

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.

Weekly Report will soon be weekly again

Beginning with the next edition for the week ending Sept. 3, the President's Weekly Report will resume its weekly schedule for the first time since April 2020. Please send your news items to sfaust@hartnell.edu.

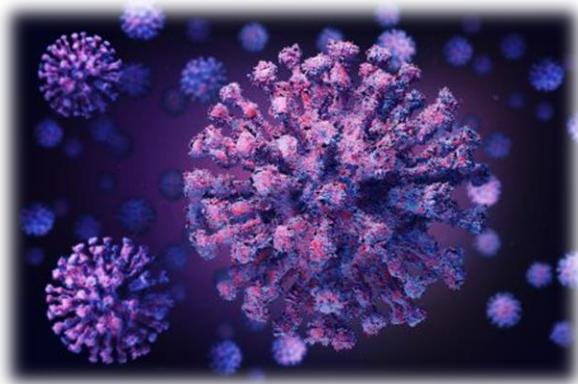
Governing Board weighs vaccine requirement for all

The Hartnell Community College District Governing Board continues its efforts to ensure maximum student and employee safety from COVID-19 during the coming academic year, including possibly requiring all employees and students to be vaccinated, with limited exceptions.

The board discussed that step during its Aug. 16 meeting, with trustees expressing general support for the idea and a willingness to consider action at a future meeting. A faculty member, math instructor Dr. Ann Wright, and a staff member, programmer analyst Shawn Pullum, both voiced support for a vaccine requirement during their public comments.

Nearly a third of California community colleges have already approved some type of vaccine requirement for the Fall 2021 semester.

The board voted unanimously to implement a vaccination requirement for all student-athletes, with an Aug. 30 deadline for them to have received at least one dose. Many student-athletes have been vaccinated, and a majority of colleges in Hartnell's athletics conference have adopted similar requirements because of unavoidable close contact during practices, games and team travel.



Board President Erica Padilla-Chavez said that while she understands the desire for individual choice, the college must look at safety from a community perspective. "It's not the 'I', it's the 'we,'" she said. "That's the only way I can see us moving forward as a community."

Hartnell will host a public, walk-in vaccination clinic from 4-8 p.m. on Aug. 26 in the Student Center on the Main Campus. Natividad Medical Center will administer the Moderna vaccine. Natividad also held a vaccine clinic at Hartnell's Soledad Education Center on Aug. 10, with a second clinic scheduled there on Aug. 31.

Soledad and King City education centers hold Registration Fairs for incoming students



Hartnell's newly completed Soledad Education Center and expanded King City Education Center have greeted a steady stream of south Monterey County residents interested in learning more about the centers and their class offerings. The centers will each offer eight in-person or hybrid classes for Fall 2021, including ESL, chemistry, political science, history and music.

Both have been open to the public every weekday, and each held a two-evening Registration Fair – on Aug. 10 and 17 in Soledad and on Aug. 12 and 19 in King City. The two-evening events drew nearly 60 people to each center to complete California Community Colleges application, learn about financial aid and register for classes.

(Pictured: Soledad center director Ana Gonzales answers questions from a participant during the Aug. 10 event.)

The Soledad center also has scheduled a community open house and ribbon-cutting event, including a hot dog and hamburger barbecue, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Oct. 23, to be preceded by a reception for donors whose gifts will help support center operations.

Hartnell mourns Alfred Diaz-Infante as inspiring leader with passion for students

As a gifted community leader who was passionate about improving lives and creating opportunity in the Salinas Valley, Alfred Díaz-Infante dedicated himself personally and professionally to Hartnell College in ways that will long endure.

Díaz-Infante, who passed away unexpectedly on Aug. 9 at age 60, was president and CEO of CHISPA (Community Housing Improvement Systems and Planning), Inc., a non-profit developer and provider of affordable housing based in Salinas. He is survived by his wife of 31 years, Elvira, their three grown children and a new grandchild.



"Alfred contributed enormously to Hartnell and our students through his keen intellect, his compassionate spirit and his unyielding determination to help others achieve a brighter future," said Dr. Raúl Rodríguez, interim superintendent/president.

Among a breadth of community service, Díaz-Infante served on the Hartnell College Foundation Board of Directors from 2007-17, including as board president from 2011-15. He rejoined the foundation board in 2019 and was a current member of its Salinas Valley Promise Program Committee and co-chair of a newly formed Student Basic Needs Task Force.

The Hartnell Governing Board recognized Díaz-Infante in 2019 as a Distinguished Alumni, and the preceding year he received the Leadership Award from the Hartnell College Foundation for his positive impact on the entire Central Coast region (pictured).

His commitment to education was exemplified by the family's decision in 2017 to endow a scholarship inspired by his parents and those of his wife.



The Díaz-Infante Family Scholarship Endowment assists Hartnell students who are farmworkers or children of farmworkers, low-income and pursuing a career in business, engineering, health care, communications or education. In tribute to Diaz-Infante, the Hartnell College Foundation has also established a new Alfred Díaz-Infante Memorial Legacy Fund. Information about supporting both funds is available on the Hartnell College Foundation [website](#).

Metallica foundation gives \$100,000 to train vets in diesel mechanics

Hartnell College has been selected by the heavy metal band Metallica's non-profit foundation, All Within My Hands, to receive \$100,000 for a partnership that will prepare Monterey County veterans for careers in Salinas Valley agriculture and place them in jobs.

Hartnell and its lead partners, the Grower-Shipper Association (GSA) of Central California and the Veterans Transition Center (VTC) of Monterey County, are working to identify 20 veterans to participate. Over the next year, the participants will complete Hartnell courses in diesel mechanics and related skills on the college's Alisal Campus while also receiving paid on-the-job training with four GSA member companies that operate in the Salinas Valley. In addition, each student will receive a toolbox and basic tools worth \$2,300.



Hartnell's partnership with GSA, VTC and local employers is called "Transitioning Veterans from Homelessness to Self-Reliance." The participating companies are Taylor Farms, Automated Harvesting LLC, Tanimura & Antle, Dole Fresh Vegetables and Braga Fresh.

Christopher Valadez, GSA president, said the participating employers all understand that the new partnership with Hartnell is an unprecedented opportunity to tap local veterans as a valuable new source of prospective workers.

"They have experience and skills from being able to work under pressure, being able to plan, to see logistics connections – this whole world surrounding the rigors of military training," Valadez said. "There's a whole set of skills there that aligns really well with the needs of multifaceted employers."

ASHC Week of Welcome to focus on reconnection

The Associated Students of Hartnell College (ASHC) student government organization and the Office of Student Life have planned a full schedule of Week of Welcome events for Aug. 30-Sept. 3, with an emphasis on helping students reengage with on-campus life.

Events begin with Panthers Re-Connect with Tech from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Student Center, where students can learn how to upload Hartnell's mobile app, HC Go and the Titan COVID self-screening app. A Resource Fair will be offered from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Aug. 31, with informational tabling by college departments, programs and services.

A Town Hall will be held at 1 p.m. Sept. 1 in Steinbeck Hall (Building C) and via Zoom, with topics to include COVID vaccination and testing. The week will continue with a CLUB Informational fair from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Sept. 2 and an ice cream social at 12 p.m. on Sept. 3.



TRIO congratulates two students for Chicana Latina Foundation scholarships

The Student Support Services/TRIO programs at Hartnell congratulated a pair of TRIO participants – current student Daisy Ortiz Matias and 2021 graduate Ilyne Castellanos – for receiving \$1,500 scholarships from the Chicana Latina Foundation, which awards only 30-40 women recipients nationwide each year.

Ortiz Matias is a 2020 graduate of Salinas High School studying biology. Castellanos, who graduated from Hartnell this spring, is a 2019 graduate of Everett Alvarez High School who will be starting at UC Berkeley this fall, majoring in global development.



Castellanos, who was among Hartnell's five semi-finalists for the 2021 Jack Kent Cooke Transfer Scholarship, has also just received a \$5,000 UC Berkeley CAL Alumni Scholarship. She is completing an internship with the U.S. Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration.

Manuel Bersamin, director of Student Support Services/TRIO, told the students, "Always remember what you learned at TRIO, that if we can help others recognize the greatness within themselves, they will start to visualize themselves attempting and attaining greatness."

Math Academy prepares students for fall success



Nearly 200 students participated in Hartnell's Summer 2021 Math Academy, which held both morning and evening online sessions from Aug. 16-21. The evening session was added after a successful pilot in January.

"When the academy was only held during the daytime, we automatically excluded anybody that couldn't make it then," said Dr. Jay Singh, director of academic affairs for student academic support.

Math Academy faculty coordinator Dr. John Perez, who calls himself Dr. Math (pictured), was joined by math instructors Miguel-Angel Manrique, Brian Palmer, Javier Martinez Cabera and Patricia Garcia.

"The faculty taught at different levels to get students ready for whichever math class they're going to be taking this fall," said Dr. Singh said.

Sprinter Tim Hunter heads to University of Alaska-Anchorage

Friends and family of 2021 graduate Tim Hunter gathered at the Hartnell track on June 26 to watch him sign a letter of intent to attend and compete at University of Alaska Anchorage this fall.

Hunter, a graduate of North Salinas High School, was a member of the all-freshmen 4x100 meter relay team that achieved a mark of 41.3 seconds during the 2019 season, the second fastest in school history. They also placed third at the 2019 CCCAA State Championship, only one of two Hartnell 4x100 teams to qualify at that level in the past 15 years.

The 2020 season was cut short by COVID-19, and the 2021 season was severely limited by the pandemic. But Head Coach Chris Zepeda said Hunter was a leader who helped teammates get the most out of their time together this spring and put the program in a strong position for 2022.



Joined by Assistant Coach Wendell Sells (pictured), Zepeda told the gathering, "I think the fact that Tim is here signing an athletic scholarship after his time at Hartnell shows the amazing amount of resilience he demonstrated, and we couldn't be more proud."

Hartnell track and cross country have sent six men and women athletes to UA Anchorage since 2014.

Free MST rides for students will continue for another full year

Thanks to votes in July by the governing boards of Monterey-Salinas Transit (MST) and Hartnell, students with a valid electronic student ID (CatCard) can ride FREE on any regular MST bus throughout the 2021-22 academic year. This renewal of the MST-Hartnell partnership took effect Aug. 11 and will continue through at least Aug. 10, 2022.

Students must be prepared to show their electronic ID to bus drivers. MST service is free for students at any day and time, not only for transportation to and from Hartnell's campuses. For details on routes and schedules, including those that serve Hartnell campuses, visit the [MST](#) website.



The CatCards, issued by the Office of Student Life, are available at www.hartnell.edu/catcard, where students are asked to upload their photo using their PAWS login. The IDs can be viewed by downloading the Touch Net One Card app on a mobile device.

Hartnell and CSUMB get \$100,000 to examine grading for calculus

Hartnell learned Aug. 20 that a collaborative project with Cal State Monterey Bay to overcome the calculus barrier to STEM success has received one of four \$100,000, one-year seed grant awards from the California Education Learning Lab.



The organization's Grand Challenge called for proposals to transform how first-year calculus is taught across STEM fields to improve learning outcomes and close racial and gender equity gaps in STEM degree attainment. With proven success, this prototype could lead to future and larger funding or development support, said Dr. Mohammed Yahdi, interim dean of STEM.

The joint Hartnell-CSUMB project, called "Grading for Growth in Calculus," is to develop a prototype for standards-based grading in Calculus I at both schools. The Hartnell faculty co-principle investigator on the project is math instructor Dr. Jennifer Moorhouse, joined by other math faculty participants Leticia Contreras, Dr. Kelly Locke and Senorina Vazquez.

Dr. Hughey and students publish genome research in DNA journal

Biology instructor Dr. Jeffery Hughey and 41 of his Fall 2020 students co-authored a scholarly journal article titled "The complete mitochondrial genome of the strawberry aphid *Chaetosiphon fragaefolii* Cockerell, 1901 from California, USA" in the journal Mitochondrial DNA Part B Resources. The aphid is an agricultural pest and known vector of strawberry viruses.



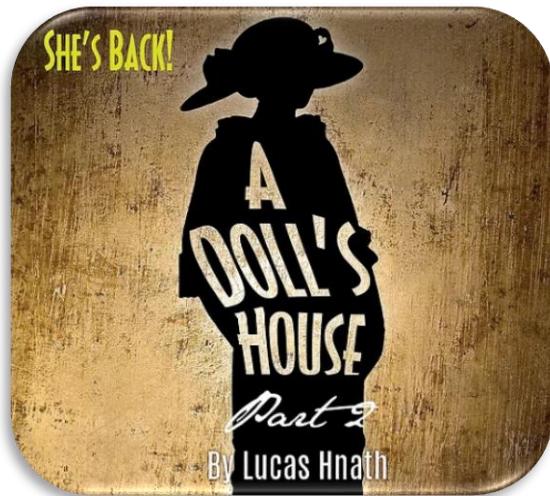
Dr. Hughey has now led 10 groups of student researchers to specify the genetic taxonomy of a species and jointly publish their findings. Publication of the students' work was delayed but finally appeared on July 19. Said Dr. Cathryn Wilkinson, vice president of student affairs, "This is such an impressive accomplishment for our students and the biology program."

The Western Stage continues season with 'A Doll's House, Part 2'

The Western Stage theatre company at Hartnell has completed "Mr. Burns, a Post-Electric Play," its first in-person show after an extended pandemic hiatus, and will present its second, "A Doll's House, Part 2," from Sept. 10-26 in the Studio Theater. This play by Lucas Hnath imagines a sequel to the 1879 masterwork by Henrik Ibsen, picking up 15 years after Nora Helmer walked out on her marriage and children. The Western Stage describes this new work as "a blistering and very funny meditation on marriage and the high cost of personal fulfillment."

The season's third show will be "The Wizard of Oz," from Sept. 24-Oct. 10, a faithful adaptation of the 1939 classic film rendition of L. Frank Baum's tale, with all of the most beloved songs brought to life on stage.

In addition to wearing masks, audience members are required to show proof of COVID-19 vaccination or a negative COVID test within the past 72 hours. For more details, including performance times, ticket information and a look at TWS' entire season through March, visit westernstage.com. Hartnell employees can purchase tickets for \$15, and Hartnell students receive free admission with a valid student ID, thanks to a grant from the Associated Students of Hartnell College.



In-person fitness and sport classes continue during fall semester

After returning to in-person instruction this summer after a year online, Hartnell College's popular and affordable fitness and other physical activity courses will again be taught face-to-face this fall.

Course offerings include yoga, Zumba aerobics, strength conditioning, power lifting, self-defense, futsal, basketball, volleyball, tennis and swim fitness. Classes will be held in accordance with COVID-19 safety protocols, including fewer students for physical distancing and regular sanitization of equipment.

These courses provide 1.5 units of course credit toward a degree. They are also open to Hartnell employees and community members who simply want affordable access to fitness and wellness training. Those individuals can also repeat the cost as often as they want by paying a low audit fee.

"Our faculty are very excited to work with students in person again," said Dan Teresa, dean of academic affairs for athletics, physical education and health. "They were extremely creative in adapting to online instruction, and the students stepped up as well. But now we are able to provide classes like tennis and swimming that we had to suspend during the pandemic."

For fall fitness-activity classes, the per-course cost is \$46 per unit plus a \$12 student activity fee. Students who wish to repeat a course without receiving credit only have to pay \$34.50. That compares to fitness centers, which typically cost \$40 or more every month.

CCC teacher ed group features TPP and MAESTROS in newsletter

Former director of Hartnell's Teacher Pathway and MAESTROs programs, Jihan Ejan, published an article on Hartnell's "successful 'homegrown' approach" in the summer 2021 edition of the quarterly [newsletter](#) published by the Association of California Community College Teacher Education Programs (ACCCTEP).



The article highlighted several strengths of the 2+2 TPP elementary education partnership with Cal State Monterey Bay, now entering its sixth year, including its cohort and locational aspect (alternating every two years between the Main Campus and either the Soledad or King City education centers), as well as its increasing numbers and graduation rates as high as 92%.

"In more rural regions like South (Monterey) County," Ejan wrote, "the teacher shortage is particularly acute, so having the program in South County means it opens up opportunities for our rural residents to pursue a teaching career who might not have considered it without the curriculum accessibility and support from TPP."

She also discussed the more flexible MAESTROs program, whose students receive the same wraparound support as TPP students but can transfer to a school other CSUMB, among other differences.

'In-Person, Again!'
Get Fit with Hartnell College
Physical Activity and Health Education Classes

Students will continue to offer hybrid and online physical activity and health education classes for Fall 2021 semester. Students will be required to wear masks while in class, and regular sanitization of equipment.

Eligible courses include: Pilates, 30 minute yoga, zumba, strength conditioning, self-defense, futsal, tennis and swimming.

More Info:

- To take one physical activity class, after they are registered, then take another class for a total of 24 hours to register.
- \$30 lessons per 30 min. 30x 180.
- For individuals repeating a class without credit, the total cost is \$24.50 per semester.

Getting started:

- First time: To find a course in online classes, visit [www.hartnell.edu](#) and online application and select 24 hours to register.
- For in-person classes, contact the Physical Education staff: [jteresa@hartnell.edu](#) or [cwatson@hartnell.edu](#).

To learn more:
Email: [jteresa@hartnell.edu](#) or [cwatson@hartnell.edu](#) or [Christina.Watson@hartnell.edu](#)

To register: [www.hartnell.edu](#)



In the News

Hartnell College enrollment is up as it prepares for fall instruction:
<https://www.montereyherald.com/2021/08/03/mch-l-hartnell-0804/>

Hartnell College to hold registration fairs in Soledad, King City:
<https://kion546.com/news/2021/08/09/hartnell-college-to-hold-registration-fairs-in-soledad-king-city/>

Hartnell College realizará ferias de inscripción a sus programas educativos:
<https://kion546.com/t23/2021/08/09/hartnell-college-realizara-ferias-de-inscripcion-a-sus-programas-educativos/>

Metallica funds ag scholarship to train veterans in diesel technology:
<https://www.agri-pulse.com/articles/16258-metallica-funds-ag-scholarship-to-train-veterans-in-diesel-technology>

Metallica's All Within Your Hands nonprofit donates \$100,000 to Hartnell College:
<https://www.thecalifornian.com/story/news/2021/07/30/hartnell-college-salinas-receives-funds-metallica-help-veterans-band-hartnell-college-metal-to-100/5403452001/>

Hartnell receives \$100,000 from Metallica Scholars Initiative to train veteran ag workers:

https://www.montereycountyweekly.com/blogs/news_blog/hartnell-receives-100-000-from-metallica-scholars-initiative-to-train-veteran-ag-workers/article_4ca841e0-ef39-11eb-8831-1b328b9544bc.html

Metallica gives \$100,000 to Hartnell College for veterans training:
<https://www.ksbw.com/article/metallica-hartnell-college-veteran-100000/37157615>

A Temporary Sacrifice for a Brighter Future:
https://newscenter.sdsu.edu/sdsu_newscenter/news_story.aspx?sid=78468

Upcoming Events

TPP/MAESTROs Transfer Info Session

3 p.m.
Wednesday, Aug. 25
Online – [registration link](#)

Spring 2021 Convocation

8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Volleyball vs. San Joaquin Delta

1 p.m.
Friday, Aug. 27
Hartnell Gym

Panthers Re-Connect with Tech

10 a.m.-2 p.m.
Monday, Aug. 30
Student Center (Building C)

Student Resource Fair

10 a.m.-1 p.m.
Tuesday, Aug. 31
Student Center (Building C)

ASHC Town Hall

1 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 1
Steinbeck Hall (Building C)

Volleyball vs. Fresno (DH)

1 and 5 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 1
Hartnell Gym

CLUB Informational

10 a.m.-1 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 2
Student Center (Building C)

Student Ice Cream Social

12 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 3
Student Center (Building C)

Volleyball vs. Folsom Lake

1 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 3
Hartnell Gym

Volleyball vs. Cuesta

5 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 3
Hartnell Gym

Men's Soccer vs. Irvine (Hartnell Tournament)

2 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 3
Hartnell Soccer Field

Men's Soccer vs. TBD (Hartnell Tournament)

11 a.m. consolation game or 1 p.m. final

Saturday, Sept. 4

Hartnell Soccer Field

Labor Day – college closed

Monday, Sept. 6

Hartnell Governing Board – regular meeting

5 p.m.

Tuesday, Sept. 7

Alisal Campus