



A Message from President Kim Lopez

Dear Cañada Colleagues,

What Do You Think About Shared Governance and Decision-Making at Cañada?

As we reach the close of the academic year, please take a few minutes to respond to PBC's [annual survey about shared governance and college decision-making](#). Gift cards will be raffled off for those completing this five-minute survey. Questions? Contact [Dean Engel](#).

Honoring 25 Years of Service Awards

At the SMCCCD 25 Year Service Awards, I had the pleasure of recognizing seven employees, all faculty members, who have shaped Cañada College through their leadership, their advocacy and their heart.

- Alessandra Castello
- Judy Choy
- Doug Hirzel
- Ray Lapuz
- Monica Malamud
- Katie Schertle
- Yolanda Valenzuela



We are deeply grateful for their decades of service, leadership and commitment to our students and college. Thank you to each of you for making Cañada College a more vibrant and inclusive place to be - congratulations on this remarkable milestone!

Staff Supported Needed for Commencement

Cañada's 58th Commencement Ceremony will take place on Saturday, May 23, at 10 a.m. We invite staff to participate in making this a memorable milestone for our graduates and their families. Specifically, we need assistance with the following roles:

- Graduate Door Greeter
- Usher
- Clean Up Crew
- Graduate Prepper

Please note that employee hours for this event will be funded through the VPSS commencement budget. Important: CSEA employees working at the Commencement ceremony are entitled to overtime compensation. To participate you must sign up by clicking on the [Cañada College Commencement Support Signup form](#). The employee will receive overtime pay but may opt for compensatory (comp) time. This is at the discretion of the employee. There are a limited number of spots available. If you have any questions, please contact a member of CSEA Chapter 33 leadership.



EOPS/CARE/NEXTUP/FYSI End of Year Celebration

The EOPS, CARE, NextUp and FYSI programs held a heartfelt celebration honoring students who are graduating and/or transferring to four-year universities. Students shared emotional tributes about the impact these programs had on their journeys, emphasizing the support they received along the way.

With relatives, faculty and friends cheering them on, students were recognized with certificates, stoles, and photos to commemorate the occasion - it was a joyful and meaningful event filled with pride, celebration and connection.



Celebrating Student Creativity: ZTC Photography Book Presentation

The Digital Art & Animation (DA&A) Department came together for a joyful and vibrant celebration of creativity, collaboration and student achievement. The occasion marked the launch of *Intro to Digital Photography: A Visual Language*, a Zero Textbook Cost (ZTC) photography book created by Associate Professor and Program Coordinator Emanuela Quaglia in collaboration with Menlo Studio student assistants and photography students.

The book showcases inspiring student work and beautifully reflects the passion, dedication and artistic growth of everyone involved. Designed entirely in Adobe InDesign, the publication is the result of a dynamic and meaningful partnership between the DA&A Department, the ZTC program, Menlo Studio and the Cañada College Library. It stands as a powerful example of Cañada College's commitment to accessible education, experiential learning and the transformative power of the digital arts.



Super PEP Registration Welcomes 200+ Seniors

Last week, Cañada College hosted two Super PEP Registration events, assisting more than 211 local high school seniors in preparing for the fall semester. Participants completed their orientation, met with counselors and finalized their class schedules and financial aid - all in a single day. The Outreach team welcomed students from across the region, including San Mateo, Half Moon Bay and the East Bay. A special thank you to the PEP Planning Committee and all volunteers who made this seamless transition possible for our incoming students. Those who missed these dates are encouraged to join the next open Super Registration Event on July 21, 2026 or visit the [Outreach website](#) for more details.



International Student Achievement Ceremony

Last Friday, the Cañada community came together to recognize the accomplishments of our international students during the International Achievement Ceremony! Students were recognized for their transfer achievements, scholarships, certificates and degrees earned, involvement in clubs and organizations and more! Those in attendance enjoyed inspiring remarks from student speakers and the company of supportive family, friends, faculty and staff.



Weaving Culture and Community: A Mwarmwar Workshop

This week, STAR student Andria Takesy led a campus-wide event in collaboration with the Cultural Center and the Womxn of Color Collaborative to teach students, faculty and staff how to make lei po'o, or mwarmwar. Andria shared her love of learning to make mwarwar, explaining how the practice helps keep her culture alive and spread happiness, all while teaching attendees about the Federated States of Micronesia. Attendees enjoyed food from ShioK Singapore Kitchen and had the opportunity to weave, eat and "talk story" together in community as the semester comes to a close.



Therapy Pets Bring Midday Joy to Cañada College Library

On Tuesday, Peninsula Humane Society & SPCA brought their therapy pets to the Cañada College Library for a delightful midday visit. Students and staff had the opportunity to unwind and connect with a therapy cat and several dogs. The furry visitors provided a welcome study break and stress reliever, bringing smiles and warm moments to campus throughout the event



AANHPI Graduation Celebration Honors Cañada College Graduates

Cañada College's Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander community came together for a heartfelt graduation celebration. The event, hosted by the STAR Program and Cultural Center, honored the perseverance and achievements of AANHPI graduates as they prepared to step into exciting new chapters in their personal and professional journeys. The evening served as a beautiful tribute to the vibrant AANHPI community and the remarkable students who continue to shape and strengthen its legacy.



Employee End of Year Celebration

Wednesday's Employee End-of-Year Celebration brought colleagues together at the Cañada Vista Clubhouse for an afternoon of appreciation and community. Attendees honored many colleagues including: Classified Employee of the Year, 25 Year Service milestones, retired employees and newly tenured faculty members. The event was a heartfelt sendoff to the academic year and a celebration of the many contributions made by employees across campus.



Cañada College Honors Latinx Graduates at Annual Recognition Ceremony

Cañada College celebrated its Annual Latinx Graduation Recognition Ceremony, honoring students from the Latinx community who completed degrees across all fields of study. Friends and family filled the room with pride as graduates were recognized for their outstanding academic achievements. The joyful evening concluded with dinner shared among loved ones, making for a truly memorable celebration.



Lot 8 Closure Starting on Monday

Effective Monday, May 18, Staff Parking Lot 8 will close in preparation for construction on Cañada's new Child Development Center (CDC).

During this time, please utilize alternative staff parking lots to ensure a smooth transition. We appreciate your patience and cooperation as the College prepares the new CDC facility for our community.

I wish you a wonderful weekend.

Sincerely,
Kim