

President's Weekly Report



HARTNELL COLLEGE

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.



Special feature: Graduation milestones

Concluding this edition of the President's Weekly Report are personal and family graduation announcements from 19 employees. To share your announcement, please send the person's name, relationship to you, school of graduation, degree or level of graduation, date of graduation, your job title and a photo if possible to

czavala@hartnell.edu. (Pictured: Augustine Nevarez with son, Isaac.)

Hartnell welcomes students to campuses for Summer '21 term

With in-person, online and hybrid course options, Hartnell students are returning for the Summer 2021 term, June 7-July 31, including the first-ever classes scheduled in the Soledad Education Center and the expanded center in King City. Full-time-equivalent enrollment is up 40% over Summer 2020, which was also very strong.

On June 1, the Hartnell Governing Board ratified an agreement with the Hartnell College Faculty Association (HCFA) that details plans to make face-to-face instruction as safe as possible for students and employees. The college will offer 25% of classes in person this summer and up to 75% during the fall semester, which starts Aug. 31. A full return is expected next spring.



The agreement, which comes just as Monterey County moves into the least-restrictive “yellow” tier for COVID-19 precautions, includes provisions for classroom capacity, social distancing, virus testing, regular sanitization, rigorous air filtration and use of an online app for self-screening before employees and students come onto Hartnell campuses. The college will share details on use of the app in coming days.



Speaking for her fellow trustees at the June 1 board meeting, board President Erica Padilla-Chavez thanked faculty for their work on the college’s Memorandum of Understanding with the Hartnell College Faculty Association, and she urged new and continuing students to take advantage of in-person learning amid the easing threat from COVID-19.

“We encourage those who have refrained from registering due to challenges with distance learning to enroll and attend of the many in-person classes that will be available,” Padilla-Chavez said. “At Hartnell College, we are committed to making your academic success our number one priority.”

This summer, about 40 in-person classes are scheduled to be taught in-person, and five more will be a hybrid of in-person and online instruction. On the Main Campus, these will be in a wide variety of academic programs, including English, math, ceramics,

Spanish, theatre and physical education, such as yoga, swim fitness and pre-season conditioning for student-athletes. Six face-to-face classes are being offered at the Alisal Campus, including advanced automotive technology, construction and welding. (Pictured: Rear view of King City expansion and new courtyard.)

For fall, nearly 340 in-person or hybrid classes are scheduled, with a much wider range of subjects that include laboratory sciences, music instruction, nursing and health sciences and a full array of classes in the liberal arts and social sciences.

Interim Superintendent/President Dr. Raúl Rodríguez said the college is excited to welcome students back for face-to-face instruction, while still providing an option for those who prefer online learning at this time, whether for reasons of health or flexibility.

“As hard as everyone at Hartnell has worked to keep our students learning and successful through the pandemic over the past year, it’s an enormous relief to be able to open our doors and begin bringing students back to our campuses,” Rodríguez said.

Read the [full story](#) and see the [Summer 2021](#) resource guide for on-campus students.

In-person recognition event gives grads a time to shine

Three groups of 90 graduates in Hartnell's Class of 2021 participated in an in-person recognition ceremony on May 28, allowing them to be congratulated by Interim Superintendent/President Dr. Raúl Rodríguez and a member of the Hartnell Governing Board and have individual photos taken by a professional photographer in their cap and gown.

Kicking off the first of the three sessions, at 11 a.m., Dr. Rodríguez told participants who stood on the tiered lawn of the new Central Plaza, "We wanted to do this for you because we know it's been a hard year – especially for you students. We wanted to do something special for you with this event."



The board speakers at the three ceremonies were President Erica Padilla-Chavez and trustees Aurelio Salazar Jr. and Irma Lopez. Trustee Alejandra Gonzalez also attended. (Pictured: Padilla-Chavez, Dr. Rodríguez with graduate and Trustee Gonzalez.)

Padilla-Chavez told the graduates to remember those who had encouraged them along their journey, especially during the pandemic, saying, "I want you to think of all the people in your life that supported you and encouraged you and maybe gave you a 'you can do it!' message, particularly throughout this past year."

Employee volunteers who made the socially-distanced event possible were: Ana Gonzalez, Jacqueline Flores, Dina Hayashi, Joel Thompson, Lucy Serrano, Lea Miller, Moises Almendariz, Michelle Peters, Manuel Bersamin, Dave Phillips, Maria Ceja, Dora Sanchez, Dr. Cathryn Wilkinson, Vanessa Meldahl, Marc Riggillo, Bronwyn Moreno, Scott Faust, Steve Crow, Joni Black, Celia Anderson, Roberta Ruiz-Camacho, Delia Edeza, Joanne Pleak, Dr. Brian Lofman, Carla Johnson, Joni Black, Claudia Garcia, Clint Cowden, Joy Cowden, Tony Chhom, Jazmin Rios, Mostafa Ghous, Lourdes Sanchez, Paul Casey, Romero Jalomo and Norma Nichols.

Student Trustee Jane Hernandez sworn in for service in 2021-22

Hartnell Governing Board President Erica Padilla-Chavez administered the oath of office to new Student Trustee Jane Hernandez at the board's June 1 meeting (pictured). Hernandez was chosen by fellow students in last month's online election for the Associated Students of Hartnell College (ASHC). She will also repeat as ASHC president.

Hernandez, a non-traditional student who began attending Hartnell in Fall 2019, is majoring in psychology, biology and Spanish and participates in the Salinas Valley Promise program. A former field worker who completed her high school equivalency through the Salinas Adult School, she was elected as a senator at-large last spring before transitioning first into the vice president's job and then the presidency during turnover caused by the pandemic.

Hernandez said she is proud of her work supporting outreach to students, representing student concerns regarding the return to campus and sparking the idea for the new [Panther Press](#) online student newsletter, which last month published its third edition. In the coming year, she wants to prioritize diversity and equity and explore development of a new student organization for Latinx students.



Other ASHC officers elected for 2021-22 are: Lizbeth Silva, vice president; Gabino Guzman, director of the Inter-Club Council; Guadalupe Rodriguez, director, public relations; Sherylnn Padonia, director, programs and services; Laura Rivera, senator at-large; Daniel Gonzalez, senator at-large; Seren Lara, senator at-large; and Triny Chavarin, senator at-large. Some positions have yet to be filled, pending confirmation of write-in candidates.

K-12 STEM plans busy summer of programs, classes and activities

Hartnell's K-12 STEM program is about to begin a busy summer schedule, which includes providing STEM-related curriculum to the Salinas City Elementary and Salinas Union High (SUHSD) school districts and courses for local youth of all ages.

For Salinas City, the Hartnell staff will begin a four-week STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and math) Summer School program for incoming first- through sixth-graders on June 14, and for SUHSD, they will direct Migrant STEM program for seventh- and eighth-graders that includes learning the scientific method, creating video games and solving problems using the scientific method. Both are in-person.

In addition, K-12 STEM is offering online Coder Dojo "learn to code" classes for ages 8-17 from July 19-24, as well as partnering in weekly virtual cyber security camps at introductory, intermediate and advanced



levels. Finally, they will offer the NASA Academy online for K-6 from June 23-July 2. Registration information about all three programs is available on the K-12 STEM [website](#).

MESA honors STEM grads with virtual event on May 24

The Hartnell MESA Program held a virtual recognition event via Zoom on May 24, honoring 17 MESA STEM graduates. They include majors in biology, biochemistry, chemistry, computer science, engineering, molecular biology and pharmacy.



The graduates will be transferring to the following institutions: Arizona State University, Cal State Monterey Bay, CSU East Bay, Fresno State, San José State, UC Berkeley, UC Santa Cruz, and University of the Pacific.

Event speakers included Dr. Mohammed Yahdi, dean of student affairs for STEM; Dr. Melissa Hornstein, engineering instructor; and Brian Palmer, math instructor; current MESA graduates (Jesus Delgadillo, Kimberly Manzano, Rosa Sanchez) and MESA alumni (Nicole Polo (San José State) and Evelyn Macia Reyes (UC Davis)).

Polo (pictured) reminded students that they will face challenges but can overcome them.

"Sometimes you might encounter a point in your academia that you're like, 'Is this really for me?' or somebody might tell you, 'You know, this isn't the right career for you,'" she said. "But at the end of the day, it's how much you want it and how much you're willing to put into what you want to study. That piece of advice is just to try 110% with everything that you do, whether it be an interview or some homework, or even asking for help – be proactive for yourself."

HEP provides '20 and '21 grads with professional photo shoot

On May 16, Hartnell's High School Equivalency Program (HEP) celebrated its 2019-20 and 2020-21 graduating classes with a professional photo shoot, attended by 60 students. All received a free cap, gown, tassel and commemorative medal. Hartnell Governing Board President Erica Padilla-Chavez, Vice President Candi DePauw and Trustee Alejandra Gonzalez attended to congratulate HEP students.

The combined graduating classes totaled 116 students from throughout Monterey County. HEP had graduates from Castroville, Salinas, Chualar, Gonzales, Soledad, Greenfield and King City, as well as one student from Hollister. The oldest graduate was 56 and the youngest was 19.

Montes Mariz and husband welcome first child

Jocelyn Montes Mariz, a program assistant for TRiO and Upward Bound, gave birth to a daughter, Jade Elba Garcia, on May 21. The baby weighed 6 pounds, 14 ounces and was 18.5 inches. Her dad is Jeremiah Garcia.

Alfaro and wife have a baby boy

Utility Custodian Josue Alfaro and his wife, Brenda Ramirez, welcomed their son, Henry Alexander Alfaro-Ramirez, on May 26. He weighed 6 pounds, 5 ounces and was 17.5 inches.

Congratulations to these 19 employees and family members for graduation milestones!

The following graduations are listed by the name of the employee who shared them. Employees who have a personal or family graduation milestone are invited to email information and a photo, as shown, to czavala@hartnell.edu.

Rosa Cabrera

Name of graduate: Sophia Alcala-Cabrera
Degree/milestone: Masters in Psychology
Date of graduation: June 11, 2021
School: Santa Clara University
Relationship to employee: Daughter
Job title of employee: Administrative Assistant III



Name of graduate: Ariella Marie Noriega Cabrera & Nathan Javier Escobar Alcala
Degree/milestone: Sixth-grade promotion
School: El Sausal Middle School
Relationship to employee: Daughter and Grandson
Job title of employee: Administrative Assistant III

Monica Navarro

Name of graduate: Kevin Louis Navarro
Degree/milestone: Bachelor of Science, Kinesiology-Exercise Science
Date of graduation: May 14, 2021
School: Fresno State University
Relationship to employee: Son
Job title of employee: Enrollment Services Specialist



Blanca Amezola Garcia

Name of graduate: Benzema A. Rodriguez Garcia
Degree/milestone: Pre-K
Date of graduation: June 3, 2021
School: Hartnell Child Development Center
Relationship to employee: Nephew
Job title of employee: Accounting Assistant/Cashier



Lisa Storm

Name of graduate: Dr. Tara Storm
Degree/milestone: Ed.D.
School: Johns Hopkins University
Relationship to employee: Daughter
Job title of employee: Administration of Justice Faculty



Martha Suarez

Name of graduate: Isabella Daniela Blanco-Suarez
Degree/milestone: Eighth-grade promotion, Honor Roll
Date of graduation: May 26, 2021
School: Washington Middle School
Relationship to employee: Daughter
Job title of employee: Administrative Assistant III



Jacqueline Flores

Name of graduate: Carolina Flores
Degree/milestone: Sixth-grade Promotion
Date of graduation: June 2, 2021
School: Mission Park Elementary School
Relationship to employee: Daughter
Job title of employee: Executive Assistant



Victoria Bartholomew

Name of graduate: Angelina Benavides
Degree/milestone: Business Admin (AS-T)
Date of graduation: May 28, 2021
School: Hartnell College
Relationship to employee: Sister
Job title of employee: Placement Technician



Leti Contreras

Name of graduate: Jay Xavier Contreras
Degree/milestone: High school diploma
Date of graduation: May 30, 2021
School: Palma High School
Relationship to employee: Son
Job title of employee: Mathematics Faculty





Janeen Whitmore

Name of graduate: Emily Marie Branan
Degree/milestone: Juris Doctorate (J.D.)
Date of graduation: May 22, 2021
School: Santa Clara University School of Law
Relationship to employee: Janeen Whitmore
Job title of employee: Nursing Instructor

Dr. Mary A. Davis

Degree/milestone: Ph.D. in Education: Specialization – Nursing Education
Date of graduation: September 2020
School: Capella University, Minneapolis, Minn.
Job title of employee: Part-time Faculty, Nursing and Allied Health



Terri Ugale

Name of graduate: Aaron Ugale
Degree/milestone: High school diploma
Date of graduation: May 27, 2021
School: Salinas High School
Relationship to employee: Son
Job title of employee: Executive Assistant

Steve Ettinger

Name of graduate: Kayla Ettinger
Degree/milestone: BA in English
Date of graduation: June 12, 2021
School: University of California, Irvine
Relationship to employee: Daughter
Job title of employee: Music faculty



John and Marnie Glazier

Name of graduate: Silas Glazier
Degree/milestone: AA-T, History
School: Hartnell College
Date of graduation: May 21, 2021
Relationship to employees: son
Job titles of employees: Art History and Theatre Faculty



Julie Stephens-Carrillo

Name of graduate: Evan Carrillo
Degree/milestone: Eighth-grade promotion
Date of graduation: June 9, 2021
School: Main Street Middle School
Relationship to employee: Son



Name of graduate: Greg Carrillo
Degree/milestone: High school diploma
Date of graduation: June 12, 2021
School: Soledad High School
Relationship to employee: Son
Job title of employee: Director of K-12 STEM



Celia Anderson

Name of graduate: Alexis Anderson
Degree/milestone: Administration of Justice AA
Date of graduation: May 21, 2021
School: Hartnell College
Relationship to employee: Daughter
Job title of employee: Program Assistant, Career Technical Education



Augustine Nevarez and Sylvia Miranda

Name of graduate: Isaac Nevarez
Degree/milestone: High school diploma
Date of graduation: May 21, 2021
School: Palma High School
Relationship to employee: son
Job titles of employees: Director of Student Affairs, Student Life, and Adjunct Counselor

Antonia Jaime

Name of graduate: Irie Cunningham
Degree/milestone: BA in Psychology
Date of graduation: May 22, 2021
School: Cal State Monterey Bay
Relationship to employee: granddaughter
Job title of employee: EOPS Coordinator



In the News

Creating Meaningful Career Pathways: <https://mbep.biz/news/creating-meaningful-career-pathways/>

A temporary job turns into a permanent passion for nurse educator Jovita Dominguez: https://www.montereycountyweekly.com/people/face_to_face/a-temporary-job-turns-into-a-permanent-passion-for-nurse-educator-jovita-dominguez/article_67f227f0-c3e6-11eb-bcb1-27a73b6ca05e.html

Hartnell Child Development Center reopens fall registration: <https://www.montereyherald.com/2021/05/15/hartnell-child-development-center-reopens-fall-registration/>

Upcoming Events

Summer Session begins

Monday, June 7

Governing Board Meeting – Development

5 p.m.

Tuesday, June 15

Steinbeck Hall

<https://go.boarddocs.com/ca/hccd/Board.nsf/Public>

Educator Job Fair

Wednesday, June 9

2 p.m.

[RSVP](#) by June 7

Fourth of July

College closed July 3-4

Governing Board Meeting – Regular

5 p.m.

Tuesday, July 6

King City Education Center

<https://go.boarddocs.com/ca/hccd/Board.nsf/Public>