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## Governing Board Candidates

**S**ix candidates have thrown their hat into the ring to become trustees of the Contra Costa Community College District.

The Governing Board candidates for Ward III are:

- **Rebecca Barrett**, an educator/businesswoman who has participated in a variety of local and state organizations and currently mentors students, cultivates leadership among various youth groups and advises elected officials and candidates on education policy.
- **Michael Menesini**, an Assistant District Attorney for the City and County of San Francisco who has held a variety of positions in local government and education, including his position as former mayor of Martinez.
- **Murray Bishop** is a retired certified financial planner.
- **Joe Munoz** is a regional sales manager.

The Governing Board candidates running for Ward IV are:

- **Andy Li**, a small business owner who actively participates in several local non-profit organizations as well as committees for various government entities.
- **Abram Wilson**, a financial consultant who serves the community via a variety of local boards and commissions, including his tenure as former mayor of San Ramon.

Ward I trustee John E. Márquez is also up for re-election but is running unopposed.



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### Contra Costa Community College District

500 Court Street  
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Your comments  
and suggestions are  
welcome. E-mail the  
Communications and  
Community Relations  
Office at [info@4cd.edu](mailto:info@4cd.edu).

## District Begins Strategic Planning Process

The District has launched the development of the 2020-25 Districtwide Strategic Plan and invites Contra Costa College (CCC), Diablo Valley College (DVC) and Los Medanos College (LMC) staff, faculty, students and community members to participate in the process.

There will be opportunities to provide input at two public forums that have been scheduled as follows:



- **Public Dialogue #1** – Thursday, October 11, 2018, from 2:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Diablo Valley College – Diablo Room

This forum will be structured as a conversation about our institutional core values, our District's vision for the future and the organizational mission we will adopt to realize that vision.

- **Public Dialogue #2** – Wednesday, November 7, 2018, from 2:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Winslow Center Assembly Room – 2590 Pleasant Hill Road, Pleasant Hill (the Winslow Center is part of the Pleasant Hill Recreation & Park District)

At this gathering, the feedback captured during Dialogue #1 will serve as a foundation to discuss the broad strategic directions that will align our District activities with community needs in the coming years.

To register for the forums, visit: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/5TNRTV5>.

In addition to the public forums, the District will be conducting individual meetings at each of the colleges. These meetings will be focused on capturing the unique perspectives of each college, ensuring that the Districtwide plan creates a strong foundation for the execution of the college's strategic plans. The college meetings supplement rather than duplicate the public forums and college faculty, staff and students are encouraged to attend both. The individual college meetings have been scheduled as follows:

- **Los Medanos College** – Monday, November 26, 2018, from 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.

LMC, Library Room L-109

- **Diablo Valley College** – Wednesday, December 5, 2018, from 2:30 - 4:30 p.m.

DVC, Diablo Valley Room

- **Contra Costa College** – Thursday, December 13, 2018, from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

CCC, Fireside Hall

To learn more about the Districtwide Strategic Plan, visit [www.4cd.edu/strategicplan](http://www.4cd.edu/strategicplan).

## Contra Costa College's Kelly Schelin Makes 40 Under 40 List

Contra Costa College's (CCC) **Kelly Schelin** has been recognized as one of *Diablo* magazine's 40 under 40 in the East Bay. Schelin, CCC's Dean of Workforce and Economic Development, joins a list that includes 40 of the East Bay's most influential innovators, philanthropists, artists and entrepreneurs under the age of forty. These individuals include engineers, physicists, fashion bloggers, radio show hosts, educators and more.

Schelin received the honor after being nominated by CCC Director of Marketing and Media Design, **Brandy Howard** and **Mojdeh Mehdizadeh**, former CCC President and current Executive Vice Chancellor, Education and Technology.

"Our Executive Team, as a whole, is incredible in terms of passion, dedication, and the ability to achieve outstanding results despite incredible challenges, and among that stellar group, Kelly's quiet, thoughtful and decisive style has made her a leader among leaders," said Howard. "Kelly is well respected by all members of the CCC community, and is more than deserving of recognition."

Before becoming a key player in the West County workforce development sector, Schelin began her career managing a prisoner-reentry nonprofit in rural North Carolina, where she saw how important a community college education was for those former inmates. "I am inspired by the open-access mission of community colleges and their potential as vehicles of change," she explained.



Since **Kelly Schelin** joined CCC, she has developed strong relationships with the business and community organizations in West County.

## Diablo Valley College Professor Recognized for STEM



Encouraging underrepresented students to pursue STEM majors is one of many issues District educators are focused on. For Latinx Diablo Valley College (DVC) Math Professor **Concha Gomez**, it is a personal goal stemming from her own experiences in academia. Her work in this area has led to recognition by global, multi-platform media and entertainment company *Mashable* as a trailblazing Latina in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM). The recognizance is part of *Mashable's* ongoing series "The Women Fixing STEM," which highlights women paving the way in science, tech, engineering, and math, as well as initiatives and organizations working to close the industries' gender gaps.

For Gomez, it was her experience as an undergraduate student at University of California, Berkeley that motivated her to pursue a career as a STEM professor. As she navigated her upper division STEM classes, Gomez recalls feeling invisible and out of place as one of few minority students in the room and the only Latinx student in most of her classes. Now a professor herself, Gomez pulls from those memories to ensure that each of her students feel like visible, valued members of class. She uses her past experiences as momentum to encourage the next generation of Latinx students in STEM at DVC and beyond. Outside of the classroom, Gomez has also worked with SACNAS, whose mission is to foster the success of Native Americans and Chicanos/Hispanics in STEM fields.

Gomez sees the *Mashable* article as a positive sign that more and more people are paying attention to the underrepresentation of Latinx students in STEM, especially among women. "I've actually heard from young women pursuing STEM degrees who saw the article and were inspired by the women featured," shared Concha. "It means a lot for them to see future versions of themselves."

## District Welcomes New Employees

Please welcome the following new employees who were approved by the Governing Board in September.

### Regular Academic Employees

Location	Name	Title
CCC	Jared Romero	Counseling
CCC	John Sanford	Administration of Justice
LMC	Russell Pedersen	Electromechanical Technology

### Regular Monthly Classified Employees

Location	Name	Title
DVC	Kazeem Adebiji,	Computer Technician
DVC	Stephanie Lustina	Program Assistant
DVC	Robert Morris	Maintenance Mechanic
DVC	Heather Priebe	Program Coordinator
DVC	Zuhal Rahmani	Financial Aid Assistant I
DVC	Steven Young	Computer and Network Specialist
LMC	Michelle Baird	Administrative Assistant, Senior
LMC	Edward Beanes	Program Coordinator
LMC	Sonia Pantoja	Administrative Assistant, Senior

### Board Report

To review highlights of the Governing Board Meeting held on September 12, 2018, click on the link below:

[http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/board\\_reports/September%2012,%202018.pdf](http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/board_reports/September%2012,%202018.pdf)

### Cabinet Highlights

To review highlights of the Cabinet meetings held in September 2018, click on the link below:

[http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/chancellors\\_cabinet/September%202018.pdf](http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/chancellors_cabinet/September%202018.pdf)

*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*