



A Message from President Kim Lopez

Weekly Update: 8-29-25

Dear Cañada Colleagues,

Welcome Week 2025: Building Community at Cañada College

Welcome Week kicked off the new semester with energy and excitement! Students connected with peers, explored campus resources and joined fun activities that set the tone for a successful year ahead. Faculty and staff were on hand to offer support and encouragement, making sure everyone feels welcomed and ready to thrive. Thank you to everyone who came out to build community and celebrate new beginnings.



EOPS/CARE/NextUp/FYSI Open House

Students had the chance to learn about the many ways EOPS, CARE, NextUp and FYSI programs provide support through academic counseling, financial assistance, field trips, career classes and more. The event, held in the EOPS waiting area and the Quad by the Art Gallery, brought students and staff together to connect and explore resources for success. The afternoon wrapped up with a delicious lunch of flautas from Taqueria La Corneta that everyone enjoyed.



Inaugural AANHPI Welcome Brings Community Together

The Asian American, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander S.T.A.R. (Success, Transfer, Access, Relevance) program hosted its inaugural AANHPI Welcome last Wednesday. Forty students, faculty and staff came together to participate in a lively Human Bingo activity and small group discussions, fostering connections and building a strong sense of community and support.



From Tetris to Textbooks—Discover Your Library

Recently, the Library welcomed many students who checked out technology items and textbooks, while others enjoyed relaxing with giant Tetris and Connect Four. The Library continues to offer a variety of resources and activities designed to support student success.

¡Recientemente, hemos visto muchos estudiantes visitar la Biblioteca! Desde llevarse prestado artículos de tecnología y textos hasta relajandose con un Tetris gigante y Connect Four, nos han mantenido ocupados. Si aun no has pasado por aquí, visítanos para aprender todas las maneras distintas en la que te podemos ayudar a ser un estudiante exitoso.

The Library will feature a themed book display and an interactive table in The Grove on September 4 between 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.



Education & Human Development Department Welcomes New Faculty

The Education & Human Development Department recently welcomed two new faculty members, Thena Gee and Jessie Kaur. Both bring a strong passion for Early Childhood Education and innovative approaches to teaching that will inspire students and strengthen the department. Their unique expertise and enthusiasm are expected to enrich classrooms, programs and the broader community. The occasion was celebrated with Early Childhood Education professionals from across the District, along with members of the college administration. The gathering was filled with excitement for the year ahead and the meaningful contributions Thena and Jessie will bring to students and programs.



Equity and Antiracism Planning Council Retreat Launches New Year of Action

During the first week of school, students, faculty, staff and administrators came together for the third annual Equity and Antiracism Planning Council retreat. The retreat was “Encanto” theme — “the miracle is you all of you,” where participants shared their strengths, joys and behind the scenes supports needed.

The team also: reflected on EAPC's mission and what has been achieved thus far, covering Glen Singleton's Courageous Conversations About Race?, as well and unpacked personal intersectional wheels of privilege and practiced interrupting micro-aggressions and tough campus situations. The team then dove into action planning for the Student Equity and Achievement Plan. EAPC is looking forward to a powerful year!



Cañada in the Community: Outreach Team Joins Cultura Fest and Youth Town Hall

To wrap up the summer, Cañada's Outreach team joined the City of South San Francisco at this year's Cultura Fest, a vibrant celebration of Salvadoran and Latin American heritage through food, music and community. There, the team connected with new community members to share information about Free College while also reconnecting with familiar faces. The Outreach team also participated in Assembly member Marc Berman's Sixth Annual Youth Town Hall at Palo Alto City Hall, where local youth voiced their top concerns, exchanged ideas and presented recommendations to strengthen their community. Alongside other community organizations, the Outreach team was proud to support young leaders and reinforce Cañada's commitment to empowering the next generation.



Umoja Program Kicks Off New Year with Welcome & Orientation

Over the past two Fridays, the Umoja Program hosted a two-part welcome and orientation for new and returning students. The events featured presentations from SparkPoint, DRC, Financial Aid and Public Safety. Students gained success strategies in time management, study habits and organization, received student IDs, shopped for books and supplies and joined a campus scavenger hunt to connect with key resources and people.



Colts-U Transfer Center Hosts Open House

On Wednesday, the Colts-U Transfer Center welcomed more than 60 students, faculty and staff to its open house. Guests learned about the wide range of resources, workshops and transfer support services available to help students successfully continue their educational journeys.



Honors Program Kickoff

The Honors Transfer Program (HTP) held their annual Honors Program Kickoff on Wednesday.

The Honors community gathered to learn about the many benefits of honors courses and the honors program. They enjoyed networking and refreshments. For more information or to find a recording of the event, see:

<https://canadacollege.edu/honorsprogram/index.php> or contact Honors Coordinator, Rebekah Taveau: taveau@smccd.edu. (650) 381-3547.



Labor Day

In observance of Labor Day, Cañada College offices and classes will be closed Saturday, August 30 through Monday, September 1. Campus offices and classes will resume operations on Tuesday, September 2.

I wish you a wonderful, long weekend!

Sincerely,
Kim