



## A Message from President Kim Lopez

### Weekly Update: 9-15-23

Dear Cañada Colleagues,

### Important Message from the Undocumented Community Center at Cañada College

There was an important update this week regarding the DACA lawsuit in Texas. In response to the ruling, **Immigrant Legal Defense (ILD) is hosting a [webinar](#) today at Noon to debrief and answer questions.** We encourage all who can to attend, especially since their last couple of webinars were not recorded. You can sign up to attend [here](#), additional information is found on the flyer below and attached.



### Living the Promise MOU Year One Update

At this week's Board Meeting, I presented a Year One Update on our Living the Promise Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Cañada College, San Francisco State University (SFSU), California State University, East Bay (CSUEB), Sequoia Union High School District (SUHSD) and Ravenswood City School District. I was joined by our partners from Sequoia Union High School District (SUHSD), including Bonnie Hansen and Crystal Leach (pictured below) and Gina Sudaria of Ravenswood City School

District. The purpose of the MOU is to increase the number of SUHSD student graduates who matriculate into postsecondary higher education, specifically to Cañada College, CSUEB and SFSU. The agreement holds an intentional focus on increasing the participation of students from minoritized communities.

Major Year One accomplishments presented to the Board include:

1. Hired Key staff to liaise between Cañada College and SUHSD
2. Established a Joint Equity Academy for K-14 leaders
3. Established regular communication with high school students & families
4. Increased early college access programs
5. Began establishing early college access with Ravenswood City School District

A copy of the presentation is attached along with a copy of the MOU. My thanks to our Cañada team who dedicated their time and talent to accomplishing our efforts on the first year of the five-year MOU. We look forward to continuing the work with our education partners to increase access to our community.



### **President's Luncheon Update**

Thank you to the campus community members who have supported our annual fundraiser, the President's Luncheon, for the past five years. Because of your efforts, we have raised more than \$170,000 for student success, which includes daily essential needs such as groceries, textbook and technology assistance and transportation through our Lyft program. At this week's Board meeting, the San Mateo County Community College District (SMCCCD) approved a new operating agreement with the SMCCC Foundation. With this, it was decided to take this year to reimagine the future of our Foundation as well as our respective college fundraising efforts. Cañada College will postpone holding our President's Luncheon for the 2023-2024 academic year. This pause will afford us an opportunity to collaborate with our District and re-create a vision for future fundraising efforts.



## Latinx Heritage Months Begins

Cañada College is celebrating [Latinx Heritage Month](#) (LHM) from September 18 – October 15, 2023. The LHM Planning Committee has created a month filled with activities, events and highlights for our students, campus community and Redwood City community to amplify Latinx voices and intersectional identities. Please join for our upcoming event:

*Jueves Gigante (in person event)*

Thursday, September 21 from 3-5 p.m. in Cultural Center (Building 17, Room 107)

Inspired by Sabado Gigante, the longest-running Latin American variety show in television history, come join this fourth annual kick-off event. All are welcome and light refreshments will be served.

In addition, campus community members are invited to celebrate Latinx Heritage Month by downloading custom LHM Zoom background designs [here](#). For events updates, please visit the [college events calendar](#). We look forward to collaborating and celebrating Latinx Heritage Month!



I wish each of you a restful weekend.

Sincerely,  
Kim