From: Moore, Jamillah
To: Moore, Jamillah

Subject: Message to Cañada College

Date: Friday, June 19, 2020 1:50:39 PM



June 19, 2020

## Dear Cañada Community,

Earlier this week, we became aware that a Cañada student filmed and shared a video depicting an act of brutality mimicking the horrendous murder of George Floyd. If you saw this video, I hope that you, like me, found it to be both disturbing and unacceptable. Bluntly – it is intolerable.

The student who made and posted this deplorable act does not represent the values and culture of Cañada College or the San Mateo County Community College District. We are committed to social justice and ensuring equity, diversity, opportunity and inclusion. As a college, we continue our conversations about the critical need for anti-racist practices, services, and teaching in our community. We do not condone or accept acts of hate or violence and we call it out where we see it. We hope that you do as well.

There is an ongoing investigation into this incident that is directed by our Board Policy and Administrative Procedures for student conduct. As I hope you can appreciate, we cannot provide details on the outcome of the investigation. However, I do want you to know that we take this behavior very seriously.

As the President of Cañada College, it is important that I ensure that all students are safe. Each and every day, I lead with the mission of the College in mind:

Cañada College provides our community with a learning-centered environment, ensuring that all students have equitable opportunities to achieve their transfer, career education, and lifelong learning educational goals. The college cultivates in its students the ability to think critically and creatively, communicate effectively, reason quantitatively, and understand and appreciate different points of view within a diverse community.

Our mission and our values as an institution must be adhered to by our students, faculty, staff and administrators. We are determined to ensure that Cañada College is and will remain an outstanding institution with high standards for our community. Behaviors like the one in question will simply not be tolerated. It is important that our students are mindful of their actions and that

they understand the impacts of their words. I continue to call upon all students, faculty, staff and administrators to be respectful of and to one another and be united in our efforts to eliminate racism from our campus.

The video that was posted was disturbing and undoubtedly caused distress and concern to many. It is important that we take time to process this incident, as a campus community, and to allow for a space for healing.

With this, the Cañada community is invited to continue the important conversation to address our campus wide commitment to anti-racism. For the second part of our Critical Conversations on Wednesday, June 24 from 3:30-5 p.m., we will engage courageously in conversations about race, racism, Whiteness and anti-Blackness on our campuses.

All Cañada College faculty, staff and students are invited to participate and will need to register via a Zoom webinar:

June 24 from 3:30-5 p.m. Register here.

I appreciate the time, passion and collaboration the college community is dedicating to this significant discussion and I hope that you will take that opportunity to share your feelings and continue to engage in dialogue on how we can become an anti-racist community. This moment is one to unite against hate and discrimination and violence. I hope you will be open to exploring ways in which to contribute towards this goal.

Sincerely, Jamillah Moore, Ed.D. President