

From: Keith Curry <kcurry@compton.edu>
Sent: Thursday, December 19, 2024 4:18 PM
Subject: President/CEO Message - December 19, 2024

Campus Community,

Good afternoon! As we wrap up 2024, I wanted to share my final President/CEO Message for the year. It's incredible how quickly this year has flown by. Here are some of the highlights from 2024:

1. At their **June 5-6, 2024 meeting**, the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges acted to Reaffirm Compton College's accreditation for seven years.
2. Kendrick Lamar was the surprise guest at the Compton College commencement ceremony on **June 7, 2024**.
3. Bernards Bros. Inc. was selected as the construction contractor for the \$80.3 million Compton College Student Housing Project.
4. Compton College received a \$1.9 million grant from the Ballmer Group to support student transfer.
5. The \$200 million Measure CC Facilities Bond was approved by local voters on **December 5, 2024**.
6. On **December 10, 2024**, the Compton Community College District Board of Trustees approved [Compton College's 2035 Comprehensive Master Plan](#).

This has been an amazing year, and without the faculty, classified professionals, and managers/supervisors, many of these accomplishments would not have been possible. Please note that another achievement for 2024 is included in the final thoughts section of this President/CEO Message.

Today's President/CEO Message includes the 2025 Board of Trustees meeting schedule, an update on Compton College's Immigration Policy responses, spring 2025 Professional Development information, and much more.

Winter and Spring 2025 Enrollment Update

As of **today, December 19, 2024**, Compton College has made significant progress in enrollment for the upcoming terms:

- 298 FTES for the winter term. Our fill rate for Winter 2025 is currently 81%, with 2,613 seats filled.
- 913 FTES for the spring semester. Our fill rate for Spring 2025 is currently 40%, with 6,434 seats filled.

I am excited about the enrollment numbers as we are getting closer to meeting our [Full-Time Equivalent Students \(FTES\) Goals of 4,125](#) for the 2024 – 2025 year. However, we need to continue to encourage our continuing students to register for Winter/Spring 2025. **Every FTES counts!**

Compton College Enrollment Initiatives

We're thrilled to share the latest efforts to boost enrollment and retention at Compton College. Our paid social media ads for the [Oliver W. Conner Promise Program](#) kicked off on **September 3, 2024**, and will continue through this **Saturday, December 20, 2024**. Additionally, a Winter/Spring 2025 registration reminder postcard was mailed Districtwide last week.

Our comprehensive Winter and Spring 2025 ad campaign includes:

- On-air radio ads
- Social and digital ads
- Freeway billboards
- Interior bus card ads
- Bus shelter posters

As mentioned in the [President/CEO Message – December 13, 2024](#), multiple proposals for enrollment management funding have been approved. We deeply appreciate all the efforts made to increase enrollment and retain students as we move into the new year.

Compton Community College District Board of Trustees Members Take Oath of Office

The Compton Community College District held a swearing-in ceremony for its Board of Trustees members on *December 17, 2024*. Two of the five trustee areas were up for election on *November 5, 2024*. Trustee Barbara Calhoun ([Trustee Area 2](#)) was re-elected to another term, while incumbent Trustee Sonia Lopez ([Trustee Area 3](#)) ran uncontested. Both will serve four-year terms effective *December 13, 2024*.

According to [CCCD Board Policy 2100 Board Elections](#), terms of trustees are staggered so that, as nearly as practical, one-half of the trustees shall be elected at each trustee election. The District has all five seats filled on its Board. Click [here](#) for the Board members' bios.

Compton Community College District Annual Organizational Meeting

The Board of Trustees also elected officers at its [annual organizational meeting on December 17, 2024](#). Andres Ramos was elected president, Sonia Lopez was elected vice president, and Sharoni Little will serve as clerk. I was appointed secretary during the meeting.

In addition, Barbara Calhoun will serve as the district representative to the [Los Angeles County School Trustees Association](#), Juanita Doplemore will serve as a member of the [Los Angeles County Committee on School District Organization](#), and Sonia Lopez was appointed to review nominations for membership on the California Community Colleges Trustees Board.

2025 Compton Community College District Board of Trustees Meeting Dates

At the *December 17, 2024*, Board of Trustees Meeting, the Board approved the [schedule of the 2025 meetings](#). The Board will meet on the third Monday of every month, beginning *January 13, 2025*, except those meetings that are rescheduled to accommodate Monday holidays. During the renovation of the Administration Building, Board meetings will continue to be held in the Student Services Building, Room 212.

Update on Immigration Policy Response

As a follow-up to the [President/CEO Message – November 22, 2024](#), and the [President/CEO Message – December 5, 2024](#), I wanted to share some updates on our immigration policy responses:

1. At its *December 10, 2024* meeting, the Compton CCD Board of Trustees approved the amendment to the [MOU/Agreement between Compton College and the Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights \(CHIRLA\)](#).

2. The Professional Development Department hosted two virtual Immigration Enforcement Activities Training sessions on *December 6* and *December 13, 2024*, conducted by Yesenia Z. Carrillo from Liebert Cassidy Whitmore.
3. The UndocuAlly Taskforce has been asked to provide recommendations on how to use the Dream Resources funds from the State of California. The current budget allocation for Compton College is \$66,942, with \$208,149.27 in carryover from prior years.
4. We are exploring a process to provide financial assistance to Compton College “Dreamers” for renewing their Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) applications supported by a private donor.
5. [Administrative Regulation 3415 - Immigration Enforcement Activities](#) has been developed and will be communicated to employees and students once issued.
6. California Attorney General Rob Bonta [released an updated legal analysis and guidance for public institutions, including higher education](#), in complying with California law related to immigration enforcement activities.

In future [President/CEO Messages](#), I will continue to share updates on Compton College's Immigration Policy Response and CHIRLA immigration services. Thank you to everyone who has provided input and attended the training.

Third Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast & Celebration

Join us for the third annual Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast & Celebration on *Wednesday, January 15, 2025, from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.* [Registration is required for this event](#). Classified professionals must obtain approval from their supervisors to attend.

Input Needed for 2025 Legislative Priorities

As we continue to shape our 2025 legislative priorities, we need your input. Your insights are invaluable in helping us address key issues and advocate effectively for Compton College at both state and federal levels. [Please complete the survey before January 15, 2025.](#)

Credit for Prior Learning

In *December 2020*, Compton College was required to adopt a broad administrative regulation ([Administrative Regulation 4235](#)) around Credit for Prior Learning (CPL) that went beyond Credit by Examination. In June 2022, [Administrative Regulation 4235](#) was updated to include a process to award credit for mirrored noncredit classes. In spring 2022, Compton College joined the second cohort of the Military Articulation Platform, now called Mapping Articulated Pathways (MAP). Under the faculty leadership of Professor Corina Diaz, 101 courses have been articulated in MAP to give veteran students credit for prior learning related to their military service. Professor Diaz also worked with staff in the Veterans Office to develop an intake process. However, CPL needs to extend beyond military articulations. Therefore, I am establishing a CPL Taskforce to ensure we continue to develop a sustainable process for awarding the various types of CPL. The taskforce will forward recommendations to the Student Success Committee. The taskforce will review the current [Administrative Regulation 4235](#) to ensure alignment with the goals of [Compton College 2035 Comprehensive Master Plan](#) and the [Chancellor’s Vision 2030](#). The taskforce will be broad-based to include all constituent groups on campus.

If you have any creative input regarding CPL and the taskforce's establishment, please forward your recommendations to Dr. Sheri Berger, vice president of academic affairs, at sberger@compton.edu.

Spring 2025 Professional Development Week

We are still preparing for the Spring 2025 Professional Development Week and will send the final agendas in a separate email.

- All full-time employees (faculty, classified professionals, and managers/supervisors) must participate in the virtual Spring 2025 Professional Development Day on **Thursday, February 13, 2025**, via Zoom. The event will begin at 9:00 a.m. and conclude at 4:00 p.m.
- Twenty-dollar Uber Eats codes will be provided for faculty, adjunct faculty, classified professionals, and managers/supervisors participating in the mandatory Professional Development Day.
- Our keynote speaker is [Dr. Angel Gonzalez](#), an Assistant Professor of Higher Education Administration and Leadership (HEAL) at Fresno State University. As a first-generation queer, Latinx, joto, they engage their scholarship through post-structuralist and transformative paradigms rooted in Xicana/Latina feminist epistemologies.
- The New Faculty Orientation will be held on **Friday, February 14, 2025**, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. via Zoom. The Zoom meeting information will also be sent via email.

Compton College Marquee Replacement Project

We are engaging a firm to assist with the Compton College Marquee Replacement Project. This includes replacing the current marquee and adding new marquees/scoreboards in the stadium and near Artesia/Santa Fe. The project will follow a process where Compton CCD enters a ground lease with a vendor, and the firm will help with the RFP and related tasks. Additionally, the RFP will include the installation of another marquee at the Greenleaf entrance, displaying information about Compton College. Reuben James, director of purchasing and auxiliary services, will be the point of contact for this project, and we aim to release the RFP by **February 1, 2025**. Reuben James will seek creative input from the [Auxiliary Services Committee](#) on the Compton College Marquee Replacement Project as we move forward.

We aim for the new marquees to generate yearly funds for the district, which could support our auxiliary services and scholarship programs. As mentioned in the [President/CEO Message – December 13, 2024](#), we are anticipating a loss of revenue from our vending machines and cafeteria, as well as the new costs associated with the on-campus Bookstore.

Winter Break Construction and Facilities Projects

Construction work and repairs will continue in various areas on campus during the Winter Break. Some of the planned work includes:

- The Student Housing contractor will mobilize site trailers within the fenced construction site.
- The Instructional Building 2 project contractor will repair the walkway outside the cafeteria building and complete the punch list/close-out items. Additionally, exterior signage for Instructional Building 2 will be installed.
- The HVAC vendor will perform heating repairs in the gymnasium, which will be closed **December 23-27, 2024**. They will also conduct boiler repairs in the Vocational Technology Building and Student Services Building.
- Our electrical vendor will continue repairing site lights.
- The Administration Building project vendors will install new furniture and hardware and update network services.
- Painting of parking stalls, curbs, and bike lanes is also planned during the winter break.

Closing the Loop

Click [here](#) for my response to the Hiring Prioritization Committee recommendations dated *November 1, 2024*, and the Academic Senate—Summary of Decisions Made at the *December 5, 2024*, meeting regarding the 2025-2026 Compton College New Faculty Positions and Recruitment. In *January 2025*, the Human Resources Department will announce these positions for 2025-2026.

Final Thoughts

As we reflect on the progress we've made this year, I want to revisit my [President/CEO Message – November 1, 2024](#), where I proclaimed *October 30, 2024*, a remarkable day for Compton College for three significant reasons. Today, I am thrilled to share the third and final reason: we have been awarded a [\\$1 million grant from the W. M. Keck Foundation](#).

This generous grant will have a significant impact on our Compton Community Health Professions Partnership. It will help address the shortage of nurses and health care professionals in our area, establish clinical rotation sites, increase interest in health care professions, and remove barriers to health care access for our community. The Compton Community Health Professions Partnership includes Compton College, Compton Unified School District, CSU Dominguez Hills, Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science, St. John's Community Health, and Kedren Health.

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to making Compton College a beacon of opportunity and excellence. Please enjoy your time off and try not to look at emails. Enjoy this time with your family and friends. I look forward to seeing everyone in 2025.

It is truly an honor to serve as the President/CEO of Compton College and Compton Community College District.

Sincerely,

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