Campus Community,

As I reflect on 2025 and the fall 2025 semester, I continue to remind myself of how the year began and the conversations around immigration enforcement and the ongoing monitoring of the federal government and its executive orders. In addition, the fires had a significant impact on Los Angeles County and on our campus community. When I think about the many challenges, I also see many things to be excited about. Enrollment projections for this year, compared to the past couple of years, have increased. We have the Compton College 2035 Comprehensive Master Plan, which will guide our institution over the next 10 years. We have several construction projects scheduled for completion within the next two years, including the Physical Education Complex, the Performing Arts Complex, and Student Housing. I am proud of the work we are doing at Compton College in support of student success, and I know the next couple of years will be even more successful.

Looking to 2026, we must remain focused on the 2025-2026 Compton College Goals and on implementing the Compton College 2035 Institutional Set-Goals. The latest update to our Institutional-Set Goals Dashboard now allows our student support programs to review their 2024–2025 outcomes alongside the 10-year program-level goals that will guide our progress through 2035. These goals align with the strategies in our Compton College 2035 Comprehensive Master Plan and will inform data-driven actions in each program's upcoming biennial plan. With the 2026–2028 biennial plans due on *February 28, 2026,* programs should have ample time to review their goals, assess current resources, and develop new action plans to advance achievement for the students they serve.

And congratulations to our students who finished their finals this week. Your hard work and commitment to complete your educational goals are inspiring – you should be proud of your accomplishments. Thank you to our faculty and staff for assisting and encouraging our students each day. I hope you take some time to enjoy a well-earned and peaceful winter recess.

As we prepare for the Winter Break, this is a friendly reminder that the Spring 2026 Professional Development Day is scheduled for ***Thursday, February 12, 2026***. The general session begins at 9:00 a.m. in the gymnasium, with breakfast available at 8:00 a.m. All full-time faculty, classified professionals, and managers/supervisors are required to attend. Please make sure this important event is on your calendar!

Today's President/CEO Message also includes updates on our Winter Break Closure, Business Process Analysis for Improving Degree Works, using Banner for room reservations, the District's annual organizational meeting, and more.

Winter and Spring 2026 Enrollment Update
As of ***December 11, 2025***, Compton College has made significant progress in enrollment for the upcoming terms:

- 335 FTES for the winter term. Our fill rate for Winter 2026 is currently 86%, with 2,970 seats filled.
- 850 FTES for the spring semester. Our fill rate for Spring 2026 is currently 36%, with 6,058 seats filled.

Although the fall semester ends today, and classes will not be in session next week, there is still time to register for the winter term, which begins on ***January 5, 2026***. We invite all members of our community to support both new and returning students in registering for winter and/or spring courses. I want to remind everyone that our campus will remain open through ***Tuesday, December 23, 2025,*** to assist students with the Steps to Enrollment.

Additionally, classes are still available for the five-week winter term—a fantastic opportunity to get ahead and move closer to earning a degree or certificate.

If any department needs marketing materials, you will find extra winter/spring postcards and Community Newsletters in the Community Relations Office (A-112) available from *December 15-23, 2025*.

Winter Break Closure – Securing Campus Offices/Buildings
As we prepare for the Winter Break campus closure (*Wednesday, December 24, 2025, through Thursday, January 1, 2026*), Campus Police reminds all staff, faculty, and administrators to secure their offices/buildings. Please do the following before you leave:
- Close and lock all windows and blinds.
- Power off and unplug all non-essential appliances.
- Lock up laptops in secure drawers or bins.
- Secure sensitive/confidential materials.
- Clean out food containers and remove perishables from refrigerators.
- Dispose of food in outdoor trash cans to avoid pests.
- Turn off all lights.
- Lock all office doors and double-check if you are the last to leave.

Contact Campus PD: For weekends and after hours (10:30 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.), call 310-554-2978. Otherwise, call 310-900-1600, ext. 2790 for non-emergencies.

If you need to access campus during the break, please get your immediate supervisor's approval 24 hours in advance and email the date, times, and location to the Chief of Police at mthompson@compton.edu.

Business Process Analysis for Improving Degree Works

In the President/CEO Message – November 21, 2025, when discussing the importance of Student Educational Plans. I mentioned that, to improve student outcomes and prepare, Compton College will strengthen the processes outlined in Administrative Regulation 5110 - Counseling, fully implement tools like DegreeWorks, keep program maps current, and develop systems for timely student notifications. In *July 2025*, working with Banner and Strata Information Group, we began addressing issues with DegreeWorks through a Business Process Analysis, which was launched to optimize how we use staff and process resources. Please note that the kickoff of this work included representatives from various campus departments, including faculty, classified professionals, and administrators. The project scope includes reviewing and redesigning transcript evaluation and degree audit processes for Compton College students, including how we use Banner and Degree Works.

We are mapping current workflows, pinpointing bottlenecks, and implementing a more standardized, automated, and technology-enabled model. Key objectives are to streamline operations, reduce errors and rework, strengthen Satisfactory Academic Progress/Financial Aid compliance in Banner, and improve transcript evaluation and course equivalency processing in Degree Works for both Compton College and transfer courses. The expected outcomes are higher data accuracy, lower compliance risk, and a more efficient, consistent experience for students and counselors. Our goal is to work with Banner and Strata Information Group to address the priorities below by the end of the 2025-2026 fiscal year.

Issue / Priority	What needs to be addressed	Action steps	Expected outcome/result
1. Transfer equivalency coding & standards	Transfer equivalencies are not consistently coded, slowing evaluations and	Standardize coding methods for transfer equivalents and identify and validate shared data sources.	Faster and more accurate transfer evaluations; improved Degree Works audit accuracy and advising support;

	affecting the accuracy of audit/advising.		reduced manual processing and rework; stronger financial aid/SAP compliance.
2. Modernize scribing rules	Existing scribe rules need review and standardization to improve accuracy and reduce maintenance effort.	Conduct a comprehensive review of current scribe rules; develop standardized scribing guidelines; provide targeted training for staff.	More reliable audits and evaluations; reduced maintenance time and effort; smoother onboarding of new programs and faster catalog/program updates.
3. Fully implement TESS (Transfer Equivalency Self-Service)	Manual equivalency requests increase staff workload.	Complete TESS configuration with IT and functional leads; populate and validate the transfer equivalency database; conduct stakeholder training.	Expanded student self-service and transparency; reduced staff workload and response time; increased trust in transfer equivalency decisions.
4. Clean up user data & implement routine maintenance	Inaccurate user data contributes to audit errors and repeated manual corrections.	Clean up existing user data; define ownership rules and standards for account creation/updates/deactivation; establish a recurring maintenance schedule; assess Degree Works configuration.	Improved data accuracy and system performance; fewer audit errors; reduced time spent on manual corrections; more consistent user management.
5. Revise workflow notifications & communications	Current workflows don't fully leverage electronic data exchange, leading to increased manual entry and errors.	Map the current transfer/articulation process; determine essential notifications; pilot streamlined electronic workflows.	Accelerated transcript processing and course evaluation; fewer manual entries and errors; improved cross-department coordination and transparency.
6. Implement Banner Course of Study (CPOS) supported by Degree Works	Degree Works and Banner need tighter alignment to ensure accurate federal financial aid eligibility.	Collaborate with Financial Aid, IT, and Academic Affairs to implement CPOS in Degree Works.	Accurate program-of-study coding in Banner/Degree Works; clearer student eligibility pathways; strengthened federal financial aid compliance.

More information on the status of the Business Process Analysis to improve DegreeWorks will be included in the future President/CEO Message.

Small Scholar Libraries
As noted in the President/CEO Message – December 13, 2024, we launched our campuswide Small Scholar Libraries last year, a program that provides easy access to books for students and their children. These libraries

support our Small Scholar Spaces initiative for Compton College student-parents and are part of the Little Free Library nonprofit organization, which aims to boost global literacy. If you are clearing out your bookshelves and have kids' books you no longer need, feel free to bring them to campus. Simply place the books in one of the burgundy book-sharing libraries around campus, located outside the Student Services Building, in front of the Library-SSC, and outside the Child Development Center. If the Small Scholar Libraries are full, please bring book donations to the CalWORKs/TANF/GAIN Office (SSB, Room 270). Thank you to all who have been donating books to the Small Scholar Libraries!

Using Banner for Room Reservations
Beginning in spring 2026, Compton College will transition to using the Banner system to reserve all campus spaces for all events. The Internal Facilities Use form and the Application/Permit for Use Facility Agreement will still be required for use by the external community. Using the Banner system to enter which facilities (indoors and outdoors) and rooms are in use will help us ensure there are no conflicts in room reservations and use. More information on the room reservation process will be included in the future President/CEO Message.

Board Policies and Administrative Regulations
At the *December 8, 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.
- Board Policy 3750 – Use of Copyrighted Material
- Board Policy 6500 – Property Management
- Board Policy 6700 – Civic Center and Other Facilities Use
- Administrative Regulation 3226 – Institutional Review Board
- Administrative Regulation 3250 – Institutional Planning
- Administrative Regulation 3331 – Key Issuance and Return
- Administrative Regulation 3750 – Use of Copyrighted Material
- Administrative Regulation 6201 – Budget Calendar
- Administrative Procedure 6701A – Civic Center-Other Facilities

Compton Community College District Annual Organizational Meeting
The Board of Trustees also elected officers at its annual organizational meeting on *December 8, 2025*. Juanita Doplemore was elected president, Sonia Lopez was elected vice president, and Andres Ramos will serve as clerk. I was appointed secretary during the meeting.

In addition, Andres Ramos will serve as the district representative to the Los Angeles County School Trustees Association, Dr. Sharoni Little 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.

2026 Compton Community College District Board of Trustees Meeting Dates
At the *December 8, 2024,* Board of Trustees Meeting, the Board approved the 2026 meeting schedule. Beginning *January 12, 2026*, the Board will meet on the third Monday of each month, except for meetings rescheduled to accommodate Monday holidays. Board meetings will continue to be held in the Board room, in the Administration Building, with an open session beginning at 6:00 p.m.

President/CEO Closing the Loop
1. This week, to increase safety and enhance our ability to serve our students, staff, visitors, and community, I approved the following projects that will be funded from the 2002 Measure CC Bond Fund.
   - Administration Building Concrete Pavers - $179,346: Remove existing pavers on the southwest side of the Administration Building and replace them with reinforced concrete.

- Blue Emergency Phone Replacement - $350,000: Replace all emergency call-for-assistance blue pole phones across the campus with the latest available technology. We are still receiving quotes for this project, and the cost could potentially be higher.
- Campuswide Lighting - $150,000: Replace malfunctioning site lighting in various parking lots and common areas.
- Campuswide Painting Projects - $120,000: Repaint the existing Administration Building and other areas of the campus as determined.
- Childcare Center Cleanout - $29,920: Removal and disposal of surplus furniture and equipment within Building T (Abel Sykes Child Development Building). This will be associated with the Building T renovation project.
- Technology Switches - $130,000: Replace the remaining 8-year-old network switches that the manufacturer no longer supports. This purchase will complete the two-year modernization project to replace all outdated network and wireless hardware, delivering a robust, reliable network for the college.
- Welding Classroom Repairs - $60,000: Work with two vendors to replace the flexible ductwork and flexible arms for the welding booths in the Vocational Technology Building.

2. Earlier this month, during a President/CEO Cabinet meeting, I approved the following recommendations from the Auxiliary Services Committee:

Requestor	Programming/Supplies	Amount Requested	Recommended Allocation
DeVora Seay/ Dr. Tim Harrison	Dean's List Celebration	$7,500	$3,500.00
Nathan Lopez/ Sam Agdasi	Honors Conference	$3,550	$2,200.00
Lynn Chung/ Dr. Rebekah Blonshine	NerdCon Fieldtrip	$414	$200.00
Dr. Theresa Barragan-Echeverria/ Dr. Maria Garcia	Transfer Admit Celebration	$3,000	$1,200.00
Nathan Lopez/ Sam Agdasi	Ethnic Studies Fieldtrip	$4,000	$1,600.00
Roberta Camacho/Dr. Tim Harrison	Athletics Department: Away Game Meals for Students	$20,000	$6,000.00
Stephanie Baez/ Dr. Maria Garcia	Raza Grad Celebration	$13,000	$5,500.00
Lynn Chung/ Dr. Rebekah Blonshine	Library Bookmark Contest Prizes	$225	$100.00
David Chavez/ Sam Agdasi	History Department Lecturer Series	$4,000	$1,000.00
DeVora Seay/ Dr. Tim Harrison	Martin Luther King Breakfast	$12,500	$3,000.00

Dr. Theresa Barragan-Echeverria/ Dr. Maria Garcia	Swag Items for Students	$2,000	$700.00
	Total	**$89,833**	**$25,000**

Final Thoughts

This week, I was informed that the Compton Community College Federation of Employees (Certificated Unit) Executive Board stated in a communication that the district engaged in **"mismanagement of bond funds,"** which is incorrect and not factual. I understand that during negotiations, comments will be made about the district and my leadership. However, the comment about the **"mismanagement of bond funds"** lacks evidence. It is important to note that I led the efforts to pass the voter-approved 2014 Measure C Bond for $100 million and the 2024 Measure CC Bond for $200 million. The importance of these voter-approved bond measures was that our facilities needed improvement, as prospective and current students compare them with those of our surrounding community colleges. Since 2011, during my tenure as president/CEO, we have completed annual audits of the Compton Community College District bond funds, which are available here. We have had a Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee, which is required under Proposition 39, that includes community representatives. Finally, the budget and expenditures for the 2002 Measure CC, 2014 Measure C, and 2024 Measure CC are included in the Board of Trustees Meeting Agenda each month. Compton CCD and I have been open and transparent in communicating with employees and the public regarding the use of voter-approved bond funds. Please note that I support questions and commentary regarding the use of voter-approved bond funds. However, when unsupported allegations of **"mismanagement"** are made without evidence, they do nothing to advance our mutual interest in serving as honest stewards of the public's funds.

Yesterday, December 11, 2025, we held our fall nursing pinning ceremony, during which we heard inspiring speeches from our faculty and graduates. Congratulations to our graduates, and special thanks to the nursing faculty and staff who helped our students complete this academic goal.

In closing, thank you all for your hard work and dedication. I apologize for the length of this President/CEO Message. We have so many updates to share with the campus community.

Sincerely,

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