



A Message from President Kim Lopez

Weekly Update: 8-16-24

Dear Cañada Colleagues,

Welcome to the fall 2024 semester! I hope that everyone had time to rest and relax over the summer. It's great to see our campus filled with students and employees!



District and College Opening Day

Thank you for joining our District and College Opening Days. My thanks to the teams that put much time and effort into planning and presenting during these important days. Follow-up materials for both the District and College Flex Days are posted on the [Flex Day website](#). Please refer to this [site](#) for the most up-to-date details.



College Leadership Retreat

On August 8, more than 50 students, faculty, classified staff leaders and administrators joined together for Cañada College's 7th annual Leadership Retreat. Each year, the Retreat serves as a launching point for the College's implementation of its five-year [Educational Master Plan](#) (EMP). The retreat included four breakout sessions focused on choosing the top EMP priorities for 2024-25:

- Goal 1: Student Access, Success and Completion:
 - 1.2 - Build on the College for Working Adults model
 - 1.7 - Increase degree and certificate programs available in Menlo Park and East Palo Alto
 - 1.15 - Create and scale the First Year Experience Program
- Goal 2: Equity-minded and Antiracist College Culture
 - 2.7 - Provide comprehensive on-boarding for all new employees
 - 2.10 - Transform college participatory governance processes
 - 2.14 - Evaluate academic support programs and practices
- Goal 3: Community Connections:
 - 3.2 - Reach new community members in North Fair Oaks, Belle Haven, and East Palo Alto, especially BIPOC communities
 - 3.8 - Strengthen transfer support services to increase transfers
 - 3.11 - Create and expand career exploration experiences for students
 - 3.12 - Double the number of alumni connected to Cañada's Alumni Organization by 2027
- Goal 4: Accessible Infrastructure and Innovation:
 - 4.1 - Improve access to campus via public transit, rideshare
 - 4.2 - Build student housing and a childcare center
 - 4.3 - Create a hub for evening and weekend students
 - 4.9 - Update and implement sustainability initiatives

Retreat participants focused on each of these priorities during four facilitated sessions and related small-group discussions. This allowed campus leaders to develop a shared understanding of the challenges and opportunities of each of these priorities as they organize their work on these important topics during the coming academic year.

More information, including all of the materials and notes from the Retreat, may be found [here](#).



Cañada Hosts High School and Middle School Camps

This summer, Cañada College hosted 226 Boys and Girls Club Peninsula (BGCP) high school students and 55 BGCP Middle School students. The special programming is a part of the MOU Cañada College holds with BGCP to build a seamless pathway for middle school, high school and recent high school graduates in Southern San Mateo County. The high school students had the opportunity to experience Cañada's beautiful campus buildings and facilities, while following BGCP programming. The middle schoolers were able to experience different career paths offered at Cañada, such as Medical Assisting, Radiologic Technology and Digital Arts & Animation. They also learned about Middle College and how to be financially savvy with SparkPoint. Finally, the students enjoyed fun activities such as Yoga, Ballet Folklorico and Basketball.



Super Registration Event – 200+ People Served!

On Saturday, July 27, Cañada College hosted another Super Registration event. The goal of this event was to help new students complete enrollment steps and walk away registered for Cañada College's Fall 2024 semester. More than 45 faculty, staff, administrators and student ambassadors were on hand to help students enroll, leave with a course schedule and/or have their questions answered for the fall semester. Thank you to the Cañada teams that provided on-site student support including: Admissions & Records, Welcome Center, Financial Aid, Counseling, Colts-U Transfer Station, Cashiers Office, Umoja, College for Working Adults, Office of Student Life & Leadership Development, EOPS/CARE/FYSI, Promise Scholars Program and Outreach. Community partners Upward Scholars and AchievAble, were also present at the event, connecting with the community at resource tables. The Cañada team looks forward to welcoming its new students on the first day of the fall semester.



Promise Scholars Program Annual Orientation

The Promise Scholars Program hosted its annual orientation last Thursday to welcome the new Promise cohort! More than 100 students came to campus to learn about campus resources, pick up textbooks, participate in a campus tour and engage in fun community-building activities. I enjoyed welcoming our new Promise Scholars and our Cañada team encouraged them to embrace every opportunity and reach out for support whenever needed. The students learned the importance of staying curious, connected, and committed to their goals as they begin college and left feeling confident and ready to take on the fall semester. The Promise Team wishes all the new scholars a successful start to the semester.



Art Gallery Opening

The Cañada College Art Department is pleased to announce the Fall 2024 inaugural exhibition at the Cañada Art Gallery, "*Bill Morales: Recent Works*," from August 14 through December 9. Bill Morales was Professor of Studio Art at Cañada College from 1992-2022. He taught drawing, painting, watercolor, life drawing, 2D design, and color theory classes. Bill has exhibited his work widely, including two solo exhibitions in New York City, and many group exhibitions in New York, California and Oregon. The current exhibition includes 16 recent paintings. The dates for the Exhibition Opening and a gallery talk for students will be announced soon. The Gallery is open Tuesdays from 11 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., Wednesdays from 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Thursdays from 10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. and Fridays from 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. The Gallery flyer is attached. For more information contact: villalba@smccd.edu.



BILL MORALES

Boys and Girls Club CRER 137 Class Campus Visit

Recently, a group of Dual Enrollment students from the Redwood City Boys and Girls Club Forest Clubhouse and their staff visited the Cañada campus. The students took a CRER 137 Life and Career Planning course this summer that was co-taught by Daryan Chan and Samantha Vargas. Once they arrived at Cañada, the students were welcomed by the Director of High School Transition and Dual Enrollment, Mayra Arellano. The visit began with breakfast, an overview presentation on Cañada College and services offered, a welcome from myself and Vice President Hsieh and a tour of our beautiful campus. Once the tour was complete, the students were presented with completion certificates, enjoyed lunch and listened to a Cañada student ambassador panel share their experiences and plans for their futures.



I look forward to seeing all of you throughout the fall semester. Please stop by my office to say "hi" or contact me to schedule a time to chat.

Sincerely,
Kim