



A Message from President Kim Lopez

Weekly Update 11-21-25

Dear Cañada Colleagues,

Please Provide Feedback on this Year's Program Review Process

The PBC Program Review Sub-Committee invites you to provide feedback on this year's program review process. Please find a [link to the survey here](#). The survey will be open until December 5. Your feedback helps us continuously improve this process.

AANHPI S.T.A.R. Program Joins Regional AANAPISI Gathering

Last Friday, the AANHPI S.T.A.R. program participated in the AANAPISI Northern California Regional Meeting, joining local Asian American, Native American and Pacific Islander - Serving Institutions to build community and strengthen collaboration. Attendees discussed strategic actions to support AANAPISI programs and shared best practices for advancing AANHPI student success. Cañada's AANHPI S.T.A.R. Program was proud to join partners from CSM, Skyline College and San Francisco State University for this important regional conversation.



Outreach Team Supports Supplies4Farmworkers Event

Last Sunday, the Outreach Team joined DREAMer's Road Map for the Supplies4Farmworkers event, which provided families with essential resources, including backpacks, clothing and food. Outreach connected with the community, shared educational opportunities alongside 15 partner organizations, including sister college CSM, and supported distribution stations serving 150 families. The Outreach team looks forward to returning next year!



International Education Fair Celebrates Culture and Community

The Grove came alive on Tuesday as the International Student Center, in partnership with campus programs, hosted a vibrant International Education Fair celebrating cultural connections from around the world. Students, staff and community members enjoyed international food, cultural performances, a colorful fashion showcase, interactive games and hands-on activities that highlighted the richness of our diverse campus community. The event created a welcoming space for attendees to share traditions, learn from one another and build cross-cultural connections. From lively music and traditional attire to delicious dishes and photo booth fun, the fair offered something for everyone and showcased the global perspectives represented at Cañada.





Annual High School Counselors & Community Partner Forum

On Wednesday, Cañada hosted its 9th Annual High School Counselors & Community Partner Forum, where more than 80 partners joined for a dynamic morning of connection, collaboration and updates on the College. The event highlighted upcoming initiatives and offered opportunities to strengthen partnerships throughout the year. Attendees also selected from a variety of workshops to learn more about Cañada's student support services, programs and campus resources. Thank you to the Planning Committee, workshop presenters and college representatives who attended and supported the event.



Cañada Team Engages in Equity and Community Building at 2025 COLEGAS Conference

A Cañada College team attended the 2025 COLEGAS Annual Conference, *Unidxs Podemos: Uplifting Through Education, Democracy, and Change*, joining colleagues statewide for equity-centered learning and community building. Participants engaged in sessions on HSI transformation, UndocuAlly support and culturally responsive professional growth, returning with insights to strengthen services for Latinx and historically underserved students.

Reflections from the Team:

Claudia Dorantes: It was my first COLEGAS Conference! I enjoyed the opportunity to hear the experiences of other Latin/Hispanic educators in community colleges across California and Washington. It is incredibly valuable to continue these conversations to support and validate the efforts of our students and community. *Si se puede!*

Jackie Gonzalez: This was my first time attending COLEGAS Conference and it was an amazing experience sharing space and building community with Cañada College colleagues and other educators across the state. One of the things that I learned and stood out to me at this conference is the importance of campus communities engaging in collective healing by uplifting joy, culture, belonging and imagination as a form of grounding and unity.

Janet Ramirez: Attending the COLEGAS conference was such a powerful experience. Being in community with people whose hearts are truly dedicated to uplifting our students felt like coming home—with tias, tios, primos, and primas all around. The energy, the people, the vibes... everything was great! Having Dolores Huerta as the keynote speaker was the highlight of a lifetime. Hearing her wisdom and feeling her passion reminded me why we do this work and gave me the ganas to keep pushing for our students and our communities. I walked away inspired, hopeful, and deeply grounded in the reminder that we really are all in this together.

Lizette Bricker: The COLEGAS Conference has become a sacred space for myself and other educators to come together in celebration of our culture/Latinidad through comunidad and learning.





Action Needed: District Radios

District Public Safety is modernizing the radio system and will collect all district-issued radios and charging cradles from offices and shared workspaces in the coming days. If you have a radio, please turn it in with its cradle to your campus DPS office now; reprogramming is scheduled for the week of Thanksgiving (November 24–30), with redistribution in December based on safety and operational needs (not all radios will return to the same users/locations). For questions, contact Cañada Public Safety Captain, [Jason Wendt](#).

Holiday Gathering – Please RSVP by Dec. 1

The entire college community is invited to the Campus Holiday Gathering! Mix and mingle over light refreshments and merriment. Please join me and your colleagues!

Monday, December 8 from 12 to 1:30 p.m.
Building 8 Lobby

Please RSVP [here](#) by December 1.



Business Cards Now Available Through Staples Advantage

Cañada College employees can now order business cards through [StaplesAdvantage.com](https://www.staplesadvantage.com) as part of the District's transition from SKYGAP. A user guide is attached to help you navigate the ordering process, along with a FAQ document for quick reference. For questions on print, please contact canmarketing@smccd.edu. Currently, account set-ups are only available to procurement cardholders. Please submit orders through your Division Assistant.

Reminder: Flex Day Proposals Due December 5

Friday, December 5 is the last day to [submit proposals](#) for the upcoming Flex Days on January 8 (District-wide) and January 9 (Cañada College). The theme for these Flex Days centers on the use of Artificial Intelligence in our work, though proposals on other topics are also welcome. If you have any questions or want to brainstorm ideas, please contact [Ellen Young](#).

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 go to HR or the Title IX office.

I hope you all have a wonderful Thanksgiving break spent with loved ones! As a reminder, during Thanksgiving break, no classes will be held and offices will be closed from Thursday, November 27 through Sunday, November 30. Normal business operations will resume on Monday, December 1. My next weekly email will be Friday, December 5.

Sincerely,
Kim