

From: Keith Curry <kcurry@compton.edu>
Sent: Friday, October 17, 2025 7:31 PM
Subject: President/CEO Message - October 17, 2025

Campus Community,

Today, October 17, 2025, we hosted our Fall Dual Enrollment Summit with our partners from Compton, Lynwood, and Paramount school districts. Our shared focus: advancing new program pathways and strengthening strategies to elevate our dual enrollment work in alignment with [Compton College 2035](#). It was inspiring to see the amount of work happening with dual enrollment that includes connecting with our partner districts, exploring available resources between our organizations, and contributing old and new ideas to move our work forward with our partnering districts.

As many of you know, over 31% of Compton College's enrollment for the 2024–2025 academic year consists of high school dual enrollment students from Compton, Lynwood, and Paramount school districts. I'm excited to share the new [Compton College Dual Enrollment Dashboard](#), which includes success and retention data for dual enrollment students, disaggregated by age, gender, race/ethnicity, and more. Thank you to everyone involved in this work. What we're doing is not only transforming lives and communities, but it's also becoming a model for dual enrollment across California and the nation.

As a follow-up to the [President/CEO Message - October 3, 2025](#), regarding the Student Housing Project, I'd like to share a brief update. Of the 89 modular units, 74 have already been delivered to Southern California, and eight more are currently in transit. While we're still finalizing the placement schedule, I was informed this afternoon that we're now targeting **November 10–26** for installation. A meeting next week will confirm logistics, as the placement will impact several areas of campus, including Main Campus Drive. My recommendation as we move forward: please remain flexible, patient, and gracious with one another. More details will be shared in an upcoming [President/CEO Message](#).

Today's President/CEO Message includes updates on enrollment, institutional-set goals, a recap of the **October 13, 2025**, groundbreaking ceremony, and announcements about upcoming campus events.

Enrollment Update – Fall 2025

As of **October 16, 2025**, Compton College has generated 1,757 FTES for the Fall 2025 term. 12,478 (74%) of the available seats are currently filled.

Midterm classes begin this **Saturday, October 18, 2025**. Students can search for 'Second Eight-Week Classes' using the online searchable schedule: [Browse Classes](#).

Compton College Campuswide Forum

All employees are invited to join a virtual campuswide forum on **Tuesday, November 25, 2025**, at 2:30 p.m. via Zoom. The focus will be on enrollment, the [2025-2026 Compton Community College District Budget](#), [Compton College 2035](#), and Return on Investment and Economic Mobility. To participate, please use this link to register in advance for the [November 25, 2025, Campuswide Forum Online Registration](#).

Institutional-Set Goals Update

As part of our ongoing commitment to institutional excellence and alignment with statewide priorities, the [Board of Trustees approved two new institutional-set goals](#) at its **October 13, 2025**, meeting. These goals—Number of Students Receiving a Pell or California College Promise Grant and Number of Students Enrolled in a California Community College Baccalaureate Degree Program—were developed to align with the [most recent update to the Chancellor's Office Vision 2030 framework](#) and reflect our dedication to improving outcomes and advancing equity for all students.

Work is also underway to establish methodology and targets for our existing Student Readiness Rate goal and to develop a new goal focused on students' Return on Investment (ROI). Together, these efforts strengthen our focus on creating clear, measurable outcomes aligned to [Compton College 2035](#).

Compton College Breaks Ground on Two New Campus Facilities

On Monday afternoon, **October 13, 2025**, Compton Community College District proudly hosted a groundbreaking ceremony for the new Physical Education Complex and Visual and Performing Arts Complex. The event drew a strong turnout, with heartfelt thanks to our Board of Trustees, K–12 partners, and city officials who joined us to celebrate this milestone.

A special thank you to Board President, Micah Ali from Compton Unified School District, whose powerful remarks highlighted the deep historical connection between Compton College and Compton High School—two institutions forever linked in service to our community.

We also extend our gratitude to our faculty, Classified Professionals, students, and community partners for their continued support of this vision. Special thanks to Chief Facilities Officer Linda Owens Jackson and our Event and Facilities staff for organizing a memorable ceremony. We're also grateful to our project partners, Struere Architecture, Chalmers, and Suffolk, for their commitment to bringing these transformative spaces to life.

As we break ground, we're not just building structures, we're building opportunity. Together with our partners in Compton, Lynwood, and Paramount school districts, we're creating a seamless educational pipeline from K–12 through college and into careers. [Photos from the event are available on Flickr](#).

Taste of Thanksgiving – Save the Date

All employees are invited to stop by the Multipurpose Room between **Noon and 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 18, 2025**, to take a break, enjoy a delicious lunch, and socialize with their coworkers. To ensure everyone has a chance to enjoy the meal, each guest will receive one plate of food. We encourage you to drop in, share a few moments of gratitude, and then return to your day refreshed.

Board Policies and Administrative Regulations

At the **October 13, 2025**, Compton Community College District Board of Trustees meeting, the following Administrative Regulations (AR) listed below were issued.

- [Administrative Regulation 3341](#) – Energy Conservation
- [Administrative Regulation 3342](#) – Water Management
- [Administrative Regulation 3343](#) – Sustainable Building
- [Administrative Regulation 3344](#) – Physical Plan Management
- [Administrative Regulation 3515](#) – Reporting of Crimes
- [Administrative Regulation 6800](#) – Occupational Safety

President/CEO Closing the Loop

My responses to the [Academic Senate](#) – Summary of Decisions made at the **September 4, 2025**, meeting are available [here](#).

Final Thoughts

Over the past couple of months, I've been working closely with Administrative Services on various fiscal matters, most importantly, closing the books for the 2024–2025 fiscal year and preparing the [2025–2026 Compton Community College District Final Budget](#), which was presented and approved at the **September 8, 2025**, Compton CCD Board of Trustees meeting.

As a follow-up to that board meeting, and as mentioned in the [President/CEO Message - September 26, 2025](#), we are currently updating the Compton CCD Five-Year Fiscal Management Plan and the General Fund to

Capital Outlay transfer document. Both will be shared at the Planning and Budget Committee meeting on **October 28, 2025**. I will also include the updated Compton CCD Five-Year Fiscal Management Plan in next week's [President/CEO Message](#).

Since 2011, I've relied on the Compton CCD Five-Year Fiscal Management Plans to guide our annual and future fiscal decisions. This year is no different. However, we are closely monitoring several factors: the budget impacts of negotiated agreements, employees whose salaries and benefits are funded by grants or restricted funds that may not be renewed, and other potential cost drivers that could affect the district in future years. I've always had concerns about the long-term sustainability of our fiscal plan, and this year is no exception.

Here are four key areas we're focusing on, as we develop the Compton CCD Five-Year Fiscal Management Plan:

1. Technology Infrastructure

As outlined in the [2025–2026 Compton College Goals](#) and the [2025-2026 Compton CCD Board of Trustees Goals](#), we are prioritizing technology infrastructure. Over the years, we've transferred significant funding from the general fund to capital outlay to support these efforts, but costs continue to rise. In the coming weeks, we will finalize a new Five-Year Technology Budget, which will be presented to both the [Technology Committee](#) and the [Planning and Budget Committee](#).

2. District Reserves

I continue to hear concerns about the district's reserves, specifically, that they are increasing and that "Dr. Curry is hiding money." Let me be clear: maintaining a healthy reserve is a best practice, especially given ongoing state and federal budget uncertainties. Per [Compton CCD Board Policy 6200 – Budget Preparation](#), we are required to maintain a reserve above the minimum 10% threshold. This will remain a focus in the coming months.

3. Staffing and Grant-Funded Positions

We are paying close attention to employees whose salaries are charged to grants or restricted funds, whose funding may not be available in future years. To ensure continuity of essential programs, we must properly allocate staff to appropriate accounts and, when necessary, transfer funds from the general fund. In the past, we've supported initiatives like Guided Pathways. In future years, we'll need to fund programs such as Distance Education and the Black and Male of Color Initiatives. The updated Compton CCD Five-Year Fiscal Management Plan includes provisions to sustain this important work.

4. Budget Reductions

As mentioned in the [President/CEO Message - April 11, 2025](#), I recommended several general fund budget reductions. While the original goal was to implement these changes in spring 2025, I chose to wait until we closed the books and finalized the [2025–2026 Compton CCD Final Budget](#). I now plan to move forward and present the proposed reductions to the [Planning and Budget Committee](#) at their **November 2025** meeting.

I know this is a lot of information, and I appreciate your attention. The updated Compton CCD Five-Year Fiscal Management Plan will be included in next week's [President/CEO Message](#). I wanted to share these concerns and priorities with you as we continue our work to support our students and the community we serve.

In closing, please have a wonderful weekend with family and friends.

Sincerely,

Keith Curry, Ed.D.
(he/him/his)
President/CEO
Compton College