



# A Message from President Kim Lopez

## **Weekly Update 2-6-26**

Dear Cañada Colleagues,

### **Save the Date: Accreditation Virtual Open Forum – March 11, 2026 from 2 – 3 p.m.**

As part of our current comprehensive institutional accreditation review, the 5-member peer review team has requested time to meet in an open, virtual setting with members of the Cañada campus community. You are invited to participate in a Virtual Open Forum with the ACCJC peer review team on:

Wednesday, March 11, 2026  
2-3 p.m.

Virtual session held via Zoom:

Zoom Link: <https://smccd.zoom.us/j/84507562677>

Meeting ID: 845 0756 2677

This is a great opportunity for faculty, staff and students to share their experiences at the College with the peer review team in an open and welcoming setting. Your voice and perspective truly matter and play an important role in the accreditation process. We encourage you to join and be part of this meaningful conversation. Please note that SMCCCD Board Members, the College President and the senior leadership team will not be present, allowing community members to speak openly and candidly with the peer review team. Thank you for being engaged and for helping strengthen our College community.



# Be a Part of Our Important Conversation

Accreditation Virtual Open Forum

Wednesday,  
March 11, 2026  
2 - 3 p.m.

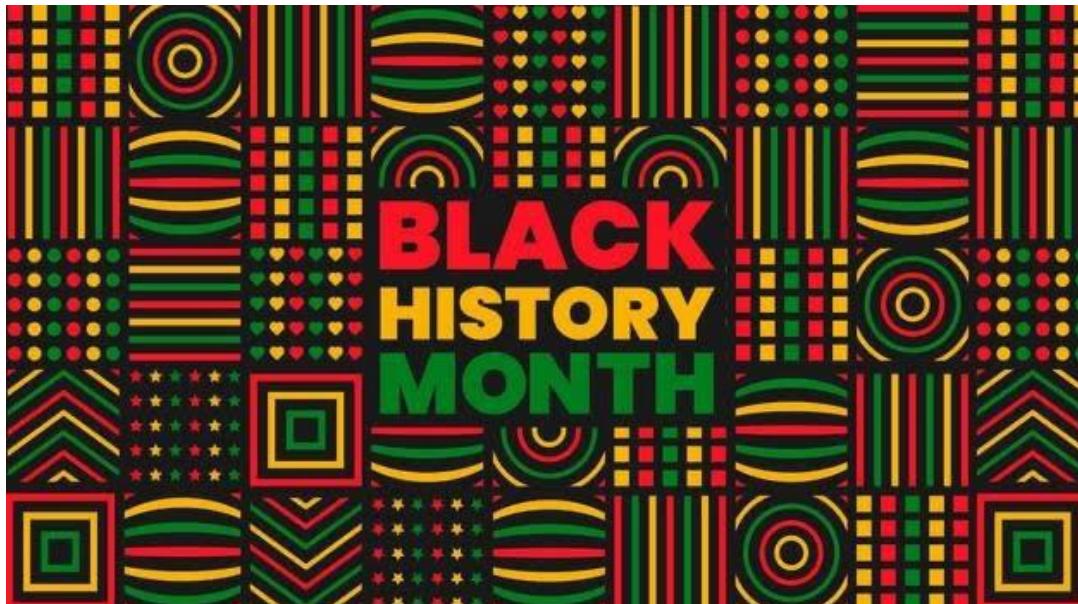
**zoom**

Virtual session held via Zoom:  
<https://smccd.zoom.us/j/84507562677>  
Meeting ID: 845 0756 2677



## Celebrating Black History Month

February is Black History Month and Cañada College is hosting events to honor the rich cultural heritage, remarkable achievements and lasting contributions of the Black community. A current list of events is below and attached. Be sure to check the [college calendar](#) regularly, as new [events](#) will be added throughout the month. Additionally, [Zoom backgrounds](#) are available for download to join in the celebration.



*Upcoming Events:*

Saturday, February 7

[Black College Expo](#)

10:00am

Oakland Marriott City Center

Tuesday, February 10

[Colombian Carnival-Carnaval de Colombia](#)

11:00am - 1:00pm

Cultural Center, Building 17, Room 107

[Black Jeopardy](#)

2:30pm

Building 3, Room 104

**Cañada College Key Performance Indicators for 2024-25 Available**

The Planning & Budgeting Council reviewed the College's institutional goals and metrics at its meeting on Wednesday, February 4. [These metrics and associated 5-year trends](#) are available on the PRIE's college metrics website. Please contact [Dean Engel](#) with any questions.

**Students Explore the Legacy of Black Wall Street Through Interactive Learning**

As part of Black History Month, students gathered Tuesday for an interactive learning experience focused on the history and legacy of Black Wall Street. Participants played Black Wall Street: The Board Game, created by Umoja Statewide Coordinator De'Von Walker and his wife Sinclair, sparking meaningful conversations about economic empowerment and community wealth building.



## Outreach in Action: Connecting with Local High Schools

It was a busy and exciting week for our Outreach Team as they connected with students across our local high schools. On Tuesday, the team shared information and connected with students at community college events at Woodside High School and Menlo-Atherton High School. On Wednesday, Cañada was thrilled to welcome 50 ninth and tenth grade students from Sequoia High School for a campus visit. A big thank-you to the Dual Enrollment, Fashion and Digital Arts & Animation teams for leading hands-on workshops and opening your classrooms. Students loved seeing college learning in action—both in person and virtually - and experiencing how classmates and professors connect across different learning formats.





## Showcasing Cañada Students in Academic Research Conversations

Sharing the great work of Cañada's amazing students, Rebekah Sidman-Taveau, Honors Program Coordinator, recently presented *"Academic Language Immersion via Research: Case Studies of Successful Multilingual Honors Students"* as part of the Berkeley Language Center's Found in Translation (FIT) Working Group Zoom series on Wednesday. Cañada is incredibly proud of the dedicated faculty and talented students who continue to represent the College with excellence in academic and research spaces.



## Brothers Achieving Milestones (BAM) Spring 2026 Open House

The Brothers Achieving Milestones (BAM) Program hosted its Spring 2026 Open House, welcoming students to learn more about the program and connect with mentors and peers. The event provided an opportunity to build community, ask questions and explore the supportive resources available through BAM.



## ZTC Debuts Website Update with New Videos

The [Cañada ZTC website](#) has undergone a significant refresh, with new content and helpful information about all things zero-textbook-cost (ZTC) and low-textbook-cost (LTC). There's updated videos explaining ZTC and LTC courses for [students](#) and [faculty](#), plus information on [Z-Pathways](#). A new video explaining the benefit of those pathways showcases the voice talents of Dr. Michiko Kealoha, Cañada's Director of Equity and Mr. Chris Wardell, Cañada's Financial Aid Program Services Coordinator. There's even a robust [FAQ](#) that should address your questions. All of this was made possible by Ms. Nida Apa, Cañada's former ZTC Student Assistant and intern at Menlo Studios. She worked with our Marketing Department to set up the pages, create and edit the videos and bring a student-forward perspective to the refresh. For more information, please reach out to Dr. Sarah Harmon, OER/ZTC Program Manager.

## Sign Up for Free Employee Headshots: Offered on February 18

Ready for a fresh, professional headshot? Employees are invited to receive a complimentary on-campus headshot taken by a professional photographer on Wednesday, February 18. Spots are limited - reserve yours using the sign-up link [here](#).

## Whistleblower Reporting System

SMCCCD has introduced a confidential third-party system for reporting fraud, waste or abuse. Reports can be made at (833) 416-6409 or through the [Whistleblower Portal](#). Workplace or discrimination concerns should be reported to HR or the Title IX office.

I wish you a wonderful weekend,

Sincerely,  
Kim