



A Message from President Kim Lopez

Weekly Update: 4-25-25

Dear Cañada Colleagues,

Student Services Support and Reporting

[The Cañada Office of Student Services](#) is a resource designed to help guide students to the appropriate support. If you are concerned about a student or unsure where to begin, please contact the Vice President of Student Services (VPSS) Office at (650) 306-3234 or visit Building 8, Room 209. The VPSS team can provide recommendations and guide you through the next steps.

It's also important to [file a CARES Report](#), a confidential way to document concerns or incidents. This helps ensure students receive the support they need. Please contact the [CARES Team](#) if:

- There are concerns about personal safety
- A student is displaying signs of acute personal distress
- There is a pattern of disruptive or disturbing behavior

The VPSS Office can help determine the most appropriate path forward.

Exploring AANHPI Art at the Asian Art Museum

Last Friday, the AANHPI Star Program and the Cultural Center took students to the Asian Art Museum in San Francisco. Students had an opportunity tour the museum and learn about art from Japanese artist, Shinoda Toko and Chinese artist, Liu Jianhua. In addition, they toured a special exhibit by Taiwanese artist, Yuan Goang-Ming, entitled Everyday War. Please visit the [AANHPI Heritage Month calendar](#) for upcoming events.



Star Party

Last Friday, the Cañada Astronomy Club delivered another fun-filled party for our community with its semesterly Star Party. Around 70 participants, students, community members, including children, enjoyed an evening of food, games, chances to win, telescope observations, music and dancing! There were a lot of gasps and "wow"s - particularly for Jupiter and the Orion Nebula. Some of the club members came in costumes to celebrate clear skies and just to celebrate!



Eco Elegance Fashion Show Shines in Earth Day Debut

On Tuesday, Cañada College's Fashion Design & Merchandising Department hosted its inaugural Eco Elegance Fashion Show in celebration of Earth Day. The event welcomed more than 500 attendees—including the campus community, visiting high school students, community members and industry partners—to spotlight creativity, sustainability and the future of fashion. Guests explored a vibrant vendor booth area and experienced a runway filled with innovative, eco-conscious designs by student designers.

After the fashion show, the San Mateo Community Colleges Foundation hosted a special reception, where a Fashion Design & Merchandising student was awarded a scholarship in recognition of their talent and dedication. View event photos [here](#) and read the article from RWC Pulse [here](#). The show was a dynamic display of community, mindful design and inspired talent - congratulations to everyone who brought Eco Elegance to life!



Cañada College Hosts High Schoolers for Creative Campus Experience

On Tuesday, Cañada College hosted 180 dual enrollment students from Westmoor and Aragon High Schools for a day of creativity and exploration. Students were welcomed by Vice President of Instruction, Chialin Hsieh, and Dean of Business, Design and Workforce, Alex Kramer. Our visiting students attended the Eco Elegance Fashion Show and joined workshops and class observations with instructors Holly Matsuo, Jane Garrino, and Elsa Torres. Students left with sewing kits and fabric bundles to inspire continued creativity beyond the classroom.



Lei Making with Intention & Cultural Pride

The Cultural Center, STAR Program and Office of Equity hosted their 2nd annual ribbon lei-making workshop. Participants were able to enjoy li hing candies and musubis and learn how these snacks were created by immigrants, as well as learn the history of lei, connections to lei and Black solidarity movements, the significance of lei making and mental health and how to make and gift leis.

Everyone left with a beautiful handmade lei to honor a graduate!



Cañada Hosts Countywide Equity Leaders for April Community of Practice

The Office of Equity hosted the April Quarterly San Mateo County Equity in Government Community of Practice. Twenty equity leaders from across the county came to campus to learn about the Urban Institute of Upward Mobility Framework, dive deep into the County's new equity data dashboard and learn about county practices around inclusive messaging.



Staff Support Needed for Commencement

Cañada's 57th Commencement Ceremony will be held on Saturday, May 24 at 10 a.m. and there are a number of opportunities for staff to participate and help make this event a memorable one for our graduates and their families. To assist with this special event, please click the [commencement job assignment link](#). Important: CSEA employees working at the Commencement ceremony are entitled to overtime compensation. This overtime must be preapproved by the employee's supervisor. Once approved, the employee may choose to receive either overtime pay or compensatory (comp) time. This is at the discretion of the employee. If you have any questions, please contact a member of CSEA Chapter 33 leadership. We hope staff will be a part of the Cañada Commencement team and appreciate your consideration.



Please Evaluate Our Participatory Governance Processes

PBC is kindly asking everyone to please take a few minutes to respond to our annual survey evaluating how well our participatory governance processes are working for each constituency group at Cañada this year. [Click here](#) to complete the 5-minute survey. Thank you!

2025 Staff and Faculty Climate Survey Now Open

As part of our District's commitment to improving and enhancing talent retention (as promulgated in the District's Employment Opportunity Plan), we are asking every employee to participate in our District-wide anonymous climate survey. This survey will help inform concrete action and direction to support and improve the work experience for our District community. The District climate survey is being implemented by a neutral third-party consultant with relevant experience conducting climate surveys. The initial results from the survey will guide the creation of focus groups to further explore how we can improve the employee experience with the goal of increasing our talent retention. This climate survey is seeking candid and honest feedback to understand your experiences in the workplace.

Before starting the survey, please note the following:

It's anonymous and confidential. The neutral third-party consultant will not release individual data to District leadership or anyone else. Please be thoughtful, honest, and candid.

- It's quick! The survey should take less than 15 minutes to complete.
- The deadline for completing the survey is 11:59 p.m. PST on April 29
- We would like to get 100% participation!

Survey link: <https://racialequitygroup.com/san-mateo-county-community-college-district-climate-survey/>

WebSchedule/WebSMART Drop-In Sessions

The District has upgraded to a new version of WebSchedule/WebSMART which includes cosmetic and functional changes to WebSchedule, the Course Registration process and other WebSMART modules such as Financial Aid, Student Services and Employee Services (HR). Review this [Upgrade FAQ webpage](#) and the associated video tutorials to learn more. Drop-in sessions will be available for employees who have questions or experiencing issues dealing with course registration. District is also upgrading *Finance Services*, *Faculty Services/Advisor Services* and need folks who work in these systems to be testers and provide feedback. Feel free to stop by and see a demo and get instructions on providing feedback for these next modules.

Sessions:

- All events will utilize this [Zoom Link](#)

Date	Time	Topic	Who Should Attend?
Wednesday, April 30-Friday, May 16, 2025 (Weekdays only)	8:00–9:00 am	WebSMART 9 Fall 2025 Registration	SMCCCD employees that have questions or who are experiencing issues during the beginning of Fall 2025 registration.
		Drop-In Open Office Hours	
		WebSMART 9 Faculty Services demos & testing	SMCCCD faculty members who want to see demos of the Faculty Services module and can test the functionality.

Who to Contact for Assistance During Registration:

- Students: Contact the [Help Desk](#)
- Employees: Contact ITS through their [Request Form](#)

I wish you a wonderful weekend!

Sincerely,
Kim