



A Message from President Kim Lopez

Weekly Update: 12-13-24

Dear Cañada Colleagues,

Colts Men's Soccer End Season at State Championship

Congratulations to our Cañada College Colts Men's Soccer Team who ended their season at the 3C2A State Championships, making their first state championship appearance since 1999. The Colts battled to the end against Southern California #2 seed, Cuyamaca College. Thank you for an unforgettable season and congratulations to our student athletes, coaches and staff for being among the best in the State. We are so proud of you – Go Colts!



Honoring Professor Alicia Aguirre

On Monday night, I had the honor of attending the celebration at City Hall in downtown Redwood City for our colleague, Cañada College Professor and ESL program coordinator, Alicia Aguirre. Alicia was recognized for her incredible work in the community as she ended her term on Redwood City Council.

It was fun to celebrate with members of the Cañada Community and Alicia's family. Congratulations and thank you, Alicia, for the years of dedication and love that you have given as a leader in Redwood City.



Danielle Pelletier, Kim Lopez and Alicia Aguirre

Umoja Ends 2024 with Meaningful Experiences

2024 was a year rich with meaningful experiences for the Umoja program. This included honoring George Floyd's legacy with an annual visit to the de Young Museum. The program team and students also had the privilege of attending the Umoja XX Conference in downtown Los Angeles, which was a powerful gathering that celebrates unity and cultural heritage.



Cañada College Hosts Successful Super Registration Event

Cañada College's Super Registration Event was a tremendous success! This year, the event was held on two consecutive weekday evenings instead of the traditional Saturday schedule, offering more flexibility for students preparing for the Spring 2025 semester. The turnout was impressive, with more than 200 new students completing all their enrollment steps in one day, including applications, orientations, placement tests, counseling appointments and course registration.

Cañada's dedicated teams were on hand to address every question and concern, ensuring students left feeling supported and excited about their educational journey. Attendees expressed their gratitude and enthusiasm, sharing how welcomed and cared for they felt throughout the process. Thank you to all the hardworking Cañada College staff for their passion and commitment to serving the community. This event truly reflected the heart and dedication of the entire team.



Therapy Dogs at the Library

Students at Cañada College had a paws-itively wonderful time de-stressing with a therapy dog at the Library on Tuesday! The event provided a calming break during the busy semester, giving students the chance to connect with a friendly, furry companion. It was a heartwarming experience that brought smiles, relaxation and a renewed focus to everyone who participated.



STAR De-stress Event

Wednesday's STAR Program's De-stress event for Finals was a heartfelt success! Students came together in a welcoming and supportive space to enjoy food, fun, and community building.

In addition to learning helpful techniques to manage stress, attendees shared moments of vulnerability and care for one another, creating a strong sense of connection and support. The event was a perfect reminder of the power of community during challenging times, like finals week. Thank you to the STAR Program for fostering such a meaningful experience!



Aziza De La Torre, Executive Assistant, President's Office

Please give a warm Cañada welcome to Aziza De La Torre, who will begin her role in the President's Office on Monday, December 16. Aziza is passionate about education and holds more than 10 years of experience in education administration. She started as a student at City College of San Francisco, worked in Outreach, Admissions and Enrollment Services and for the past five years, was working as an Executive Assistant in the Office of Student Affairs. Skilled in managing complex schedules, providing executive admin support, and overseeing projects, Aziza ensures that daily operations of educational institutions run smoothly and efficiently.

A strong communicator and proactive problem solver, Aziza thrives in a fast-paced environment, always aiming to contribute to the mission and vision of the college. Aziza loves reading, baking and watching documentaries. When she is not at work, you can find Aziza spending time with her family.



Office Closure Reminders

As we prepare for Winter Break, our Facilities team reminds employees of a few tips to help keep our office spaces safe and tidy. Before heading out for the break, please ensure:

- All windows are closed and securely locked
- Food has been cleared from refrigerators
- All electronic devices (printers, computers, etc.) are turned off
- Space heaters, microwaves and coffee makers are unplugged

Thank you for your cooperation and for ensuring a smooth and safe transition into the break!

Extended ITS Support Hours for the Spring Semester

As we gear up for the Spring semester, ITS will be providing extended evening support to assist faculty and staff during this busy time. From Monday, January 13 through Friday, January 24, the campus ITS team will be available until 10 p.m. each evening. For assistance, please call 650-574-6543.

Alternatively, the Learning Center Tech Team can also lend support:

Service Hours: Monday-Thursday from 8:30 a.m.- 8 p.m. and Friday from 8:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Help Desk Main Number: 650-306-3348 or www.tinyurl.com/lctechteam

An Open House for Educators: How Do We Celebrate and Support Black History in Our Community?

SMCCCD employees are invited to join fellow educators in getting to know the Domini Hoskins Black History Museum & Learning Center! Get to know Founder & Executive Director, Carolyn Hoskins, schedule field trips or activities and explore other ways to incorporate Black History and Culture into our school or classroom. The event will be held on December 16 from 4-6 p.m. at the Domini Hoskins Black History Museum & Learning Center in Redwood City. Learn more [here](#) and RSVP by contacting Cari Pang Chen at (650) 274-8643 or caripangchen@gmail.com.

This will be my last Weekly Update of 2024. I wish you a restful holiday break and look forward to continuing our work together in January.

Sincerely,
Kim