



MESSAGE FROM INTERIM CEO

DR. KEITH CURRY

Student success is evident everywhere!

Many of you may recall that when I first accepted the position of Interim CEO, I stated that providing the necessary support for achieving student success is our number one priority. Today, that is still the primary goal for the Compton Community College District (CCCD). My favorite slogan remains - "Every Student is a Success Story".

With that slogan in mind, I share the following CCCD goals for the 2012-13 academic year.

2012-13 Goals for the Compton Community College District

1. Continue to Support the Partnership

Since becoming Interim CEO, my mission has been to ensure that everyone – internally as well as our external communities – is regularly informed of progress we are making, as well as those areas needing improvement. Working with the Special Trustee and the leadership at El Camino College, we continue to support El Camino College's mission of providing the programs and services needed for student success.

One component of this student success is the Partnership Agreement. A proposed updated agreement will be going through the collegial process for review at both CEC and ECC; and will be presented to the Special Trustee and the El Camino Board of Trustees for a first reading in February 2013, and potential adoption in March.

2. Support El Camino College Accreditation Efforts

Through the Accreditation Steering Committee, co-chaired by Senate President Michael Odanaka, ECC Compton Center VP Barbara Perez and me, the accreditation eligibility subcommittees are concluding their review and assessment of the Compton Center's readiness for El Camino College to apply for accreditation eligibility for its Center. An Accreditation Summit with key collegial consultation representatives was held on October 30. An Accreditation Forum, open to students, employees and other Center stakeholders will be held on November 29, 1:00 p.m. in the Student Lounge. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. At this forum, accreditation eligibility subcommittee representatives will provide an update on the status of progress and readiness for El Camino College to apply for accreditation eligibility for the Center.

Along with the eligibility process, El Camino College, including its Compton Center, is in the early stage of preparing for the Accreditation Self Evaluation process. Subcommittees have been formed for each of the standards. These subcommittees include co-chairs from both ECC Torrance and the Compton Center. More information may be found [here](#).

3. Communication with Students, Employees and the Community

I continue to hold meetings and CEO Roundtables in each of the communities served by the CCCD, building, maintaining, and re-establishing connections. I have also met with local, state and federal elected officials, business organizations, church groups, and community leaders throughout the Compton District.

The Special Trustee has established a great group of individuals from throughout the district to serve on the Special Trustee Advisory Committee; and we have re-established the Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee. Go to the [CCCD web page](#) for updates from these important community meetings

My weekly open door continues every Tuesday from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. for anyone who wishes to speak with me on any issue.

In addition to the meetings and visits, we will continue to provide timely updates about the partnership through newsletters, emails and publications. We also provide timely updates on the Accreditation Process via a [web page](#), as well as with newsletters and email communications.

The CCCD continues to be reviewed by the Fiscal Crisis Management Assistance Team (FCMAT). Separate from the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC), FCMAT reviews district operations and functions. The report from FCMAT's most recent visit will be provided at the December board meeting. FCMAT will return in spring 2013 for their next review of district operations.

4. Fiscal Stability for the Compton Community College District

Our Planning and Budget Committee has revised the [five year Budget Assumptions](#) to help direct the budget priorities for 2012-13. Budget decisions are prioritized to have the least possible impact on students. I am pleased to announce that Ms. Trish Bonacic, Director, CalWORKs and Special Resource Center, is serving as the PBC chair for 2012-13.

We have also recently hired a permanent Chief Business Officer (CBO), Mr. Felipe Lopez; Director of Accounting, Mr. Benjamin Torres; and Budget Analyst, Mr. Armando Ruiz. These three new hires are critical to helping to resolve the 26 prior year audit findings for the CCCD, so we are able to move forward with both FCMAT and ACCJC in the coming years. Among their additional assignments is a review and update of all administrative procedures for the Business Office.

This fiscal year, we will be developing a plan to fund the District Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB) liability and a plan to ensure the District meets the 50% law requirement for the next five years. These plans will be shared with the Planning and Budget Committee and with the Special Trustee

5. Address Facilities Needs

ECC Compton Center Vice President Barbara Perez successfully led the charge to develop an Educational Master Plan, which is linked to the Facilities Master Plan, the Five-Year Construction Plan and the Technology Plan for the Compton District. The Educational Master Plan is included in the [ECC Comprehensive Master Plan](#).

We have recently held two groundbreaking events – for phase one and two of the

infrastructure project. We will have a ribbon cutting and tour of the MIS Building on November 13, 2012 at 4:00 p.m. Remodeling of the Allied Health Building is set to begin in 2013; and we have established a [timeline](#) for the finishing of the LRC, with a goal of opening the LRC in 2014.

In January of 2013, the Measure CC Bond Oversight Committee will present the annual report, which will include an update on all facilities projects.

6. Support Professional Development for CCCD Employees

Working through the ECC Staff Development Office, workshops are offered throughout the year for faculty, staff and managers on a variety of topics to assist employees in their job. Additionally, employees are encouraged to return to school to further their education to enhance current skills and learn new ones.

Last year, the Human Resources Department initiated a Distinguished Faculty and Staff Awards program. We also established a Service Awards program recognizing employees at 5 year increments of service to the district. This academic year we will institute an “applause” card recognition for employees who go above and beyond. Please watch your email for details on this new employee recognition program.

In closing, I wish each employee a successful and rewarding year as we all work to help every student become one more success story.

Welcome New Managers and Classified Staff

Please join me in welcoming two managers and seven full-time classified employees who have joined our staff, or have been promoted within the CCCD during the past academic year.

Managers

Ricky Shabazz - Dean of Student Services

Ricky served as the Director of Outreach and School Relations at ECC Compton Center for five years before becoming the Dean of Student Services. He has more than 13 years experience in developing, implementing and managing student support programs. He previously held positions as associate director in the office of admissions at Harvey Mudd College; director of the MESA program and assistant director of undergraduate admissions at the University of California, Davis; and vice principal and director of counseling at a charter high school. He earned an Ed. D in educational leadership, as well as a master’s degree in educational administration from California State University, San Bernardino and a bachelor’s degree in Native American studies from UCD.

Benjamin Torres – Director of Accounting

Before joining the CCCD, Benjamin worked as the accounting supervisor for Mira Costa College in Oceanside and in the accounting department at La Sierra University in Riverside. He received a master’s degree in business administration, with a specialization in finance, and a bachelor’s degree in business management from La Sierra University.

Classified Employees:

Deborah Alaimo, Human Resources Representative

Linda Coleman, Human Resources Representative
Jennifer Chua, Scheduling Specialist
Randy Evans, Tool Room Attendant
Lachell Jones, CFP Program Technician
Binh Nguyen, Financial Aid Supervisor
Armando Ruiz, Budget Analyst