



A Message from Interim President Kim Lopez

Weekly Update 1-28-22

Dear Colleagues,

I know these past few weeks have been challenging as we continue to do our best to teach and serve our students through the Omicron surge. It looks like there may be light at the end of this long pandemic tunnel as we are starting to see cases decline in San Mateo County; please see the attached District Update, sent by Chancellor Claire. Earlier this week, we reminded both employees and students of the importance of getting a booster shot and where in San Mateo County you can get one; a copy of the message, sent through District Communications, is attached.

In spite of these difficulties, our community is persevering and excelling and I am excited to share the following information.

Cañada Student Leader Recognized as Youth of the Year

Congratulations to our Associated Students of Cañada College (ASCC) President and Middle College student, Xitlali Curincita, who was selected as the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Peninsula's 2022 Youth of the Year! Xitlali will go on to represent the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Peninsula at the national competition. Youth of the Year is the Boys & Girls Club of America's signature effort to foster a new generation of leaders, fully prepared to live and lead in a diverse, global and integrated world economy. Xitlali was recognized at the club's celebration with co-CEOs Peter Fortenbaugh and Jenny Obiaya. You can read more about the recognition [here](#).



Cañada Received Support for Campus Mural Project

On Wednesday's Board of Trustees meeting, members of Cañada College's Mural Committee presented to the Board of Trustees and received support for the Cañada College mural proposal. Since 2018, Cañada College has engaged the campus community in various conversations, planning discussions and presentations about the role of social justice and the value of art in transforming a campus community. For this mural project, Cañada College will partner with [Precita Eyes](#), a community-based, mural arts organization in the San Francisco Bay Area. As part of the partnership with Precita Eyes, the College will work directly with a professional muralist to host a series of art workshops for students, including a number of community painting days. This series of workshops and painting days will take place over a 12-week period of time during the Spring 2022 semester with the goal to engage our community in capturing student voices, identities, values, and imagination in the design of our college mural. The mural will be fully funded through local college funds and is estimated at \$23,330. A video highlighting the project can be viewed [here](#).

Presidential Search Survey & Town Hall

As we begin our search for our next College President, the Cañada College Presidential Search Committee welcomes your feedback through a brief survey. Your comments/suggestions will be reviewed by the Screening Committee and will be utilized to assist in developing interview questions and any other types of assessments for the first round. Your comments/suggestions will be confidential and will not be shared with the public. Please [complete the survey](#) by 3 p.m. on Friday, February 4. A summary of the feedback received will be provided at the Collegewide Town Hall meeting, which will be held, virtually, on Tuesday, February 8 from 2:30-3:30 p.m. Zoom link: <https://smccd.zoom.us/j/87611021027>

College Connection Hour – Today at 1 p.m.!

Come join Cañada College Health & Wellness Services' Dr. Spencer Wong today at 1 p.m. at our College Connection Hour. Our conversation will include the latest news and developments on COVID. Topics to be covered can include the newest variant Omicron, San Mateo County's statistics, how to stay safe, questions and concerns about getting tested or vaccinated and more. We will provide time for Q&A and discussion. The Zoom link is below for those who prefer to join virtually. People can also meet in-person in CIETL, Building 9, Room 154.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://smccd.zoom.us/j/81126979916>

Meeting ID: 811 2697 9916

One tap mobile

+16699009128,,81126979916# US (San Jose)

Free COVID-19 Testing

COVID testing services continue to be available at College of San Mateo (CSM) for any student who wishes to get tested, subject to appointment availability. You can access

the following website to schedule an appointment: <https://smccd.edu/return-to-campus/testing.php> Additionally, President Biden has announced that every home in the United States is now eligible to receive four free at-home COVID-19 tests. To order your free COVID-19 tests, please fill out the application [linked here](#). Follow all the latest info at: <https://smccd.edu/return-to-campus/employees.php>

Updated Directives for COVID-19 Isolation/Exposure/Quarantine Procedures

Recently, the CDC and San Mateo County Public Health updated their isolation/exposure/quarantine procedures. To explain the impact of these changes on the District's processes, the District's COVID-19 Health Officer, Ray Hernandez, shares updates about the District's Isolation/Exposure/Quarantine Decision Tree in [this video](#).

Frequently Asked Questions

Have questions? You can visit the District's [Frequently Asked Questions](#) page for employees to learn about the latest information related to:

- Vaccinations & Face Coverings
- Health & Wellness
- Returning to In-Person Work
- Personal Protective Equipment
- Building Safety & Sanitization
- Safety Standards and COVID-19 Regulations
- Flexibility & Work Schedules

Virtual Parking Permits – Required on March 1

Cañada College, College of San Mateo, and Skyline College now offer a system for purchasing virtual parking permits on all San Mateo Community College District campuses. Visit the [Parking website](#) and the [FAQs page](#) for more information, including how to purchase a permit. NOTE: the parking permit grace period extension will end on Feb 28 and virtual parking permits will be required starting March 1, 2022.

Deadline for submitting changes to revised College Mission, Vision and Values: February 2, 2022

The proposed, revised College [draft mission, vision and values](#) statements are under consideration for adoption in the new, 5-year Educational Master Plan. The EMP Task Force kindly asks for final feedback to submit feedback via an [anonymous, online portal](#) by February 2, 2022.

Tonga Relief Fund

In response to the eruption of an underwater volcano on January 14, 2022 near Ha'apai and the resulting tsunami that devastated the lower lying areas and outer islands of the Kingdom of Tonga, a relief fund has been created with the SMCCC Foundation. Donations to the relief fund will support the response, recovery and reconstruction of the most devastated areas of the Kingdom. The Tonga Relief Fund will support operational costs, equipment and raw building materials needed in order to successfully respond to the emergency and rebuild homes and communities. For more information, please visit the [Tonga Relief Support of America website](#). You may donate to the Tonga Relief Fund

through the [SMCCC Foundation](#). Please select the “Other” option from the drop-down menu and specify in the comment section that the donation is for the “Tonga Relief Fund.” This will ensure the donation is earmarked for the correct fund.

Thank you for your hard work this week and I wish you all a restful weekend.

Sincerely,
Kim