



A Message from President Kim Lopez

Dear Cañada Colleagues,

Call for Proposals: Upcoming Flex Days

Employees are invited to submit proposals for presentations, workshops or activities for upcoming Flex Days on October 7 or January 15, 2027. Presenters may submit proposals for either date, both dates or a two-part series spanning October and January. This opportunity allows campus community members to share knowledge, highlight successful practices or introduce new ideas - whether presenting a fully developed session or an early-stage concept. Proposals are due by September 15. [Submit proposals here.](#)

Interior Design Students Win Three Competition Awards

Cañada College Interior Design students recently brought home three awards from the National Kitchen and Bath Association (NKBA) Northern California Chapter Clarellen Adams Student Design Competition. Approximately 10 students attended the NKBA Gala, where the award winners were formally recognized and celebrated. In the Full Charette Kitchen category, Carmen Wintergest took first place. In the Full Charette Bath category, Ana Castañeda secured first place and Laura Holden received an honorable mention.





Please mark your calendar for the ACCJC Evaluation Team Site Visit

On 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](#)

Labor Day

In observance of Labor Day, Cañada College offices and classes will be closed Saturday, September 5 through Monday, September 7. Campus offices and classes will resume operations on Tuesday, September 8.

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

Sincerely,

Kim