

**From:** Keith Curry <kcurry@compton.edu>

**Sent:** Friday, August 28, 2026 8:23 PM

## President/CEO Message - August 28, 2026

Campus Community,

Happy first week of the fall semester. Thank you for all you do to support our students. I know this was a busy week, and we had some challenges; however, students have been our #1 priority.

I want to begin with an update on the power issue that affected the Student Services and Administration Buildings. The issue was worsened by the increased number of people on campus during the first week of the semester and the extremely high temperatures. This combination was putting above-normal loads on the transformer that serves both the Student Services Building and the Administration Building. The transformer was set to factory settings that, when stressed, caused safeguards to operate and reduce the electrical load, hence causing breakers to trip and shut down electrical service. The factory settings were set to the lowest possible level, which caused the transformer to trip easily. Our electrical engineer identified this issue and provided a solution that resets the baseline factory settings to a safe level that allows higher electrical loads and stresses to be handled adequately. In other words, resetting the switches to a higher electrical flow rate fixed the problem. On **Wednesday, August 26, 2026**, the electrical contractor reset the breakers, and the building's systems have been running smoothly and with adequate power. We will continue to monitor the transformer for the Student Services Building and the Administration Building. I want to thank everyone for adapting to moving their departments and offices while continuing to serve students.

This week's message includes updates on the 2026–2027 Course Catalog, fall enrollment, upcoming campus forums and Board meetings, and a status update on my fall 2026 reading list.

### **Compton College Fall 2026 Enrollment Update**

As of **August 27, 2026**, Compton College has generated 1,604 full-time equivalent students (FTES) for fall 2026 (3% less than this time last year). Currently, 11,319 seats are filled, representing 64% of available seats. Fall headcount is 5,508 students, up 3% from the same time last year.

The last day for students to add full-semester courses is **Monday, September 7, 2026**, which is also Labor Day. To help students complete the enrollment process on time, please provide add codes as soon as possible.

### **2026-2027 Compton College Catalog Now Available Online**

[The 2026-2027 Compton College Catalog is now available online as a PDF.](#) The catalog includes updated course descriptions, a table of majors by Guided Pathway Division on pages 70-72, updated Board policies and administrative regulations, the Common Course Numbering crosswalk on page 114, the Course Identification Numbering System on pages 115-116, and additional academic and student information. Printed copies will be available for purchase in the bookstore by the end of September. [Access the 2026-2027 Compton College Catalog online.](#)

Employees who need a desk copy before printed copies are available may submit the PDF to the Copy Center for printing.

### **Compton College Online Calendar of Events**

Check out the [Online Event Calendar](#) to find and share campus and virtual events happening this fall.

Faculty and staff are encouraged to [submit their events to the calendar](#) to help create a fun and diverse lineup. You can access the calendar on the Compton College website or through [MyCompton](#). Please share the calendar with students and encourage them to join in! These events are a great way for students to meet others, learn new things, and have a great time at Compton College. Let's make this semester exciting by promoting and participating in campus activities!

### **“Know Your Rights” Red Cards Available**

As a reminder, “Know Your Rights” red cards are available while supplies last for employees who would like copies for their office or department. Employees may stop by the Community Relations Office in Administration Building, Room 112, to pick up cards. Employees are also encouraged to review [Administrative Regulation 3415 – Immigration Enforcement Activities](#), which outlines District procedures related to immigration enforcement activities on campus.

### **Digital Job Board: Handshake**

As we begin the Fall 2026 semester, please remind students to activate and use Handshake, Compton College's digital job board for jobs, internships, career events, and resources. Faculty and staff are encouraged to share this valuable resource with students and incorporate Handshake into conversations about their career goals, employment interests, and professional development. Students can access Handshake using their Compton College credentials by selecting “MyCompton Login” at [Handshake Login](#).

Please share the Handshake flyer <https://bit.ly/ComptonHandshake> with your students and encourage them to activate their accounts to explore the opportunities and career resources available through the platform. Staff and faculty may request a Handshake staff account by contacting Nicole Smith, Job Placement Specialist, at [nsmith1@compton.edu](mailto:nsmith1@compton.edu).

### **Collaborative Governance at Compton College Handbook**

As mentioned in the [President/CEO Message – June 12, 2026](#) and the [President/CEO Message – June 25, 2026](#), the draft [Collaborative Governance Handbook](#) continues to move through the campus review process. Recent conversations have focused on giving each constituent group sufficient time to review the draft, share feedback, and understand how their input will be considered before the handbook is finalized. Additional updates will be provided as the [Academic Senate](#), [Consultative Council](#), and other campus groups continue their review. The goal is to present the finalized handbook to the Compton CCD Board of Trustees this fall semester for their review and recommended approval.

### **Online Facilities Work Order System**

Please remember to use our online Facilities Work Order system (available via MyCompton) to report any facility issues or concerns and to make requests to the Maintenance and Operations (M&O) Department. The Asset Essentials system allows both submitters and M&O managers to track requests efficiently. If M&O is unaware of an issue, they can't address it. Thank you for your cooperation!

### **President/CEO Student Forums**

Please remind students about the upcoming in-person forum with me on *September 9, 2026, at 2:30 p.m.* in the Student Services Building, Room 212. This is a valuable opportunity for them to share their experiences, discuss plans, and get answers to their questions directly from me. Please encourage them to attend and make the most of this unique opportunity to engage.

Below are the dates for the President/CEO Student Forums for the 2026-2027 year, and all the forums will be held from 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. in Student Services Building 212:

September 9, 2026  
November 4, 2026  
March 10, 2027  
May 12, 2027

### **Compton College Campuswide Forum**

I am hosting a virtual Campuswide Forum on ***Tuesday, September 15, 2026, at 2:30 p.m. via Zoom***. This is an opportunity to ask questions, stay informed, and engage with topics that shape student success. Discussion topics include Accreditation, the 2026–2027 Compton CCD Budget, the Student-Centered Funding Formula, the Compton College 2035 Economic Value Model, and the [Compton College 2035 Institutional Set Goals](#). To participate, please register in advance using this link: [Compton College Campuswide Forum Online Registration](#).

### **Compton CCD Update on the Repayment of its Emergency Apportionment Funding**

On ***August 4, 2026***, I sent a [letter](#) to the Senate and Assembly Budget Subcommittees' leadership and the Department of Finance with an update on the repayment of our Emergency Apportionment loan balance. We expect to make the final payment to the Department of Finance in Fiscal Year 2026-2027.

### **Compton Community College District 2026-2027 Final Budget**

At its regular meeting on ***September 14, 2026***, the Compton Community College District Board of Trustees will receive the 2026–2027 CCCD Final Budget for review and recommended action, which may be viewed online [here](#). The proposed 2026–2027 CCCD Final Budget is designed to maintain a reserve above the minimum 10% level required by [Compton CCD Board Policy 6200 – Budget Preparation](#). Estimated revenue, including state and local sources, is \$57,740,983, of which the District anticipates receiving \$51,281,795 in Total Computational Revenue Stability Funding. Compton College will offer 1,538 course sections to meet our Student-Centered Funding Formula goal for 2026–2027. The budget also assumes a Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA); funding for three faculty positions, three classified professional positions, and one management position; \$680,000 for Compton College Guided Pathways; and \$400,000 for the Compton CCD Personnel Commission. It also includes expenses to address long-term liabilities, including a \$250,000 Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) payment and the final \$648,760 repayment toward the line of credit.

Please note that we are currently closing the financials for fiscal year 2025-2026. Final figures will not be available until the annual financial audit for that period is complete.

### **September 14, 2026, Board of Trustees Meeting and Public Budget Hearing**

The public is invited to the upcoming Compton Community College District Board Meeting and Public Budget Hearing on ***Monday, September 14, at 6:00 p.m.*** in the Board Room in the Administration Building. The Board Agenda will be posted 72 hours before the meeting. Agendas are posted on the BoardDocs website under the "Meetings" tab on the [Board of Trustees Meetings webpage](#).

The Budget Hearing will allow the public to comment on the proposed 2026-2027 Compton Community College District Final Budget.

### **President/CEO Closing the Loop**

At the ***April 20, 2026***, Compton CCD Board of Trustees meeting, the Board of Trustees approved a contract for [Greystar](#) to serve as the property management for the Compton College Student Housing Facility. In addition, the Board of Trustees delegated to me the authority to finalize the agreement and make any revisions acceptable to both our district's legal counsel and me. After months of negotiations to finalize the agreement, we are at an impasse and will be moving in a different direction. As we move in a

different direction, I intend to keep the campus updated on the potential next steps in future [President/CEO Messages](#).

### **Final Thoughts**

This morning, the [HEA Group](#) released its searchable database and report, "[What Your Major is Worth in California](#)," which was also used as the basis for this article featured in the [Los Angeles Times](#). Using federal data, the results cover the outcomes across 386 institutions, 2,958 programs, and nearly 277,000 graduates. Essentially, you will now be able to see how much different college majors pay after obtaining an undergraduate credential. The [HEA Group](#) has made this data accessible and publicly available. This information will be helpful as we continue conversations about the Compton College 2035 Economic Value Model, which was shared at Fall 2026 Professional Development Day, and I included information in the [President/CEO Message- August 21, 2026](#).

I want to acknowledge and thank everyone involved with the [Compton College Football Program](#). In my [President/CEO Message – December 5, 2026](#), I shared information about the reorganization of our football program, which later included the hiring of [CJ Arnold](#) as Manager of Football Operations and Athletic Facilities. CJ and his team have worked hard to recruit student-athletes for this season, many of whom are first-time students at Compton College. Over the past couple of weeks, I have had the opportunity to visit practices, and I am encouraged by this year's team's commitment and energy. This is our first year under the new structure, and having a football team this season is important for our students and the community we serve. I hope many of you will attend at least one game this season to support our student-athletes. Our first game is *tomorrow, August 29, 2026*, at [Grossmont College](#) in San Diego, beginning at 3:00 p.m.

In closing, I received several recommendations for the President/CEO Reading List for fall 2026 and am finalizing the list, which I will share in next week's [President/CEO Message](#).

Sincerely,

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