



A Message from President Kim Lopez

Dear Cañada Colleagues,

Welcome to the Fall 2026 semester! I hope that everyone had time to rest and relax over the summer. It's great to see our campus filled with students and employees and I enjoyed greeting students at our Welcome Week festivities.



Summer Community Partnerships & Highlights

Cañada College's dynamic summer featured vibrant community engagement, strong partnerships and strategic planning that strengthen ties across Redwood City and San Mateo County. These efforts align with EMP Goal 3.2 to support our BIPOC communities in North Fair Oaks, Belle Haven and East Palo Alto, reflecting our ongoing commitment to the region.

Key Highlights Include:

- *Redwood City 4th of July Parade:* Cañada College proudly participated in the annual parade, showcasing academic programs, distributing vital campus resources and connecting directly with local residents.
- *Super Registration Event:* Empowered more than 100 students to complete their enrollment processes, successfully securing registration for more than 230 classes for the Fall semester.
- *Middle Schoolers Summer Programming:* Hosted middle schoolers for campus tours, career workshops and recreational activities. The programming is part of MOUs Cañada College holds with Boys & Girls Clubs of the Peninsula and the Pal Center to build seamless pathways for youth in Southern San Mateo County.





Cañada College and Pal Center Partner to Expand Youth Pathways

On July 17, Cañada College officially deepened its partnership with the Pal Center by signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to strengthen youth pathways to higher education in North Fair Oaks and Redwood City. Both partners' missions have always been aligned: empowering students and families to transform their lives through education. This MOU also serves as a formal recommitment to an even deeper level of partnership, allowing Cañada College to be more present, more mindful, and more active in our community.





Opening Day

Thank you for joining our College Opening Day where we honored our employees who achieved service milestones and we enjoyed a Cañada history lesson through a game of Quizbowl! My thanks to the teams who put much time and effort into planning and presenting during these important days. Follow-up materials for both the District and College Flex Days will be posted on the [Flex Day website](#). Also, please complete the [Flex Day Feedback Form](#) to help us know what we can do to make the next Flex Day even better.





Eighth Annual Leadership Retreat

We hosted our 8th Annual Leadership Retreat with more than 60 Cañada leaders – representatives of College Senates, Council and Committees – on August 6 at Cañada. Retreat participants discussed the progress we’ve made on our five-year [Educational Master Plan](#) (EMP) and held eight breakout sessions focused on “inquiry topics” for 2026-27 to help prepare or “plan to plan” for our new Educational Strategic Plan. More information on the retreat can be found [here](#) and next steps will be posted on the [Cañada Collaborates website](#).



Cañada College Joins Statewide Peers at ASCCC Institute

Cañada College's full curriculum team recently participated in the 2026 ASCCC Curriculum Institute in Sacramento, joining colleagues from College of San Mateo, Skyline College and the District. The institute brought together community college professionals from across California to explore curriculum design, equity and student success. Cañada College's Curriculum and Instructional Systems Specialist, Frank Nguyen Le presented two sessions, sharing expertise and contributing to the statewide conversation.



Jacky Ip, College Business Officer

Please welcome Jacky Ip as the permanent College Business Officer. Jacky has served in the role on an acting basis since February 2025, providing leadership in budget development, fiscal planning, compliance, grants management, business operations and process improvement initiatives. Prior to her acting assignment, Jacky served as Division Assistant for Academic Support and Learning Technologies (ASLT) and as Interim Accounting Technician and Senior Accounting Technician in the Office of Administrative Services. Throughout her career with the District, which began as a student assistant, she has steadily assumed increasing levels of responsibility, developing extensive experience in student services, instructional operations, fiscal management, shared governance and employee development.

Jacky holds a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from San Francisco State University and has completed extensive professional development in leadership, fiscal management, equity and higher education administration. As a first-generation AANHPI student and member of the LGBTQIA2S+ community, Jacky brings a strong commitment to equity, inclusion, collaboration and student success. Her leadership philosophy emphasizes building supportive systems, fostering cross-campus partnerships and cultivating a culture of collaboration in support of institutional effectiveness and student achievement. Jacky's journey from student assistant to College Business Officer reflects her longstanding dedication to Cañada College, the District and the communities she serves. Please join us in congratulating Jacky on this well-deserved appointment and wishing her continued success in her new role!



Lauren Wagner, Executive Assistant to the Vice President of Instruction

Please welcome Lauren Wagner as the permanent Executive Assistant to the Vice President of Instruction. Prior to joining the Office of Instruction, Lauren served as Program Services Coordinator in the Veterans Resource Center from Fall 2022 to Fall 2025 and as an Admissions & Records Specialist from Fall 2021 through Fall 2022 at Skyline College. These roles provided Lauren with a strong understanding of the student experience and the academic and administrative processes that foster a connected and welcoming campus.

Lauren holds a Master of Arts in Education with a concentration in Equity and Social Justice from San Francisco State University and a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from the University of South Florida. Her studies explored how multidisciplinary curriculum can empower students to cultivate their identities and strengthen their sense of belonging throughout their educational journey. Lauren's work is grounded in collaboration, continuous improvement, and creating thoughtful practices that support students, staff, and faculty in doing their best work



Important Reminders from Cañada's Marketing Department

As we start the new semester, the Cañada Marketing Department has important reminders for the campus community:

- Visit the [Marketing Department website](#) for web and design resources, communications assistance, the [College Style Guide](#), [Photo Policy](#) and more!
- Submit your in-person and virtual events into our [event calendar](#) as early as possible so Marketing can help share it with the campus community. Events for the [What's Happening at Cañada event blast](#) are sourced from the college calendar – please submit your events to be considered for the email blast.
- Submit project and/or assistance requests through the [Marketing Assistance Request form](#). Categories for requests include graphic design, web, communication, marketing assistance, event support, training and material proof and approval.

ITS Extended Evening Support

The Cañada ITS Support Team is extending its hours to better support you at the start of the semester. Evening support will be available Monday through Friday, from August 17 to August 28, until 10 p.m. each night. Whether you need help with projectors, AirMedia, Wi-Fi, printers, Zoom, or other classroom or office technology, they've got you covered. Submit a ticket through the ITS [Helpcenter](#) or call at (650) 574-6543. ITS is here to make sure your classes run smoothly.

Whistleblower Reporting System

SMCCCD now has 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 wish you a wonderful weekend and I hope you enjoyed the first week of our Fall 2026 semester!

Sincerely,

Kim