



SAN MATEO COUNTY  
**COMMUNITY**  
COLLEGE DISTRICT

*Cañada College • College of San Mateo • Skyline College*

# Combined Report of the College Presidents

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**SMCCCD COLLEGE RIDGE AT SKYLINE COLLEGE**



On October 20, 2022, in a ribbon cutting ceremony in San Bruno, college district officials, community leaders, and employee residents celebrated the official opening of the District's third employee housing complex - College Ridge at Skyline College.

"For nearly 20 years, our district has led the way in educational workforce housing," said SMCCCD Chancellor Michael Claire. "To add more units of housing, means we are able to provide opportunities to our faculty and staff to affordably live in the community they work and support a community that supports them."

The new employee housing complex adds 30 additional units (a mixture of one-, two-, and three-bedroom apartments) to the District's already 104 units located at College of San Mateo (44 units at College Vista) and Cañada College (60 units at Cañada Vista). Units are rented exclusively to SMCCCD employees at affordable, below-market rates, allowing employees to save money for a down payment for a home or for future housing needs. Employees are eligible to live in the units for up to seven years. The District also has an Educational Housing Corporation which is responsible for the oversight of the employee housing program, including the maintenance and operation of the three complexes.

"This is another feather in the cap of the District in being able to provide critical housing opportunities at affordable rates for faculty and staff," said Michael Pierce, president of the District's Employee Housing Corporation Board of Directors. "I am proud of the work the Housing Board has done in continuing to advocate for more housing for more employees, and this new housing complex allows employees to have not just an apartment, but a home."



The District's first employee housing complex opened in 2005 when the SMCCCD was the first district in California to offer educational workforce housing for community college faculty and staff. In 2022, the SMCCCD remains the only community college district in the state with such a program.





## **COLLEGE HOSTS FIFTH ANNUAL PRESIDENT'S LUNCHEON**



This year, for the first time, the Cañada College President's Luncheon was held both virtually and in-person on the Cañada campus on October 25, 2022. The President's Luncheon brought the community together to support Cañada students by providing them with on-demand transportation to travel to and from campus so they are able to complete a quality education and achieve their goals and dreams. The on-demand transportation program helps students to attend classes, access on-campus support services, such as one-on-one tutoring or the campus food pantry, and also helps students get to work, whether it be to their jobs on campus or from Cañada to jobs throughout our community. These resources alleviate financial hurdles and daily stress which allows students to focus on their education.

In order to demonstrate the impact this program has had on students, Cañada students created a [video](#) to detail the challenges they face getting to and from the College and the impact of the on-demand transportation program and what it means to students. Cañada College student, Jaime Dubeibe Fong, who is also Vice President of the Associated Students of Cañada College, shared a first-hand perspective of how the program has helped him and his fellow students access the campus for classes and other activities.



Another highlight of the event was a presentation by Cañada Alumni and Council member for the City of Redwood City, Elmer Martinez Saballos. He shared how Cañada College and (and the Middle College High School program) helped him and his family to save money and time by connecting him with the special mentors, innovative programs and support to revitalize his academic passions. Council member Martinez Saballos shared that Cañada College is an engine of social mobility that changes the trajectory of so many people's lives and gives them the opportunity to focus on doing their best in the classroom.



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The success of the President's Luncheon would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication of Cañada College employees and students. Through the generosity of our donors and those who attended the event, students will be able to access their classes and obtain on-campus support and resources with seamless and safe on-demand transportation.

A recording of the virtual Luncheon can be found [here](#) and images from the in-person event can be found [here](#). Cañada College is thankful to receive such immense support from the community.

### CAÑADA PREPARES CURRENT AND PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS FOR SPRING ENROLLMENT



To help students register for the Spring 2023 semester, Cañada College is hosting a series of drop-in registration sessions beginning November 16, 2022 through January 26, 2023. The drop-in registration sessions (offered in-person and over Zoom) will be held Mondays and Thursdays from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. and Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 4:30-6:30 p.m. In addition to daytime and evening registration sessions, the College is also planning to host a Saturday Registration Day in January 2023 to support new and continuing students in fully registering for Spring courses in a single stop. The sessions are aimed to support students with anything and everything related to class registration and signing up for student support resources, including the waiver of enrollment fees for qualified students thanks to SMCCCD's Free College Initiative!

In addition to the drop-in registration sessions, Cañada has engaged with high school partners by offering in-depth campus tours and a glimpse of what life is like on campus! As part of an effort to integrate Cañada's Dual Enrollment students to the Cañada College Campus, a group of 17 Pescadero High School

seniors, accompanied by staff and parents, visited the College on Wednesday, November 2. Pescadero High School students learned about Cañada College programs from College Recruiter Olivia Cortez-Figueroa. Students also heard from a panel of current Cañada College students who are enrolled in ETHN 105 African American History and Culture. The students shared why they chose Cañada College, what they are studying and their community college experience. Afterwards, the Cañada Outreach team provided students with a campus tour where they visited the Welcome Center, Financial Aid Department, Digital Media Animation Labs and Kinesiology & Wellness Building.

Continuing the connection with high school students, on November 4, a group of 16 Oxford Day Academy Dual Enrollment CRER 137 students, with staff members, visited Cañada College. It was wonderful to provide a tour to students currently participating in a Dual Enrollment class through Cañada College. The Oxford Day Academy students visited the Kinesiology & Wellness Building, Welcome Center, Financial Aid Department, SparkPoint Center and DREAM Center. The students enjoyed pizza while our Outreach Program Services Coordinator, Nicki Dulmage-Bekker, gave a presentation about other programs available at Cañada College.

As Spring registration is underway, the Cañada College team continues to identify innovative ways to make registration easier for students and connect them with academic and student support opportunities available on campus.



# College of San Mateo

## **CSM HOSTS 130 YOUTH AND THEIR FAMILIES AT LAUNCH OF NEW PARTNERSHIP WITH SAN MATEO POLICE DEPARTMENT**



The Strategic Initiatives and Economic Development Team at College of San Mateo has formed a partnership with San Mateo Police Department's Police Activities League (PAL) designed to increase our engagement and service of disproportionately impacted communities in San Mateo County.

To kick off this new collaboration with PAL, CSM hosted over 130 youth and their families for our "College, Careers, and Cheers" event on Saturday, October 28. Families met at CSM's College Center for music, lunch, and a conversation with Justin Sagote, a San Mateo police officer and CSM alum. Sagote shared details from his valuable experience as a student at CSM before providing thoughtful insight into public service and the career of a police officer serving the community.

The event culminated on the Stadium Heights football field, where families cheered on the Bulldogs as they played against Chabot College. CSM cheerleaders also taught a few cheers to the youth. Nearby, some of the guests joined President



Jennifer Taylor-Mendoza and Dean Andreas Wolf for a sideline experience giving high fives to the football players.

Overall, the event was a great success, where youth could begin to dream out loud about their futures. In addition, their parents and families learned about the many career education programs on CSM's campus and gained new insight into all CSM offers. Tracy Unga, San Mateo police sergeant, and the executive director of PAL shared, "The event was very special for so many of our families, and one that I know will leave a lasting impression on all our PAL kids for a very long time. I appreciate this new partnership, and I look forward to watching it grow!"



## **100 YEARS OF MAKING DREAMS COME THROUGH**

A colorful new exhibition at the San Mateo County History Museum in Redwood City gathers a century of CSM mementos, media, images, and bygone teaching tools to inspire community members to honor their past and to support CSM for its next 100 years.

The exhibition, College of San Mateo: 100 Years of Making Dreams Come Through, is titled to reflect CSM's mission of quality education for all. It reflects CSM's changes throughout its history to reflect advances in teaching and learning and in how best to serve everyone in its diverse community.

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Attendees view the artifacts on display. Photo: Gino DeGrandis

The exhibition was created by CSM Librarian Elnora Kelly Tayag and Associate Professor of History Tatiana Irwin, and by SMC History Museum Curator Dana Neitzel. It is supported by CSM and by the San Mateo County Community College District Foundation.

It opens with the splashy centennial logo by student Ryan Kelley into a vibrant space full of objects chosen to spark memories and conversation.

Items on display include [mammoth bones and teeth excavated by history Professor Dr. Frank Stanger](#) in the future Millbrae Highlands housing development in 1943; a vintage TV camera from [KCSM-TV](#), the 1960s "College of the Air"; [bulky computers of the 1980s](#) and cosmetology mementos including a farewell hankie inscribed by the donor's sister graduates. A robust athletics corner includes lockers stuffed with Bulldog gear from the 1930s onward. The women's athletic letters, including a Block S awarded to Catherine McLaren in 1932, illustrate CSM's regard for women's sports decades ahead of nearby universities.



The free opening day of the exhibit on Saturday, October 29, 2022, featured a panel discussion titled "Striking for Change: The College Readiness Program and Its Legacies." From left to right: Ethnic Studies Faculty Edgar Mojica Villegas, CSM Alumna Leila Tamale, Multicultural & Dream Center Coordinator Jackie Santizo, and Ethnic Studies Faculty Rudy Ramirez. Photo: David McLain

The objects come from the [CSM Library and Archives](#); from the history museum's own collections; and from donations from alumni and other friends of CSM. They include dozens of documentarian [Isago Isago Tanaka](#)'s photos of activist youth and campus life.

The museum itself is a piece of CSM history, having opened on the college's [Baldwin Avenue campus](#) in 1941. Its great impetus came from Dr. Frank Stanger (1887–1980), a history professor at what was then San Mateo Junior College. Stanger believed that good history teaching requires primary sources. Many of the museum's first pieces were family heirlooms donated by students. In 1998, the museum moved to its present home in the county's 1908 Old Courthouse. Its current director, Mitch Postel, is a graduate of CSM's Class of 1972.



CSM alumni and former employee Gary Dilley standing next to his letterman jacket he received during his second year playing basketball as a student at CSM, long before he came to work at CSM as the dean of physical education and athletics until 2006. Photo: Barbara Wilcox

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Several parts of the exhibition have sturdy facsimiles of vintage college publications that visitors can sit in vintage desks to read.

"I felt it was important for visitors, especially students of today, to engage as thoroughly as possible with this student material from the past," Irwin said.



*The CSM Library team, who were instrumental in bringing the exhibit to reality. Photo: Gino DeGrandis*

These include humor magazines; 1960s material from CSM's renowned [College Readiness Program](#) for learners of color; the sharp-tongued [Monday Morning Blues](#) of the 1980s and 1990s, and entries to the Kirkbride Essay Contest, founded in 1939 to encourage students to develop research skills. From roughly 1939 into the early 1970s, the college gave cash prizes each year to students who submitted the best research papers, using primary sources, on some aspect of San Mateo County life.

A rainbow of graduation stoles from CSM's learning communities – for interest groups, honor students, athletes and communities of color – talks back spatially to images from the College Readiness Program, itself a pioneering support community founded in 1966 that [inspired countless individuals and programs](#) to better serve all students [holistically and with respect](#).

A video loop plays nearby of College Readiness Program director Robert Hoover and student Warren Furutani, calling during a 1968 protest for educational equity and the preservation of the CRP program. Hoover and Furutani both devoted the rest of their careers to educational justice: Hoover as community activist and leader of Nairobi College in East Palo Alto, and

Furutani as a trustee of the Los Angeles Unified School District and Community College District.

[College of San Mateo: 100 Years of Making Dreams Come Through](#) is open Oct. 29, 2022 through Aug. 27, 2023 at the San Mateo County History Museum, 2200 Broadway, Redwood City, Calif. To learn more, go to [historysmc.org](http://historysmc.org).





**SKYLINE COLLEGE NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER  
OPENING**



The Skyline College Neighborhood Center held its opening on Monday, November 7 and Tuesday, November 8 at Jefferson High School located in Daly City. On Monday, November 7, over 80 Jefferson Adult School students enjoyed free meals thanks to Chick-Fil-A in Daly City at Serramonte Center. Students also went home with swag bags filled with Skyline College branded gear! Many students had questions for our Outreach team and were interested in learning more about the college. This is just the beginning of a great community partnership.

Each Monday, the Neighborhood Center will provide a free hot meal for Adult School students and their families. Also on Mondays, beginning November 14, a tutor will be embedded into one of the classrooms to provide additional support for students. The Neighborhood Center will continue to add services Mondays through Thursdays in partnership with Jefferson Adult School over the next few months such as free workshops on financial literacy and wellness, homework support for school-aged children, childcare, and more educational offerings.

The goal of the new Skyline College Neighborhood Center is to bring Skyline College directly to the people of the communities we serve in a meaningful way. Recent data showed that the City of Daly City was underserved by the college prompting a conversation with Jefferson Union High School District and the Jefferson Adult School to form a partnership. Skyline College has been provided space at the high school rent free to complement and enhance services and educational offerings for the adult school population.

**SKYLINE COLLEGE RECEIVES NATIONAL  
SCIENCE FOUNDATION GRANT AWARD**



Selected IMMERSE in STEM scholars will be paired with faculty mentors and will start receiving scholarship support in Spring 2023. To be eligible, students must be US citizens, have non-zero unmet financial needs and have an intended major or area of study in Biology, Biotechnology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Engineering, Mathematics or Physics.



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IMMERSE in STEM will contribute to the national need for well-educated scientists, mathematicians, engineers, and technicians by supporting the retention and graduation of high-achieving, low-income students with demonstrated financial need at Skyline College. Over its 5-year duration, this project will fund 90 scholarships to at least 30 students who are advancing toward an associate degree or transferring to a four-year university to earn a degree in Biology, Biotechnology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Engineering, Mathematics, or Physics. Each student will receive up to three years of support. In addition to scholarships, the project will incorporate a transformative approach to mentoring, and innovative supports intended to address financial and academic barriers. All participating students will engage in a comprehensive set of evidence-based co-curricular services designed to support their persistence, completion, and transfer. By combining financial assistance with academic support and mentor guidance, this project should increase the number of students in STEM fields, especially from underrepresented groups. Faculty mentors will be trained on innovative and effective approaches to student retention and success, such as the implementation of ePortfolios.

The overall goal of this project is to increase the STEM degree completion of low-income, high-achieving undergraduates with demonstrated financial need. There are three specific aims: 1) leverage existing high-impact, evidence-based processes already implemented on campus (such as ePortfolios and undergraduate research opportunities); 2) implement a cohesive multi-layer mentorship program to increase retention, student success, and graduation of scholars; 3) expand industry partnerships in association with workforce development programs to support the scholars' academic and career opportunities with mentoring and internships.

This project is funded by NSF's Scholarships in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics program, which seeks to increase the number of low-income academically talented students with demonstrated financial need who earn degrees in STEM fields. It also aims to improve the education of future STEM workers and to generate knowledge about academic success, retention, transfer, graduation, and academic/career pathways of low-income students.

We would like to thank Dr. Jing Folsom and Dr. Carla Grandy for their invaluable contributions to the success of this grant proposal. The completion of the grant proposal would also not have been possible without the support of Rita Gulli, Ari Soler, Ingrid Vargas, Zahra Mojtahedi, and Andrea Vizenor. In addition, we are grateful for the support of the leadership teams at Skyline College and San Mateo Community College District. Finally, we would like to thank Aria Frangos, Bryan Swartout, Thanh Nguyen, and Mia Coe for their help in launching the program.

### ASSC 4th ANNUAL TONGA DAY



The Associated Students of Skyline College held its 4th Annual Tonga Day Celebration on Wednesday, November 9, 2022 in the Fireside Dining Room in Building 6 from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. The opening ceremony began with Tongan Punake (chief) Kuata Vainikolo and the Tongan Bay Area community honored Dr. Moreno (President of Skyline College) with the continued title of "houeiki" or chiefess/custodian of the land that Skyline College sits on. This is an indigenous practice from Oceania/Polynesia in which the highest-ranking official title is honored with a traditional Kaho (necklace) along with gratitude for her care of the fonua (land). This is immediately celebrated by celebratory dances called faiva (traditional Tongan dance performances) by Kuata's Performing Arts from East Palo Alto. This year's opening number the "Milolua" is dedicated to Dr. Moreno for her outstanding leadership on campus.

Shortly after, the troupe shared a Cultural Regalia Showcase in which the beauty of Tongan formal wear was put on display to share cultural knowledge with our campus community and the

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significance of different Tongan aesthetics was briefly described. It was a wonderful celebration of the Kingdom of Tonga, the Tongan culture and the rich Tongan heritage of so many of our students at Skyline College! Malo 'aupito / Thank you for always supporting the ASSC, the Center for Student Life and our Polynesian community at Skyline College in San Bruno.

