From: Keith Curry <kcurry@compton.edu> Sent: Friday, March 21, 2025 6:02 PM

Subject: President/CEO Message - March 21, 2025

Campus Community,

I am so proud of the variety of opportunities we provide for students and employees to connect with each other and their communities.

I know many of you are wondering about President Trump's <u>Executive Order - Improving Education Outcomes</u> <u>by Empowering Parents, States, and Communities</u>. This order instructs the Secretary of Education to dismantle the U.S. Department of Education and return authority to the states. In the coming weeks, we will provide more information on this Executive Order in future President/CEO Messages.

However, I want to remind everyone that we need to stay focused on implementing the goals and activities associated with <u>Compton College 2035</u> and the student population we serve. Despite the uncertainties, we must remain focused and remember that our students need us more now than ever.

Wednesday's Meet & Greet with <u>Congresswoman Maxine Waters</u> (District 43) was a well-attended event. Students, employees, and community members filled the Little Theater for nearly two hours as the congresswoman provided an update on the legislative climate in Washington, D.C., and nationwide. She urged everyone to stay educated, motivated, and, above all, to vote—not just in the big elections but also in local elections and primaries. The congresswoman fielded questions from the audience, making it an engaging and informative session. We thank Congresswoman Waters for utilizing Compton College as a gathering place to discuss important matters.

Please remind students about the various scholarship opportunities available at Compton College for the 2025-2026 academic year. Scholarships are a fantastic way to support student success and access by recognizing and rewarding their achievements. Please urge students to apply before the *deadline of March 31*, 2025, and to reach out for assistance if needed. They can visit the Student Success Center or Transfer & Career Center for help with their personal statements and applications. Additionally, remind them to contact a Compton College employee or faculty member early to complete the required online questionnaire. Let's work together to ensure our students take full advantage of these opportunities!

Today's President/CEO Message includes information about several upcoming events, opportunities and deadlines, and more.

Spring 2025 Enrollment Update

As of *yesterday, March 20, 2025*, Compton College generated 1,587 FTES for the Spring 2025 term. Our fill rate for Spring is currently 70%, and 11,248 seats are filled.

Important Update: Spring 2025 Graduation Applications

Due to technical issues identified with the spring 2025 graduation application, the application reopened today and will remain open through Wednesday, March 26, 2025, via the MyCompton Portal.

Students experiencing technical difficulties should contact Admissions and Records in SSB, Room 180, for assistance. An announcement will be sent to students via CRM Advise and Canvas tomorrow at noon. *Please note that there will be no further extensions*.

2025-2026 Associated Student Government Elections

The 2025-2026 Associated Student Government (ASG) Elections will be held on *May 1 and 2*, 2025. *Applications for all positions are accepted online through April 24*, 2025. To be eligible, students must be

enrolled in at least six units, have a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher, and have completed no more than 70 units of college work at Compton College or its equivalent. For more information, please visit the <u>ASG webpage</u> or contact the Office of Student Development located at R-61. Please share this information with your students.

Second Annual Basic Needs Fair

Compton College is hosting its annual Basic Needs Fair on *Wednesday, March 26, 2025, from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. in front of the gymnasium*. This event was originally scheduled for *March 13, 2025,* but was rescheduled due to the weather. It is an opportunity for students to gather information from community-based organizations that provide housing, mental health, physical health, employment, and other social services.

Year-End Celebrations and Activities Begin Next Month

Mark your calendars! On *Thursday, April 24, 2025*, we will be celebrating our Dean's List students at 2:30 p.m. in the Multipurpose Room. In the next <u>President/CEO Message</u>, we will include the entire schedule for the 2025 Year-End Celebration and Activities.

Inaugural Women of Color Action Network (WOCAN) Conference

We are excited to invite you to attend the inaugural Women of Color Action Network (WOCAN) Leadership Conference: Planting the Seeds on *Friday*, *April 4*. This conference is organized by women of color who serve as faculty, staff, and administrators in community colleges across Southern California.

This event aims to ignite a collaborative spirit among women of color from various college campuses. Attendees will be exposed to resources that support their academic, personal, and professional success. With inspiring speakers, engaging workshops, and networking opportunities, this conference is designed to help women unlock their full potential.

Discover new strategies for success, learn from professionals, and connect with like-minded individuals passionate about making a difference. The conference will host workshops for both community college students and professionals in higher education. To register, please email Dr. Pilar Huffman, director of professional development, at phuffman@compton.edu. Classified Professionals interested in participating will need prior approval from their supervisor to attend this conference.

Board Policies and Administrative Regulations

At the *March 17*, *2025*, Compton Community College District Board of Trustees meeting, the following Board Policies (BP) were approved, and the Administrative Regulations (AR) listed below were issued.

- <u>Board Policy 2010</u> Board Membership
- Board Policy 2210 Officers
- Board Policy 2310 Regular Meetings of the Board
- Board Policy 2315 Closed Sessions
- Board Policy 2320 Special and Emergency Meetings
- Board Policy 2360 Minutes
- Board Policy 3810 Claims Against the District
- <u>Board Policy 6100</u> Delegation of Authority
- Board Policy 6150 Designation of Authorized Signatures
- <u>Board Policy 6800</u> Occupational Safety
- Administrative Regulation 2320 Special and Emergency Meeting Notifications
- Administrative Regulation 2340 Agenda Development and Notification
- Administrative Regulation 3810 Claims Against the District
- Administrative Regulation 6800 Occupational Safety
- Administrative Regulation 6801 Transportation Safety
- Administrative Regulation 6802 Illness and Injury Prevention Program

• Administrative Regulation 6850 – Hazardous Materials

Legislative Update

The California Legislature reconvened on *January 6, 2025*, for the 2025-2026 session. With the deadline for new bill introductions having passed on *February 21, 2025*, there are now 239 pending bills. The California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office is closely monitoring 98 Tier 1 bills that could significantly impact community colleges, faculty, and students. For detailed information, please refer to the full Legislative Matrix on the <u>Tracked Legislation webpage</u>, which is updated in real time with any significant changes or new developments. Additionally, the <u>2024 Chaptered Legislation and Guidance Report</u> is designed to inform college stakeholders of recently enacted laws that pertain to California community colleges.

2023-2024 Compton CCD Financial Audit Report

<u>CWDL</u>, our independent external auditing firm, completed the <u>2023-2024 Compton Community College</u> <u>District Financial Audit Report</u>. The Compton District Annual Financial Audit was completed and submitted to the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office with an unmodified opinion of the financial statements (see page 82). Below is a summary of the results of the 2023-2024 Annual Financial Audit Report.

- 1. Compton CCD's general fund ending balance was \$17.9 million, which was above the 10% minimum reserve requirement pursuant to Compton CCD Board Policy 6200 Budget Preparation.
- 2. There were no audit findings or questions about costs for the fiscal year ending *June 30*, 2024.
- 3. Compton CCD complied with the 50 Percent Law for the eleventh consecutive year. Please note that in *October 2024*, Compton Community College District Annual Budget and Financial Status Report Form CCFS-311A for the fiscal 2023-2024 showed we were not in compliance with the 50 Percent Law, as our 2023-2024 audit was not completed. Last week, we notified the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office that we complied with the 50 Percent Law for the 2023-2024 year, and this week, we updated our Compton Community College District Annual Budget and Financial Status Report Form CCFS-311A for the fiscal 2023-2024 Report. Please see page 69 of the 2023-2024 Compton Community College District Financial Audit Report for the final Compton Community College District 50 Percent Law Calculation.

2025-2026 Compton Community College District Budget Development

On *January 10, 2025*, Governor Gavin Newsom released the <u>Proposed California Budget for 2025-2026</u>. The potential impact on California Community Colleges is outlined in the <u>Chancellor's Office Joint Analysis</u> of the proposed budget. In compliance with <u>Administrative Regulation 6201 - Budget Calendar</u>, the 2025-2026 Compton Community College District Tentative Budget Timeline and the <u>2025-2026 Tentative Budget Assumptions</u> were presented to the Planning and Budget Committee on *January 28, 2025*. These were further discussed at the Consultative Council meeting on *February 24, 2025*.

In the next two weeks, we will present the updated <u>Five-Year Fiscal Management Plan</u> and the updated 2025-2026 Tentative Budget Assumptions to the Planning and Budget Committee and the Consultative Council. The updated <u>Five-Year Fiscal Management Plan</u> will include updates to the <u>Other Post-Employment Benefits</u> (OPEB) Futuris Public Entity Investment Trust Funding-Withdrawal Schedule and the <u>California Public Entity Pension Stabilization Trust (PERS/STRS) Funding/Withdrawal Schedule</u> that was approved by the Board of Trustees at their *March 17*, *2025*, meeting. Additionally, the updated Five-Year Fiscal Management Plan will incorporate final expenditures from the 2023-2024 year.

As we develop the 2025-2026 Budget and the Five-Year Fiscal Management Plan, we will review every object code in the budget, ask departments and programs about their expenditures, and monitor to ensure they stay within their allocated budgets. Transparency is key, and we are committed to asking the necessary questions. Due to future fiscal uncertainties, I will make recommendations as we prepare for the next couple of years.

At the *April 21, 2025*, Board of Trustees meeting, the Board will participate in their annual Budget Workshop to receive information and discuss the Compton College 2025-2026 Goals.

Final Thoughts

This week, I participated in the California State University Strategic Enrollment Management Advisory Council Meeting. We discussed the student transcript fee, which many identified as a barrier for students. As a result, I will ask the <u>Student Success Committee</u> to provide a recommendation on eliminating the transcript fee by *June* 30, 2025.

As we continue to foster a vibrant and connected campus community, I'm excited to announce two upcoming events:

- Our annual Ice Cream Social will be held on *Tuesday*, *April 1*, *2025*, from Noon to 2 p.m. in the
 Multipurpose Room. This event is a wonderful opportunity for us to come together and celebrate our
 employees' years of service.
- And save the Date! Classified Professional Development Day will be held on *Friday, May 23, 2025* (9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.) and is mandatory for all Classified Professionals. A variety of hybrid activities will be scheduled *Monday through Thursday, May 19-22, 2025*.

Thank you for your continued dedication and hard work.

Sincerely,

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