



A Message from President Kim Lopez

Dear Cañada Colleagues,

Update on Vendor, Gift and Other Cards used for Student Support

The District and Colleges remain committed to supporting students, and at the same time, must also implement the internal control compliance recommendations outlined in the Implementation Plan for Procurement and Contract Oversight Audit, which was Board approved on August 26, 2026. The information below represents a phased approach that supports students as we develop more robust internal controls.

For All Programs

- **Effective immediately** all programs will **stop orders for Target cards and Uber cards**. These cards do not allow for sufficient controls on what can be purchased. All remaining Target and Uber cards on hand can be distributed as planned until any current stock is gone, but no additional orders of Target or Uber cards will be made.

Categorical Programs (EOPS, CARE, CalWorks, NextUp, Project Change)

- Safeway Cards (From the Heart Cards), Gas Cards and Clipper Cards can continue to be distributed as usual at least through the Spring 2027 semester (the end of the current academic year). The District and Colleges will be working with program staff to develop additional controls for these supports during this time.

Free College Transportation Support

- Gas Cards and Clipper Cards can continue to be distributed as usual through the end of the Fall 2026 semester. The District and Colleges will be working with program staff to develop additional controls for these supports during this time and will communicate to staff and students as early as possible ahead of any change.

Promise Scholars Program (PSP)

- The Promise Scholars Program is in the process of making the transition to direct aid incentive disbursements through the Financial Aid Office to students in the

program. This will be fully in effect for the Spring 2027 semester and moving forward.

Students with questions about support they receive should contact the staff in the program that provides it. Faculty and staff with further questions should connect with [Lizette Bricker, Vice President of Student Services](#), for more information. We appreciate your patience and understanding during this period of transition and exploration of alternatives to continue to support our students, while at the same time meeting internal control requirements. Students received an update regarding incentive gift cards via email yesterday.

Cañada College Celebrates Latinx Heritage Month (LHM)

Cañada College will be filled with music, food, stories and celebrations that honor the beauty and diversity of our Latinx community. Come connect, learn and celebrate together as we highlight cross-sectional culture, traditions and identities. [Please visit the college events calendar](#) to view workshops and events for the campus community and the broader Redwood City community to amplify Latinx voices and identities. [Download the LHM Zoom background here.](#)



ACCJC Evaluation Team Site Visit on Monday

This Monday, September 28, a five-member visiting evaluation team from the Accreditation Commission for Junior and Community Colleges (ACCJC) will be visiting our campus. This is a critical step in our accreditation process and it is an important opportunity for you to participate in that process and connect with our peer reviewers. There will be two opportunities for you to participate:

Open Forum

12 – 1 p.m.

Building 6, Room 101/102

The Open Forum will be an in-person opportunity for faculty, staff and students to speak openly with the peer review team about your experiences at the College, our programs and our campus environment. Your voice and perspective are an important part of the accreditation process. We encourage you to attend and participate in this important conversation.

Please note, SMCCCD Board Members, College President and senior leadership team will not be attending this open forum so that community members may feel free to speak candidly and directly to the members of the peer review team.

Exit Report

2 – 2:30 p.m.

Building 6, Room 101/102

The Exit Report is a verbal briefing given by the visiting evaluation team to a College's leadership, faculty, staff and students at the conclusion of their official accreditation site visit. This report acts as a high-level summary of the team's preliminary findings before they submit their final, formal written report to the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC). This will be the moment when we learn the results of our comprehensive institutional evaluation process and our accreditation status. Questions? Please contact [Dean Engel](#).

Marketing Update: New Web-Based Style Guide & Resources

The Cañada Marketing Department is proud to roll out a [new web-based style guide](#), replacing the PDF document to make navigation seamless and fully accessible. With the new web-based style guide, campus community members can quickly access specific web pages on a variety of options, including college-branded fonts and colors and design templates. A highlight of the updated guide includes a streamlined design and new tools, such as a [Logo Usage Matrix](#) to help identify the correct logo for projects. [Explore the new style guide](#) for all your campus marketing and communication needs.

Thank you to Alessandro Riva (Web Programmer Analyst), Sebastian Mendoza (Marketing Student Assistant) and Hannah-Joy Haw (Visual Communications Coordinator) for building the updated guide. For questions and feedback, please contact canmarketing@smccd.edu.

Get Started

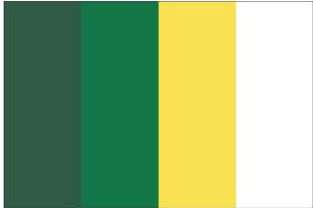


Logo & Seal

Franklin Gothic Medium
AaBbCcDd - 12345

Garamond Regular
AaBbCcDd - 12345

Typefaces



Color Palette



Campus Posting



Website



Communication Services

Cañada in the Community

Cañada College recently completed two active weeks of community outreach, starting with a college prep workshop in Redwood City and tabling at Menlo Park's Teen College & Career Fair.



Representatives connected with local families during the Fiestas Patrias celebration, while Campus Ambassador Lead Luzia Carrero Inglessis accepted a Welcome Week Proclamation from Redwood City Council. Outreach efforts continued at the CARON Resource Fair to build partnerships with community groups such as the San Mateo County Sheriff's Activities League. Finally, the team wrapped up by visiting Terra Nova High School in Pacifica to share program details and engage with students during lunch.



Celebrating 30 Years of Partnership with Pal Center

Members of the Cañada College team attended Pal Center's 30th Anniversary event where the evening provided a wonderful opportunity to connect with local partners, reflect on shared achievements and honor Pal Center's dedication to youth mentorship. Cañada College remains proud to support Pal Center's mission of empowering local families and creating clear educational pathways for the next generation. Congratulations to the entire Pal Center team on this incredible milestone and thank you for a memorable evening of celebration!





Celebrating Every Story: Exploring LatinX and Queer Identity at Cañada

As part of Cañada College's LatinX Heritage Month line up of events, on Wednesday, the Cultural Center and Pride Center held an intimate and heartfelt conversation featuring Queer Latinx student experiences. Pride Center Ambassador Mel created an artistic centerpiece and asked every participant to participate in adding to the rock art, as well as leading everyone through somatic practices. Allies, advocates and co-conspirators joined in and listened and provided meaningful affirmations to each speaker. Participants enjoyed BoiChik bagels, a LGBTQ+ and womxn owned business.



Registration Open for October 7 Cañada Flex Day

Registration is open and the schedule is now available for the upcoming Flex Day on Wednesday, October 7. Campus offices will be closed on October 7 so that faculty, classified staff and managers can participate fully in the day's professional development activities. Please visit the [Flex Day website](#) to explore the session offerings and register here to help presenters prepare. Please reach out to Flex Day Coordinator [Nadia Biglari](#) with questions or feedback.

I wish you a wonderful weekend!

Sincerely,

Kim