



A Message from President Kim Lopez

Weekly Update: 5-9-25

Dear Cañada Colleagues,

Super PEP Registration – a Success!

Thank you to the campus team members who helped make our Super PEP Registration Day a success! More than 50 faculty, staff, administrators and student ambassadors were present on Tuesday and will welcome more students today. We anticipate helping nearly 200 graduating high school seniors to do orientation, meet with an academic counselor and enroll in classes for Fall 2025 semester. Accompanying high school counselors remarked that they love Super PEP because it allows incoming students to do all enrollment steps in one day. They loved that the Disability Resource Center had its own station this time around so students could meet the team in person and answer questions about the services provided. Lunch was also provided for our future Cañadians. There was much excitement and the team is happy to help set up our incoming students for success!





Final Reminder: Participatory Governance Feedback Survey Closes Today at 5 p.m.

Please take a few minutes to respond to the Planning & Budgeting Council's 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!

WoCC Closes Semester with Radical Parenting Workshop and Celebration

Last Thursday, the Womxn of Color Collaborative (WoCC) hosted its final workshop of the semester discussing Radical Parenting, ancestral nurturing and connection to one another! Attendees shared stories, wisdom, and support for each other's journeys. The discussion was facilitated by Heidi Pereira, Assistant Project Director, Developing Hispanic Institutions at College of San Mateo. The event concluded by celebrating with delicious charcuterie boards of fruit, cheese, cold cuts, spreads and chocolate cake.



The Annual Middle College Decision Day

The Middle College program enjoyed celebrating the achievements and future plans of Middle College seniors last Friday. Among the 65 graduating students, 21 will continue at Cañada College, while others will go directly to four-year institutions, including UC Santa Cruz, University of Oregon and San Jose State University. The team was also proud to honor the academic performance of our students - approximately 70% of those eligible earned a place on the Cañada College Dean's List. Congratulations to all for their hard work and dedication!



Cañada College Team Building a Framework for Equity with LFM Academy

The Cañada College Leading from the Middle (LFM) team attended their first convening in Southern California from May 1–3. During this session, they began mapping the College's equity timeline, developing a visual representation of the campus ecosystem and identifying strategic pathways to advance equity-centered professional development for all employees. The team will return for additional convenings in September and April. Their primary goal for participating in the 2025–26 LFM Academy is to design and implement a professional development framework that equips all college employees—faculty, staff and administrators - with the necessary skills for their roles and a deep understanding of equity and anti-racism.



DreamWorks Character Designer Inspires Students with Industry Insights and Creative Energy

Digital Art & Animation students enjoyed a presentation and Q&A with DreamWorks Animation character designer Omar Gomet on Tuesday. Omar discussed his career from his student days through his first few jobs at Marvel Studios and Pixar Animation, to his current job designing characters for DreamWorks. After his presentation Omar led a spirited Q&A covering topics like building a professional network, creating a portfolio, developing industry contacts and much more. Afterwards, Omar signed autographs and drew sketches for any interested students. The Digital Art & Animation Department strives to expose current students to industry professionals as often as possible in order to augment their classroom learning. Omar's visit energized the room and gave students an extra motivation to finish the Spring semester strong.



Student Leadership Award Ceremony

On Wednesday, the Student Leadership Award Ceremony recognized the exceptional contributions and accomplishments of our student leaders and organizations throughout the academic year. The event honored those who have demonstrated dedication, initiative and a commitment to making a positive student impact on the Cañada College community.



EOPS/CARE/NEXTUP/FYSI End of Year Celebration

Yesterday, the EOPS, CARE, NextUp, and FYSI programs hosted a heartfelt celebration honoring students who are graduating or transferring to a university. Students shared moving reflections about the impact these programs had on their journey, highlighting the support they received along the way. With family, staff, and peers cheering them on, graduates were recognized with certificates, sashes, and photos to capture the moment—it was a truly special night filled with pride and community.



ESL Department Recognition

Last night we celebrated the achievements of our English as a Second Language (ESL) students, along with their families! Attendees enjoyed hearing inspiring words and beautiful performances. There was much joy in recognizing their hard work as they reach this important milestone.



Interior Design Program Awarded with Excellence in Education

Congratulations to the Cañada College Interior Design program which has been selected as a recipient of the National Kitchen & Bath Association (NKBA)'s 2025 Excellence in Education Award! This recognition reflects the outstanding quality and consistency of our students' submissions to the 2023–2024 NKBA Student Design Competition. This recognition places Cañada College among an elite group of seven programs honored this year.



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.



Year-Long Partnership on Human Rights Educational Fellowship is Celebrated

This month marked the final class of a year-long Human Rights Education Teacher Fellowship professional development program created and hosted by the Office of Equity, University of San Francisco and Miner Anderson Foundation. The year was filled with guest lecturers, multiple site visits across the Bay Area and theater of the oppressed experiential learning activities. Students' final projects centered around the development of Human Rights curriculum and justice-centered site projects.



Office of Equity and West Valley College Partnership for AANHPI Heritage Month

Dr. Michiko Kealoha was invited to lead a workshop for West Valley College's AANHPI SAP program. At the workshop, participants got to "talk-story" together about AANHPI professional development opportunities, what AANHPI student programming is happening and how we honor our community of graduates - all while learning to weave ribbon leis.



Student Email Access Through OneLogin and MFA

Beginning May 27, students will begin accessing their SMCCCD email accounts (Gmail) through the [My.SMCCD.edu](https://my.smccd.edu) OneLogin portal, just like faculty and staff do now. As part of this change, multifactor authentication (MFA) will also be enabled for student accounts to help protect their personal information and improve overall account security. The District has sent out a student notification and any questions can be directed to the [student helpdesk](#).

I wish you a wonderful weekend!

Sincerely,
Kim