



MISSION:

Focusing on the education and workforce development needs of communities in the Salinas Valley. Hartnell College strengthens communities by providing opportunities for students to reach career and/or academic goals (associate degrees, certificates of achievement, transfer to four-year institutions) in an environment committed to student learning, achievement and success.

Note to readers:

The President's Weekly Report to the Community has moved to twice-monthly publication while the volume of news is slower due to COVID-19 restrictions. Thanks for reading!

Nursing students remain in demand for COVID vaccination and education

Registered and vocational nursing students at Hartnell have continued to administer the COVID-19 vaccine to hundreds of people across the Salinas Valley, while also providing vaccine education to agricultural employees of Salinas-based Taylor Farms.



Student volunteers last month helped deliver the second vaccine dose to emergency first responders and others at locations of the Clinica de Salud del Valle de Salinas, serving 1,400 people, and they also have been administering the vaccine at Mee Memorial Hospital in King City two days a week since mid-January.

Dr. Sonja Sheppard, associate director of nursing and allied health for Hartnell, said the students even showed up at Mee on a day when last month's

major storm kept hospital employees away. "I felt really honored that our students were there," she said. "They were the heroes that day."

Since the end of January, nursing students have been presenting COVID-19 information in English and Spanish to six groups of Taylor Farms employees, including an early-morning event pictured here. More presentations are scheduled for Feb. 23-24 in Gonzales.

"We're educating farm workers about the benefits of the vaccine and seeing if they have any questions, trying to dispel some of the myths that are surrounding the vaccine," Dr. Sheppard said. "The students are on their own. I said, 'Here's the material. You need to study it; you're going to be presenting it. They just kind of took it and owned it.'"

Measure T Bond Oversight Committee delivers annual report for 2019-20

The 10-member Measure T Citizens Bond Oversight Committee is making its 2019-2020 annual report available by publicizing links to the publication in Salinas-area newspapers and on social media.

The four-page report is posted in English and Spanish at www.hartnell.edu/about/t/cboc2019-20annualreport.pdf (English), and www.hartnell.edu/about/t/cboc2019-20annualreportspanish.pdf (Spanish).

It provides an update on progress and plans for the \$167 million Measure T Bond, approved in 2016 by voters in the Hartnell Community College District. The construction being funded will further student success on Hartnell's two Salinas campuses, as well as through new education centers in Soledad and Castroville (pictured) and expansion of the King City Education Center.



Phase I of the bond, totaling \$70 million, covers those projects already completed or underway. Phase II, totaling \$48.5 million, is designated for construction of a new building on the Alisal Campus and modernization of buildings J (visual arts) and K (performing arts). Phase III, totaling, \$48.5 million, is projected for renovation of the physical education complex on Main Campus, buildings F, G and H, and building N (Merrill Hall), as well as contingencies and cost escalation.

"The CBOC will continue to fulfill its duties over the next several years until all expenditures have been made as stated in Measure T," stated committee Chair Grant Leonard, who works as a housing analyst for the City of Monterey.

Students share testimonials on the benefits of Math Academy

Four students and one tutor from Hartnell's Online Winter Math Academy shared their positive experiences during the Feb. 2 meeting of the Hartnell College Governing Board.



The academy, held Jan. 11-16, is offered twice a year for students preparing to start a new math class. Normally face-to-face, it has switched to a virtual format during the pandemic. Subjects available for review and preparation during the sessions include elementary and intermediate algebra, statistics, trigonometry, pre-calculus and calculus. Participants also review how to study efficiently and prepare for tests while gaining confidence for math success at Hartnell and beyond.

One of the students who spoke to the board, freshman Veronica Aguilar (pictured middle right), said participation in the winter academy made her much more prepared and confident, providing a “social aspect, while at the same time I was learning math and going over some things that I learned in high school.” Another panel member, Audrey Jones (pictured bottom center), said the academy was especially valuable to her as an older adult and career professional who is continuing her education after 30 years. The experience “really eased my anxiety,” Jones said, “and introduced me to the type of work that I would be using in the classroom.”

Melissa Chin-Parker takes helm as interim director of The Western Stage

The Hartnell College Governing Board on Feb. 2 approved appointment of Melissa Chin-Parker as interim artistic director for The Western Stage theatre company, based at Hartnell. She previously was artistic program director, working with former artistic director Jon Selover, who retired in December. The interim appointment runs through 2021.



In a Feb. 8 email to supporters of The Western Stage (TWS), Chin-Parker said her interim appointment “speaks to our long history of excellence and the trust that the trustees and college administration have that we can weather campus closure and return as strong as ever.”

Although TWS has postponed several stage productions originally scheduled for 2020, she announced a series of online offerings called “In the Meantime In Between Times.” These include “A View From the Casting Table,” the opportunity to try a cold script reading and receive feedback from Casting Coordinator Melinda DeRouen, and the Alumni Symposium Series, presentations by former company members who are now industry professionals. Details and updates are available at westernstage.com.

VECAA program offers online help with financial aid applications

United Way of Monterey County is partnering with Hartnell to offer college-bound students and their families free assistance with FAFSA and Dream Act applications ahead of the important March 2 deadline.



The Volunteer Education and College Assistance Alliance (VECAA) was established with Hartnell in fall 2019, originally offering in-person financial aid workshops at the college and other locations in the county. Because of COVID-19, those services are now available remotely, seeking to increase the number of students at Hartnell and other colleges who have completed the applications required to receive aid.

For more information or to schedule a virtual appointment, call United Way’s Salinas office at 831-757-3206 or dial 211.

WELI Forum to be presented March 5 with complimentary online access

The Seventh Annual Women's Education & Leadership Institute (WELI) Forum will be presented online at 12 p.m. on March 5, celebrating triumph and endurance through the eyes of women on the front lines of medicine, education, crisis counseling and the Salinas Valley agriculture community.

WELI is a Hartnell student completion and leadership program that has graduated some 200 women scholars and granted about \$400,000 in scholarships since 2011. Participants receive leadership training, mentorship and a \$2,000 award.

The featured highlight of the upcoming forum will be a panel discussion with women involved in community support amid COVID-19. The panelists are Carla Spencer, director of emergency services for Salinas Valley Memorial Hospital; Carol Kimbrough, clinical supervisor of Crisis Counseling and Emotional Wellness Services at Hartnell; Christy Flis, education sales leader for Zoom; and Joann Greathead, vice president of member relations and finance for the Grower-Shipper Association of Central California. The moderator will be Adrienne Laurent, chief communications officer for the Salinas Valley Memorial Healthcare System and a member of the Hartnell College Foundation Board of Directors.



Free registration for the Zoom event is available [here](#). As in past years, the program will include fundraising opportunities in support of WELI Scholars.

Hartnell students and employees benefit from immigration services

Grounded in a commitment to serving all students, regardless of immigration status, Hartnell continues to offer its students and employees free, confidential, immigration services by appointment through its participation in the Community College Immigration Legal Services program.



Through the Center for Achievement and Student Advancement (Mi CASA), Hartnell is one of 16 California Community Colleges selected to join a partnership funded by the California Department of Social Services and the Foundation for California Community Colleges. They enable students, staff and faculty at any and all of the state's 116 colleges to access free personalized immigration legal services from highly qualified legal practitioners. These services are available to family members, as well.

Licensed immigration attorneys from the UFW Foundation and representatives accredited by the federal Office of Legal Assistance Programs (OLAP) are available to provide culturally-competent, trauma-informed and reliable expertise to the greater campus community. Multilingual services include legal consultations to screen for immigration relief, new and renewal applications for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and naturalization/citizenship applications.

Online appointments can be made [here](#). Additional assistance is available at 1-877-881-8281.

Upcoming Events

Hartnell College Governing Board – Board Retreat

4 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 16

Steinbeck Hall (Building C)

Umoja Virtual Open House

3 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 17

Zoom: <https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/92274655446#success>

TPP/MAESTROS Informational Sessions

3 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 24

Register: <https://bit.ly/2L4mun>

Pop-Up Food Pantry

12 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 26

Hartnell Parking Structure

(Pictured: Jan. 29)



Hartnell College Governing Board

5 p.m.

Tuesday, March 2

Steinbeck Hall (Building C)

Virtual ESL Orientation Workshop

6 p.m.

Thursday, March 4

Register: <https://bit.ly/HartnellESL>

Seventh Annual WELI Forum

12 p.m.

Friday, March 5

Register:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_qDwzfi1ZQvmU9Vb0Vef_zw

Pop-Up Food Pantry

12 p.m.

Friday, March 12

Hartnell Parking Structure

Hartnell College Governing Board – Development

5 p.m.

Tuesday, March 16

Steinbeck Hall (Building C)