



EL CAMINO COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

16007 Crenshaw Boulevard Torrance, California 90506-0001
Telephone (310)532-3670 or 1-877-ECAMINO

June 11, 2009

Board of Trustees
El Camino Community College District

Dear Members of the Board:

Congratulations! You have almost completed a course of activity for a member of the El Camino Community College District Board of Trustees for the 2008-2009 Academic Year.

One of the most joyous responsibilities is representing the community in the Commencement ceremonies which will be held on Thursday, June 11 at 5:30 p.m. at the Compton Center (reception will be held on the library patio at 3 p.m.) and on Friday, June 12, 4 p.m. at El Camino College, with reception on the library lawn at 1 p.m.

To the business at hand, our next regular Board meeting will be held on Monday, June 15, 2009, at 4 p.m. Although there is a lengthy agenda, with the exception of the tentative budget, most of the actions are relatively routine.

The agenda is highlighted by:

- A. Oath of Office for new student Trustee, Mr. David Nordel.
- B. Academic Affairs presents extensive curriculum recommendations in a new format as explained on the Board agenda. Once we amend the Board policies per the Board's direction, the agenda will be even more compact.

Seven Board policies are recommended for a first reading.

- C. Student and Community Advancement. Actions are relatively routine, however, grant activity from the State is all speculative as cautioned by state officials.

A student expulsion explanation is included in a separate confidential envelope. If you would like discussion of this item, you must separate it from the consent agenda for review in closed session.

- D. Administrative Services presents the tentative budget for your adoption. A separate letter transmits changes to the budget presented at the May Board meeting. You may want to separate this from the consent agenda for discussion and understanding. Needless to say, this is a very complex environment.

- E. Measure E includes a number of change orders which are all within the approved bond budget. Item B, Social Sciences Modernization, increases the architect's contract by \$77,000. The most important component of the change is extensive redesign work initiated by the District after the approval of the project by the State Chancellor's Office. The faculty classrooms and offices are now more efficient and effective.
- F. Human Resources includes a number of new hires and assignments. Please recognize the extensive part-time classified and certificated recommendations will be closely monitored in conjunction with the budget before assignments are made.
- G. The Superintendent/President's section provides second reading and adoption of the Board's Ethics policy which will satisfy one of the Accreditation recommendations.
- H. Closed Session includes discussion of collective bargaining for all units, consideration of real property, a student expulsion and the Superintendent/President's evaluation.

A number of items are enclosed for your review:

1. Please note County Assessor's Office forecasts a decrease for secured and unsecured properties;
2. Letter to the Editor of the *Daily Breeze*, from Arthur Verge, May 21, 2009;
3. Memo from Barbara Perez to me, regarding compensation for Compton work, May 18, 2009;
4. "California's Fiscal Woes Could Derail College Sports' Track Records," *Los Angeles Times*, June 5, 2009;
5. "Balancing California's Budget," *Los Angeles Times*, June 8, 2009;
6. Information regarding the 2008-2009 El Camino College Forensics Team;
7. *Myriad*, Creative Arts Journal, El Camino College, 2009;
8. *WL*, El Camino College Student Magazine.

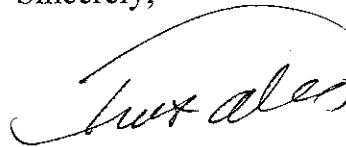
Thank you for all of the celebrations you have supported including some events continued after Commencement. I trust you are proud to serve as a Trustee of the El

Camino Community College District throughout the year, and hope you enjoyed the celebration of Academic success at the Commencement Ceremony.

Please plan to meet in my office at 3:15 p.m. on Monday. Transportation will be available for the 3:30 p.m. opening ceremony for our five-story parking structure, athletic fields and tennis courts.

If you have any questions comments or concerns, please feel free to phone Kathy or me prior to the Board meeting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Tom Fallo", with a large, sweeping flourish above the name.

Thomas M. Fallo
Superintendent/President

TMF/kao



RICK AUERBACH • ASSESSOR
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012-2770
assessor.lacounty.gov
1.888.807.2111



May 12, 2009

RECEIVED
MAY 20 2009

TO: All Requesting Agencies

SUBJECT: ASSESSED VALUE ESTIMATE FOR THE 2009-2010 LOS ANGELES
COUNTY PROPERTY TAX ROLL

This letter complies with a notification as referenced in Section 27421 of the Government Code.

A decrease of -1.04% in the Los Angeles County Local Roll after exemptions is forecast.

<u>Local Roll</u>	<u>*Percent Increase</u>
Secured	-1.05%
Unsecured	-0.95%
Combined Local Roll	-1.04%
Net Local Roll	-1.06%

It would be necessary for you to apply the above percentage to last year's valuation reports to obtain a forecast of actual assessed values.

The estimate of growth or decline supplied by this Office is derived on a countywide basis and is released as a single factor for use by all agencies. The estimate is expressed as a percentage of change from the 2008-2009 Los Angeles County Local Roll.

If you have any questions about this forecast, please call Lori Simms at (213) 893-2446.

Very truly yours,

Rick Auerbach

RA:ls

*The Percent Change has been computed after the exemption allowance.

cc: Jo Ann Higdon
Board.

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
2009 FINAL ROLL FORECAST
(FULL VALUE IN MILLIONS)
LOCAL ROLL**

<u>SECURED VALUATION</u>	2008 <u>ACTUAL ROLL</u>	2009 <u>ROLL FORECAST</u>	<u>PERCENT CHANGE</u>
Land	\$565,605	\$560,783	
Improvements	\$483,424	\$479,245	
Personal Property	\$7,705	\$7,705	
TOTAL SECURED (GROSS)	\$1,056,734	\$1,047,733	
Less: Exemptions	(\$29,025)	(\$30,792)	
TOTAL SECURED VALUATION	\$1,027,709	\$1,016,941	-1.05%
 <u>UNSECURED VALUATION</u>			
Land	\$0	\$0	
Improvements	\$15,586	\$15,586	
Personal Property	\$36,694	\$36,494	
TOTAL UNSECURED (GROSS)	\$52,280	\$52,080	
Less: Exemptions	(\$4,225)	(\$4,483)	
TOTAL UNSECURED VALUATION	\$48,055	\$47,597	-0.95%
 <u>TOTAL VALUATION</u>			
TOTAL SEC & UNSEC (GROSS)	\$1,109,014	\$1,099,813	-0.83%
Less: Sec & Unsec Exemptions	(\$33,250)	(\$35,275)	
TOTAL LOCAL ROLL	\$1,075,764	\$1,064,538	-1.04%
Homeowners' Exemptions	(\$8,169)	(\$8,250)	
NET LOCAL ROLL	\$1,067,595	\$1,056,288	-1.06%

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Reporter was one of the best

Like so many of your readers, I was deeply saddened by the passing of Vu Nguyen. It was Nguyen who in March broke the story of the proposal to give the president of El Camino College a \$36,000 pay increase at the very same time classes and college division budgets were being severely cut.

Because of Nguyen's story (which was the first by any media outlet to report the proposed 13 percent pay increase), cooler heads prevailed and the proposal was removed as an agenda item.

The bottom line is that Nguyen's work on this story was reporting at its best and for which every taxpayer who supports responsible school spending should be grateful for.

— Arthur Verge
Professor of History, El Camino College



**EL CAMINO COLLEGE
DIVISION OF HUMAN RESOURCES**

May 18, 2009

TO: Thomas M. Fallo
FROM: Barbara Perez
SUBJECT: Compensation for Compton Work

Faculty –

With the exception of Inna Newbury and Trudy Meyer, all faculty have received payment for work performed at the Compton Center. These assignments were board approved. Both Inna and Trudy are being paid by Compton for presentations they did at the Center. This occurred due to a miscommunication on what happened that day. Ken Key contacted Mattie last week about being paid for work at the Center and he was told to have Regina prepare a board item. I will be following up with the deans regarding any faculty members working on evaluations this semester.

Classified Staff –

Luukia has received some paper work from employees but most are the same that she received earlier. She and I will be meeting this week to review what has been submitted. Whether or not someone should receive additional money for doing Compton work within their normal eight-hour day is something that Luukia and I are going to discuss once she receives the information from staff. So far this year, \$5455.61 has been paid out in overtime for Compton work.

California's fiscal woes could derail college sports' track records

LA Times

Many top stars got their starts at 2-year schools. But those programs may be eliminated this year.

By Gale Holland

June 5, 2009

Jackie Robinson played four sports at what was then Pasadena Junior College on his way to breaking major league baseball's color barrier with the Brooklyn Dodgers.

Fifty years later, pitcher Barry Zito spent a year at Pierce College before transferring to USC, then joined the Oakland A's, where he won the Cy Young award in 2002.

Athletes as varied as volleyball's Flo Hyman, quarterback Warren Moon and Olympic swimmer Debbie Meyer, and coaches and sports executives including Jerry Tarkanian and Pete Rozelle, were educated at California community colleges. But that enduring sports legacy is in peril, as officials look for ways to staunch the state's hemorrhaging budget.

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger has proposed slashing funding for community college physical education courses by \$120 million, or about 40%. Because many community college physical education instructors double as coaches, the funding cuts and any subsequent layoffs could kill many sports programs, athletics officials at the colleges said.

Some advocates say it is ironic that the man behind the proposal is Schwarzenegger, a lifetime advocate of physical activity and an alumnus of Santa Monica College. Others see it as a sign of the state's desperate straits. Many hope the governor can be persuaded to accept alternate cuts.

"He is one of us," said Diane Henry, Cypress College's dean of athletics.

H.D. Palmer, spokesman for the state Department of Finance, said Schwarzenegger had little choice but to make the proposal and others aimed at reducing the budget deficit. "Because of the size and scope of this recession, the governor has been forced to put forward options that weren't considered just four short months ago," Palmer said.

But even before a decision is made on the state funding issue, some community colleges are thinking of eliminating or trimming their sports teams. The governing council at Los Angeles City College voted earlier this week to recommend suspending the entire athletic program, including men's and women's basketball teams.

L.A. City College President Jamillah Moore, who will make the final decision, said putting sports on hiatus was just one option as the college faces an unprecedented budget shortfall. Linda Tong, executive vice president of the associated student organization at the college, said she voted against the proposal because it wasn't clear how much money it would save.

"We had a choice: either get rid of the program or retain teaching jobs," said Tong, a political science student.

About 25,000 students are involved in sports teams at the state's 110 community colleges, said Carlyle Carter, president of the California Community College Athletic Assn.

Some of the athletes plan to go on to four-year colleges but didn't take the right classes or do well enough in high school to be admitted directly, he and other community college coaches and advocates said. Others have been overlooked by recruiters or scouts, need to work on their playing skills or need to mature, physically and emotionally. Many hope to go on to professional leagues.

Baseball players who enroll at four-year schools don't become draft-eligible until their junior year ends or they turn 21, so some opt for two-year colleges. That was Zito's situation at Pierce, athletic director Bob Lofrano said.

"I like to think he wanted to play for me," Lofrano added.

Sports advocates said that eliminating or reducing funding for athletics and sports classes is short-sighted. State funding for relatively cheap P.E. classes helps offset more expensive courses, including those in the health field, they say. And sports teams also help attract the very students in short supply at some four-year institutions: poor, African American and Latino, advocates say.

"The reason kids stay in school and do not drop out is because they love sports," said Duke Russell, a frequent advocate for community college sports who signed with the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1947 after playing baseball and basketball at L.A. City College. "Shakespeare and Chaucer, that does not inspire them, but they love to play."

Several alumni who played at the Los Angeles college during its heyday as a sports powerhouse in the 1950s and 1960s said they owed their careers to the athletic program there.

"I was not crazy about school, but sports kept me going," said Phil Pote, a baseball coach and physical education instructor for 25 years who played for L.A. City College.

Former major league baseball player Don Buford said he was considered too small for a scholarship when he played football and baseball at Dorsey High School in the 1950s. He decided to go to L.A. City College, and after the quarterback was injured, went out for the football team. He later played baseball at USC, then for the White Sox and the Orioles.

"If we cut these programs off at an early age for these kids, 18, 19 years old, we're in serious trouble," said Buford, of Sherman Oaks.

Added Scott Giles, athletic director at Fullerton College: "Whenever money's tight, the first thing to go are athletics, but these are really the things that make a school a school. Without them, there's no pride, no enthusiasm."

At L.A. City College, the women's volleyball team has been practicing for four months for a

season kickoff in August but is at risk of having the program killed, officials said.

"They already bought their shoes and uniforms. All we need is to pay the coach, officials and transportation -- not much," said Jan McEveety, chairwoman of the women's P.E. and dance department. "It's very sad."

Balancing California's budget

LA Times - Editorial

June 8, 2009

The state must make many painful cuts, but health and human services should be preserved.

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger is right: California is out of time. The state must cut \$24 billion in expenses or find some new money -- or both -- and must do it before the month is out. The cuts will hurt people. In that, there is no choice. But there is choice in which services are cut, how deeply and for how long. Here are some principles that Sacramento, and the people, should follow in making their decisions.

* Avoid default. In recent months, some critics have openly cheered the possibility that California would go bankrupt, allowing some trustee or higher authority to "right-size" the state government or, in the alternative, to save some programs currently on the chopping block. It doesn't work that way. States can't get bankruptcy protection, but they can default on their obligations, and if this state does that, virtually all the cuts now contemplated will take effect, plus more besides. The state's credit, already crippled, will become nonexistent; investors will shun many states besides this one -- and local governments as well. The world's eighth-largest economy will suffer longer, and ramifications for the world will be severe. Default is not an option. Avoiding painful cuts is not an option.

* Don't just say no. Sacramento must take every reasonable suggestion seriously, and when lawmakers preserve programs, they must justify the costs. We must recognize that, in some cases, California must be penny-wise and pound-foolish, because it needs the pennies right now. We must be open to removing a function from government, even one with benefits and supporters.

* Cut health and human services last -- not just for humanitarian reasons but because these cuts more than others simply produce paper savings while multiplying costs, transferring them to counties and worsening outcomes. For example, a person who loses Medi-Cal and can't go to the doctor's office will delay treatment until he or she must go to the emergency room, where costs are higher and chances of recovery lower. A family that loses CalWorks welfare-to-work aid, training and job placement will turn to county general relief, which pays for about two weeks of rent each month; the family becomes homeless, and the costs return in jails, mental healthcare, drug addiction and hospitals. When health and human services funding remains intact, it brings with it federal matching funds. Cutting a dollar in state services eliminates \$2 to \$10 in funding.

Human services deserve special attention in these negotiations because they are easily neglected when pitted against services that reach the general population. Transportation, for instance, is paid for in part by gas taxes and enjoys broad public support. To those who rely on health and human services, however, even temporary interruptions can result in grievous harm, even death.

* Acknowledge that supposedly temporary measures often become permanent, and as such can be barriers to long-term reform. That's another reason why cutting a program with a powerful constituency, such as schools, is preferable to cutting one with a weak constituency, such as Medi-Cal. Cuts to schools are far less likely to become permanent simply by inertia. Cuts should

become permanent only when they reflect the long-term desire of Californians for their state.

* Focus on the service, not the service provider. Saying no to a service cut is not the same as saying no to an organization or program. Don't, for example, simply write off the idea of eliminating CalWorks if the federal government will grant a waiver to keep its funding coming or if the programs could be picked up by another agency to eliminate administrative duplication. Keep in-home supportive services, but remain open to cutting the pay of those workers, temporarily, to minimum-wage levels, while remaining mindful that such pay cuts will certainly increase the burden on counties. Again, not making such cuts means cutting somewhere else.

As for agencies with state contracts, we can value their work and still conclude that we have to cut them loose if there is a less costly way, in the short term, to keep some of the service. Yes, cutting contracts has a ripple effect on the economy, as people lose their jobs and the tax base shrinks. There are negative consequences, but that is the lot we face right now.

* Say no to a wholesale federal bailout -- but say yes to federal matching funds and to federal payment for federal obligations. Expecting the U.S. government to bail out California programs that Californians won't pay for is fantasy. If it ever verges close to reality, though, the idea must be stiffly rejected. Such federal aid becomes an overwhelming disincentive for the state's people to make tough decisions to cut services or increase taxes, and, in turn, it relinquishes the people's control over their state to Washington. It would also dissuade taxpayers in any other state from ever again agreeing to fund their own services.

It's a different story with matching funds, which are an effective way to demonstrate state commitment while leveraging federal aid.

Nor should Californians continue to be forced to pay for federal obligations that Washington has failed to meet. The Times has said repeatedly that the federal government should pay the state's costs for failed or inadequate immigration policies. This is no time to demonize the working men and women who have come to this country illegally but who do, after all, pay taxes. Still, Sacramento can and should demand funding to cover the costs that illegal immigrants add to our schools, health programs and prisons.

* Be straightforward about empty fixes, but accept some as time-shifting mechanisms. For example, deporting criminal illegal immigrants currently housed in California prisons would save millions of dollars, and Sacramento should do it. But we should be sober about the consequences. These immigrants have established family ties and, in some cases, criminal networks in California. With or without a border fence, many deported criminals will return. We should take the step anyway, accepting the short-term savings and agreeing to deal later with the speculative long-term consequences.

* Be straightforward about empty fixes, but accept some for reasons that may have little to do with the budget. For example, getting rid of the Integrated Waste Management Board is a wildly popular idea because of a perception that it is a haven for termed-out lawmakers who squeeze millions of dollars from the state. In fact, the board does not operate on general tax revenues, and eliminating it, or similar boards, will have little effect on the state budget. There may be good reason to get rid of the board anyway, simply to eliminate the outrageous patronage. But we

should make sure that the consumer protection provided remains, even if it's reassigned to another agency.

* Be smart about new taxes. Reject, for the current year, broad-based sales and income tax increases as damaging to the recession economy and as politically infeasible, but move forward on carefully targeted temporary taxes, specifically on tobacco, alcohol and snack foods, to prevent cuts in particular health and human services (but not necessarily agencies).

The Times has long opposed linking special taxes to special purposes, because they permit society to shirk communal responsibility for communal benefit and instead outsource the burden to unpopular groups, such as smokers. Still, such taxes must be considered if the revenue saves a needed health or safety net service, and if the tax automatically expires after a set period -- say, two to five years. Temporary taxes, like programs, tend to become permanent. But the state is soon to consider a wholesale revamping of its tax structure. In this case, Californians can -- and must -- insist that these focused taxes indeed expire.

* Distinguish between short-term (the rest of June and July) budget fixes and longer-term restructuring. One welcome side effect of this crisis is that it may generate support for creative and far-reaching proposals, such as shifting state taxing and decision-making power to localities, and perhaps a constitutional convention. Those are useful debates, but we cannot afford to hold immediate budget decisions hostage to these longer-term plans.

* Cut. Think the unthinkable, then do it. Deeply cut programs, knowing there will be long-term consequences, but knowing also that the alternative is even more damaging cuts. Accept, for two to five years, some defunding of K-14 education. Win at the consequences -- teachers will lose jobs -- but move forward. Slash from higher education, and hope to rebuild the universities in better times. Release nonviolent inmates early, and brace for additional law enforcement and social costs. Allow nonviolent parole offenders to remain free, and hope for the best. Take millions from local government transportation funding and repay it within three years. But don't take local property tax revenue, which counties and cities need for public safety and human services. Appreciate the work of public employees but acknowledge -- despite the relatively low ratio of state workers to state residents -- that we cannot afford rich benefits such as dental coverage.

* Experiment. This is no time to cater to special interests or cleave to the status quo. Try something. If it doesn't work, try something else.

The 2008-2009 El Camino Forensics Team

Overall, The EL Camino forensics team won the 2009 Phi Rho Pi national championship. In the National Parliamentary Debate Association, we were 5th overall in the entire nation (2- and 4-year schools combined). We won the Sylvia Mariner Perpetual Sweepstakes Award at the national tournament for excellence over the years.

Katelyn Curren—came to us from West Torrance High School. After 2 years on the team, she is transferring to CSU Long Beach. Won many top awards, culminating in state championship in extemporaneous (extemp) speaking and impromptu speaking, and national champion in debate.

Lillian Cavalieri—enrolled at ECC after finishing trade/technical school. After 2 years on the team, she is transferring to a UC. She was state champion in impromptu and extemp and is a 2 time-National champion in debate.

Courtnee Draper— came to us from Alhambra High School. After 1 year on the team, she is transferring to UCLA. She is National champion in debate and silver in impromptu.

Wesley Eller—was home schooled. After 1 year on the team, he will return next year.

Joseph Evans—was home schooled. After 2 years on the team, he is transferring to UCLA. He was invited to compete in the exclusive Point Loma Round Robin. He was Spring Champs gold medalist in debate. He was state champion in extemp and LD debate. He was top individual speaker in parli debate at state and National champion in debate and extemp.

Ryan Evans—was home schooled. After 1 year on the team, he will return next year.

Ashley Graham—came to us from West High School. After 1 year on the team, she is likely transferring to Cal Poly SLO. She won a gold medal in impromptu at state.

Shouhei Ichimiya—came to us from West Torrance High School. After 1 year on the team, he is returning next year.

Charlie Linehan—was home schooled. After 1 year on the team, he is transferring to UCLA. He won a bronze in LD debate at both state and nationals and silver in impromptu at nats.

Robert Maxwell—came to us from Inglewood High School. After 1 year on the team, he is returning next year. He was LD champion at the Spring Championship tournament and won silver at state in extemp and debate, and silver at nats in debate.

Stirling McKenzie—came to us from Mira Costa High School. After 1 year on the team, he is returning next year. He was the top individual debate speaker at nationals. He won silver in debate at both state and nationals.

David Saulet—From Fairfax High school; he joined us mid-year and he will return next spring for one more semester.