

# NEWS Brief

A WEEKLY COMMUNICATION TO THE  
COAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

September 6, 2019



FROM THE OFFICE OF  
John Weispfenning, Ph.D.

## *This Week at the District*

### REPORT FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

COAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT



At its regular meeting on September 4, the Board of Trustees held a public hearing and adopted the 2019-2020 budget for the Coast Community College District. The budget fully funds current labor agreements, including negotiated benefits and a COLA increase of 3.26 percent. More than 90 percent of the Coast District budget is dedicated to employee benefits and salaries.

Trustees considered the impact of demographic changes on the District, with an FTES decline this fall of nearly two percent from last fall. This, combined with ongoing uncertainty in state funding, has created a potential shortfall of \$11 million. The Chancellor will consult with classified staff, faculty, and managers in developing a plan to address the funding gap.

Trustees also heard an early report on progress related to AB705, the state law that aims to maximize initial student placement in transfer-level English and math. Coast Colleges achieved a 44 percent increase in transfer-level English enrollment compared to fall 2015. Transfer-level math enrollments are up 86 percent in the same timeframe. Trustees commended faculty on curriculum innovations that meet the needs of students in these transfer-level courses.

Additionally, trustees discussed the scope and timeline for construction of the GWC Language Arts Complex. This 67,800 square-foot, three-story facility will be one of the last major projects funded by a combination voter-approved Measure M bonds and state bonds. It is planned to open in January 2021.

## CHANCELLOR'S SCHEDULE

WEEK OF September 9, 2019

*In the District*

## BOARD MEETING DATES

**September 18, 2019**

*Regular Board Meeting*

## COLLEGE HIGHLIGHTS

To view the Coastline President's Bulletin, please visit the following link:

[blog.coastline.edu](http://blog.coastline.edu)

To view the Golden West College News Room, please visit the following link:

[www.gwcnews.com](http://www.gwcnews.com)

To view Orange Coast College news, please visit the following link:

[www.orangecoastcollege.edu/news](http://www.orangecoastcollege.edu/news)

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## HOW ABOUT WALKING OUR AMAZING CAMPUSES?

With all the Measure M-related changes, this fall is a great time to explore our campuses by foot. To provide some extra incentive, Coast is participating in Walktober—a fun fitness campaign.

The goal is to log 6,000 steps or more—using a tracking device or the Step Converter tool—and earn leaves and badges. Walktober's self-paced, flexible design fits people of all abilities. There is even an optional, friendly team competition with prizes for those who stay engaged starting September 23.

More information will follow in the coming weeks, so stay tuned.



## COASTLINE STUDENTS PREVIEW THE COLLEGE'S SUPPORT SERVICES

The Extended Opportunities Programs and Services (EOPS) Department has been very busy during the summer with recruitment and outreach to new students for the fall 2019 semester.

EOPS, Coastline College's intensive outreach program for disadvantaged students, enrolled 124 new participants to date with 75 spots still available. In August 2019, the College hosted four on-site EOPS orientations, with two of these conducted in Vietnamese.



A total of 65 students attended on-site orientations. The EOPS orientation consisted of an in-person session utilizing interactive online quizzes throughout the presentation to increase student engagement and assess understanding. The students provided feedback that they learned a lot and were able to use the knowledge that they just learned in a fun and engaging way. In addition to attending in person, students have an option to participate in the web-based EOPS orientation. So far, 38 students had taken advantage of this online opportunity.

Enrollment and orientation are the beginning of a sustained year-round program of support. Services provided to EOPS students throughout the year include:

- Priority registration
- Counseling and advisement
- Transfer assistance
- Workshops on study skills, transfer requirements, time management, resume writing and much more.
- Trips to local colleges
- Classroom supplies
- EOPS grants (amount varies)
- Funds to purchase textbooks (amount varies)
- Bus passes and/or gas cards



## GWC OPENS THE MATHEMATICS AND PHYSICAL SCIENCE BUILDING AND THE NEW STEM CENTER FOR FALL CLASSES



An exciting era has begun for Golden West College with the long-awaited opening of a new building housing the Mathematics and Physical Science Departments and new STEM Center.

The move-in was completed on time, and students have occupied the beautiful new classrooms, labs, and study areas.

The new Math and Science building is critical for the continued development of GWC's curriculum in STEM.

Planning for the new building began around five years ago, and through the tireless efforts of all those who helped get Measure M passed, this facility will have a tremendous impact on current and future generations of GWC students.

All are welcome to attend the grand opening ceremony, which is scheduled for Tuesday, October 8 at 2:30 p.m.



## OCC PIRATES' COVE EXPANDS WITH GRAND OPENING OF 'THE CLOSET'

Orange Coast College's Pirates' Cove food pantry—a one-stop-shop for basic needs—is expanding its services to include a clothing closet. "The Closet" will provide students with access to free gently worn professional attire, cold weather clothing, and accessories. A clothing drive will be held from Sept. 16-20, and The Closet will celebrate its grand opening on Wednesday, Sept. 25.

Current, the Pirates' Cove is seeking donations of the following items:

- Men's and women's business casual, and professional clothing
- Blouses, button-up shirts, polos, pants, blazers, skirts
- Cold weather clothing and accessories
- Jackets, sweaters, scarves, blankets, beanies, and new socks
- Other gently used accessories
- Purses, backpacks, messenger bags, and duffle bags



Items can be delivered to Pirates' Cove in Journalism 108 during the following hours:

- Monday: 9 a.m. until 2 p.m.
- Tuesday: 11 a.m. until 4 p.m.
- Wednesday: 9 a.m. until 4 p.m.
- Thursday: 9 a.m. until 4 p.m.
- Friday: 9 a.m. until 2 p.m.

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Thank you to faculty, classified staff, managers, and students for a very smooth start to the fall semester, which was particularly impressive given the shuffle of new buildings and construction.

At the Trustees' meeting this past Wednesday, we heard many accounts of faculty and staff taking the time to walk students to classes or help them locate offices. These short-yet-meaningful interactions let students know that they belong at Coast.

Also at Wednesday's meeting, the Trustees adopted the Coast District's 2019-20 budget. As a result of enrollment trends and funding uncertainty, budget challenges will exist for this and following years.

How is it possible to have a budget problem in the midst of one of the longest periods of economic expansion in California's history?

In plain terms, promises were made to college districts early in the rollout of the state's new Student Centered Funding Formula. If kept, those promises would have recognized Coast's efforts in student achievement and would have resulted in \$25 million in additional funding total for our Colleges this year and last.

But the State funding promises were not met. And combined with Orange County's ongoing population trends, a weak funding model means that the Coast District will face ongoing budget challenges.

We are acknowledging the reality of these challenges and exploring how we can meet them with a united front. I'll spend the next few months reaching out to classified staff, faculty, and managers. As we address current budget issues and find a sustainable path forward, it's important that we all share our expertise and knowledge of the District's capabilities.

This will be a challenging process, but challenges are easier to face when we face them together.

Have a great weekend,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "John Weispfenning".

John Weispfenning, Ph. D.  
Chancellor