District News Briefs

From the Chancellor

In November, we reflect and give thanks. We so appreciate your dedication and professionalism, which have led to awards and accomplishments across our colleges and District.

With support from the Board of Trustees, we'll keep investing in our students' educational needs and work to address their basic needs. Our District is proud to offer affordable and accessible education to all. We're committed to creating a diverse, inclusive, accessible, and equitable learning environment.

Let's work towards equitable access and student success, essential for California's future stability and prosperity. We recognize that addressing basic needs like housing, food, and healthcare is vital for an educated and equitable society.

I hope that your list of things to be grateful for is long and fills your heart. We are grateful that you are helping our District serve our communities so well.

Dr. Carole Goldsmith
Chancellor

Agreement Reached with CSEA

The District extends special appreciation to SCCCD payroll and HR team members who are working very hard to process salary changes to appear on the December payroll so CSEA employees receive salary increases before the holidays. Checks for retroactive payments will be processed at a later date.

Highlights of the contract:

- For 2023-2024, the salary schedule will be increased by the funded COLA + 1%; the range for Sign Language Interpreters will be increased from 81 to 85 and the range for Senior Sign Language Interpreters will be increased from range 86 to range 89
- A pilot program for telework was established effective January 2, 2024, which will expire on June 30, 2027
- A reimbursement program was established for sign language interpreters who pass all components of the National Interpreter Certification process.

CSEA leaders pose with SCCCD Admin and Board President after trustees ratified the contract

The District and CSEA negotiating teams reached an agreement, that was approved by members of CSEA State Center Chapter #379, and ratified by the Board of Trustees on Nov. 20 in a special meeting.

Congratulations to members of both teams for their work, dedication, and effort. The new contract is for three years from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2026.

At the special meeting of the Board, CSEA president Virginia Beamer said, “We collectively have achieved one of the greatest contracts classified professionals have ever received.”

Trustees Adopt Resolution in Recognition of Native American Heritage

Special thanks to Dr. Bernard Navarro (FCC, left) who helped author the resolution for Native American Heritage Month (and did the same for the City of Fresno), and Dean Cherylyn Crill-Hornsby (FCC) for their efforts on this recognition. The resolution was adopted by trustees at the November meeting.

Note: At the Special meeting, Confidential employees (an unrepresented group) also received an increase similar to CSEA members.
The G sign atop the State Center Community College District office will be removed in the next few weeks, allowing a replica sign to be designed, created and installed, with a goal date of mid-2025.

The original sign was inspected and evaluated by experts and it to find it is not feasible to refurbish the existing sign.

The new replica sign will look like the original, and have upgraded LED lighting. Follow the progress of the G sign on the SCCCD website. Click the “About” tab and select “Historic District Office”.

---

FCC Ram Pantry Supports Student Needs

Ernie Garcia, Interim Dir. of Student Success and Paul Torres, Ram Pantry Coordinator outlined the important work of the pantry in meeting basic student needs at the Nov. Trustees meeting.

The pantry gets more than 1,100 daily visits from students experiencing food insecurity. The pantry is planning an expansion soon and will receive funds from the campus 2023 Giving Tuesday efforts.

Tuesday, November 28 is Giving Tuesday, where your gifts of any size make a difference to our colleges and our students. We appreciate the generosity of our employees who support our colleges in so many ways.

Details on how this year’s donations are being directed are listed to the right.

To give, visit the website of the college of your choice and follow the instructions on their Giving Tuesday page.

You can also visit the SCCCD website, select the Foundation tab, click on the “Donate Here” button at the top of the page, or select “Ways to Give” from the drop down menu.

Fresno City College
Ram Pantry - food assistance program for students in need

Reedley College
Tiger Pantry - provides food and personal hygiene products to students in need
Clyde’s Closet - professional attire for students to use for interviews and career prep activities

Clovis Community College
Student Scholarships
Crush Pantry - food assistance program for students facing food insecurity
Crush Clothing Closet - student access to free professional attire for job interviews and work

Madera Community College
Student Scholarships - directly supporting students and joining the MCC commitment to excellence through education