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Board Recordings



Board Report



**Cabinet
Highlights**



**District
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Council**

511 Offers Transportation Incentives for Employees

4CD employees have a variety of transportation options available through 511 Contra Costa (511.org), a program of the Contra Costa Transportation Authority that helps commuters find convenient alternatives to driving alone. The program offers personalized commute assistance, trip-planning tools, and incentives that can help reduce commuting costs, including transit pass promotions, carpool and vanpool rewards, e-bike rebates, and a Guaranteed Ride Home program for eligible commuters. By taking advantage of these resources, employees can save money, reduce traffic congestion, and support cleaner air throughout Contra Costa County.

To be eligible, you must live, work, or go to college in Contra Costa County, be 18 or older, and currently drive alone to work or campus.

- “[Try Transit](#)” - \$25 Clipper Card for pledging to try taking public transit to work/school
- “[Guaranteed Ride Home](#)” - “commuters insurance” or a reimbursed rideshare home if something unexpected happens to your alternate transit plans

try transit

Currently drive alone to college?

Apply now for a **FREE \$25 Clipper card** and try taking transit instead!

To be eligible, you must live, work, or go to college in Contra Costa, be over 18, and currently drive alone to work or campus. If you are applying to the college program, you must be enrolled in at least 9 course units.

511.ccta.ca.gov/transit/trytransit

511 CCTA

FUNDED BY: Bay Area Air District CCTA

511 CCTA is a project of the Contra Costa Transportation Authority

Governing Board Approves Goals for 2026-27

Working within 4CD policies and regulations related to shared involvement in 4CD's decision-making processes, and while framing 4CD's values identified in the [2025-2030 Districtwide Strategic Plan](#), the Governing Board on July 8 reviewed and approved their 2026-27 goals. The six goals are:

- 1. Support the implementation of the 2025–2030 4CD Strategic Plan and college accreditation efforts** by continuing to provide policy direction and by using the Strategic Plan as the Governing Board's guiding framework for decision-making. (SD1–4)
- 2. Provide policy leadership and direction that strengthens enrollment, improves educational outcomes, and ensures sound fiscal management and transparency.** Make decisions that strategically leverage 4CD resources to maximize opportunities and services for students, minimize fiscal impacts to the District, and support long-term financial stability, particularly in a period of budget constraints. Emphasize clear and transparent communication regarding 4CD finances, priorities, and strategies. (SD1, SD4)
- 3. Advance long-term strategies to address facilities needs across 4CD colleges** by assessing funding options and leading a coordinated community education and engagement effort. (SD3, SD4)
- 4. Strengthen ties between the colleges and the communities served.** Focus on communicating the successes and value of 4CD and support the development of a coordinated messaging and communication plan to educate the community about the role, impact, and funding of community colleges. In doing so, Governing Board members will support the Chancellor as the 4CD spokesperson, while also serving as community connectors. (SD2)
- 5. Support the evolution of higher education through innovative and collaborative practices, including the thoughtful exploration and possible integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI).** Assess AI's implications for teaching, learning, operations, and enrollment, and promote a forward-looking vision that considers long-term opportunities and impacts for 4CD. (SD2, SD3)
- 6. Ensure strong and positive Governing Board relations** by modeling active listening, decorum, mutual respect, civility, and trust between and among Governing Board members and with the Chancellor. (SD4)



Colleges Celebrate the Kick-Off of Fall Term

Fall 2026 kicked off at All College Day on August 21. In her remarks to employees, Chancellor **Mojdeh Mehdizadeh** reflected on the sense of anticipation and possibility that accompanies a new academic year. She noted that students arrive with hopes, aspirations, and questions about the future, while families and communities continue to place their trust in 4CD as a source of opportunity and transformation.

Addressing the impact of evolving technologies, artificial intelligence, and changing workforce demands, Mehdizadeh emphasized the District's strategic priority of fostering future readiness and adaptability. She described future readiness not as a single initiative, but as a mindset that equips students to become adaptable learners, critical thinkers, creative problem-solvers, and resilient citizens.

Looking ahead, Mehdizadeh expressed confidence in 4CD's future, citing strong governance, emerging leadership, innovative thinking, and a deep commitment to equity, belonging, and student achievement. She encouraged employees to continue embracing collaboration, innovation, and continuous improvement as they help shape the next chapter of the District.



Chancellor **Mojdeh Mehdizadeh**



As new and returning students began the semester, Welcome Week brought excitement and energy to Contra Costa College, Diablo Valley College, and Los Medanos College. Throughout the week, students enjoyed a variety of activities designed to build community, foster connections, and introduce them to campus life.

Students connected with key support services, including Basic Needs and Wellness, Career and Transfer Services, Puente, and many other programs dedicated to helping them succeed. From Taco Tuesday at CCC and cotton candy at LMC to information fairs and student club outreach at DVC, each campus offered opportunities for students to get involved and feel welcomed.

Thank you to the faculty, classified professionals, managers, and student leaders who welcomed students, shared resources, answered questions, and helped make Welcome Week a memorable start to the semester.



Pilot Program Provides Food Pantry Access to Classified Employees

Beginning in 2026-27, California Community Colleges launched a two-year pilot program that allows classified employees to access campus food pantry services through their colleges' Basic Needs Centers. Created through AB 148, the program recognizes that food insecurity can affect employees as well as students and seeks to expand support for the broader college community while maintaining students as the primary focus of food assistance efforts.

Colleges are encouraged to monitor inventory, track participation, and ensure that expanding access for classified professionals does not reduce the availability of resources for students. The pilot also requires colleges to collect and report data on classified employee usage to help evaluate the program's effectiveness and inform future statewide policy decisions.

4CD classified professionals – including those working in the District Office – are welcome to visit the food pantries at any of our three colleges.



4CD Welcomes New Employees

Please welcome the following new employees who were approved by the Governing Board in August.

Contra Costa College

Faculty

Jason Gallardo, Music

Diablo Valley College

Classified Professionals

Marisa Moreno, Library Technician, Senior

Gabriel Skelton, Plumber

Manager

Lisa Smiley-Ratchford, Dean

Los Medanos College

Classified Professionals

Isaac Romarri, Math Laboratory Coordinator

Faculty

Eric Garcia, Automotive Technology

District

Manager

Connie Brown, Director of Risk Management



Contra Costa Community College District
500 Court Street, Martinez, CA 94553

The News, 4CD Employee Newsletter

District publications are posted online at
<https://www.4cd.edu/crpa/the-news/index.html>

Your comments and suggestions are welcome.
E-mail the Communications and Community
Relations Office at info@4cd.edu

Connect with us on social media!



Community News



Contra Costa Community College District is committed to equal opportunity in educational programs, employment, and campus life. The District does not discriminate on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender, marital status, national origin, parental status, race, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status in any access to and treatment in College programs, activities, and application for employment.