High school seniors sign intent to pursue auto, diesel at Hartnell

Hartnell’s advanced automotive and diesel technology programs joined dozens of career and technical programs across the United States on Feb. 20 by participating in National CTE Letter of Intent Signing Day for the first time.

I joined diesel instructor Mark DeHart, automotive instructor Pete Escoto, local educators and industry partners to congratulate 21 students representing six high schools in our district. (Pictured: I shake a student’s hand along with Tim Vanoli, superintendent of the Soledad Unified School District, and Martha Pantoja, CTE coordinator for SUSD.)

The students were from Alisal, Everett Alvarez, North Monterey County, North Salinas, Salinas and Soledad high schools. Hartnell Governing Board member Candi DePauw also attended, as did Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Cathryn Wilkinson. (Pictured: Mark DeHart directs students from Everett Alvarez High School, assisted by student worker Maria de la Luz Parra.)

The Letter of Intent that each student signed in a brief ceremony assures them of Fall 2020 enrollment in Hartnell’s technical education programs, assuming they meet all enrollment requirements. The letter states, “I will be prepared to achieve technical certification for a high-demand occupation and with completion of the industry-level curriculum, I will graduate ready to enter the workforce as a successful Hartnell alumni, workplace-ready.” Each student received a Hartnell-branded hat and windbreaker jacket.

We were honored to be joined by senior administrators, principals and counselors from the schools and by representatives of such industry partners as Salinas Toyota, Salinas Valley Ford, Snap-On tools, Greenlee and Kubota University. The keynote speaker was Ryan Jefferson, branch manager for Quinn Co., a CAT construction equipment dealer in Salinas.

I am extremely grateful for the efforts of Sharon Albert, interim dean of career technical education and workforce development; Celia Anderson, program assistant II; and many other
faculty and staff who made this momentous day possible. We look forward to continuing to expand the event in future years.

**Fall survey of employee engagement finds strengths and opportunities**

A Hartnell employee engagement survey conducted during the Fall 2019 semester found evidence that staff, faculty and administrators at the college are strongly invested in their work, with a deep appreciation of their impact on the lives of students and on the communities our college serves.

A total of 291 employees completed the survey, for a good participation rate of 30 percent. Of those, 58 percent reported feeling engaged with their work, 22 percent said they were neutral and 20 percent said they felt disengaged.

I want to thank everyone who spoke up honestly, as we now know the areas where we are strongest and where we need to improve.

Our students are at the heart of everything we do. I have no doubt that together, as a team, we can create a work environment that enables our employees to do their best. I am honored to be leading such a dedicated and committed team of employees.

A summary of key findings, a PowerPoint presentation and detailed results are available in the supporting documents for the Dec. 4 College Planning Council meeting.

**Dr. Matsunaga joins Hartnell as dean for languages and learning support**

Dr. Sachiko Matsunaga joined Hartnell on Feb. 18 as dean of Academic Affairs for languages, learning support resources. A professor emerita in the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures at CSU Los Angeles, where she was named a distinguished professor in 2018, she served as chair of the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures for 12 years and as a professor in Japanese for 24 years.

Dr. Matsunaga has extensive background in higher education, including service as assessment coordinator at CSULA, as a member of task forces for strategic planning and faculty visioning and director of the Strategic Language Initiative Korean program funded through a federal grant. She has published extensive research in linguistics and language pedagogies. Her Ph.D. in East Asian Languages and Literatures is from the University of Hawai’i at Manoa.

Many thanks to the members of the search committee and to Dr. Romero Jalomo, vice president for Student Affairs, for chairing the search process that brought Dr. Matsunaga to
A welcome reception in her honor is scheduled for 3:30-4:30 p.m. on Feb. 21 in room E-112.

**Centennial activities continue to expand throughout the 2020 calendar year**

Hartnell took advantage of a Feb. 20 community forum on planning for use of facilities being built with Measure T bond funds to formally mark the start of its 2020 Centennial Celebration.

With cake and balloons and a gathering of Salinas community leaders, we invited everyone present and all the communities in our district to join us in this historic observance of our 100-year milestone.

In addition to planning a Centennial Alumni Appreciation Night on June 20 and a Community Celebration on our Main Campus from 12-4 p.m. on June 21, the Centennial will be incorporated into the Party in the Library event on May 9, the Athletics Hall of Fame next fall and the Black & White Gala for the Arts in November. Planning also is underway for a Centennial-themed instrumental and vocal music concert in the fall.

Scott Faust, director of communications, marketing and public relations for the college, is working with a Centennial Planning Committee to engage Hartnell’s entire community in the celebration, especially by sharing the memories and pride of college alumni. He will be reaching out to employees and students for opportunities to incorporate academic-related events, student clubs and the entire district community.

The committee already has launched a Centennial Service Challenge, inviting current and former employees and students to dedicate volunteer efforts in honor of Hartnell’s 100th anniversary, and more activities are being developed. To share a question or an idea, please contact Faust at (831) 755-6858 or sfaust@hartnell.edu.

**Women’s Conference on March 14 has theme of “Actually, Yes I Can”**

All members of the Hartnell community and the general public are invited to participate in the 2020 Women’s Empowerment Conference on March 14 in the Student Center. This year’s theme, “Actually, Yes I Can,” will engage participants in meaningful workshops, a keynote address by author Adela Castillo and opportunities to network with other students and community members.

The conference is scheduled for an additional hour this year, from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., to provide more time for workshops. It is sponsored by the Associated Students of Hartnell College and in celebration of Women’s History Month in March.
“Everyone’s welcome, whether they’re students or not, and it’s free to the entire community,” said ASHC President Samantha Saldana.

Seating is limited, so please complete an online application at WEC 2020. Contact the Office of Student Life for more information at (831) 755-6734.

Crisis Counseling office adds Emotional Wellness to its name
The office of Hartnell Crisis Counseling Services has changed its name to Crisis Counseling and Emotional Wellness Services.

Carol Kimbrough, psychology instructor and clinical supervisor for the center, said the name change reflects a desire to make sure students and others know they don’t have to be in dire crisis, such as imminently suicidal or experiencing a psychotic episode, to use the center’s services.

“Depression, loneliness, anxiety and stress are often part of the college experience and are very common reasons that we see students,” Kimbrough said.

Updates to the center’s webpage include an online application for services. If you know of someone who is experiencing emotional distress, you may want to refer them to this website and the online application process. The website may be accessed by using the A-Z search directory on the Hartnell website: select C for Crisis Counseling/Emotional Wellness.

Staff and faculty may also want to walk students to our location on the Main Campus in Building D (rooms 123-127) to help them fill out the paper form or take advantage of open office hours from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. weekdays. The office has four therapists providing services to students in Spanish and English. Services are free and completely confidential for enrolled students.

“Thanks for all you do and for your ongoing concern for our students!” Kimbrough said.

Panther Transfer Academy continues to serve students every first Tuesday
Since fall, monthly sessions of the Panther Transfer Academy have helped students prepare for the social and financial difficulties they may encounter when they transfer to a four-year university.

The academy, held the first Tuesday of every month from 5-6 p.m. in the Career and Transfer Center, room C-132, is designed to respond to students’ concerns. They are encouraged to drive the discussion to make sure their needs are addressed and to allow them to
build a community with one another. Faculty are present to offer as much wisdom as possible.

“The higher education system is not simple to navigate, and when we take the time to share what we have experienced in our college journey with our students, we welcome students to discuss their own concerns and better prepare them for success,” Del Real said. “These types of avenues that allow faculty and students to dialogue on factors that impact college and career success contribute to improved student motivation, which is key to achieving any goal, whether it is educational, career, or personal.”

Daniel López, communications instructor and director of forensics, has joined with Mercedes Del Real, counselor and coordinator for the Career and Transfer Center, in organizing and presenting the monthly sessions. He is pictured at a session in November.

López said challenges that students may face when they move on from Hartnell include culture shock, loneliness as they seek new social groups, interacting with professors, thinking about and preparing to apply to graduate programs, seeking housing, budgeting money and potentially racism from peers.

Soto to publish article in national philosophical association newsletter

Philosophy instructor Andrew Soto has had an article, “Chicano/a Philosophy: Rupturing Gringo Anti-Chicano/a Paradigms and Philosophies” chosen for publication in the spring 2020 edition of the American Philosophical Association Newsletter on Hispanic/Latino Issues in Philosophy.

The article abstract distinguishes between what Soto calls “gringo anti-Chicano/a paradigms that permanently construct the Chicano/a as a threat, foreigner and nonhuman” and Chicano/a philosophy, which he describes as “a discipline for the study and theorization of Chicano/as and for the construction of Chicano/a institutions grounded in a Chicano/a logics that necessarily entails Chicano/a possibility and existence.”

Soccer teams volunteer at Spreckels fitness day

On Feb. 14, members of the men’s/women’s soccer teams took time out of their day to volunteer at the Spreckels Elementary School’s We Love Fitness Day. The Hartnell student-athletes ran the kids through agility drills and had fun sharing the sport they love with others.

“They did a great job representing Hartnell Athletics and Hartnell College!” said Men’s Soccer Coach Daniel Ortega.
Spring Athletics: Off to a strong start

Swim and Dive program claims diving wins
Hartnell’s divers made their competitive debut on Feb. 14 at Chabot College during the first competition with their conference, the Coast Conference Kickoff. The Panthers’ Doug Lynch didn’t waste any time, claiming wins in the 1-meter and 3-meter competition and giving Hartnell the highest team score (pictured).

Lynch also joined the swim squad in San Mateo, scoring points in the men’s 200 freestyle relay. Also scoring points in the pool were swimmers Jeremiah Disimone, Emily Pacheco, Robert Ehlers, Brionna Gonzalez, Thomas Villalobos, Ben Hanneman, Mikee Velasquez, and Viviana Valenzuela. Disimone finished fourth in the 100 breast, Pacheco took seventh in the 100 back and Thomas Villalobos stepped up to fill in for the men’s A relay. The Hartnell Swim and Dive Team will be at De Anza on Feb. 21 and Cuesta on March 13 before hosting their first home meet on March 27.

Panthers Track & Field athletes deliver at MPC
The Hartnell Women’s and Men’s Track & Field teams began their seasons on Feb. 14-15 at the Monterey Peninsula College Open. Among top performers for the women were sophomore Ashley Smith (pictured), who hit a lifetime best in the hammer, with a toss of 35.85m – over five meters better than her previous record. Alyssa Ceja Pena also set a personal mark in the hammer, at 33.53m. Daniela Salazar placed first in the 3,000 meters with a lifetime best of 10:30.79, the fastest women’s mark in the state as of that date. The women’s 4x400 relay of Salazar, Valeria Gomez-Lozano, Gerilynn Omictin and Andrea Villalobos was second, at 4:22.47.

For the men, Isaac Gensel placed second in the 3,000M with a time of 9:03.94, followed close behind by Joseph Loredo in third. De’Antae Williams, Hiroki Terada, Jeffrey Weimer and Tim Hunter placed second in the 4x400, at 3:27.51. The teams are next at the Bob Rush Invitational in San Mateo on Feb. 21.

Baseball is at .500 after 10 games
Hartnell Baseball brought its record to 5-5 with two more double-digit wins on the road, first on Feb. 15 at West Hills Coalinga (14-7) and next against Napa Valley on Feb. 18 (13-7). In the latter game, leftfielder Diego Fisher, first baseman Carlos Drain, catcher Tyler Triano and rightfield-centerfield Travis Madison all game up big at the plate, scoring eight runs between
them. Drain also had a team-leading three RBIs. The Panthers will host Los Medanos at 2 p.m. on Feb. 21 and travel there on Feb. 22 before playing at home again on Feb. 25 against West Valley.

Softball looks to break even in road stretch
Hartnell Softball had a 3-5 record heading into a doubleheader in the Cuesta Tournament on Feb. 21, followed by three more road games before a return to their home field at 3 p.m. March 3 at Gavilan. They’ll also host Monterey Peninsula at 3 p.m. on March 5. The Panthers had a big win on Feb. 17 in the second game of a doubleheader against West Hills Coalinga, running the score up to 11-3.

In the News

Local Roundup: Palma second at Gabilan:

Letters to the Editor: About the Hartnell pool water temperature:

Your Chance to Hear From Food Safety Experts In Person:

The Artichoke Festival Board Celebrates the 61st Annual Artichoke Festival this May 30 & 31, 2020:
https://www.prurgent.com/2020-02-19/pressrelease465555.htm

Local Roundup: Padres keeps boys basketball:
https://www.montereyherald.com/2020/02/14/local-roundup-padres-keep-boys-basketball-title-hopes-alive/

Salinas Valley Ag Tech Summit is a Window on Innovation

Upcoming Events

Note: All event locations are on the Main Campus in Salinas unless otherwise noted.

STEM Internship Programs - Enroll Now!
https://www.hartnell.edu/academics-affairs/academics/stem/intern/

Pictorial Display of Prominent African Americans - Poster Art Project
Feb. 1-28
Student Center

**Baseball vs. West Valley**
2 p.m.
Tuesday, Feb. 25
Tony Teresa Diamond

**“I Am Not Your Negro” – Movie Showcase**
2 p.m.
Tuesday, Feb. 25
Student Center, C-101

**Blue Zones Interprofessional Education Seminar**
1-3 p.m.
Tuesday, Feb. 25
Mainstage Theater, Building K

**Black History Month Keynote Speaker: Melvin T. Mason**
1 p.m.
Wednesday, Feb. 26
Planetarium, S-101

**Pop-Up Pantry food distribution**
Friday, Feb. 28
Building C, room 140

**Planetarium Children’s Show, “Earth, Moon, and Sun”**
5:15 p.m.
Friday, Feb. 28
Building S, room 101 (Planetarium)

**Planetarium Evening Show, “Dynamic Earth”**
6:45 p.m.
Friday, Feb. 28
Building S, room 101 (Planetarium)

**Spring FEST 2020 “LegacyPlayers in Performance”**
2 p.m.
Feb. 29 and March 1
Studio Theater
Building K, room 116

**Baseball vs. Canada**
1 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 29
Tony Teresa Diamond

**“The Vagina Monologues” Audition**
Sunday, March 1
Building N, room 7 (Old Planetarium)
Email Dr. Marnie Glazier for appointment: mglazier@hartnell.edu
Performances: 2 p.m. March 7-8

**FAFSA, Dream Act and Salinas Valley Promise application deadline**
Monday, March 2

**Baseball vs. MPC**
2 p.m.
Tuesday, March 3
Tony Teresa Diamond

**Softball vs. Gavilan**
3 p.m.
Tuesday, March 3
Hartnell Softball Field

**Softball vs. MPC**
3 p.m.
Thursday, March 5
Hartnell Softball Field

**Music Extravaganza**
6 p.m.
Friday, March 6
Building K

**Planetarium Children’s Show, “Earth, Moon, and Sun”**
5:15 p.m.
Friday, March 6
Building S, room 101 (Planetarium)

**Planetarium Evening Show, “Dynamic Earth”**
6:45 p.m.
Friday, March 6
Building S, room 101 (Planetarium)

**Baseball vs. MPC**
1 p.m.
Saturday, March 7
Tony Teresa Diamond

**Educator in Residence Dr. Jean E. Fox Tree**
“The Power of Little Words in Everyday Conversation”
12 p.m.
Monday, March 9
Steinbeck Hall
**Planetarium Children's Show, “The Little Star that Could”**
5:15 p.m.
Friday, March 13
Building S, room 101 (Planetarium)

**Planetarium Evening Show, “Sunstruck”**
6:45 p.m.
Friday, March 13
Building S, room 101 (Planetarium)

**Women's Empowerment Conference**
8:30 a.m.-3 p.m.
Saturday, March 14
Building C, Steinbeck Hall

**Planetarium Children's Show, “The Little Star that Could”**
5:15 p.m.
Friday, March 20
Building S, room 101 (Planetarium)

**Planetarium Evening Show, “Sunstruck”**
6:45 p.m.
Friday, March 20
Building S, room 101 (Planetarium)

**Planetarium Children's Show, “Astronaut”**
5:15 p.m.
Friday, March 27
Building S, room 101 (Planetarium)

**Planetarium Evening Show, “Incoming!”**
6:45 p.m.
Friday, March 27
Building S, room 101 (Planetarium)