

The NEWS

4CD EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER



September 2019

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**Contra Costa Community
College District**

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State of the District Meetings

The annual State of the District community meetings returned for the ninth year in a row, bringing together elected officials, business owners, community partners, county representatives, college staff and educators for an informative program held at each of the five campuses (Diablo Valley College-Pleasant Hill Campus, Contra Costa College, Diablo Valley College-San Ramon Campus, Los Medanos College-Brentwood Center and Los Medanos College-Pittsburg Campus).



Governing Board Vice President Andy Li welcomes community members to the State of the District meeting at the Diablo Valley College-San Ramon Campus.

Led by the Governing Board and college presidents, District leadership also had the opportunity to share updates on several topics such as the completion of the District's 2020-25 Strategic Plan, the bond program and new online learning initiatives like Open Educational Resources (OER) and California Virtual Campus – Open Education Initiative (CVC-OEI).

At the Diablo Valley College-San Ramon Campus meeting, interim senior dean **Kenyetta Tribble** updated attendees on the upcoming construction project that includes a fountain removal to make room for the new Library and Academic Support Center. Tribble also shared the center's growing collaborative business partnerships as well as several new courses being offered at the campus. At the close of the meeting, attendees engaged in a question-and-answer session with District and college leaders on hand to provide additional information.



District Bond Program Receives Positive Ratings

The District has received positive ratings from agencies Standard & Poor's (S&P) and Moody's, paving the way for its lowest ever repayment ratio of 1.26 in its recent sale of \$110 million in general obligation bonds. In addition, the District refinanced almost \$222 million in previously issued bonds, saving taxpayers more than \$30 million in debt service, a savings of nearly 11 percent. This savings will be reflected on future property tax assessments for the District's taxpayers.

"This is wonderful news for our community and the taxpayers who supported our bond measures", says Governing Board president Vicki Gordon. "Spending public money is a responsibility that we take very seriously, and we hope these results show our community we are being frugal and managing their money wisely."

Contra Costa County taxpayers approved Measure E during the 2014 election authorizing the District to issue \$450 million in general obligation bonds for capital improvements at all locations. With the first issuance of \$120 million largely depleted, the second sale of \$110 million was needed to continue major facility updates including the completion of the new Brentwood Center and the PE/Student Union complex, the renovation and construction of a new library building at the Diablo Valley College (DVC)-San Ramon Campus, the PE/Kinesiology and Art complex at the DVC-Pleasant Hill campus and a new Science building and PE/Kinesiology Complex renovation and expansion at Contra Costa College.

"Bond funds provide the resources to upgrade and construct new facilities that contribute to our mission of providing affordable and excellent higher education for the residents of Contra Costa County", says chancellor **Fred Wood**. "We are doing our part to ensure our colleges and facilities remain outstanding assets for our communities, and great learning environments for our students to be successful. Our bond funded capital improvement program is truly an exceptional team effort and we are especially thankful to our most important partners, our taxpayers."

To read more about the District's ratings history, please visit <http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/pressreleases/District%20Continues%20Exemplary%20Stewardship%20of%20Bond%20Measure%20Funds.pdf>.

Board Report

To review highlights of the Governing Board Meeting held on September 12, 2019, click on the link below:

http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/board_reports/September%2012,%202019.pdf

Cabinet Highlights

To review highlights of the Cabinet meetings held in September 2019, click on the link below:

http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/chancellors_cabinet/September%202019.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



Los Medanos College MESA Celebrates 10 Years

Daily events commenced on the Los Medanos College (LMC) campus the week of September 9 – 13, 2019, as the LMC Math, Engineering, Science Achievement (MESA) program celebrated 10 years of assisting LMC students with reaching their Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) transfer goals. The celebratory week culminated in an open-invitation anniversary party that attracted college donors, elected officials as well as current students and staff. At the party, MESA faculty and staff displayed alumni success stories reflective of their transfer path, completed degrees and current careers. Attendees had a chance to hear from Pittsburg Mayor Juan Antonio Banales who spoke to students about his own experience pursuing a STEM field in Mechanical Engineering. Other special guests included LMC MESA’s first director and first counselor as well as key alumni who mingled with current students and shared advice.



Pittsburg Mayor Juan Antonio Banales (far right) mingles with LMC MESA students at the 10 year anniversary party on September 13, 2019.

The MESA program was founded by the University of California and provides academic support for thousands of educationally and economically disadvantaged students to excel in math and science. The MESA program came to LMC in fall 2009 to serve educationally underrepresented students in STEM fields. Through a wide range of services, MESA helps develop the necessary academic and leadership skills to successfully transfer and later graduate from a four-year university with a degree in mathematics, engineering, science or computer science. At LMC, MESA currently serves 300 students.

District Welcomes New Employees

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

Regular Academic Employees Location

Location	Name	Title
CCC	Danitza Lopez	English as a Second Language
CCC	Brandon Marshall	English
CCC	Susan Priano	Nursing
CCC	Romus Reece	Broadcasting Technology

Regular Monthly Classified Employees

Location	Name	Title
DVC	Houng Nguyen	College Payroll Technician
DVC	Carol Simms	Administrative Assistant II
DVC	William Wolter	Audio Technician