



A Message from President Kim Lopez

Weekly Update: 5-24-24

Dear Cañada Colleagues,

Happy last week of the semester from the Cañada Cabinet! We've had a wonderful past few weeks celebrating our students with you. Thank you for the incredible work you've done to support our students this past year and we wish you a summer of rest.



Reminder: WebSMART Outage: May 24–27

This message is a reminder of the upcoming maintenance period that will affect WebSMART systems over this coming holiday weekend. The outage will begin on Friday, May 24, at 9 p.m. and last through Monday, May 27. The downtime is necessary to align our district information systems with the requirements of the FAFSA Simplification Act.

During this maintenance window, several functionalities will be temporarily unavailable that may impact the following groups:

- Students: Certain services will be suspended, including Drop for Non-Payment, Waitlist Movement, Course Registration, and Summer Course Cancellation.

- Faculty: Grade entry will not be available. With spring grades due on June 3, faculty are encouraged to plan to enter grades either before or immediately after the holiday weekend to meet that deadline.
- Staff: Banner will be unavailable.

We apologize for any inconvenience this downtime may cause and appreciate your understanding.

International Achievement Celebration

Last Friday, we celebrated the International Achievement Celebration, honoring the successes of our international students on campus. Numerous awards were presented, and students delivered inspiring speeches. The International Student Ambassadors were also recognized for their invaluable contributions to the program's success. Highlights included words from soccer team members Kosuke Kaneko and Kiichi Murakami, who expressed gratitude for their coach, Erik Gaspar, and the campus community's support in helping them transfer to San Francisco State University and San Jose State University with scholarships. We are incredibly proud of all of our students.



Student Recognition Ceremony

Also last Friday, we celebrated the Student Recognition Ceremony in partnership with the San Mateo County Foundation to honor all students who received scholarships this year. For many, it was their first time receiving such an award. Notably, last year, 19 undocumented students were scholarship recipients, and this year that number nearly doubled to 37. We are immensely proud of each scholarship recipient, many of whom are transferring to prestigious universities such as UCLA, Stanford, UC Davis and UC Berkeley, among others. Congratulations to all of our students on their incredible achievements and the hard work that has brought them this far.



Cañada in the Community

Last Saturday, Cañada proudly participated and served as an event sponsor for the Soul Stroll for Health, which is the signature event for the Bay Area Community Health Advisory Council (BACHAC). Held at the Coyote Point Recreation Area in San Mateo, the Soul Stroll walk for health is designed to activate communities in social justice and in health! This morning, members of the Cañada team, joined by Chancellor Melissa Moreno and SMCCCD Trustee Wayne Lee attended JobTrain's Breakfast of Champions. At the fundraiser, the community had a chance to celebrate JobTrain's student successes and get a glimpse into JobTrain's future plans to support our community.



Student Services Team Huddle

On Wednesday, the Student Services Team Huddle was filled with heartfelt surprises and celebrations. Each of the Student Services Division Deans and our VPSS took time to highlight significant achievements and goals met during the share out portion of the agenda. Vice President Pérez was honored by the team with temporary tattoos inspired by his amazing ink and several team members dressed as "Manuel look-alikes" in his iconic outfits. The room was filled with admiration as people shared stories of Manuel's incredible contributions to the campus and the inspiration he has provided within our Latinx community. While we will miss him at Cañada, we are excited to see the great things he will accomplish at College of San Mateo. The celebration also recognized Nimsi Garcia, Program Services Coordinator of our Undocumented Community Center (UCC), who is moving on to pursue her law degree. Nimsi has been instrumental in creating the Undocumented Community Center and has always reminded us to have fun. Our campus community will miss her greatly as she embarks on her new journey.



Promise Scholars Program Celebration

The Promise Scholars Program celebrated its graduates with a rooftop event at Building 23. Despite the windy day, the team honored the students' amazing accomplishments. Student keynote speakers Edwyn Abraham Damien and Cynthia Mena shared heartfelt messages. Edwyn thanked his parents in Spanish for encouraging him and his sisters to pursue their education, while Cynthia, a graduating Latina, expressed her gratitude to the program for helping two generations—her son and herself—graduate. The celebration concluded with students receiving their sashes and certificates and enjoying delicious food.



Pacific Dining Services - Pause and Summer Hours

Campus dining services will close starting on Friday, May 24 through June 9. Services will re-open on Monday, June 10 through Thursday, July 25, 2024 as follows:

The Grove Cafe: 7:30 a.m.-2 p.m. M-TH, Closed Fridays

Pony Espresso: 7:30 a.m.-2 p.m. M-TH, Closed Fridays

Colts Cafe: 7:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. M-TH, Closed Fridays

Student Success in Honors Transfer Program

Ten students completed the Honors Transfer Program this spring. They are transferring to their dream schools: Several to UC Berkeley, several to UCLA, one to the University of Michigan and one to Stanford University! Thank you to all who supported the Honors Transfer Program students.



I look forward to seeing everyone tomorrow morning at Commencement!

Sincerely,
Kim