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New Parking Permit Machines Installed Districtwide

With the start of a new semester came some new technology, designed to make student parking easier than ever. New parking permit devices have replaced older machines at all three colleges to provide students and visitors with dependable and convenient pay options. Each machine is equipped with a motion-detected LED screen that illuminates when drivers approach to purchase a permit. Though cash is no longer accepted, drivers can pay in a variety of ways, including via Apple and Google Pay applications, Visa, MasterCard and American Express credit cards, and coins.

Students are encouraged to purchase semester passes online to save time and money, but for those in need of daily parking permits, the new machines provide ample instruction for all campus visitors.

For more information visit <http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/pd/parking.aspx>.



New parking permit machines include detailed instructions with photos on how to purchase and properly place a parking permit.

All College Day 2016

All College Day is traditionally a day to welcome and inspire faculty and staff. This year was no different as Chancellor **Helen Benjamin** was met with applause and appreciation for her leadership for the past 12 years.

She decided to focus her comments on diversity and inclusion, and shared her personal comments she was asked to make on this topic at the recent Dr. John W. Rice Diversity & Equity Award Ceremony.

Based on the many comments she received following her All College Day comments, her personal story reminded employees of the powerful impact we have on our students' future.



*Chancellor **Helen Benjamin** receives a standing ovation during Contra Costa College's All College Day event.*



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welcome. E-mail the
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Office at info@4cd.edu.



New employees who participated in the Districtwide bus tour got to visit all five campuses.

New Employees Orientations Commence Districtwide

August was a month of welcoming events and orientations including the popular new employee bus tour. During the annual bus tour, which is in its 11th year, newly-hired faculty, staff and managers had the opportunity to tour the District's five campuses on the day-long excursion. The District also welcomed its biggest faculty orientation class yet, with a total of 41 new faculty in attendance. During the faculty orientation, Chancellor **Helen Benjamin** educated new faculty on the history of the District, and the District's goals moving forward.



*Several elected officials representing Contra Costa County state and nationwide gathered on the State Capitol's Assembly floor to recognize Chancellor **Helen Benjamin**. Pictured, left to right: Assemblymembers Catharine Baker and Jim Frazier, Senator Loni Hancock, Chancellor Helen Benjamin, Senator Steve Glazer, Assemblymember Susan Bonilla, CCLC CEO Larry Galizio, Senator Lois Wolk, and Interim State Chancellor Erik Skinner. Not pictured is Assemblymember Tony Thurmond.*

Chancellor Recognized by State Elected Officials

Most of the time when the District travels to Sacramento, it is asking for help or support on behalf of students. This recent August visit was clearly very different as the District's 7 state legislators came together to present a joint resolution honoring Chancellor **Helen Benjamin** for her years of service in the Contra Costa Community College District.

"I was especially honored to be recognized by this group," said Chancellor Helen Benjamin. "I have worked with every legislator at this event, it was a truly special achievement."

"The recognition displayed by the state representatives for Contra Costa Community College District was impressive," says Community College League of California CEO Larry Galizio. "For these members to collectively make the time to recognize Chancellor Benjamin was quite an honor, and demonstrates their respect for her leadership and her commitment to students."



Community College Success Stories

President Obama proposed America's College Promise, offering two years of free community college for responsible students. The Heads Up Campaign, a movement launched to support the Promise proposal, gained momentum as community colleges nationwide joined in the dialogue.

Chancellor **Helen Benjamin**, who is chairing California's College Promise Leadership Committee, put out a call for employees to share their story in order to highlight the tremendous value community colleges provide. The News will feature a few of the stories submitted every month.

Peter Lock, Retired Professor, Automotive Technology
Contra Costa College, San Pablo, CA

When I came to Contra Costa College (CCC) it was mainly to do something after high school. Many of my friends that went to my high school came to CCC because it was close to home and where we worked. I worked at a local gas station/garage while going to high school so I figured I would continue in the automotive trade. I attended the bullpen counseling session one Saturday and got my schedule only to show up to class on the first day and the mechanics class was full. So I went next door and was able to sign up for the collision repair classes. This change in direction let me embark on an over 40 year career in automotive collision repair that included working in local businesses, making contacts, then having everyone's dream job of teaching at my local community college. This whole journey wouldn't have been possible if I had to pay for classes just because I felt I had to support most of my bills while going to school and working part-time at the same time. I really don't know how our students manage today with all the things they have to pay for. So I am a success story that is a result of a free ride at my local community college, but I was once like many of my past students that made the taxpayers money pay off!

Nancy Harvey, Scheduling Specialist, Diablo Valley College, Pleasant Hill, CA

I came to Diablo Valley College (DVC) after completing one semester at Brigham Young University (BYU), Provo, Utah. I was young and not happy with the snow or being out of California. I was working for a psychology professor and he asked me what I was going to do since I was finishing two years of college. I said I would have to go back to BYU. He took the time to look at my credits and told me I needed to get my A.A. degree first! I didn't know anything about an A.A. degree (my Dad didn't think it was a college degree or worth anything). This professor helped me earn the final units that last semester and I got my A.A.! I went back to BYU but came home again after one semester. I then secured a position with Pacific Telephone and Telegraph and retired after 30 years as a project manager. My A.A. has provided me the ability to get positions at the college and earn my second retirement, coming up in the very near future. I truly believe that my career and life was shaped by the help and guidance my psychology professor provided. I wish I could tell him how much that influenced my life! In my career, the fact that I had an A.A. from DVC was always appreciated and respected. Since my A.A. was earned in 1969, I believe my degree was free! I really do support the initiative to make two years of community college free to the students of today. Life for myself and my family might have been very different without my A.A.!

Teresea Archaga, Director of Student Retention and Support Services
Alumna, Los Medanos College, Los Medanos, CA

I did not know it at the time, but my passion for education and supporting students in their academic journey came from my experience as a student at LMC. I am a first generation college student and I struggled as I learned how to navigate not only through my classes, but the college system. I was fortunate to have found supportive faculty and staff that helped me gain the confidence I needed to persevere. Because of my connections, I was able to obtain my BA in Human Development from Cal State East Bay and my MA in Career Development from JFK. I am proud to work at the institution that got me started in education and love sharing my experience with students.



CEOs from throughout the state attended the California College Promise conference to learn how to build and sustain local fundraising efforts that will help students pay for expenses to attend college.

California College Promise Hosts Statewide Event

OAKLAND, Calif. — Hundreds of community college representatives from around the state came to Oakland to share effective models for strengthening and expanding the California College Promise, a bold effort to offer two years of tuition-free community college to hard-working students.

The day-long event — which features remarks from Lt. Gov. Gavin Newsom, incoming California Community Colleges Chancellor Eloy Ortiz Oakley and national College Promise Campaign Executive Director Martha Kanter — highlights College Promise programs already in place and offers ideas to college leaders looking to start their own programs. College Promise programs are community-based partnerships that address the problem of college affordability by offering higher education funding for students.

California is a leader in the development and implementation of these programs with 23 programs in place as of August 2016. The state is primed to develop more College Promise programs because community colleges can leverage the program's financial and partnership supports with the existing California Board of Governors Fee Waiver Program, which pays enrollment fees for low-income students. Promise programs bring together partners from K–12 schools, universities, college foundations and the private sector to increase college access to California's students.

“The California Community Colleges is the largest higher education system in the nation, and to see the interest and excitement about creating College Promise programs is wonderful,” said California College Promise Chair **Helen Benjamin**, chancellor of the Contra Costa Community College District. “For more than 30 years, California, with its Board of Governors Fee Waiver program, has offered free tuition for qualified students unable to afford it. By raising funds and providing financial help for other college costs associated, we are removing a major barrier for potential students to obtain the education they need to qualify for good paying jobs or transfer to a four-year university.”

The Regional Educational Laboratory West at WestEd gathered background and program details on all 23 California College Promise programs and compiled the information in a booklet for the event participants. It can be found at <https://relwest.wested.org/resources/221>.

Teaming up to sponsor the event are the California Community College Chancellor's Office, the Community College League of California, the College Promise Campaign, the California College Promise Campaign Leadership Team and the Regional Educational Laboratory West at WestEd. For more information, visit: www.calcollegepromise.org.

The Contra Costa Community College District, founded in 1948 and governed by a publicly elected five-member board, is one of the largest multi-college community college districts in California. The mission of the District is to attract and transform students and communities by providing accessible, innovative and outstanding higher education learning opportunities and support services.

Contra Costa Community College District is committed to equal opportunity in educational programs, employment, and campus life. The District does not discriminate on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender, marital status, national origin, parental status, race, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status in any access to and treatment in College programs, activities, and application for employment

Board Report

There was no Governing Board meeting in August 2016.

Cabinet Highlights

To review highlights of the Cabinet meeting held on August 23, 2016, click on the link below:

http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/chancellors_cabinet/August%202016.pdf