



Weekly Update 3-5-21

Dear Campus Community,

Opportunity to Evaluate Our Participatory Governance Processes

On behalf of the Planning and Budgeting Council, please take a few minutes to complete our annual [Participatory Governance Survey](#). This survey is the primary way Cañada evaluates how well our participatory governance process is working. Your input is critical to both the evaluation and our ability to make any needed improvements as a result of the evaluation. The survey will remain open until March 26. Respondents who complete the survey will be entered into a raffle to win prizes. Thank you! [Click here to take the survey](#).

SMCCCD Distributes More Than \$8 million Directly to Students from Federal Pandemic Relief Funding

The District announced this week that SMCCCD has received \$13.3 million in federal relief funding from the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF II). Of that funding, approximately two-thirds will go directly to students as cash payments to offset hardships during the COVID-19 pandemic. The remaining third of the funds will be used to offset costs incurred by the District and its three colleges for COVID-related expenses such as technology, health and safety equipment, and training. The most recent federal funding, combined with \$5.6 million received as part of the CARES Act from spring 2020, brings total federal pandemic relief funding for the San Mateo County Community College District to almost \$19 million. Of that total funding, two-thirds (\$16.8 million) is directly supporting students at Cañada College, College of San Mateo, and Skyline College. For additional information, you can access the full announcement [here](#).



Nominations Requested for Cañada College Classified Employee of the Year- Due March 10

Each year, the Board of Governors along with the State Chancellor's Office seeks nominations from each community college district for their Classified Employee of the Year Award. In our district, the three colleges and the District Office *each* nominate one classified employee. The Board of Trustees reviews the resulting four nominations received and makes the final selection of the nominee to be forwarded to the State. Considerations for the award include a commitment to high standards of job performance and professionalism, demonstrated leadership, collaboration, knowledge, and other criteria.

I encourage and invite all members of the Cañada Community (students, faculty members, and classified staff) to nominate a classified employee for our college's award. If you wish to nominate someone, please fill out the attached nomination form. Please note that there are five questions requiring a narrative reply. I realize that you may not have all the information about the employee you wish to nominate, but please try to complete the form as best as you can. Because of the very short time we have to provide our nominee to the Board of Trustees, all nominations must be received by Wednesday, March 10 at 4:30 p.m. Please submit your completed nomination form to the Office of the President at CANPresident@smccd.edu. The College Cabinet will then review the nominations and make a final selection by March 17 to ensure that we meet the deadline for submitting our nominee to the District. We look forward to receiving your nominations. Please contact my office if you have any questions.

STILL NEEDED: 2021-22 Cañada Scholarship Reviewers

Cañada faculty, staff and administrators are invited to participate in the annual scholarship program selection process as reviewers.

The Financial Aid Office still needs 10-15 more reviewers so that every scholarship application can be assigned multiple reviewers. Please respond to [Margie Carrington](#) today if you are able to serve as a scholarship reviewer.

Here are the details:

- Online review in [AcademicWorks](#)
- Review Period is March 5 – 21
- Time commitment is 6-8 hours
- Reviewers will be provided with comprehensive instructions
- Zoom drop-in and one-on-one training provided

The State of Higher Education for Black Californians

In this report, we briefly discuss the social and economic reality faced by Black Californians before analyzing measures of educational access and attainment, noting that Black Californians face higher than average rates of unemployment, housing insecurity, food insecurity, incarceration, and poverty. We then examine measures related to college access for California's Black high school students and the rates at which Black students, once enrolled in college, are supported to complete their degrees. We include recommendations for California's policymakers and education leaders to ensure that equity is at the heart of their work and to ensure a system of higher education in which Black students matter. You can find a copy of the report here: <https://collegecampaign.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/SHE-Black-Californians-2021-FINAL.pdf>

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Based on the findings reported below, the Campaign for College Opportunity proposes the following recommendations for California's policymakers and college leaders:

Federal Recommendations

- Limit access to federal financial aid (grants and loans) for for-profit colleges and universities that do not provide a quality education or value to the students that attend them.

State Recommendations

- Commit to the ambitious statewide goal of ensuring 60 percent of Black Californians in the workforce hold a degree or high-value credential by 2030.
- Reevaluate and update the enrollment caps established under the Master Plan for Higher Education and increase enrollment of Black students at the CSU and UC through proactive outreach and support.
- Recommit to a bold, new vision for strengthening transfer and ensuring equitable access to the Associate Degree for Transfer (ADT) for Black community college students by establishing a permanent intersegmental implementation workgroup.

- Develop a strong California Cradle-to-Career Data System to better enable policymakers and institutions to address gaps for Black students in college access and success.
- Reform California's financial aid system to prioritize equity so that every talented Black Californian can go to college and stay enrolled, regardless of their income status.

Community College and University Recommendations

- Ensure strong implementation of CCC and CSU reforms that focus on improving placement of students into college-level English and math.
- Strengthen the CSU Graduation Initiative to improve graduation rates and close racial/ethnic gaps.
- College presidents, campus leaders, and governing bodies must commit to identifying, hiring, retaining, and promoting Black faculty at California's public colleges and universities. High School Recommendations
- Increase high school graduation rates for Black students to 90 percent and make the A-G coursework the default curriculum for all high school students in California.
- Mandate completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or California Dream Act Application (CADAA) for all high school students so that every talented Black Californian can pursue college, regardless of their income status.

Stay safe, stay healthy, stay strong.

Sincerely,
Jamillah Moore, Ed.D.
President