

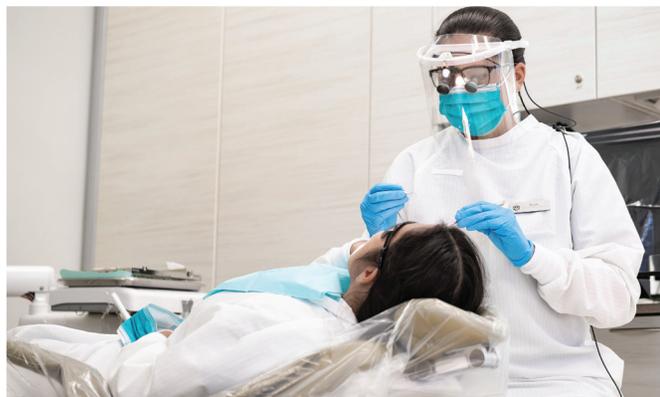
# Looking Forward



Ventura County  
Community College District

2021

# ANNUAL REPORT



VENTURA COUNTY  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

*Mission Statement*

Ventura County Community College District provides students, in its diverse community, with access to comprehensive quality educational opportunities that support student learning and student success.

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## Letter from the Chancellor

The Ventura County Community College District faced unforeseeable challenges throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. These challenges included the move to remote learning for most classes at Moorpark, Oxnard, and Ventura colleges, canceled sports seasons and on-ground student commencements, and decreased student enrollment.

However, even with the challenges, there was opportunity and gratitude.

I would like to thank our students, faculty, staff, and community partners whose spirit, tenacity, and resourcefulness brought continued learning and educational successes to our students throughout this unprecedented time.

Moorpark, Oxnard, and Ventura colleges provided high-quality, affordable education that enabled approximately 31,000 students to pursue a degree or certificate, expand their skills, or to transfer to a four-year college or university.

We have renewed our commitment to the District's mission and dedication to initiatives that weave diversity, equity, and inclusion into everything we do to support the success of our students.

Ventura County is fortunate to serve diverse communities. We will advance diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives across the spectrum of race, ethnicity, language, culture, nationality, social-economic class, age,

physical ability, religious beliefs, gender, and sexual orientation in classrooms and working environments.

Although COVID-19 may have tested our resolve, the District is poised to facilitate the county's economic rebound through our employees, job-ready students, and community partners. We look forward to all that we can accomplish together for a stronger community.

Greg Gillespie, Ph.D.  
Chancellor



**2,106**

2020-21 Graduates



**1,052**

2020-21 Graduates



**2,212**

2020-21 Graduates

5,370 VCCCD students earned their degree or certificate in 2021.

# A Message from the Chair

On behalf of the Ventura County Community College District (VCCCD) Board of Trustees, I am privileged to present the District's annual report, which spotlights VCCCD's accomplishments and looks to the future.

This annual report focuses on our core mission of providing our students with access to comprehensive, quality educational opportunities that support student learning and student success. We are proudly cultivating our community's future leaders.

Our student body reflects California's richly diverse population. While they come from varied backgrounds, our students share a thirst for learning that propels them toward rewarding careers in academia, business, government, nonprofit organizations, and other industries where they can make an impact.

To prepare our college students to thrive academically and personally, the Board of Trustees has held thoughtful discussions on critical topics and adopted resolutions that demonstrate our commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion for students, employees, and the community. These resolutions support rectifying equity gaps and removing barriers for traditionally marginalized groups so that everyone can reach their full potential.

We look forward to the year ahead. There is much to be excited about as our colleges and the community re-emerge from the pandemic. Our students continue to show tremendous persistence and resilience, which are fundamental leadership traits. As they graduate and establish their careers, the District remains dedicated to helping tomorrow's students find their path for success.

It is an honor to serve this District, and I thank you for joining us in celebrating our achievements and our vision for the future.



Joshua Chancer  
Chair, Board of Trustees



VCCCD Board of Trustees  
Standing L to R: Stan Mantooth, Gabriela Torres, Bernardo M. Perez  
Seated L to R: Joshua Chancer, Dianne B. McKay

# VCCCD Board of Trustees

## *Area of Coverage*

### **AREA 1 - Joshua Chancer:**

San Buenaventura, Montalvo, Saticoy, Ojai Valley, City of Ojai, Upper Ojai Valley, Riverpark, Northwest Oxnard, North Coast, and West Lockwood Valley

### **AREA 2 - Dianne B. McKay:**

Thousand Oaks, Newbury Park, Westlake Village, Oak Park, Bell Canyon, Hidden Valley, Lake Sherwood, Somis, Las Posas Valley, California State University Channel Islands, Portions of the Oxnard Plain, Santa Rosa Valley, Naval Base Ventura County Point Mugu, California Air National Guard, and South Coast

### **AREA 3 - Stan Mantooth:**

Camarillo, Port Hueneme, Southeast Oxnard, East Oxnard Plain, Santa Paula, Fillmore, Piru, East Lockwood Valley, and Eastern Portion of Naval Base Ventura County Port Hueneme

### **AREA 4 - Bernardo M. Perez:**

Simi Valley, Moorpark, Santa Susana Knolls, Box Canyon, Chatsworth Peak, Home Acres, Sinaloa Lake, and Tierra Rejada Valley

### **AREA 5 - Gabriela Torres:**

Oxnard, Oxnard Shores, Mandalay Bay, Silver Strand, Hollywood Beach, Hollywood by the Sea, Channel Islands Harbor, El Rio, Nyeland Acres, Del Norte Area, Oxnard Plain, Strickland, and Portion of Naval Base Ventura County Port Hueneme

# VCCCD Board of Trustees

## *Resolutions*

The VCCCD Board of Trustees supports the community through numerous Board-approved resolutions. Following is a selection of key resolutions for 2020-2021:

**Resolution** Declaring Emergency Conditions Exist at Ventura County Community College District and Authorization to Take Any and All Necessary Actions to Prepare and Respond Effectively to the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)  
- Adopted March 17, 2020.

**Resolution** in Support of California Assembly Constitutional Amendment No. 5 - Adopted June 16, 2020.

**Resolution** Affirming Commitment to Student Success for African American Students - Adopted June 23, 2020.

**Resolution** in Support of Access and Accessibility  
- Adopted August 11, 2020.

**Resolution** in Support of October 19-23, 2020 as Undocumented Student Action Week  
- Adopted October 13, 2020.

**Resolution** Affirming Commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) - Adopted April 13, 2021.



# Student Outcomes

## 2020 Associate Degrees

VCCCD TOTAL = 7,121



3,415



1,141



2,565

## 2020 Certificates

VCCCD TOTAL = 4,102



1,644



717



1,741

## 2020 UC Transfers

VCCCD TOTAL = 568



390



40



138

## 2020 CSU Transfers

VCCCD TOTAL = 1,911



959



321



631



# Strategic Goals

The VCCCD four strategic goals are in alignment with the Vision for Success Strategic Goals by the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office (CCCCO).

To view the CCCCCO strategic goals, visit Institutional Effectiveness and Research. ([vcccd.edu/IE](http://vcccd.edu/IE))

**INSTILL** a culture that values diversity, students, our communities, collaboration, and the success of each employee.

**INCREASE** equitable access and success for all students.

**SUPPORT** the closing of academic achievement and support services equity gaps across all racial, ethnic, socioeconomic and gender groups.

**ACTIVELY SUPPORT** equitable workforce and economic development in Ventura County through partnerships and relevant programs and pathways leading from education to careers.

# Meet our Students!

*"Until I went to a VCCCD community college, I never thought I could push myself or that I was capable of achieving so much. I helped establish an Honors Society for Students with Disabilities and also served as its president. Additionally, I also advocated for students, served on multiple board positions, became a math/science tutor, and found my passion for engineering.*

*The professors and faculty at Moorpark College definitely inspired me!"*



*"What I loved the most about attending community college was that everyone was all hands on deck and genuinely wanted everyone to succeed.*

*I never thought I could completely focus on my schooling. Oxnard College really helped me gain the motivation I needed in order to complete my 2 years in community college. I appreciate all the professors and counselors who took the time to help me and support me through this process."*



# Top 25 Degrees and Certificates

Awarded in 2021

- 1 General Studies
- 2 CSU General Education Certificate
- 3 Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum Certificate
- 4 Business
- 5 Psychology
- 6 Pre-Allied Health Certificate
- 7 Sociology
- 8 Child Development
- 9 Economics
- 10 Administration of Justice
- 11 Nursing
- 12 Fire Academy
- 13 Mathematics
- 14 Accounting
- 15 Biology
- 16 Communication Studies
- 17 Kinesiology
- 18 Criminal Justice
- 19 Engineering
- 20 Auto
- 21 Elementary Teacher Education
- 22 Physics
- 23 Art
- 24 Film/Television/Electronic Media
- 25 Exotic Animal Training Management

## Meet our Students!

*"Until I went to a VCCCD community college, I never thought I could actually choose a major that I would enjoy! I also happily realized that I could have the full experience of college while still living in my hometown.*

*I loved that I could easily join a few amazing sports teams and pursue my athletic goals. I also loved the amount of easily accessible learning resources, like the beautiful **Ventura College** library and other buildings and programs."*



*"Attending a VCCCD community college gave me the opportunity to seek out a variety of different subjects. **Moorpark College** paved the way for me to attain my goal of attending a university. I was accepted to UCLA, UCSB, and UCI!*

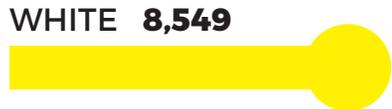
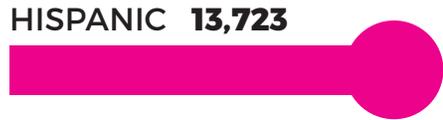
*I have been fortunate to have had many positive influences throughout my education thus far."*





# VCCCD STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

(Districtwide Spring 2021)



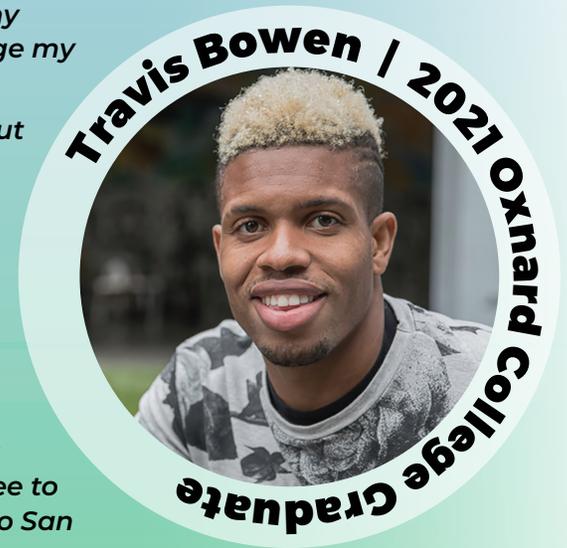
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## Meet our Students!

*"I was inspired to pursue my educational goals to change my family tree.*

*What I loved the most about attending a community college was being a part of the **Oxnard College** community and becoming the first-ever All-American soccer player at Oxnard College.*

*Until I went to a VCCCD community college, I never thought I could get a degree to transfer! Now I'm headed to San Diego State University."*



*"Until I went to a VCCCD community college, I never thought I could complete an intensive college education during high school.*

*My mom inspired me to pursue my educational goals. She supported my notion that I could do anything I put my mind to, so I enrolled at **Ventura College**.*

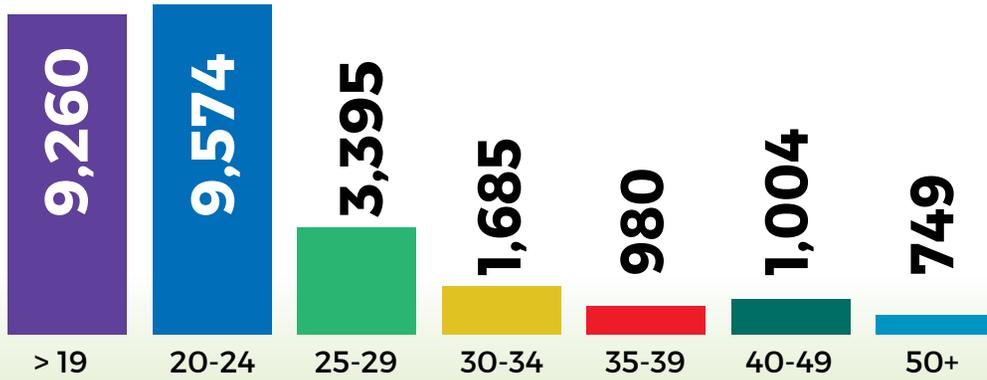
*I loved the versatility of online courses and the greater opportunities I had because of their flexibility. Now I'm headed to UC San Diego!"*





# VCCCD STUDENTS AGE

(Districtwide Spring 2021)



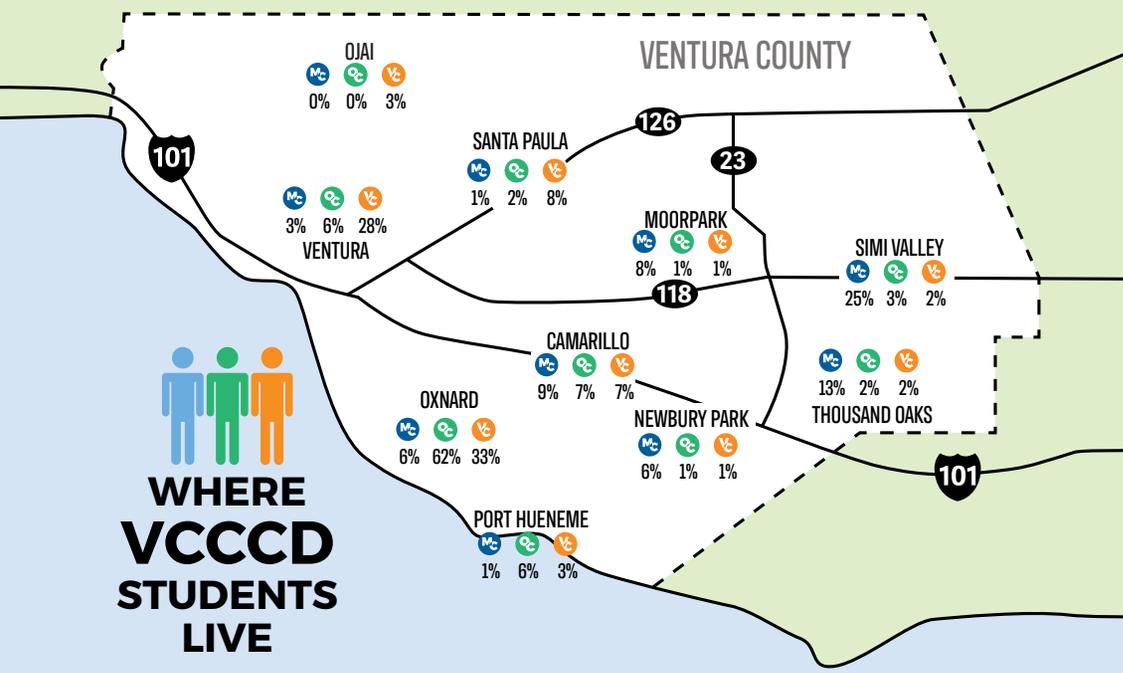

**14,601**  
STUDENTS




**7,119**  
STUDENTS




**11,893**  
STUDENTS



# Our Students Keep Learning!

## FALL 2020 Top UC transfer school choice

Listed in descending order  
starting with #1 choice



## FALL 2020 Top CSU transfer school choice

Listed in descending order  
starting with #1 choice



# Workforce Development

Workforce development fuels business growth in and around communities. It can also transform the lives of those seeking personal and professional growth.

Dr. Cynthia Herrera, vice chancellor of Institutional Effectiveness, discusses how workforce development connects area industry to students and enriches the student experience.

## The Future of Work

Two initiatives will drive industry in Ventura County: environmental responsibility and diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI), says Herrera. "I think we need a cross-sector initiative on clean, green, and sustainability," she says. "These concepts should be integrated across different academic and business sectors, not in isolation."

Herrera refers to DEI as another "cross-sector initiative" and says it should be consolidated into various programs throughout the District to address the community's specific needs.

## Post Pandemic Growth

The District enhances contract education opportunities and works with employers to upskill employees to gain expertise and get promoted within the workforce. The training programs cover various opportunities from management to manufacturing technology and address the specific needs of each business.



*We learned we needed to pivot faster to meet business demands in a timely fashion. Businesses can't wait 12 to 24 months for their employees to be trained once the need is identified.*



*Dr. Cynthia Herrera  
Vice Chancellor of  
Institutional Effectiveness*



Herrera meets with area businesses to identify their needs and will access Employment Training Program (ETP) funds to minimize the employers' costs of upskilling while expanding training to employees.

Students at Moorpark, Oxnard, and Ventura colleges gained new skills in 2021, particularly those related to e-learning, since most classes were virtual.

With remote learning, "our students had to have access to technology, Wi-Fi, and hotspots and learn how to use online services. So, to their benefit, post-COVID, they now have those skills."

## Building Industry Ties

Students can gain valuable skills and experience through internships, and Herrera continually works to make these available.

"Our focus is on getting our students into internships, so they get exposure while they are pursuing their educational pathway," she says. Through internships, students receive hands-on learning while developing relationships with businesses, which increases the likelihood of obtaining a job upon graduation or supporting their financial needs through part-time work while continuing to pursue additional educational goals.

Ventura College has apprenticeship programs that support the concept of “earn and learn.”

Faculty and staff work closely with businesses that hire students in apprenticeship positions that align with the students’ educational experience. These opportunities provide students with paid work while pursuing their educational degree and/or certificate of completion. Employers benefit by having skilled apprentices who are prepared for the job at hand.

Building relationships with industry is an ongoing process, Herrera says. One approach involves participating in regional economic and workforce development collaboratives and memberships on Boards—which are comprised of representatives from higher education, K-12, and businesses—to align workforce development and education. “We try to participate on these councils and committees, both regional and countywide, to actively partner with employers and connect our educational pathways to meet current and future needs.”

Each of the career education programs at Moorpark, Oxnard, and Ventura colleges has advisory committees, specifically to partner with industry, listen to their needs, and create an educational pathway—certificate or degree—or a short-term pathway that supports their industry sector.

Micro courses are a short-term pathway that produce positive outcomes for employers and students. These courses run 40-60 hours over a two- to four-week period in highly skilled areas that students need in order to upskill or learn about a new industry.

Micro courses are stackable, meaning they could be used to create a certificate pathway. Students can quickly learn needed skills for their current position or decide if it is a pathway they want to pursue.

### *Streamlining Processes*

In February 2021, the District participated in a listening session with more than 80 area businesses. A primary concern addressed community colleges’ ability to create new

curricula that meet industry needs in a timely manner. Because of educational regulations, it can take a community college from one to two years to receive program and related coursework approval.

“We learned we needed to pivot faster to meet business demands in a timely fashion. Businesses can’t wait 12 to 24 months for their employees to be trained once the need is identified,” says Herrera. As a result, the District is now utilizing the California Community Colleges’ Strong Workforce Program funding to develop curriculum with a dual purpose of providing contract education using Employment Training Panel (ETP) funding, while the higher education curriculum approval process is underway as a method to be more responsive to businesses while also minimizing their training-related expenses.

Once the curriculum is approved, it becomes a credit or non-credit course or program offered to students who attend the colleges. It’s a win-win for our region and our students!



# Leadership for a Sustainable Future

VCCCD has long committed to the belief that every day is Earth Day. The District puts this belief into action by supporting sustainability efforts for the benefit of students and the community. VCCCD Board of Trustees enact efforts to promote this measure Districtwide, including adopting resolutions to advance support of campus-based initiatives that build upon the sustainability efforts of Moorpark, Oxnard, and Ventura colleges, including energy conservation, energy efficiency, and utilization of renewable energy.

Resolutions cement the Board's commitment to building and maintaining a culture of sustainability for current and future students.

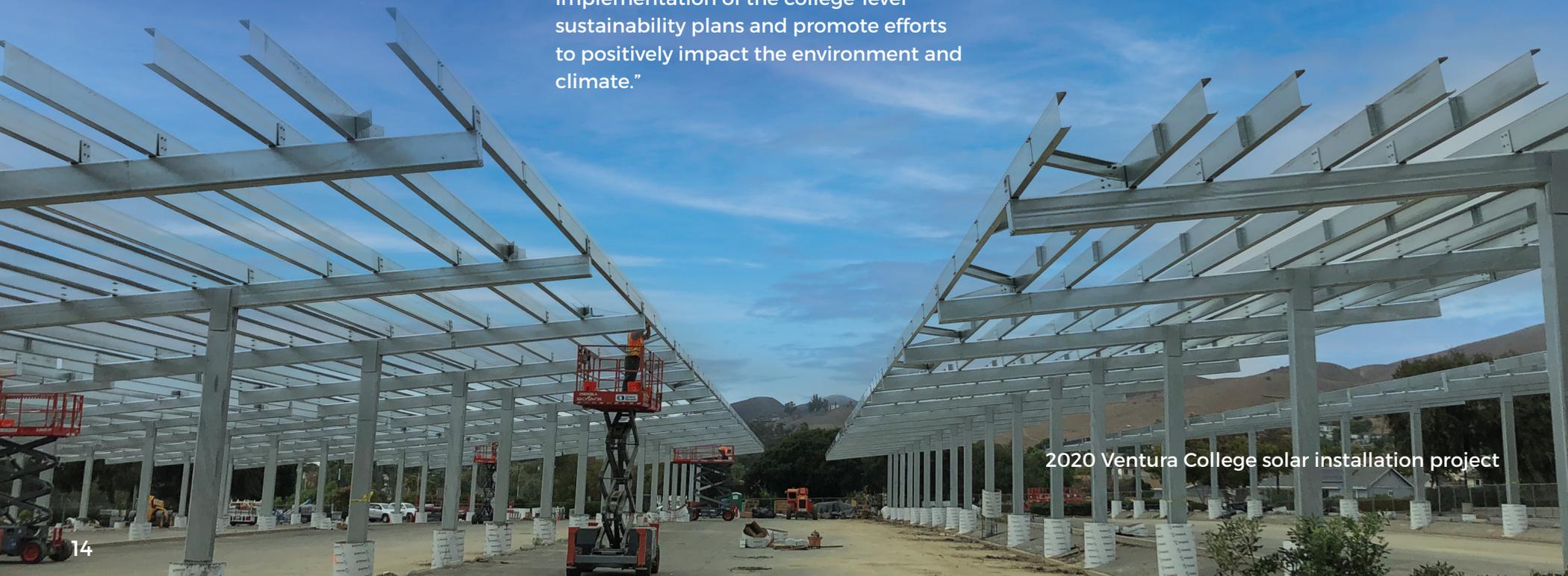
The Resolution in Support for and Declaration of Clean Air Day highlights the impact of pollution on public health and encourages community members and area industries to take steps that benefit the environment.

The Resolution in Support of Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability underscores that everyone—students, faculty, employees, and the community—has the power to combat climate change and preserve water, land, and other resources necessary for healthy living. This resolution recognizes that climate change relates to social justice and equity, as it disproportionately affects people of color and those living in poverty.

One of VCCCD's strategic goals is to “support implementation of the college-level sustainability plans and promote efforts to positively impact the environment and climate.”

The Board endorsed plans to build and install underlit solar carport arrays in parking lots at Moorpark, Oxnard, and Ventura colleges. These carports shield vehicles from the sun's heat and will provide students, faculty, and staff with access to electric vehicle charging stations, allowing people to further reduce their carbon footprint and dependence on gasoline.

The future depends on our investment in environmentally friendly practices, and VCCCD seeks solutions to nurture sustainable efforts, reduce air pollution, and counteract the effects of climate change.



2020 Ventura College solar installation project

## VCCCD and its colleges care for the environment by:



Reducing water usage by installing drought-resistant plants and trees.



Upgrading interior and exterior incandescent lighting to power-saving LED lighting.



Offering more vegetable-based food options.



Replacing older and inefficient HVAC systems and computers.



Decreasing paper use through recycling and digital technologies.



Participating in local and regional environmental organizations that work to promote renewable energy.



Partnering with the Ventura County Transportation Commission to provide free bus rides throughout Ventura County for students.

# Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

## *The Cornerstone of the District and its Practices*

Diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) hold critical roles within the Ventura County Community College District. These concepts infuse every facet of the organization—across academics, policymaking, hiring, retention, and professional development.

In 2021, the District instituted several important initiatives related to DEI.

### **A Vehicle for Change: VCCCD DEI Work Group**

Chancellor Greg Gillespie assembled an inaugural meeting of the District's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Work Group in spring 2021. This group represents a vehicle for comprehensive engagement of DEI work at Moorpark, Oxnard, and Ventura colleges and Ventura College East Campus.

Constituents at this meeting included the District's Board members and senior staff, who shared insights and the work group's duties. District employees and student government officers who participated in the meeting offered feedback on goals and strategies and made recommendations for the work group to facilitate positive change.

### **Diversity Month: Resolving to support all stakeholders**

The District's Board of Trustees passed the resolution affirming the Ventura County Community College District's Commitment to

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, re-enforcing its commitment to DEI and the richness these elements bring to our community.

The resolution outlined the following actions the District will take to promote the academic and professional success of its students, faculty, and staff:

- Supporting and enacting recommendations from the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office Vision for Success Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Task Force.
- Participating in biannual implicit bias and cultural competency training.
- Increasing access and opportunity for all students, faculty, staff, administrators, and the community.
- Creating and encouraging a culture that advances DEI while leading a dialogue to understand and value the diverse voices and perspectives in our community.
- Annually reviewing the compliance with the California Education Code Equal Employment Opportunity standards and Chancellor's Office Certification Form addressing diversity across, but not limited to, Board policies and adopted resolutions and hiring and professional development.

These steps provide everyone in the community the opportunity to prosper, regardless of race, ethnicity, language, culture, nationality, social-economic class, age, physical ability, religious beliefs, gender, and sexual orientation.

### **Paying Tribute to Our Differences**

Moorpark, Oxnard and Ventura colleges hosted multicultural days and a diversity festival, and the District celebrated Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Week, emphasizing our pledge to create a more inclusive learning environment.

Events ranged from virtual videos and breakout sessions (where students and faculty explored the richness that multiple cultures bring to the campuses) to cultural displays from Native Americans and a live Zoom meeting with C Pam Zhang, author of the Booker Prize-nominated book, “How Much of These Hills Is Gold.” Students showcased their creative talents by participating in art contests and “Poetry Slams.”

All events were captioned for the hearing impaired and hard of hearing and included American Sign Language interpreters.

The District and its colleges will continue holding events each April demonstrating support for ongoing DEI endeavors that will guide—and transform—the community to one that is fairer and more equitable.



### **Equal Employment Opportunity**

VCCCD serves a rich and diverse community of students from varied backgrounds and lived experiences. Students thrive when they have the opportunity to interact with faculty and staff comprised of a wide range of physical and mental abilities, multiple generations, a multitude of political and religious beliefs, and varying gender identities and expressions. Therefore, it is essential that the District strives to diversify its workforce by continuing its commitment to providing

equal employment opportunities (EEO) for all people, regardless of race, religion, national origin, color, age, physical or mental disability, medical condition, marital status, or sex.

The VCCCD EEO Advisory Committee is revising and expanding the existing EEO Plan. It is using a thoughtful and strategic approach to create a more robust EEO Plan that will include a three-year implementation strategy. The plan will be presented to the Board of Trustees and will incorporate insights and input from the Board’s ad hoc Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee.



Persistence. Motivation. Dedication.

These traits embody Moorpark College and its students, faculty, and staff.

Many Moorpark College students are the first in their families to attend college. Our counselors work with these students, providing them access to financial aid and career counseling to successfully transition into the workplace or a four-year college or university.

Our students experiencing hunger or homelessness can seek assistance from counselors and Raider Central, an on-campus and virtual center that meets basic needs.

We consistently rank in the Top 10 California colleges that award the associate degree for transfer (ADT) that ensures admission

to participating CSU campuses, private universities around the state, and out-of-state institutions, including Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU).

Diversity is an essential element at our college: nearly 40% of our students are Latinx or Black Indigenous people of color (BIPOC), while 53% are women.

Moorpark College believes education inspires and transforms communities. We look forward to continuing to enrich the lives of those driven to study on our hillside campus in the coming decades.

*Julius Sokenu*

President



## Highlights

- Named Best Community College by Intelligent.com on its 2021 list of Best Colleges in California.
- Recognized as a 2020 Champion of Higher Education by the Campaign for College Opportunity for five consecutive years.
- Received a five-year, \$2.9 million Department of Education Title V grant in 2020 for its Project STEM Impacto, which develops student cohorts in biology, biotechnology, and computer network systems engineering.
- Launched a Black student union and African American Male Education Network and Development chapter under student leadership.

## Campus Culture

One of respect that celebrates diversity and is grounded in participatory governance, open dialogue, and varied perspectives.

## Campus Personality

Student-focused, collegial, creative, and innovative.

## *Carmel Gutherz*

**MOORPARK COLLEGE ALUMNA  
CLASS OF 2016**

Carmel Gutherz entered Moorpark College as a first-generation college student unsure of her career path. Now Carmel is a UC Berkeley graduate and a corps member of Teach for America, teaching AP English literature and inspiring students with her insight, dedication and love of learning.

Carmel chose Moorpark College for the quality education she knew she'd receive and because of the affordability. Carmel served as an ASMC board member, the A.S. director of academic

affairs and became an avid supporter of environmentalism.

"Not only did I feel inspired by my MC professors, I felt the need to really do something with that knowledge and perspective. ... Moorpark taught me that enjoying learning can cause a chain reaction that includes the application of knowledge. To me, that is the highest form of learning I could only hope my students aspire to, and the kind of education everyone deserves to experience in their lifetime."



## *Tommy Arellano*

**MOORPARK COLLEGE  
2021 CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR**

During his more than 39 years as the athletic equipment manager at Moorpark College, Thomas "Tommy" Arellano has earned a reputation as the mastermind behind many thriving department programs and successes. In recognition of his dedication to the college, Tommy was named Moorpark College's 2021 Classified Employee of the Year.

He has a knack for building strong, long-lasting relationships with students and staff. Tommy's equipment room has long been the first stop for returning athlete alumni eager to check on him and tell him about their lives post-MC.

"What I find most rewarding is watching the student-athletes compete on this level, move on and compete at the next level, get their

undergrad and master's degrees and become successful—and knowing I had a part in that."

As social media began to take hold, Tommy quickly adapted to the different platforms, keeping student-athletes and alumni connected to the athletic department and the college.

"We are sixth in the California Community College Athletic Association when it comes to social media exposure," remarked Tommy. "Athletes love seeing game pictures and their names on social media."

Tommy also hosts most of the athletic department's community activities. The community knows Tommy for his generosity, helpfulness, and enthusiasm for MC.





As president of Oxnard College, one of my goals is to bring national recognition to the vital work happening on our campus.

Raising the profile and reputation of Oxnard College has concrete benefits for our students in terms of transfer and career opportunities and is a point of pride for our employees and students.

We are creating an educational master plan that will span the next decade. We recognize that we need to do more outreach to younger students—in middle school, for example—to plant the seeds of college and help their parents understand that there are financial resources available to assist their children.

Many Oxnard College students hail from immigrant backgrounds and represent the grit and resilience of people who want to improve their lives.

Oxnard College starts with the premise that all students are capable of exceptional futures, that everyone has talent, and sometimes that talent has not yet been fully deployed. We are partners in helping students become as successful as possible.

*Luis Sanchez*

President



## Highlights

- Secured a \$3 million federal Title V grant from the U.S. Department of Education's Developing Hispanic-Serving Institutions Program (DHSI) to support equitable outcomes for Latinx and low-income students.
- Received a \$1.2 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education for the TRIO Student Support Services program that serves 140 first-generation, low-income students annually over five years. TRIO programs help students remain in college, graduate, and transfer to four-year universities.
- Hosted esteemed civil rights leader Dr. Angela Davis for an Associated Student Government virtual event about social justice issues called, "Empowering the Next Generation: A Conversation with Angela Davis."

## Campus Culture

Oxnard College prides itself on being inclusive, collaborative, and transparent.

## Campus Personality

Continually striving to make our community members feel welcomed and supported.

## *Elek Batoczki* OXNARD COLLEGE ALUMNI CLASS OF 2017

Elek Batoczki always knew he wanted a career in law. His first job in the field was as a receptionist at a law firm, but to fully accomplish his goal Elek knew he had to take it a step higher—he enrolled in the paralegal studies program at Oxnard College.

“Until I attended Oxnard College, I never thought I could become as proficient in the field of being a paralegal as I am now,” said Elek, who’s currently climbing the ladder at a family law firm in Westlake Village.

Elek noted the specialized attention OC instructors provide and the accommodating class schedules with regard to home and work life.

In 2017, Elek obtained both a certification and degree in paralegal studies from OC. He plans to stay at the Westlake Village law firm while he decides whether his future lies in taking the bar exam or enrolling in law school.



## *Gaby Rodriguez* OXNARD COLLEGE 2021 CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

Gabriela “Gaby” Rodriguez redefined the role of student activities specialist at Oxnard College. She continues to encourage and inspire students in her current role as OC’s Proyecto Éxito’s Title V Grant Director. In recognition of her dedication, the college named Gaby Oxnard College’s 2021 Classified Employee of the Year.

Gaby’s insight and initiative are partly rooted in cultural anthropology and the nonprofit world. In 2004, as a student at UC Santa Barbara, she took on the role of program coordinator at Future Leaders of America (FLA).

A first-generation college student, Gaby graduated with a bachelor’s degree in cultural anthropology in 2008.

“I love working with students and empowering them, helping them achieve their greatest self and being of service to others,” said Gaby.

After over 10 years of helping the students of FLA achieve their goals, Gaby found a fresh platform to continue aiding students—Oxnard College, where she’s worked since 2015.

During this time, Gaby earned her master’s degree in counseling and pupil personnel services from California Lutheran University and has had several accomplishments at OC. This includes initiating the OC Food Pantry, tri-chairing the Guided Pathways Committee, serving the Student Equity and Success Committee, and myriad other achievements.





# Ventura College

In 2025, Ventura College will celebrate its centennial. As the first college established in Ventura County, we have a long tradition of providing students with opportunities to better their lives.

Each semester, around 13,000 students enroll in our classes. Our programs put students on the path to fulfilling, high-demand careers or to furthering their education at four-year colleges and universities.

We have initiated programs with Ventura County's business sector addressing industry needs while training our students for rewarding careers. Our Ag Supervisory Leadership Training program encourages employees to take on leadership roles, and

the diesel and veterinary technician programs meet the shortage of skilled workers for these careers.

Beyond the classroom, students can enrich their college experience by participating in student government or joining some of our 20 clubs. The more they engage on campus, the more likely they will stay in school.

Ventura College wants to develop students' potential and help them navigate the world we live in. Our vision is to continue to be a beacon of learning and transform lives.

*Kim Hoffmans*

President



## Highlights

- 2020-21 Exemplary Program Award for the Faculty Academy for "Equitable Practices in a Virtual Educational Environment" by the California Community Colleges Board of Governors.
- Public/Private Partnership Award for the partnership between VC's East Campus and Ohana Pet Hospital for the veterinary technology program by Ventura County Economic Development Association.
- 35+ in-demand and specialized areas of study fully online through the associate degree for transfer (ADT) program.
- A leader in Zero Textbook Costs with over 40% of courses using no-cost options.
- 19 competitive sports that have won 21 Western State Conference Supremacy Awards and 16 California Community College Athletic Association state championships.

## Campus Culture

Belief that students come first; community-connected with roots in the cities of Ventura, Oxnard, Camarillo, Ojai, and the Santa Clara River Valley/Heritage Valley; innovation-focused through distance education and career education.

## Campus Personality

Strong sense of pride in Ventura College Pirate Athletics; family-feeling; spirited; collegial; committed to serving students to help them achieve their academic goals.

## *Helina Bailey* VENTURA COLLEGE ALUMNA CLASS OF 2019

Helina Bailey's work as a freelance writer and tri-cultural mother inspired the Ventura College alum to release "Black Princess," a children's book dedicated to the representation of Black children.

"Black Princess" is the first in a line of children's books focusing on self-acceptance and pride for children of color, ethnic, and multicultural children. Helina uses her platform as an author to reveal the weight of racial, ethnic, and cultural representation, specifically in children's literature.

It was her childhood dream to become a writer. Though she had a bachelor's degree in communications and media studies, VC provided the platform to cultivate and expand her talent.

"As a student worker in the Veteran Center, I had the opportunity to help fellow veteran students with their writing assignments and discovered that I love it," said Helina, whose two sons remind her of the importance of her resolve.

After VC, Helina enrolled in an MFA program at Antioch University in Santa Barbara.



## *Alwin Sauers Jr.* VCCCD 2021 CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

Alwin Sauers Jr. keeps Ventura College and Ventura College East Campus beautiful and clean. But he's more than a custodian—he is an invaluable resource for any student who may have questions about campus life.

For his dedication to his job, his commitment to increasing students' connectedness to the college, and helping all those around him, Alwin was named the District's 2021 Classified Employee of the Year.

"I worked for years in the private sector, and I learned early on that people are the most important thing. If you don't take care of your customers, then you don't have a job or a

business. When I joined Ventura College, I saw the student, faculty, and staff as my customers. I wanted to take care of them and help them in any way," he said.

Alwin goes beyond expectations to make the campus a welcoming space for students, helping anyone who looks a little lost make it to their destination.

"I never know what kind of day someone is having. They might be having a difficult day because of whatever challenge they have encountered. It is not my place to come back negatively to them but to see if I can help in some way to make it just a little bit better."





# An Expanding Place of Learning

For more than 40 years, the Ventura College East Campus (VCEC) has connected area residents with innovative programs and support services. The Santa Paula-based campus serves a primarily Latinx community in the agriculturally rich Santa Clara River Valley, including the communities of Fillmore and Piru.

Students can enroll in degree or certificate programs created for advanced learning and skills development with the goals of career success and higher incomes. They can obtain an associate degree in arts and humanities or in social and behavioral sciences. Students can

also complete workforce education and basic skills classes to bolster reading, writing, math, and computer use.

VCEC is home to the college's veterinary technology program, launched in 2021 in partnership with Ohana Pet Hospital. The program trains students for in-demand careers as veterinary technicians and assistants. Students who finish a year of coursework receive a certificate of achievement and can pursue entry-level work in the field of veterinary medicine while pursuing an associate degree.



## Meet Beatriz Zizumbo

Beatriz Zizumbo has come a long way from her days as a sewing machine operator. At 18, she was a new mom who didn't speak English and had recently relocated from Michoacán, Mexico. Today, Beatriz is an academic counselor at Ventura College East Campus (VCEC).

"I see my job as an opportunity to help others achieve a dream job just as I was helped," said Beatriz, who is a first-generation college student.

Beatriz enrolled at VCEC and graduated in 2001. She continued to CSU Channel Islands, where she obtained her bachelor's degree, and after 19 years of pursuing her academic goals, she received her master's degree in counseling and guidance. Her persistence and determination to reach her fullest potential paid off.

"After every degree, I felt that was the end of the road for me, but there were always people along the way who supported, encouraged, and challenged me to continue my education. That is the reason I feel passionate about my job, because I want others to have that support and encouragement to continue their education," said Beatriz, who has worked for the District for over 23 years, starting as a student worker.



## MOORPARK COLLEGE

- The college's Forensics team received 11 national awards in both virtual and in-person formats in its division at the Phi Rho Pi National Championships.
- The Theatre Arts Department's Student One Acts collaborated with the Ventura Youth Correctional Facility (VYCF), which works with underserved individuals, for two virtual one-act plays that VYCF students wrote and performed.
- The nursing science program's first-time students outperformed the national average pass rate on the National Council Licensure Examination by more than 16% with a 100% pass rate.
- Groundbreaking career education programs for high school graduates and professionals seeking to build their skills in high-demand and emerging STEM industries provide gainful employment in the community.



## OXNARD COLLEGE

- The Bellwether Award-winning Fire Fighter I/II Academy was the first in the country to adopt rigorous and safe screening and social distancing practices while continuing in-person instruction during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The dental hygiene program was named a finalist for a Bellwether Award in Instructional Programs and Services. The program continued training and instruction throughout the pandemic.
- Launched a one-year cybersecurity program, developed with an advisory council of industry professionals, to give students hands-on training and interdisciplinary expertise for high-paying, in-demand jobs.
- Automotive technology students participate in the Ford Automotive Career Exploration (ACE) program. Students gain hands-on experience working with a local dealership.



## Ventura COLLEGE

- A new program in advanced manufacturing meets local industry needs by teaching students current technology and information in lecture and laboratory settings. The program's pre-apprenticeship option trains students to become Computerized Numerical Control (CNC) machine operators in one semester.
- Ventura College's East Campus welcomed its first cohort of 26 students in the veterinary technology program.
- Eight second-year nursing students participated in the St. John's Regional Medical Center COVID Vaccination Clinic, giving over 100 vaccines to healthcare workers for their 2021 clinicals.
- Pirates Athletics celebrated 73 student-athletes from 2019-20 who were scheduled to transfer to four-year institutions in fall 2020, with transferring student-athletes slated to attend 48 different schools in 20 states.

## *College Highlights and Notable Achievements*

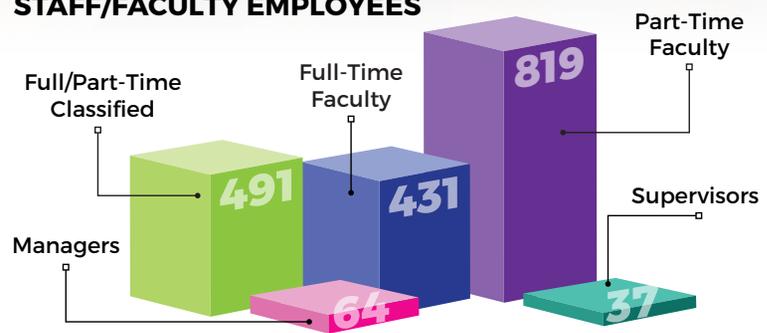


VCCCD:

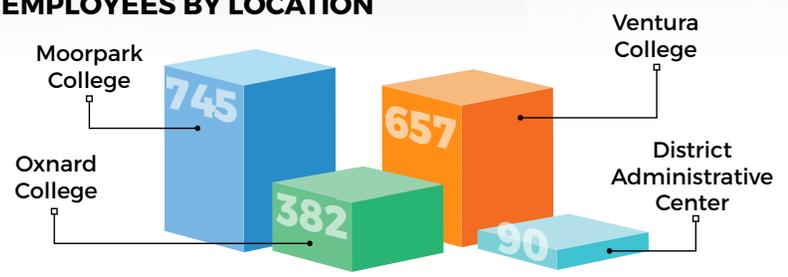
# Our Employees

VCCCD Accounts Payable Staff  
L to R: Kari Brogdin, Ruby Amaro,  
Beth Thompson, Miranda Collins

## STAFF/FACULTY EMPLOYEES



## EMPLOYEES BY LOCATION



“Our students are wonderful, and it is hugely rewarding to work with them. Many of them have overcome major obstacles to be here, and yet they persevere and grow and do great things.

Alex Henderson  
VCEC Counselor



“Helping students overcome obstacles and creating an inclusive environment where students can succeed is my biggest reward.

Angie Rodriguez  
MC Interim EOPS/CARE & CalWORKs Coordinator



“BEING ABLE TO SUPPORT THE NEEDS OF OXNARD COLLEGE STUDENTS AS THEY NAVIGATE THEIR JOURNEY. WATCHING THEM GRADUATE FILLS MY HEART WITH GRATITUDE. I'M FORTUNATE TO WORK WITH SO MANY WONDERFUL PEOPLE!

AMPARO MEDINA  
OC STUDENT SUCCESS & SUPPORT SPECIALIST II  
AND OC CLASSIFIED SENATE PRESIDENT



“I know that I play an important role for every employee we have on staff who teaches our students and our future leaders. I'm proud of the work our office is able to produce and am blessed to work with a huge group of really great people.

Cheryl Manley  
VCCGD Payroll Supervisor



“I love promoting health and always have. Our students are willing to learn how to make positive life changes and have the support to do so—it's the perfect time to teach them about taking care of themselves. I also enjoy working with all my on- and off-campus colleagues.

Allison Barton  
MC Student Health Center Coordinator



“Our colleges depend on our District human resources department to be able to recruit and fill vacant positions. I enjoy collaborating with different leadership to meet the needs of our colleges and our students.

Miguel Angel Rodriguez Lupercio  
VCCGD Human Resources Assistant

“The most rewarding part about my job is knowing that I can positively transform and impact student lives every day. The majority of our students rely on some sort of financial assistance,

and my role gives me the opportunity to ensure students receive assistance in a timely manner.

Alma Rodriguez  
VC Financial Aid Officer



“I have had the pleasure of assisting many OC students achieve their goal of becoming a firefighter. I have this great opportunity to be involved with young, motivated, and focused people. It is so rewarding!

Michael Ketaily  
OC Public Safety Department Faculty/Dept. Chair

# Budget and Finances

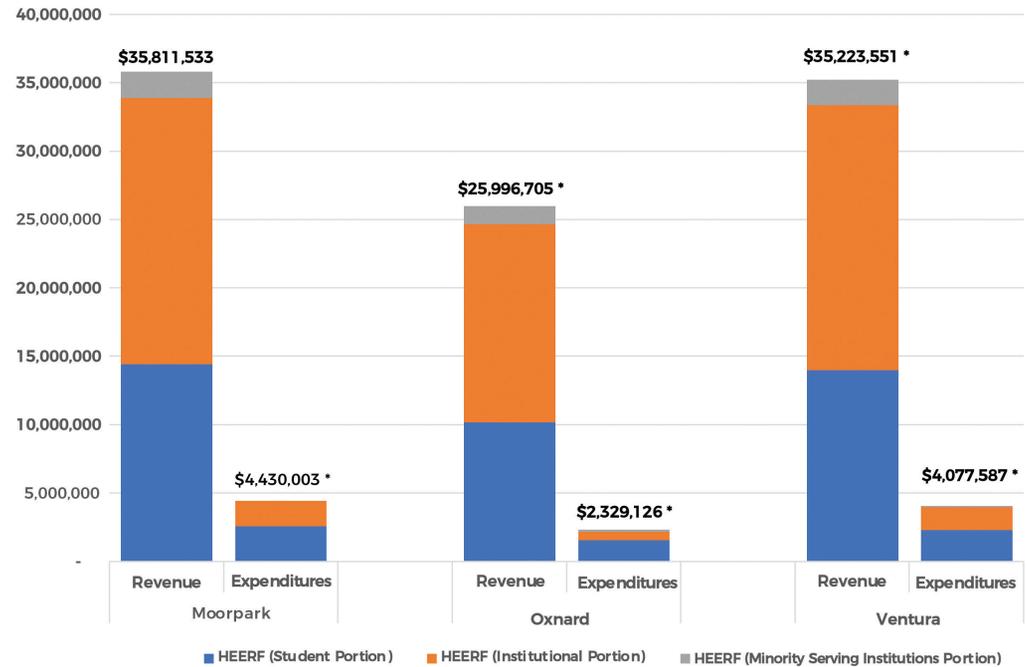
## Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) COVID Relief Funding

### Expenditures

- Must follow federal guidelines.
- Must be related to the impacts of COVID-19.
- Regulations provide one year to spend the funds.

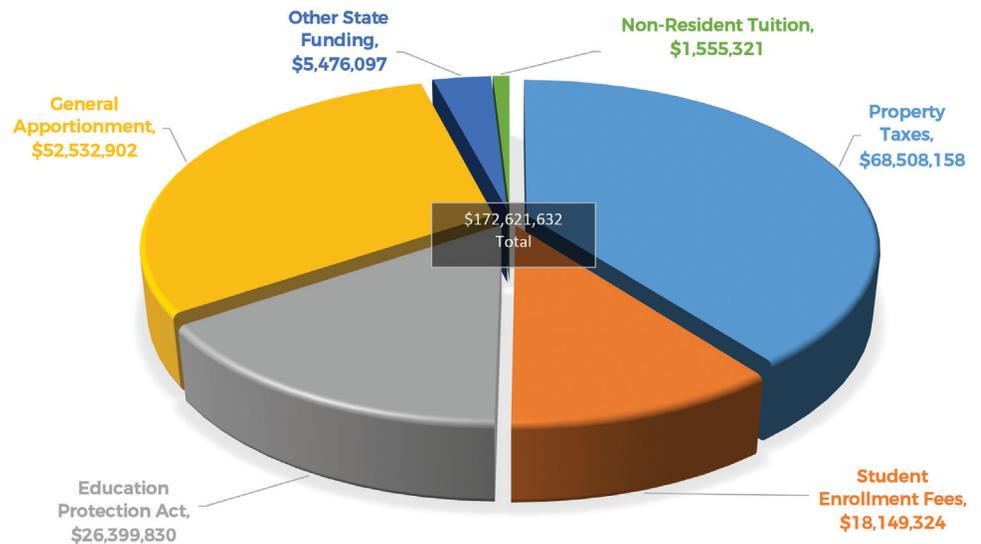
*A one year extension for spending may be requested.*

- Student portion must be used to provide direct grants to students (Student portion totals \$38,572,837).



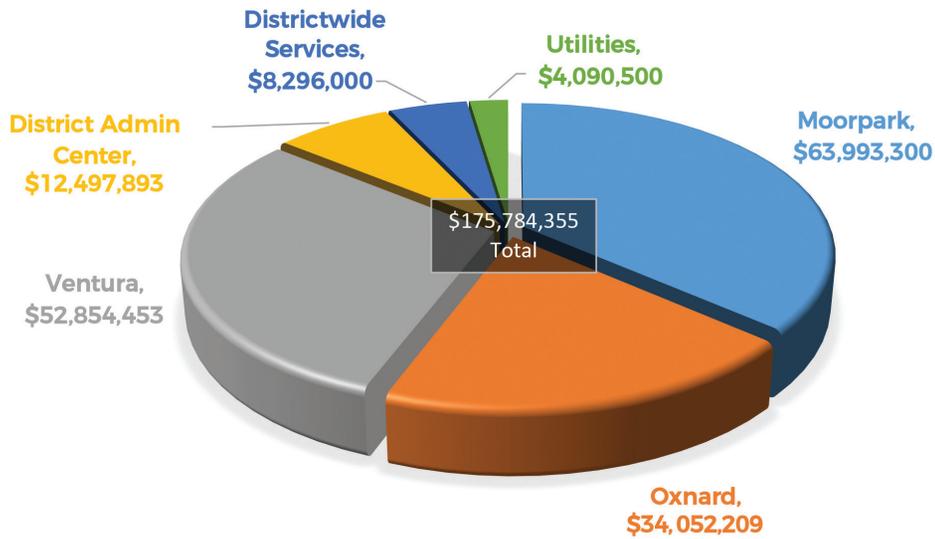
\* Expenditures as of April 30, 2021

## Unrestricted General Fund Resources

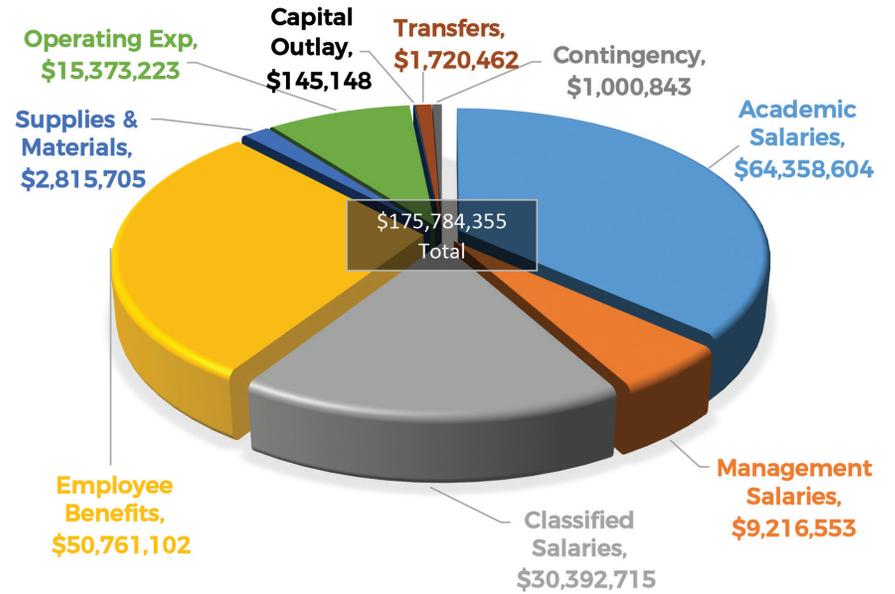


# 2021-22 Tentative Budget

## UNRESTRICTED GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES BY LOCATION



## UNRESTRICTED GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES BY MAJOR OBJECT CODE



# Maintaining Strong FOUNDATIONS for TODAY and TOMORROW

## Moorpark College Foundation

The foundation is pivoting from an event model to one that focuses on industry partnerships and capital campaigns. In 2021, goals were to raise \$200,000 for the “Rising Scholars” and basic needs program and to open the Basic Needs Center.

The “Rising Scholars” program capital campaign raises funds to provide East Ventura County junior high and high school students a pathway to a degree at the college at no cost. The capital campaign for the basic needs program funds emergency financial assistance and social and emotional support services to students, as well as provides a food pantry and meals.

Aside from raising funds and forging business relationships, the foundation established a Job Ready Alumni Forum highlighting specific industries of interest to students. These student events involve faculty, local industry experts, and alumni who discuss their work and job-related opportunities.

“Industry professionals come from our advisory boards,” says John Loprieno, interim director, Institutional Advancement at the Moorpark College Foundation. “They have a vested interest in the college and our students and are very engaged in what we are doing.”



The Moorpark, Oxnard, and Ventura College foundations support the District’s diverse student body populations through scholarships and programs that make college attainable to students who never thought they could pursue their dreams of a degree or certificate that leads to a rewarding career or further schooling.

## Oxnard College Foundation

For more than two decades, the Oxnard College Foundation (OCF) has operated the Community Market at Oxnard College. The market is the primary source of funds that help support the foundation’s overhead, and matching funds for over 300 different scholarships available to students and federal endowments for the college.

Additional support comes from the endowments invested in stocks and bonds, along with contributions from the foundation’s Board of Directors, area businesses, and donor memorials.

The yearly “Santa to the Sea” fundraiser provides \$500 OCF Educational Scholarships to 80 students, and Edison International

annually donates \$50,000 in grants to transferring OC STEM students and Fire Academy cadets, which the foundation matches.

In the future, the foundation hopes to help establish a partnership with California State University, Channel Islands at their Rowing Center in the Channel Islands Harbor to create a new site for the Oxnard College Marine Center. Connie Owens, community development and institutional advancement specialist, envisions enhancing the college’s Marine Center with this partnership and new location.





## Ventura College Foundation

The Ventura College Foundation will positively impact 30,000 lives over the next 10 years, Executive Director Anne King estimates. It has already secured more than \$17 million in future scholarships, campus programs, and student awards through endowments and current fundraisers.

The foundation distributes approximately \$650,000 annually in scholarships to remove barriers to students' academic success. Its minimum scholarship is \$1,000, but the foundation strives to boost that to \$2,500. This allows students to complete their education faster because they do not have to work an additional part-time job to finance their schooling.



During the COVID pandemic, the foundation was able to reopen its Weekend Marketplace, which provides a significant source of operating revenue. King and her staff navigated the pandemic by expanding fundraising and adjusting endowment policies.

They leveraged relationships with living endowment donors to generate operating cash and increase scholarship funding. Business partners in career education and those who have personal experiences with the community college system support the foundation. It also receives donations from estate giving.

“ Our scholarship recipients tell us over and over, *‘I can't believe that someone who didn't even know me believed in me.’* It provides this elevated sense we're making the world a better place together. ”

Anne King  
Executive Director  
Ventura College Foundation

*The foundations are united in their mission to change lives and ensure a bright future for the District's students.*





# *View to the Future*

VCCCD strives to build on its foundation of providing high-quality, affordable education to students by looking forward to the anticipated needs of students, faculty, staff, and businesses. The District thoroughly explores these needs to create action plans that provide students with job-ready skills, employees with professional development, and employers with a skilled workforce:

- Transition to in-person instruction and student support
- Support and continue diversity, equity, and inclusion activities
- Implement strategies to build enrollment
- Define and implement our new normal
- Expand contract education and workforce education
- Build and maintain community partnerships
- Participate in accreditation preparation
- Participate in collective bargaining

# Find your Interests

## MOORPARK COLLEGE

- Animal Science
- Anthropology
- Art
- Astronomy
- Biological Sciences
- Biotechnology
- Business Administration
- Chemistry
- Chinese
- Child Development
- College Strategies
- Communication Studies
- Computer Information Systems
- Computer Network Systems Engineering
- Computer Science
- Counseling
- Criminal Justice
- Cybersecurity
- Dance
- Economics
- Education
- Emergency Medical Technician
- Engineering
- English
- English as a Second Language
- Environmental Science
- Exotic Animal Training and Management
- Film/Television/Media
- Film Studies
- French
- Game Design
- Geographic Information Systems
- Geography
- Geology
- German
- Global Business
- Graphics
- Health Education
- Health Sciences
- History
- Hospitality Management
- Humanities
- Italian
- Japanese
- Journalism
- Kinesiology
- Latin
- Learning Skills
- MakerSpace
- Mathematics
- Medical Imaging
- Multimedia
- Music
- Nuclear Medicine
- Nursing
- Nutritional Science
- Optical Technology
- Philosophy
- Photography
- Physical Science
- Physics
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Radiologic Technology
- Registered Behavior Technician
- Registered Veterinary Technology
- Social Justice
- Sociology
- Spanish
- Theatre Arts

## OXNARD COLLEGE

- Accounting
- Addictive Disorders Studies
- Air Conditioning and Refrigeration
- American Sign Language
- Anatomy & Physiology
- Anthropology
- Art
- Assistive Computer Technology
- Astronomy
- Automotive Body and Fender Repair
- Automotive Technology
- Biology
- Border Studies
- Business
- Chemistry
- Chicana/o Studies
- Communication Studies
- Computer Applications and Office Technologies
- Computer Information Systems
- Computer Networking/Information Management
- Culinary Arts and Restaurant Management
- Dance
- Dental Assisting
- Dental Hygiene
- Early Childhood Education
- Economics
- Education
- Emergency Medical Technology
- Engineering
- English as a Second Language
- English
- Entrepreneurship
- Environmental Science & Resource Management
- Ethnic Studies
- Film, Television & Electronic Media
- Fire Technology
- Geographical Information Systems
- Geography
- Geology
- Global Studies
- Health Education
- History
- Hospitality Management
- Kinesiology
- Learning Skills
- Lifeguarding
- Marine Studies
- Mathematics
- Microbiology
- Music
- Nutrition and Dietetics
- Paralegal Studies
- Personal Growth
- Philosophy
- Physical Science
- Physics
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Public Health Science
- Reading
- Social Justice Studies
- Sociology
- Spanish
- Theatre
- Tutoring
- Urban Studies

## VENTURA COLLEGE

- Accounting
- Administrative Office Assistant
- Agriculture
- American Ethnic Studies
- Anatomy/Physiology
- Anthropology
- Applied Technology
- Architecture
- Art
- Assistive Computer Technology
- Astronomy
- Athletics
- Automotive
- Automotive Career Education
- Biological Sciences
- Bookkeeping
- Business
- Chemistry
- Chicano Studies
- Child Development
- Communication Studies
- Computer Science
- Construction Technology
- Counseling
- Criminal Justice
- Dance
- Diesel Mechanics
- Drafting
- Economics
- Emergency Medical Services
- Engineering
- English
- English as a Second Language
- English for Multilingual Students
- Environmental Science and Resource Management
- Film
- Food Safety
- French
- Geography
- Geology
- German
- Global and International Studies
- Health Education
- Health Sciences
- History
- Interdisciplinary Studies
- Italian
- Japanese
- Kinesiology
- Library Instruction
- Manufacturing Technology
- Mathematics
- Medical Assisting
- Music
- Nursing Science
- Paramedic
- Philosophy
- Photography
- Physics
- Police Science
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Sign Language
- Social Media Marketing
- Social Work and Human Services
- Sociology
- Spanish
- Supervision
- Theatre Arts
- Veterinary Technology
- Water Science
- Welding



# Making it Happen!



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