



CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

Live life as if everything is rigged in your favor.

- Rumi

Chancellor's Board of Trustees Report

This brief report showcases our colleges' activities and highlights the district's forwarding its directions in Accreditation, COVID 19 Response, Participatory Governance, Fiscal Matters and Board Initiatives.

The Colleges

The Peralta Libraries are committed to ensuring that our students have the Library resources and services that they need in order to be successful remotely. Due to the pandemic, the Peralta Librarians are now offering a new service called "Embedded Librarians" where faculty can request that a librarian be added into their Canvas shell. In addition to the new Embedded Librarian service, the Peralta Libraries are supporting our students remotely with an online reference chat service where students can get live reference/research help from librarians. Libraries also provide remote access to a wide variety of eBooks and article database offerings and curbside pick-up services for print books and Chromebooks.



Berkeley City College

- Berkeley City College was awarded a highly competitive Developing Hispanic Serving Institution Grant for their proposal, “Conocimiento Los Caminos.” This is an annual award of \$599,764 for each year over five years totals \$2,998,820. It was a collaborative effort with input from faculty, classified professionals, students, and administrators. This grant award is testament to the commitment to student equity and success, and within this grant, increasing retention, completion, transfer, and financial literacy for Latinx students. More information regarding next steps will be made available in the weeks to come.

Merritt College

- Merritt College is one of the founding partners of East Side Oakland Ventures (ESO Ventures). Formerly known as the East Oakland Entrepreneur Initiative, ESO Ventures provides pathways, support, and funding sources for entrepreneurs from historically disadvantaged communities. To address long-standing patterns of economic inequity, Merritt College and ESO Ventures are focused on bolstering entrepreneurial development and growing the self-employment sector by ensuring that black and brown businesses have greater access to funding capital. Toward that end, Merritt will also leverage an existing Level UP partnership program with Facebook to offer co-branded Digital Marketing Certificates for Small Business Owners and Entrepreneurs. As always, we remain committed to collaborating with Oaklanders to build community-wealth and ensure that our people are thriving.
- Merritt College’s CIS program is partnering with Stanford’s Computer Science department to develop curriculum that utilizes the smartphone as a teaching tool. The partnership between Merritt and Stanford builds on extensive research on how to teach STEM concepts to urban students. The collaboration aims to utilize smart phone capabilities in interactive activities and videos to deliver compelling math and science curriculum.

Laney College

- Laney College’s APASS (Asian Pacific American Student Success) program was awarded a prestigious \$1.5 million U.S. Department of Education AANAPISI (Asian American Native American Pacific Islander Serving Institution) grant to support job training, job placement and career pathways for ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) and Asian American Pacific Islander students.
- The college also completed the Guided Pathways Statewide Mapping Project. The college was featured by the American Association of Community Colleges, which is arguably the foremost national-level professional organization for over 1200 C.C.s in the U.S. Laney is only the 9th college among the 33

participating schools in the state to complete and publish its programs despite only joining this 3-year-old initiative a mere 8 months ago!

Enrollment

Generally, enrollment is down across the colleges and so is productivity. Community college enrollments are trending downwards across the state and the country. From the [San Francisco Business Times](#), by Hilary Burns, Associate Editor, Boston Business Journal Sep 4, 2020, we read, “New findings from the *National Student Clearinghouse Research Center* identified a 6% year-over-year enrollment drop at community colleges this summer, a trend that school officials say has carried over — and potentially worsened — in the current fall semester. Reasons cited for the falloff include a lack of childcare options and job losses that disproportionately affected the finances of the mostly part-time students at community colleges.”

At the same time, the district marketing staff are partnering with each campus president to increase outreach and social media postings. The district IT department is working with the CCC registration website to evaluate the process for issuing unique email addresses for students. The current mechanism allows student to enter fake email personal addresses in order to generate a cc.peralta.edu address and floods the student contact database with an overwhelming number of email addresses that go nowhere.

COVID-19 Update

On August 28, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom announced moving away from the "watch list" system of tracking coronavirus trends and went to a four-tier, color coded classification. There are now four tiers: yellow, orange, red and purple. Yellow indicates minimal COVID-19 spread and allows for nearly all businesses to reopen indoor operations (as long as physical distancing and face covering requirements are in place). Purple means there is widespread COVID-19

transmission in the county and nearly all businesses have to keep indoor operations closed or severely limited. Following the guidance from the State, Peralta will continue to have most classes conducted remotely. There is an exemption that guides the district, an order of the County of Alameda's Health Officer (Revised August 21, 2020) which states in Section 15 that individuals may leave their residence to perform the following “Essential Activities.” However, people at high risk of severe illness from COVID-19 and people who are sick are strongly urged to stay in their residence to the extent possible, except as necessary to seek or provide medical care or Essential Governmental Functions.

	Higher Risk → Lower Risk of Community Disease Transmission			
	Widespread Tier 1	Substantial Tier 2	Moderate Tier 3	Minimal Tier 4
Measure*				
Adjusted Case Rate for Tier Assignment** (Rate per 100,000 excluding prison cases, 7 day average with 7 day lag)	>7	4-7	1-3.9	<1
Testing Positivity*** (Excluding prison cases, 7 day average with 7 day lag)	>8%	5-8%	2.4-9%	<2%

Essential Activities for Educational institutions—including public and private K-12 schools, colleges, and universities—include all those for purposes of facilitating distance learning or career internship and pathways, conducting or participating in COVID-19 related research, or performing essential functions.

A [July 06, 2020 Memo](#) from Sheneui Weber, Vice Chancellor of Workforce and Economic Development in the California Community College District Chancellor's Office, Workforce and Economic Development Division, provided clarification regarding the continuity of instruction and resuming in-person training for community programs “serving the Essential Critical Infrastructure Workforce during the COVID-19 pandemic.” The Memo stated, “...community colleges are to continue with instruction of students in programs that support the Essential Critical Infrastructure Workforce as part of the Government Operations and other community based essential functions.” In compliance with Federal, State and Local directives, the industries listed as essential and thus align with Career Technical Education include:

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| 1. Health and Public Health Sector | 8. Government Operations and Other |
| 2. Emergency Services Sector | Community-Based Essential Functions |
| 3. Food and Agriculture Sector | 9. Critical Manufacturing Sector |
| 4. Energy Sector | 10. Financial Services Sector |
| 5. Water and Wastewater Sector | 11. Chemical Sector |
| 6. Transportation and Logistics Sector | 12. Defense Industrial Base Sector |
| 7. Communications and Information Technology Sector | 13. Industrial, Commercial, Residential and Sheltering Facilities and Services |

Classes and courses that will offer CE sections are required to have the following:

1. Be within an Essential Sector
2. Have Social Distancing Protocols in place
3. Have a Site Plan/ entry and exit plan for labs
4. Have a mitigation/ re-closure plan in case of an outbreak
5. Have faculty confirmed to teach while committing to the protocols, and also allow faculty to opt out of teaching should they choose to

In addition to CE courses, Athletic Conditioning may be offered with the above protocols, and with the need to be:

- Outdoors
- Held subject Air Quality
- Offered without any weights or indoor training

Our district has followed these protocols and will offer essential career technical education courses, and athletic training, subject to the guidelines provided.



Accreditation

The district staff are focusing on accreditation and are diligently preparing the November Response Letters and the Independent Self Evaluation Reports. We are driving the language of accreditation standards and evidence into everything that takes place in the district.

Participatory Governance

We held the annual PBIM Summit on September 11, 2020 virtually. It was well attended, and good ideas and directions were generated. The Budget Allocation Model and participatory governance groups, actions, and reporting will be the main consideration this fiscal year, as will the linkages between the colleges, district, and state budgetary

allocations. All of the academic year calendars have been set up and appointments to the committees are underway. The Planning and Budget Committee added two meetings to their schedule to accommodate the timing of The May Revised Budget and submission of the Adopted Budget to the Board of Trustees for early September.

Fiscal Matters

We are now working with our finance team to develop a long term strategy and plan to manage the existing OPEB debt. In addition, we have begun regular meetings of the Finance and Facilities Subcommittee which includes municipal advisors, facilities planners and consultants, and appropriate counsel, to ensure we are keeping step with the intentions of our general obligation bonds.

Over the last couple of weeks there has been some confusion over the CARES funds. It appears that the certification for the student portion was not completed correctly. Many colleges and districts in the state had this similar problem and therefore the State Chancellor's Office and the Department of Education notified the districts that they could resubmit or submit any certifications that were needed. The district has until September 24, 2020 to submit the student aid portion of the grant. The college presidents at Laney, Merritt, and Alameda (Berkeley received their portion) will be doing that work, and with the help of finance will monitor the funds receipts.

The district held three budget webinars that discussed the FON, Fifty Percent Law, Student Centered Funding Formula, and State Apportionment Schedules. Guest speakers were featured from Cambridge West and from the State Chancellor's Office.

Board Initiatives

The Board approved the implementation of a new security plan at the [June 23, 2020 Board meeting](#). Since then, a request for proposal process has been completed. A committee of individuals have been identified to review and select from among those responsive bidders. The deadline for implementation is in the forefront of everyone's minds, in order to meet the December 31, 2020 deadline. Staffing needs are being evaluated currently as well. Our dedicated staff have stepped up to ensure this board initiative continues to remain on course with precision.

Dr. Carla Walter

Acting Chancellor



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