

The NEWS

4CD EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER



June/July 2021

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Contra Costa Community College District
500 Court Street
Martinez, CA 94553

The News
4CD Employee Newsletter

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Your comments and suggestions are welcome. E-mail the Communications and Community Relations Office at info@4cd.edu.



Governing Board Welcomes New Student Trustee

New Student Trustee Austin Green currently attends Los Medanos College where he is a Communication Studies major. In high school, Austin worked as an audio engineer throughout the Bay Area. For his 2019 work in digital recording, Austin was selected as one of the Regional Occupational Program Students of Excellence by the Contra Costa County Office of Education.



Austin Green was virtually sworn in at the June 23, 2021, Governing Board meeting as the 2021-22 Student Trustee.

Presently, Austin strives to help his community at every opportunity. In his spare time, he reads and writes poetry and enjoys watching movies. Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, Austin has become more focused than ever on his studies and finding ways in which he can help his fellow students. As Student Trustee, Austin hopes to make effective, positive changes where they are most needed to benefit all students.

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

Governing Board Address Topics Related to Equity and Inclusivity

At its regularly scheduled meetings on June 23, 2021, and July 14, 2021, the 4CD Governing Board discussed two agenda items representing 4CD's continued commitment to promote an atmosphere of respect for all students and employees:

- Resolution 22A : Recognizing June 2021 as Pride Month, with the intention to proudly fly the Pride Flag at its colleges and the District Office.
- Juneteenth: Applauding President Biden and the U.S. Congress' collective decision to commemorate Juneteenth as a national holiday and announcing the decision to make Juneteenth an official 4CD holiday through the shared decision-making and bargaining agreements.

These ongoing discussions should remind the 4CD community that the road to social, racial and economic justice is long and intensive. However, the 4CD Governing Board, leadership and greater community are committed to ensuring the equal treatment of all people including immigrants, people of color, practitioners of faith, individuals with disabilities, LGBTQIA+ individuals, and members of other protected groups.



To read the full Resolution 22A, click here: [https://go.boarddocs.com/ca/ccccd/Board.nsf/files/C4AMHV55BF03/\\$file/0621-22A-MI-LGBTQIA%2B%20res.pdf](https://go.boarddocs.com/ca/ccccd/Board.nsf/files/C4AMHV55BF03/$file/0621-22A-MI-LGBTQIA%2B%20res.pdf).

Guided Pathways Make Progress

Members of the Board received an informative update from leadership across Contra Costa College (CCC), Diablo Valley College (DVC), Los Medanos College (LMC) and the District Office (DST) on 4CD's Guided Pathways progress at the regular July 14, 2021, meeting.

Presented by **Mark Akiyama** (DVC), **Emma Blackthorne** (DST), **Evan Decker** (CCC), **Natalie Hannum** (LMC), **Sally Montemayor - Lenz** (LMC), **Tanisha Maxwell** (LMC), **Mojdeh Mehdizadeh** (DST) and **Kimberly Rogers** (CCC), the update highlighted progress on 4CD Strategic Direction 1: Improve Student Learning and Completion across District Colleges with a focus on three specific objectives:

1. Aligning 4CD student completion goals with those identified in the CCCCO's Vision for Success;
2. Supporting college implementation of the state's Guided Pathways framework; and
3. Convening venues that bring together faculty, staff, and administrators across 4CD to share effective practices and reflect on progress toward successful targets.

During the presentation, college leaders shared various strategies being applied at their campuses in an effort to implement Guided Pathways and develop a framework to help students get, stay and work through pathways to reach their educational goals.

The full presentation can be found at the following link: [https://go.boarddocs.com/ca/ccccd/Board.nsf/files/C4MQW46B3BB3/\\$file/0721-8A-Study%20Session-SD%201.pdf](https://go.boarddocs.com/ca/ccccd/Board.nsf/files/C4MQW46B3BB3/$file/0721-8A-Study%20Session-SD%201.pdf).



4CD Sees Increase in CCAP Agreements

The Education Services department was proud to present and receive approval for 27 College and Career Access Pathways Partnership Agreements (CCAP) at the regular Governing Board Meeting held June 23, 2021. One of the agreements included a new contract with Martinez Unified School District, a celebrated collaboration that unfolded remotely during the pandemic.

CCAP agreements create opportunities for public high school students to dual-enroll in college courses that generally satisfy high school graduation requirements. Under this unique type of agreement, college courses are made exclusively available to high school students, allowing colleges to provide focused resources to high school students at a given school. Though there are a few courses held on college campuses, these courses typically take place on-site at participating high schools, eliminating transportation challenges as a potential barrier to post-secondary education.

For Associate Vice Chancellor, Education Services **Kelly Schelin**, CCAP agreements produce a multitude of benefits, both for individual students as well as the larger community. “Rather than relying on a student’s initiative, social capital, or ability to navigate the enrollment process on their own, CCAP agreements enable colleges and high schools to collaborate and streamline the process for students, thereby increasing access for those students who might not otherwise have been able to access a given course,” shared Schelin. “CCAP agreements increase access to college courses for high school students by embedding the college course within the student’s high school day.”

Dual enrollment programs are essential in fostering a college-going culture among Contra Costa County high school students, an important goal supported districtwide. Research has shown that students who complete college credit while enrolled in high school are more likely to earn high school diplomas, to enroll in community colleges and four-year colleges, to attend post-secondary education on a full-time basis, and to complete degrees in those institutions than students without these experiences. The positive impact of dual enrollment is not only seen in degree outcomes, but also in cost savings. Students earning early college credit accelerates time spent completing a college degree or certificate and decreases future tuition costs for dual-enrolled high school students who have their enrollment fees waived. To see the full list of CCAP agreements, please visit [https://go.boarddocs.com/ca/ccccd/Board.nsf/files/C3ZM945A17B2/\\$file/0621-20B-ET-2021-22%20CCAP%20Agreements.pdf](https://go.boarddocs.com/ca/ccccd/Board.nsf/files/C3ZM945A17B2/$file/0621-20B-ET-2021-22%20CCAP%20Agreements.pdf).

4CD Students Thrive: Against the Odds

Facing the pandemic and a relentless rollercoaster of constant change, the past year and a half proved to be exceptionally challenging for 4CD students, faculty and staff alike. 4CD employees tackled the herculean task of providing services and instruction remotely, while 4CD students endured the challenges associated with remote learning. Many students struggled to maintain a sense of motivation and adjusted to virtual instruction, while others grappled with the lack of technological tools and physical space to focus entirely on their studies.

However, as time went on, many students persevered through their challenges with the help of 4CD employees, family and friends. The 4CD Communications and Community Relations department captured several of these stories in a video series titled, *4CD Students Thrive: Against the Odds*. The video series includes interviews led by the department's spring 2021 Social Media/Marketing intern Madeline Ishwaranata, who explores the stories of Contra Costa College, Diablo Valley College and Los Medanos College students defying the odds. The full series can be found on the 4CD YouTube channel at <https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLtzBjsYowz5ZWMYsvLDYoyHgbY24RDUJ3>.



District Welcomes New Employees

Please welcome the following new employees who were approved by the Governing Board in June and July.

Regular Managers

Location	Name	Title
DST	Amy Sterry	Director of Purchasing Services
DVC	Brandy Howard	Director of Marketing and Media Design
DVC	Vicki Ferguson	Vice President

Regular Monthly Classified Employees

Location	Name	Title
CCC	Jenee Labonte	Administrative Assistant, Senior
CCC	Alexander Stern	Program Coordinator, Senior
CCC	Marissa Chavez	Program Coordinator, Senior
DVC	Gabriella Nunez	Program Coordinator
DVC	Zainularab Rahmani	Program Assistant

Board Report

To review highlights of the Governing Board Meeting held on June 23, 2021, click on the link below:

<https://www.4cd.edu/crpa/board-reports/2020-2021/May%202021.pdf>

To review highlights of the Governing Board Meeting held on July 14, 2021, click on the link below:

<https://www.4cd.edu/crpa/board-reports/2021-2022/July%202021.pdf>

To review highlights of the Governing Board Retreat held on July 24, 2021, click on the link below:

<https://www.4cd.edu/crpa/board-reports/2021-2022/July%202021.pdf>

Cabinet Highlights

To review highlights of the Cabinet meetings held in June/July 2021, click on the link below:

<https://www.4cd.edu/crpa/chancellors-cabinet/2021-2022/July%202021.pdf>

District Governance Committee

To learn more about the District Governance Committee, click on the link below:

<http://www.4cd.edu/about/committees/dgc/default.aspx>