore, it was the decision of the Board to accept the report of the survey visit conducted on April 16-17, 2019.

If you have any questions, or if we may be of any assistance, please contact Board Staff at beverly.skloss@bon.texas.gov or 512-318-3219.

Sincerely,

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN
Executive Director

Copy: Dr. Brenda Jones, Provost