



Happy Summer, TEACH Members!

To say that the past few months have been eventful is a huge understatement. As we closed out the spring 2020 semester, we said 'goodbye' to the most memorable of semesters, celebrated accomplishments (congratulations to our graduates!), and deeply reflected on the ongoing socio-political injustices that have plagued our nation's history for far too long.

We hope that each of you take this time off from school to engage in continual reflection to recognize the hard work you put into this past semester. Although we can only imagine the challenges you endured during this difficult time, we are so incredibly proud of you and encourage you to take some time to celebrate all of your accomplishments.

Professional Development

As coordinators, we want to offer professional development opportunities that best fit your interests and needs. Please e-mail us (teach@elcamino.edu) with ideas or suggestions on topics for the next professional development offerings for the fall 2020 semester.



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Future Teachers' Club

We are still looking to fill cabinet positions!

The new deadline to apply for a cabinet position is **July 31, 2020**.

Please visit the [TEACH El Camino Student Clubs](#) page for more information.

This is a great opportunity to gain leadership experience AND to add to your resume!

Current / Helpful Information and Resources



Learn about the most recent ECC updates here:

[El Camino College Student FAQ's](#)

The California Community Colleges Teacher Preparation Program created a [resource/referral page](#) on the statewide TPP site to aid in accessing assistance in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.



CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES

Teacher Preparation Programs

Link to help in identifying new online and text [Coronavirus stimulus scams/attacks](#).

Link to help ion how to [avoid Coronavirus Phishing Scams](#).

From our Community Partners

Interested in attending CSULB for your Teaching Credential?

Not sure what teaching credentials we offer?

Email Wendy Muzien at ced-outreach@csulb.edu and set up a Zoom meeting to talk about our programs.



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY

LONG BEACH

College of Education

CSULB College of Education is hosting the EdTech & Equity mini-conference on July 28, 2020. Please view our flyer and share with your friends!

Article / Resource for the Quarter

["Teaching as Activism, Teaching as Care"](#)

By: Jamilah Pitts

Published: Fall 2019

"...I find the most encouragement and the most hope in teaching and in teachers. We have a reach and an ability unlike any other because we deal with the minds and hearts of young people. We get to shape change-agents."

Counselor's Corner

Since many of you graduated this spring, I thought it might be nice to publish a former student's closing address to her senior class this year. Not only does it contain some valuable advice for all of us during these troubling times but it also beautifully exemplifies the power every teacher possesses to reach his or her students in very inspirational ways. I hope you enjoy it and are as moved by it as I was when I first read it. My very best wishes to all of our graduates this year!

--Cheryl Kroll

To all of my Seniors,

I was trying to decide how to close this year. Normally, I would stand in the classroom and try to give some parting advice, so I decided to write you all a letter. 2020 has become a crazy year and somehow all of you have become the ones that have been tossed in the middle of it. I was binge watching the Harry Potter films and if you remember in the 2nd film was a phoenix. The bird suddenly burst into flame, freaking out Harry Potter in the process, and then a baby bird came from the ashes. Maybe you all are the phoenix. Earlier generations lacked the ability to solve global and nationwide problems, but maybe you will be the ones to fix it. I hope so.

Here are a few pieces of advice – for what they are worth:

Find your passion. You have to keep that job for 30-40 years. That is a long time, especially if it is something that you don't enjoy doing. Don't just chase the money. Being a registered nurse pays well, but if you can't stand blood and guts, it may not be the job for you. If there is one thing I have learned in the quarantine, it is that I am in the right job. I miss being in my room.

Make sure that you can financially support yourself. Don't depend on someone to support you. Make sure you have the degree or certificates so you can be financially stable on your own. My mom gave me this advice. Thank goodness, she emphasized it. I didn't expect to be divorced at 46. You never know what life will bring.

Remember, we live in a global society. Economics isn't just in our city or nation. We have to deal with a global community. Become part of it. Pay attention what is going on in the world. Watch the news or read a newspaper (or follow one on social media).

Don't let someone take your voice. VOTE! If you don't vote, you are allowing all of the people who did vote make decisions for you. Your candidate may not win, but at least you had your say. Write to your political leaders – mayors, state legislators, senators, etc. It is your voice! Let them know what you want. Get your friends to vote too. Can you imagine how different politics would be if 18-24 year olds voted in huge numbers? Don't let the "no issue content" voters make the decisions – please!

Get a support system and don't be afraid to ask for help. For many of you, your family is your support system, but for others it is your friends. Keep them close and don't be afraid to ask them for help emotionally or to help you with some task. Trust me, they want to help. I have spent many days during quarantine hurting at the thought of all that you have lost. I have called my mom just to be able to cry it out and talk about my pain. This does not make me a weak person. Asking for help never makes you weak; it makes you a normal person. By the way, this has been the hardest for me to achieve. I wanted to keep everything inside and act like I was super-mom, super-teacher, super-coach and do everything on my own. All I did was become angry and think that I was a bad person. Once I started talking about my feelings, I began to feel better.

Be empathetic. This does not mean that you feel sorry for people. It means that you can understand their pain and life situation. This will often lead to you wanting to help or become the support system for someone else. The world needs people who want to help others.

Lastly (and this is the one that my parents still remind me of), LIFE IS ABOUT CHOICES. You get to choose what your life will be like. Even if you messed up high school big time, you can make the choice to change. I heard Oprah Winfrey state "failure is the opportunity to take your life in a new direction." Even if you stumble in life (and heaven knows everyone has), you can choose to get up and keep going. Only you can make your life the way you want it. It may be really hard, but you can do it.

Being a senior teacher is one of the best jobs, but the bummer is that I get to know you all and then have to say goodbye after one year. I am going to miss all of you. You really are a special class and I have enjoyed having you all. I hope you will let me know how you are doing.

Oh, go give your parents or guardians a big hug. They have worked really hard to support you and they are hurting as much as you all with all that you lost this year. Thank them! Trust me, if they have grey hair or no hair, it is probably your fault. Being a parent is a really tough job and you did not come with a set of instructions.

Wishing you all the best,

Ms. Gasset

(Kelly Gasset works at Torrance High School where she teaches Government/Economics/AP Macroeconomics and serves as the Senior Class Advisor).

TEACH El Camino Program

COME JOIN US!

To learn about job opportunities and workshops/conferences, please follow us on:



[teach_el_camino](#)

Instagram

[facebook.com/TEACHelcamino](https://www.facebook.com/TEACHelcamino)



Email: TEACH@elcamino.edu

Website: <http://www.elcamino.edu/academics/behavioralsocial/teach-elcamino/>

Coordinators' contact:

Campus Coordinator, Janice Jefferis: jjefferis@elcamino.edu

Community Coordinator, Yadira Arellano: yarellano@elcamino.edu

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