



## President's Advisory Group Meeting Minutes

March 6, 2024

Attendance: Alicia Aguirre, Mayra Arellano, Rafael Avendaño, Melissa Stevenson Diaz, Karen Engel, Max Hartman, Barrie Hathaway, Lisa Hicks-Dumanske, Chialin Hsieh, Pam Jones, Hyla Lacefield, Kim Lopez, Ivan Martinez, Larry Moody, Esme Ortiz, Manuel Alejandro Pérez, Ludmila Prisecar, Anniqua Rana, Stephen Redmond, Megan Rodriguez Antone, Ameer Thompson, Kat Sullivan-Torrez, Juan Vera

### Cañada College President's Advisory Group

The President's Advisory Group is a network of community leaders who provide input, feedback and support to Cañada College. President Kim Lopez provided updates to the group:

- The San Mateo County Community College Foundation is searching for an Executive Director and President Lopez would like to partner with that director to create a district-wide fundraising goal.
- Cañada College just updated its five-year Educational Master Plan (EMP) which focuses on student access, success and completion. The College identified four goals and 63 strategies to be included in the 2022-2027 EMP. Many of these strategies involve our community and strengthening and expanding our partnerships.
- Members of the President's Advisory Group are invited to attend the College's End-of-Year Celebration on Thursday, May 16 from 12:00-1:30 p.m. at Cañada Vista.
- President's Advisory Group meetings will be scheduled to meet virtually once per quarter.

### Cañada College Updates

- Enrollment: Dr. Chialin Hsieh, Vice President of Instruction, shared the enrollment update, which is now at pre-pandemic levels. The College experienced a 14.7% increase in enrollment over the past year and a 62% increase in Concurrent/Dual Enrollment, which is our high school students. Efforts have been made through the Living the Promise Program with the College's MOU partners in Sequoia Union High School District, Ravenswood Elementary School District, San Francisco State University and CSU East Bay.
- Dual Enrollment: Mayra Arellano, Director of High School Transitions and Dual Enrollment, shared that Cañada now has 31 sections in Dual Enrollment with more than 700 students. This innovative, co-teaching model is being implemented at Woodside and Carlmont High Schools. Staff are working hard to support faculty and students who are in the Dual Enrollment program and it is going well.

- Middle College: Stephen Redmond, Executive Director of Middle College, is focusing on outreach to middle school students. Nearly 60 middle school students from Ravenswood City School District visited Cañada College for a Mid-Winter Camp during the Winter Break. At the Mid-Winter Camp, students received an introduction to college life, career pathways, Middle College 101 and more. They also had a chance to play Soccer on the Cañada field with Cañada student athletes and Soccer coaches.
- Summer Session Camps: Vice President of Student Services, Dr. Manuel Alejandro Pérez said Cañada College is expanding offerings in summer session camps during June-July 2024. The dates and programming were reviewed. In addition, Cañada is currently reaching out to graduating high school seniors with a congratulatory letter. They are also encouraging high school Juniors and Seniors to participate in Cañada's Concurrent Enrollment program.
- Transportation Update: Vice President of Administrative Services, Ludmila Prisecar provided an update on transportation services to Cañada. Previously, the College used a shuttle service, which was very expensive and ridership was low. Since Spring of 2022, Cañada has been piloting a Lyft service, providing on-demand transportation to students living in the areas of East Palo Alto, Belle Haven and North Fair Oaks. Program details were reviewed as well as funding sources, including HEERF COVID-19 recovery funds and fundraising dollars.
- Child Development Center: In response to requests for child care services from our students with families, Cañada will be constructing a Child Development Center (CDC). The space needs were reviewed and the Board of Trustees approved the project in February 2024.
  - Larry Moody of JobTrain asked if East Palo Alto, Belle Haven and North Fair Oaks families would be given priority for childcare enrollment in the CDC.
    - President Lopez said the Cañada CDC will be a laboratory for the College's Early Childhood Education program and teachers will receive training. Similar to the CDC programs at CSM and Skyline priority will be given to students who have children, followed by employees and community members.

### **Other Updates**

- JobTrain: Barrie Hathaway, JobTrain President and CEO, noted that JobTrain is a Menlo Park site for Cañada College and Cañada classes are held there. He is appreciative of the efforts that Cañada is making to amplify enrollments in the community and expand their options. Cañada has been a partner of JobTrain for many years. He is hoping the Advisory Group will look at ways to inspire the community to see Cañada as a viable option for them in their journey.

President Lopez said that in the near future, JobTrain will relocate to a new site in East Palo Alto and Cañada will move with them. There will be both office space and instructional space. She shared that efforts are in process to identify community needs.

- College for Working Adults: Currently, Cañada's College for Working Adults (CWA) has six different degree programs that are being offered on weekends, evenings and online. President Lopez said the College may consider moving CWA to the East Palo Alto site for

easy access. Barrie Hathaway said CWA will help students advance and will help JobTrain and Cañada align programmatically.

- Boys & Girls Club of the Peninsula (BGCP): Esme Ortiz of BGCP is glad that Cañada is partnering with the Boys & Girls Club of the Peninsula to improve the quality of their middle school programs. They want to share their Middle College data around detailing what students are saying about the program. She thinks the data may help the Cañada team address students' needs for that age population.
- Redwood City Together: Executive Director Rafael Avendaño commended Cañada for developing an ambitious Educational Master Plan. He is excited to see the College reach new community members in North Fair Oaks, Belle Haven and East Palo Alto. Looking ahead, he would like to see the College extend opportunities to community-based partners to host classes and more, and he would like to support this effort. He also said Redwood City Together would like to hire people who are local and they want to think about current job placement for future students.
- PAL Center: Ivan Martinez, Executive Director of PAL Center, thanked the College for wanting to bring in the community voice. He offered to assist with development of the President's Advisory Group by identifying people who could help.
- City of Redwood City: Melissa Stevenson Diaz, City Manager of the City of Redwood City, said the City Council has challenged the staff to center Workforce Development as a path for young people and families. In response to President Lopez' interest in offering apprenticeships, she noted that Redwood City has a Firefighter Apprenticeship program.

#### **Comments:**

- Larry Moody of JobTrain commented that today's Cañada College is very welcoming to East Palo Alto, Belle Haven and North Fair Oaks students. Today's campus is very inclusive and that is something that should be celebrated and talked about in the community.
- Upcoming Community Listening Session: Vice President Pérez said the College will be hosting a listening session/town hall in the community. The Cañada team plans to establish regular and more frequent communication with the residents of East Palo Alto, Belle Haven and North Fair Oaks. The Cañada team is finalizing the location and date, which is planned for mid-April.

# # #