



A Message from President Kim Lopez

Weekly Update 9-2-22

Dear Cañada Colleagues,

Senate Bill 893, Supporting SMCCCD, Sent to Governor

You may have read in the *San Mateo Daily Journal* that SB 893, a bill authored by state Sen. Josh Becker, D-San Mateo, is on its way to be being signed into law by Gov. Gavin Newsom. If signed, SMCCCD would be allowed to offer fee waivers to more students in need by using existing local revenue and without incurring further costs to the state. The bill, which allows SMCCCD to expand its Free College initiatives, will also provide aid to underrepresented and marginalized community members using unrestricted local funds. You can read the article [here](#). We look forward to holding a community celebration in September. More details to come!

Staff Parking Permits Re-instituted

Yesterday, District sent an all employee communication announcing that staff-parking permits will be required to park at any staff lot while on campus. Multi-year staff parking permits are assigned and will be distributed to every SMCCCD employee through their division/program office. A copy of the entire message (along with an FAQ) is attached.

Free Food Programs Support Students Experiencing Food Insecurities

The SparkPoint team is excited to introduce the Student Aid Meals Card (SAM Card), a new \$150 per month food card that you can use to purchase food at The Grove (Cañada College Cafeteria). The SAM Card is intended to ensure that students who are experiencing food insecurities have adequate access to food or money to purchase food. It can also be used at College of San Mateo and Skyline cafeterias (only used on campus). Students must remain enrolled in courses (at either Cañada College, College of San Mateo or Skyline College) to be eligible. Students can [apply here!](#) They only need to apply once and do not need to reapply each month. The first award will be around the second week of September. This award will be a double award (August + September).

The SAM Card

Student Aid Meals

Financial aid for food
\$150/per month
Redeem at any SMCCCD
Pacific Dining Location

**Available while funds last*

To apply:



bit.ly/thesamcard



For more information:



SPARKPOINT®

Email: cansparkpoint@smccd.edu
Phone: (650) 381-3550
Location: SparkPoint at Cañada College
Building 9, Room 125



Cañada College Food Pantry Has Reopened

Students can shop on campus for FREE and pick nutritious groceries at the Food Pantry! Located in Building 5, Room 202, the Food Pantry includes: fresh fruit, vegetables, milk, eggs, grains, meat, dry goods and snacks. The Food Pantry is open Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 12- 4 p.m. and serves students, staff, faculty and community members. No appointment is needed and people are encouraged to bring reusable bags

In addition to the Cañada Food Pantry, students can also visit one of our Drive-Thru Food Distributions - Drive up and pick up FREE groceries:

- Skyline College, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m., every Wednesday
- College of San Mateo, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m., every Friday

Thank You TRIO Upward Bound (UB) Program – Grant to Close

We have received notice at the start of the fall semester from the Department of Education with an update about the final list of funded TRIO Upward Bound (UB) programs for this new 2022-2027 cycle. Unfortunately, our longstanding UB program was not included in this new funding cycle. As many of you know, the College received

the first TRIO program with a successful UB Grant in 2003. The College continued to write successfully for the UB program serving the North Fair Oaks and East Palo Alto community for more than 19 years. We have successfully graduated over 360 students and end the program with a 99% high school graduation rate and 68% bachelor's degree graduation rate. Although we have been successful in meeting these goals, our grant proposal did not meet the updated and higher scores that were needed to receive funding for a new cycle of programming. Thank you all again for your support, your dedication, and your commitment to our wonderful Upward Bound program. We hope that you will continue to support the legacy of the program through the TRIO Student Support Services (SSS) program at Cañada College. We truly believe that TRIO works!

Cañada in the Community

Cañada College participated in Redwood City School District's Maze Days, which was held August 9 – 12 across multiple elementary schools including: Roosevelt, Taft, Orion, Hoover, Garfield, Clifford and Roy Cloud. Maze Days is a "welcome back to school" themed day that elementary schools have for students and their parents to see their class schedules for that year as well as submit final documents for their children to attend school and to learn about available community resources and services available. Maze Days also provided a great opportunity for Cañada College to promote its concurrent and dual enrollment opportunities available to elementary-aged children when they enter high school. It is also a great opportunity for the College to share information about our ESL and career programs with parents. This year, the Outreach team worked with around 80 parents who completed a Cañada interest form. Our Ambassador Teams followed up via phone to answer any questions, schedule meetings at Cañada College and to help students and/or parents register for classes.



COVID-19 Testing via San Mateo County Health (SMCH)

Through its partnership with San Mateo County Health (SMCH), SMCCCD continues to operate its [COVID-19 testing site at the College of San Mateo](#) and it is available to students, employees, and the public.

COVID-19 Testing via COVID Clinic

Due to the lack of demand for COVID-19 testing, COVID Clinic ceased testing operations at all three campuses effective Thursday, September 1, 2022. Individuals can still access COVID Clinic testing services within the San Mateo County community at the locations listed below:

Cañada College – Testing available in [Palo Alto](#), Mondays - Sundays, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

College of San Mateo – Testing available in [San Mateo](#), Mondays - Fridays, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Skyline College – Testing available in [South San Francisco](#), Mondays - Saturdays, 7 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Employees and students who have received an approved medical or sincerely held religious belief exemption will continue to receive testing services through the COVID-19 specialist at each campus.

Labor Day

In honor of Labor Day, our campus will close for a declared recess beginning Saturday, Sept. 3 and reopen on Tuesday, Sept. 6.



I look forward to seeing all of you throughout the fall semester. Please stop by my office to say “hi” or contact me to schedule a time to chat.

Sincerely,
Kim