

**From:** Keith Curry <kcurry@compton.edu>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 6, 2026 4:08 PM  
**Subject:** President/CEO Message - March 6, 2026

Campus Community,

This week, I joined Academic Senate President Dr. Sean Moore and Dean of Institutional Effectiveness Amari Williams, along with Dr. Monica Trent, Chief Network and Program Officer with Achieving the Dream, and Dr. Kenyatta Lovett, Principal with Educational Strategy Group, at the [2026 DREAM Conference](#) in Portland, where community college leaders from across the country explored how institutions are measuring impact, advancing equity, and strengthening economic mobility. These conversations closely mirror the work underway at Compton College, particularly our ongoing focus on [Return on Investment and on developing an Economic Mobility Initiative Framework](#). These discussions continue to challenge us to think critically about how we define value, success, and long-term outcomes for the students and communities we serve.

In several President/CEO Messages, I have referenced Return on Investment and Economic Mobility ([March 28](#), [May 2](#), [July 10](#), [July 31](#), [August 7](#), [August 29](#), [September 19](#), [September 26](#), [October 24](#), [November 7](#), [November 14](#), [November 21](#), [January 16](#), [January 23](#), and [February 27](#)), because it has been important to me that Compton College is at the forefront on this. We can tell our own story to the public and our students about the value of Compton College.

During [our Dream Conference presentation](#), we shared our progress and were candid that this work continues to evolve. Importantly, this is not just an academic conversation, but a collegewide effort connected to student planning, onboarding, completion, and affordability. I am proud that Compton College remains at the forefront of this important work.

As Compton College continues its state-level advocacy on affordability and access, we have led the formation of a statewide coalition of California community colleges advancing Financial Aid Solutions to Make College Affordable for Californians. In partnership with the California Student Aid Commission, the coalition is advocating for investments in Affordable Transfer, Workforce, and Dreamer Pathways. These proposals align closely with our institutional priorities and our ongoing commitment to reducing financial barriers for students, including but not limited to adult learners, working students, and undocumented students, so they can complete their education and move into living-wage careers.

This week, coalition members submitted a joint letter to state budget and higher education leaders in support of these solutions. I am proud that Compton College is standing with community college districts across the state to ensure California's financial aid system reflects the real lives and needs of today's students. [Click here to read the letter](#).

Today's President/CEO Message includes campus updates, enrollment and athletics highlights, upcoming forums and events, and important policy and planning items for the weeks ahead.

### **Spring 2026 Enrollment Update**

As of *March 2, 2026 (Main Term Census)*, Compton College generated 1,624 FTES for the Spring 2026 term. Our fill rate is currently 67%, with 11,870 seats filled.

Enrollment for spring 2026 remains strong, supporting Compton College's overall fiscal health. At the same time, we remain focused on recruiting new students and retaining those currently enrolled, particularly as we prepare for the second eight-week session, which begins on *Saturday, April 18, 2026*.

### **President/CEO Student Forum**

The next President/CEO Student Forum is scheduled for *next Wednesday, March 11, 2026, at 2:30 p.m.* in Room 212 of the Student Services Building. Please encourage students to use this opportunity to provide feedback and suggestions on how we can help them succeed.

### **Celebrating Women’s History Month: Campus and Statewide Opportunities**

The Associated Student Government will host the 2nd Annual Women’s History Month Tea on *Monday, March 23, 2026, from 12:00 to 1:30 p.m.* in the Multipurpose Room. This year’s theme, “Women Empowered: Purposeful, Passionate, and Poised,” centers on celebration, reflection, and community.

The event is open to the entire Compton College community. All employees and students are welcome. Attendees can look forward to light refreshments, tea, entertainment, and a dynamic panel discussion. Registration is required, and seating is limited. [Click here to register.](#)

In addition, employees are encouraged to share information with students about the [2nd Annual Women of Color Action Network \(WOCAN\) Leadership Conference](#), which will be held on *Friday, March 27*, at Mt. San Antonio College. This year’s theme, “From Seeds to Sisterhood: Cultivating Collective Power,” brings together women of color—students, faculty, staff, and administrators—from California Community Colleges to build community, exchange resources, and engage in meaningful professional and personal development. Registration is now open. To learn more or register, visit: [www.eventbrite.com/e/2026-women-of-color-action-network-leadership-conference](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/2026-women-of-color-action-network-leadership-conference).

### **Compton College Athletics Update**

I encourage employees to stay connected with the outstanding accomplishments of our student-athletes and coaching staff. The latest news, 2025-2026 schedules, results, and team rosters are available on the Compton College Athletics website at [www.comptoncollegeathletics.com](http://www.comptoncollegeathletics.com).

Compton College Athletics continues to demonstrate strong leadership and student success. Men’s Basketball concluded the 2025–2026 season with a third-place finish in the South Coast Conference South Division, highlighted by multiple All-Conference honors. Women’s Basketball also celebrated a standout season, with Head Coach Ollie Brent named South Coast Conference South Division Coach of the Year and four student-athletes earning All-Conference recognition.

Spring sports are underway, with Men’s Baseball and Women’s Softball competing early in their respective seasons. Following the resignation of the Track and Field head coach, the College is preparing to relaunch the program in 2027.

### **Compton College Campuswide Forum**

I will host a virtual Campuswide Forum on *Tuesday, March 17, 2026, at 2:30 p.m.* via Zoom. The focus will be on accreditation, the 2026-2027 Compton Community College District Budget, [Compton College 2035](#), Return on Investment and Economic Mobility, and a Federal Policy Update. To participate, please register in advance using this link: [Compton College Campuswide Forum Online Registration](#).

### **March 9, 2026 – Special Board Meeting**

The Compton Community College District (CCCD) Board of Trustees will hold a Special Board Meeting on *Monday, March 9, 2026, at 5:00 p.m.* to interview three candidates seeking appointment to a vacant provisional seat on the Board. During the meeting, Trustees will conduct candidate interviews, select one individual to fill the provisional seat, and administer the oath of office following Board action.

The Special Board Meeting is open to the public, and community members are welcome to attend. Additional information about the Board vacancy is available online at <https://www.compton.edu/district/board-of-trustees/board-vacancy.aspx>. The meeting agenda will be posted at least 24 hours in advance on the BoardDocs website at <https://go.boarddocs.com/ca/compton/Board.nsf/Public>.

## **RealCollege Survey Report**

In *September 2025*, the 2025 Real College California Basic Needs Survey, conducted by the RP Group in partnership with the Community College League of California's CEO [Affordability, Food & Housing Access Taskforce](#), gathered responses from nearly 77,000 students across 102 community colleges, and the report is available [here](#). Key findings include:

- 67% of community college students experienced at least one form of basic needs insecurity.
- 46% reported food insecurity, with many cutting meals or going hungry due to lack of funds.
- 58% faced housing insecurity, including challenges paying rent or utilities.
- 20% experienced homelessness in the past year, with most couch-surfing or staying temporarily with others

Associated with that statewide report was the [2025 #RealCollege Survey of Basic Needs results for Compton College](#), which underscore a critical reality for our campus community:

- 72% of Compton College students experienced at least one form of basic needs insecurity over the past year.
- 55% struggling with food access
- 68% facing housing instability
- 28% of our respondents are experiencing homelessness.

As we continue to build a "student-ready" campus, including our progress on new student housing, I hope all faculty and staff will help us bridge this gap by [sharing these resources](#) with current and prospective students in need. Together, we can ensure every student at Compton College has the stability they need to focus on their academic goals.

## **Basic Needs Services – Student Expectations for Completion Recommendation**

At my request, we are developing a proposed Basic Needs Services Student Expectations for Completion recommendation that would establish second-year eligibility expectations for students who continue receiving basic needs support, beginning in fall 2027, with clear communication throughout 2026–2027. The goal is to continue meeting students where they are while also encouraging them to be proactive and make meaningful progress toward completing their educational goals. Expectations will differ for credit, noncredit, and career and technical education (CTE) pathways, will be data-informed and student-centered, and will not apply to dual enrollment students. The full recommendation, including eligibility criteria and a phased implementation timeline, will be developed through the Collaborative Governance process and presented to me by *Friday, April 24, 2026*.

## **Update on Student Fee Payment and Registration Policy**

As previously shared in the [President/CEO Message - July 3, 2024](#), and [President/CEO Message - October 31, 2025](#), the Student Payment and Registration Policy Taskforce has continued its work to clarify and standardize student fee payment expectations. The taskforce is recommends updates to [Administrative Regulations 5030 – Fees](#) and [Administrative Regulations 5035 – Withholding of Student Records](#) to clarify both the District's and students' responsibilities regarding timely payment, balance notifications, and potential consequences for unpaid fees. Under the proposed approach, registration holds and possible disenrollment prior to the start of instruction would apply to student accounts with outstanding balances above a new \$200 threshold. Admissions & Records and the Bursar's Office are leading implementation planning, including proactive outreach to students with outstanding balances, clear deadlines to resolve them, and encouragement to apply for financial aid. Importantly, students who receive financial assistance, such as Oliver W. Conner College Promise participants, veterans and active military using GI benefits, fee-waived students, and others, will be appropriately coded and safeguarded from drop procedures. The revised regulations are scheduled for review by

the Board of Trustees at their **March 16, 2026**, meeting, following continued communication and student-centered planning. Registration holds and drop procedures will take effect beginning Fall 2026, with priority registration opening **April 28, 2026**.

### **Compton CCD Implementation of Assembly Bill 1905**

Earlier *today, March 6, 2026*, Vice President of Human Resources Dr. Hiacynth D. Martinez shared an update regarding a new process for issuing employment-related letters of recommendation in response to recent changes in California law under [Assembly Bill 1905](#). The law strengthens requirements to ensure that individuals with substantiated findings of sexual misconduct are not able to move between educational institutions without appropriate safeguards. To support compliance, employees will now be asked to submit a brief form to Human Resources before issuing a letter of recommendation. This review does not prevent employees from writing letters about a colleague's professional performance or accomplishments; rather, it ensures the District meets its legal obligations while maintaining confidentiality and supporting responsible professional advancement.

Please note that we are currently updating the following Compton Community College District Board Policies to comply with [Assembly Bill 1905](#):

[Board Policy 7210- Academic Employees](#)

[Board Policy 7230 – Classified Employees](#)

[Board Policy 7250 – Educational Administrators](#)

[Board Policy 7260 – Classified Supervisors](#)

For more information, please see Dr. Martinez's email. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Dr. Martinez at [hmartinez6@compton.edu](mailto:hmartinez6@compton.edu).

### **Please sign up today! Receive emergency notifications via cell phone or email.**

Sign up to receive emergency notifications at Compton College Campus Police via Nixle, a free service that informs you of campus and community safety alerts. Through this system, you will receive alerts/notifications via cell phone, text message, and/or email. To register, go to [www.compton.edu/campus-safety/nixle](http://www.compton.edu/campus-safety/nixle). You can also text “CCPD1” to 888777 on your mobile phone to receive alerts via text only.

### **Final Thoughts**

A quick reminder that the annual Career Fair is happening this **Saturday, March 7, 2026**. Compton College is proud to partner with the City of Compton and Compton Unified School District (CUSD) to showcase a wide range of employment opportunities. Please help spread the word by sharing this event with friends, family members, and colleagues who may be interested in working with Compton CCD, the City of Compton, or CUSD. For a full list of open Compton CCD positions, information on required qualifications, and to apply online, visit the Human Resources webpage at: <https://www.compton.edu/about/officesandservices/human-resources/index.aspx>.

Discover careers in fire science and emergency services at Compton College by joining us **tomorrow, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** in the Main Quad. Representatives from the City of Compton Fire Department will be on-site to answer questions, share career insights, and highlight Compton College's Fire Technology program. This is a great opportunity to learn, connect, and take the first step toward a rewarding fire service career focused on serving, protecting, and leading our community.

Have a great weekend with family and friends! Don't forget to “spring forward” one hour on **Sunday, March 8, 2026**.

Sincerely,

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