



Budget

Governor Brown's state budget released Jan. 7 indicates another positive year for community colleges. The Proposition 98 funding guarantee for K-14 has increased to \$71.6 billion for 2016-17, up from \$68.4 billion in the 2015-16 budget. Access/growth funding provides for 2% enrollment growth, and one-time funds were included for scheduled maintenance and instructional equipment, Proposition 39 energy efficiency funding, and outstanding mandates.

The budget will now be reviewed by the legislature and a revised budget will be issued in May, with a final budget expected to be approved in June.

New Sustainability Work Group

A new work group has been created that will take an all-encompassing look at ways to save energy in the District, from encouraging behaviors like turning off lights and equipment to ensuring that new facilities are being constructed in the most energy-efficient way possible.

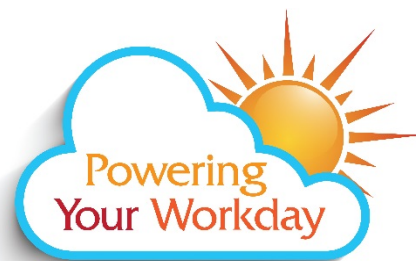
The work group is developing board policies regarding sustainability in building operations, physical plant management, and grounds and landscape management. For new construction, a goal of 35% energy efficiency on all major capital projects is being considered.

The work group is made up of representatives throughout the District, along with Jacqueline Hall, energy specialist for Cenergistic, the District's energy conservation partner.

A better day with Workday

Workday, the cloud-based system that will be used for Human Resources, Payroll and Finance systems, is on track to be unveiled in July at the District. With Workday, employees will have 24/7 access to their job information, such as leave balances, time sheets or benefits information.

Training sessions will be offered later this semester, and open houses will be held at both campuses to give employees the opportunity to become familiar with the system.



Benefits Update

Our 2016 benefits plans began on January 1. Please click [here](#) to view our new benefit plans.

Improved wi-fi and emails

The Information Systems department is upgrading all District computers to have 55 gigabytes of storage, providing more space to store files without getting those annoying “Your mailbox is almost full” messages.

Wi-fi access at both campuses is also being improved, with a faster and more secure system that requires a one-time log-in for cell phones and other portable devices.

Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Council



The districtwide Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Council was created to serve in an advisory capacity to the Chancellor’s Cabinet on matters concerning public safety, emergency readiness,

parking and facilities safety. The Council is also coordinating and communicating emergency preparedness efforts from the Emergency Operation Committees at both colleges.

One of the first efforts of the new council was to conduct a districtwide emergency communications test. The test included messages by text and voicemail, banners on the district and college websites, social media messages, and telephone messages to many classrooms and offices. The council also approved updated cards with emergency contact numbers that were placed in all classrooms.

Facilities improvements at both campuses

Facilities departments at both colleges and the district, along with Gafcon Inc., were busy during the holiday break.

At Grossmont College, 32 new computer stations were installed in Room 30-308. The stations have all-in-one computers that can be raised or lowered for other work. The GCCCD team performed all of the work in-house, saving thousands of dollars that would have been spent purchasing the stations from a vendor.

At Cuyamaca College, all walkway lighting has been upgraded to LEDs, improving lighting on the walkways to make them safer in the evenings.

On both campuses, lighting in all classrooms and student spaces has been upgraded or replaced. This will improve visibility and reduce eye strain.

New salary schedules

As the result of agreements reached with our employee bargaining groups and meet & confer group, new [salary schedules](#) effective Jan. 1, 2016 have been posted on the Human Resources pages on the District website. The schedules reflect both increases for RAF & SET.

District holiday party

The annual district holiday potluck luncheon held Dec. 17 in the warehouse had some special guests this year, when several retirees joined in the festivities. The luncheon featured a serenade of holiday songs performed by Erin Roberts-Hall, along with a district-centric version of the [Twelve Days of Christmas](#).



AlumniFest to be held March 11

The Foundation for Grossmont & Cuyamaca Colleges is hosting AlumniFest on March 11 at the Valley View Casino Center (formerly known as the Sports Arena). Anyone who attended at least one class at any community college in San Diego or Imperial counties is invited to attend the ice hockey game between the San Diego Gulls and the Bakersfield Condors. The event is being held to develop future donors and to increase awareness of community colleges. Tickets for the event, which will include a pre-game tailgate and a chance to ride on a Zamboni, will be \$10 and will be on sale soon.



New District Services employee

Welcome to new employee Theresa Jordan, human resources analyst. Theresa works in Human Resources in District Office South. Please stop by and welcome her to District Services!

District Star Award winners

The Star Awards are given to recognize and support examples of outstanding teamwork by any employee within District Services.

The Star Award Recipients for December 2015:

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Linda Bertolucci | Heather Cavazos |
| Kenny Coleman | Nicole Conklin |
| Ricardo Galicia | Anne Krueger |
| Joel Lopez (CAPS) | Yvette Macy |
| Charlie Mills | Robert Mountain |
| Carrie Ottalagano | Yosaren Panza |
| Gloria Pollard | Debbie Smith |
| Amy Stogsdill | Dorota Szpyrka |
| Christine Yoshioka | |



Joel Lopez with his Star Award certificate.

Tim Corcoran

Vice Chancellor, Human Resources

Sue Rearic

Vice Chancellor, Business Services

John Valencia

Associate Vice Chancellor, Advancement and Communications