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Subject: Chancellor's Chat
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Enhancing Your Life
 With Quality Education

September 13, 2010



Image of the first LEED certified building project at Valley College -- the new Chemistry/Physical Sciences Building.

Chancellor's Chat News from the District Office

Bruce Baron, Interim Chancellor (Ext. 4090)

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Greetings!

Happy Monday:

I hope you had a great week. We had a very good Board of Trustees meeting last Thursday. We had Professor Ed Millican's American Studies class observing the meeting for extra credit. It was great to see so many students in the audience. You will be receiving your *"What Happened at the Board Meeting Newsletter"* shortly.

We are working hard through the collegial consultation process to continue with District planning. We've completed a Human Resources staffing plan through the Resource Allocation committee. A link to the final document is attached. Also, a link to the final District Technology Plan is attached. And District Strategic Planning is knee-deep in "Phase II" which includes implementation strategies and planning for KVCR and the Division of Economic

Quick Links

[Link to the Final Human Resources Long Range Staffing Plan](#)

[Link to the District Technology Plan](#)

[Chancellor's Chat newsletter archive.](#)

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Save the Dates

**Special Board of
 Trustees Meeting**
 Thursday September

Development and Workforce Training.

I was absolutely delighted to attend a concert presented by the Valley College music faculty last Friday. Under the creative leadership of Music Department Chairperson, Matie Scully, we were treated to a variety of music that sounded wonderful in the New North Hall performance space.



Valley College Music Chairperson, Matie Scully

I will continue to keep you informed.

Bruce Baron
Interim Chancellor
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California Ranks 44th of 50 States in per Student Spending for Education

An article in yesterday's [Sacramento Bee](#) really brought home the desperate situation that California's K-12 education finds itself in today. EdSource, a not-for-profit organization that analyzes California educational issues, conducted a study of spending per student and determined that California ranked 43rd out of 50 states with a per pupil expenditure in 2007-2008 of \$8,853. The state ranked first is Vermont where the per pupil spending was \$16,892.

In terms of ration of certificated staff to 1,000 pupils, California ranked last (50 our of 50) while it ranked 37th in all staffing, including classified.

23rd, 4:00 p.m. in
the Board Room

Other statistics: California spends 67% of its funding on instruction, slightly more than the national average of 65.8%. However, California high schools have half as many teachers as the national average. California school district offices operate with 40% of the administrators found nationally. California schools have about half as many counselors and a fifth as many librarians as in the national average.

These dismal statistics do not include the recent round of budget reductions enacted since the recession hit. With one time help from federal stimulus funding and further federal support through the "edujobs" bill this past August, our K-12 system will be in for a potential of new cutbacks when those federal funds are gone.

We can give praise to the California faculty, staff and administrators who are working so hard to build improvements into a system with so little financial support from our legislators.

While our own resources have been cut dramatically in recent years we must do what we can to help our K-12 brothers and sisters to address their academic challenges and support programs to build success into the lives of our youth.

Customer Service Ranks High for DETS Work-orders

For the period of March 1, 2010 through June 14, 2010, Distributed Education and Technology Services (DETS) sent out 3,669 surveys to rank customer satisfaction on work orders completed. Based on a scale from 1.00 to 9.00 (with 1.00 being poor and 9.00 being excellent), the overall scores were as follows:

Response Timeliness - 8.08

Skills of Employee - 8.37

Resolution Timeliness - 8.13

Communication - 8.26

Overall Satisfaction - 8.25

These are excellent results! Please continue to complete the surveys that are sent for your completed work orders. The feedback helps the DETS employees to improve their service to you.

Last Year's Final Enrollment Numbers

Last fiscal year we were funded for 13,780 FTES. We actually earned 15,914, which is 2,134 full-time equivalent students over budget - about 5,000 headcount. This was accomplished by increasing the per section fill rate to well over 90%. This means that classes were very full on average! We did have almost 600 less classes last year than the year before. This is one way we were able to meet the state budget reductions and serve more students.

District Program Review Process Evaluated

[Link to District Program Review Evaluation Results](#)

District office staff have completed the evaluation of the 2009-2010 Program Review process with specific recommendations for improvement to be implemented for the 2010-2011 process. Recommendations include some changes in the Program Review Steering Committee membership and improved communications and feedback during the process. Our goal is to have an exemplary Program Review model with objectives that can be implemented so that our services can meet the highest standards of excellence.

Let me know how the District Office can help to support you in the important work that you do for our students.

Sincerely,

Bruce Baron
Acting Chancellor
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