Share your news!
The President’s Weekly Report is distributed every Monday and highlights accomplishment, engagement, progress and success for and within the Hartnell College Community. Please send information and photos by each Thursday to sfaust@hartnell.edu.

Metallica Scholars program for veteran students gets into gear

Hartnell has begun to train a first group of five military veterans for careers in diesel mechanics through a partnership funded with a $100,000 grant from the Metallica Scholars Initiative.

On Aug. 30, students in an initial cohort of five began attending two days of in-person classes in preventive maintenance and steering and suspension systems at the Alisal Campus.

Hartnell was selected from a competitive field of community colleges across the country to prepare Monterey County veterans for careers in Salinas Valley agriculture and place them in jobs. Funded by Metallica’s All Within My Hands (AWMH) and led by the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC), the Metallica Scholars Initiative was designed to directly support students while also elevating the importance of career and technical education.
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 expand participation to up to 20 veterans.

Over the next year, participants will complete Hartnell courses while receiving paid on-the-job training with GSA member companies that operate in the Salinas Valley. In addition, each student will get a toolbox and basic tools worth $2,300.

On Sept. 17, Brian Jefferson, Salinas branch manager for the Quinn Company (pictured), spoke to students about the workplace experience at the Caterpillar dealer, where they will visit next month.

Advanced Diesel Technology instructor Mark DeHart said the veterans have blended well with other non-veteran students while sharing knowledge gained through their previous work and life experience.

“I always tell my class, ‘My way is not always the right way, but it is ‘a’ way to accomplish a task, so if you now another way to accomplish this task, by all means share it and educate us all,” DeHart said.

**Counselors’ outreach to Black students includes transfer partnership with HBCUs**

A Hartnell Counseling workgroup motivated by the 2020 police killing of George Floyd and other such tragedies has yielded several solid outcomes, according to Carla Johnson, dean of student life for student success.

Actions include placement of a message “to our students and community” on the counseling website that states, in part, “The door is open for our Black students, families, staff and faculty to tell us how you are affected by this and what we can do to support you at this moment and beyond.” The counseling department also has intentionally hired student workers who identify as Black or African American to better reflect the diversity of the Hartnell student body.

Another step came on Sept. 17, when the counseling team attended a training to establish a Hartnell partnership with Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) that will provide qualifying students access to guaranteed admission at HBCUs. They watched a Zoom presentation (pictured) that cited information such as a survey finding that 55% of Black HBCU graduates “strongly agreed” that their school “prepared them well for life outside of college,” compared with 30% of non-HBCU black graduates. Thirty-nine of the current 100 HBCUs across the country offer transfer guarantees to California Community College students.
Salinas Valley Promise trio shares peer mentor success during webinar

Hartnell’s Salinas Valley Promise (SVP) program for student success and financial support was in the spotlight on Sept. 14 as college representatives presented during a webinar for Mentor Collective, a vendor whose data-based tools help match mentors and mentees and track their interaction.

Chynna Obana, lead program coordinator for the Promise, and Bronwyn Moreno, director of equity programs, were joined by sophomore Victoria Guevara, a psychology student who is now in her second year as a program mentor. Their 45-minute presentation was titled “Achieving Equitable Outcomes at Two-Year Institutions.”

SVP has continually evolved over the past three years, beginning as an all-incomes free-tuition program, then adding life-skills and mentorship by volunteer working professionals, extending to a second year of free tuition, and, last year, switching to a student-mentor model that has proven successful in increasing participants’ engagement and satisfaction.

The program is serving 900 new students this fall, with 22 second-year students working as paid peer mentors who help students navigate classes, financial aid, school-life balance and more.

“Our peer mentors are experts,” Moreno said. “They’ve lived through it; they’ve navigated all the challenging processes themselves, and they’ve balanced the family and the economic pressures. We really value their contribution and the quality of service they provide to other students.”

Mariachi performance kicks off Hispanic Heritage observance

Mariachi Hermanos Muratalla of Salinas performed on Mexican Independence Day, Sept. 16, in the Student Center to open Hartnell’s observance of Hispanic Heritage Month. A captivated student audience watched the musicians and enjoyed Mexican-style fruit cups, all sponsored by the Office of Student Life and the Associated Students of Hartnell College (ASHC).
Through Oct. 16, the celebration with focus on Colombia, El Salvador, Cuba and Brazil, with a slate of activities each week: History Mondays, Art Tuesdays, Food Wednesdays, Music Thursdays and Movie Fridays.

Hartnell graduate Dillon Herrick receives CSU Trustees Award

Hartnell graduate and Marine Corps veteran Dillon Herrick is Cal State Monterey Bay’s recipient of the 2021 California State University Trustees’ Award for Outstanding Achievement, the system’s highest recognition for students.

Herrick, a senior majoring in business administration with a concentration in accounting, graduated Summa Cum Laude from Hartnell in 2020, with degrees in business administration, liberal arts/political science and economics. He was active in the Student Veterans Club and worked as an English and business student tutor.

As one of 23 Trustees’ Award honorees, Herrick received the Wells Fargo Veteran Scholar scholarship for his high academic performance, personal accomplishments, community service and financial need. Now working as a collections research clerk for Dole Fresh Vegetables, he plans a career coaching and helping provide a stable living environment for people with cognitive and physical disabilities.

“While profit has its place, we need to take care of each other and the planet,” Herrick told CSUMB. “We cannot let greed be our intention. The College of Business is teaching me how to be a positive influence in society through business.”

A year of experience refines prep and distribution of science lab kits

Preparation and distribution of science lab kits – begun when the pandemic forced classes online in spring 2020 – has continued this fall, including delivery of microbiology kits handed out in the Hartnell Parking Structure on Sept. 13 (pictured).
About 600 kits in courses ranging from chemistry, physics, engineering and biology are being provided, as faculty and laboratory technicians join forces to determine which courses need kits and what should go in them. They also orchestrate student pickup, either in the garage or to hybrid-class students during face-to-face lectures.

The technicians have handled most of the distribution, but biology instructors Dr. Ann Wright and Dr. Rosser Panggat were motivated to help in order to see their students in person, said lab technician Toni Black.

“We try to accommodate all needs, so we did mail kits to students who could not get to campus,” Black said. Last semester we mailed a kit to Mexico.”

The kits have also been modified throughout the pandemic. Black cited the example of a microbiology kit in which students first tried to culture using yogurt, then probiotic capsules and now are culturing from produce that they buy themselves.

**Starbucks reopens in Student Center with mobile app and a new student team**

The Starbucks store in the Hartnell Student Center ended its 18-month pandemic closure on Sept. 14 and is open from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday-Friday. Pumpkin Spice Latte season is right around the corner.

Much is unchanged, but now customers may place and purchase an order with the Starbucks Connect mobile app, and the vegetarian Impossible Breakfast Sandwich is on the menu. The app is a hit, said store manager Lea Miller, noting that it had received 18 online orders within a few hours on its second day. In addition, the store has two five-minute mobile-order parking spaces for off-campus customers – one in the parking structure and one in Lot 2, adjacent to the Panther Bookstore.

After two weeks of intense training, a staff of 11 students are working 12-20 hours a week. None of them had worked as a barista before, and for eight students, this is their first “real” job ever, said Miller, a Hartnell food service supervisor. (Pictured is the final training day on Sept. 13, when the store offered limited free orders for employee practice.)

Miller said several members of the original student crew who started when the store opened in September 2019 are now working at other Starbucks around Salinas or on their transfer campuses, such as San Jose State and Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo.
The Wizard of Oz opens Sept. 24 as first post-COVID show in Mainstage

The much anticipated production of "The Wizard of Oz" by The Western Stage at Hartnell will debut Sept. 24 and continue through Oct. 10.

This faithful adaptation of the 1939 classic film will feature its beloved songs brought to life during the first shows in the Mainstage Theater since the pandemic interrupted public performances last year.

A tornado sweeps young Dorothy Gale over the rainbow from her Kansas farm to the magical Land of Oz. She encounters a host of whimsical characters and must return an important lesson in order to return home safely (a rehearsal is pictured). Featured as the Wizard is former Western Stage artistic director Jon Selover, who retired in late 2020 after 36 total years in Hartnell theatre.

Curtain times are 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays, plus a special 2 p.m. matinee on Saturday, Oct. 2. Mainstage Theater seating in the Center for Performing Arts (Building K) will be at 50 percent of normal capacity for physical distancing, and spectators will be required to show proof of vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test within the previous 72 hours, plus photo ID.

Tickets are free for students with a current Hartnell ID, $20 for other students with a school ID, $26 general admission, $24 senior and military and $12 children 5-15. To obtain $15 employee tickets, call the box office at (831) 755-6816 to set up a Colleague ID number. For more information, visit westernstage.com. The ticket office is open 5-8 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday and one hour before curtain time at matinees.
Men’s Soccer achieves national ranking, and women’s team has 5-win streak

The Hartnell Men’s Soccer team achieved a No. 7 national ranking in a United Soccer Coaches top 20 poll released Sept. 14. The Panthers were behind only two California college teams, Folsom Lake and El Camino, and ahead of Mount San Antonio and American River. Hartnell’s ranking in the Junior College Division III group was its highest mark since 2013, when the team finished No. 2 after winning the state CCCAA (California Community Colleges Athletics Association) title. In the past week, they brought their season record to 5-0 with wins over Marin at home on Sept. 10 (10-0) and at Butte on Sept. 17 (5-2). Then, on Sept. 15, the Panthers ranked No. 2 in a statewide CCCAA coaches’ poll, behind Taft. They next play at home at 4 p.m. on Sept. 21 versus Allan Hancock. (Pictured: KSBW-TV sports anchor Drea Blackwell reports Hartnell’s national ranking on Sept. 14.)

Women’s Soccer: Hartnell added three wins – at home on Sept. 11 against Ventura (4-0), away on Sept. 14 at Cosumnes River (3-1) and at home against Sierra on Sept. 17 (2-0), extending its winning streak to five after two opening losses. Forwards Carly Lowi, a sophomore from San Benito High School, and Belinda Ascensio, a sophomore from Soledad High, have each scored five of the team’s 16 total goals. Hartnell plays at home next at 2 p.m. on Sept. 21 against Allan Hancock. (Pictured: Forward Stephanie Castillo in action against Sierra).

Volleyball: The Panthers have won five of their past seven matches, bringing their season record to 5-6. The last two wins came at home on Sept. 17 in a Hartnell Classic doubleheader, first over Los Medanos (3-1) and then Redwoods (3-0). The team will play a league game against San Jose on their home field at 6:30 p.m. on Oct. 1. (Pictured: Freshman middle blocker Yesenia Soria Campo in action against Los Medanos.)

Football: First-year starting quarterback JP Garcia continued to dominate Hartnell’s offensive output in a narrow Sept. 18 road defeat against Contra Costa, 35-37. Garcia ran two one-yard scores and completed two touchdown passes – 13 yards to running back Payton Flores and a 53-yarder to wide receiver Ryan Luke late in the fourth quarter. Defensive lineman Nefetalai Pututau returned a fumble 42 yards for a touchdown. Hartnell lost
its first game at home on Sept. 11 against Foothill, 39-12. They will face Los Medanos at 6 p.m. on Sept. 25 at Rabobank Stadium.

**Solo ‘Six Rooms’ exhibit opens for a three-week Hartnell show**

An opening reception on Sept. 10 began an exhibit of bright, abstract paintings by Le Joe, the Amanecatl Artist in for the Alisal Center for the Fine Arts, in the Hartnell Seminar Gallery in Building J.

The exhibit, titled “Six Rooms,” is described as embodying “an array of emotions interweaving community, agony and inspiration through elements of abstraction, color and imagery.” It will be on display through Sept. 30.

**In the News**

**Avalos making an imprint for Alaska-Anchorage cross country team:**
https://www.montereyherald.com/2021/09/18/avalos-making-an-imprint-for-alaska-anchorage-cross-country-team/

**Seminario en el colegio Hartnell señala la necesidad de los estudios étnicos en las preparatorias de California:** https://noticiasya.com/monterey-salinas/2021/09/17/seminario-en-el-colegio-hartnell-senala-la-necesidad-de-los-estudios-eticos-en-las-preparatorias-de-california/

**Connecting Young Techies:** https://voicesofmontereybay.org/2021/09/17/connecting-young-techies/

**Hartnell takes first step toward finding permanent superintendent:**

**Big night for Ramos at Southeastern Louisiana:**

**Removing the Barriers to Careers in Early Childhood Education:**

**$100,000 Grant Funds Hartnell College, Ag Industry Partnership:**
https://mbep.biz/news/grant-funds-hartnell-college-ag-industry-partnership/?mc_cid=01adab46eb&mc_eid=a6cde44dcc
Upcoming Events

The Western Stage: “A Doll’s House, Part 2”
Through Sept. 26
Studio Theatre (Building K)
Website: https://www.westernstage.com/adollhousepart2

Women’s Soccer vs. Allan Hancock
2 p.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 21
Hartnell Soccer Field

Men’s Soccer vs. Allan Hancock
4 p.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 21
Hartnell Soccer Field

Hartnell Governing Board – development meeting
5 p.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 21
Steinbeck Hall (Building C, Main Campus)
Alisal Campus, 1752 E. Alisal St., Salinas

Pop-Up Pantry
Friday, Sept. 24
12 p.m.
Hartnell Parking Structure

The Western Stage: “The Wizard of Oz”
Sept. 24-Oct. 10
Mainstage Theater (Building K)
Website: https://www.westernstage.com/thewizardofoz

Football vs. Los Medanos
6 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 25
Rabobank Stadium

Women’s Soccer vs. Diablo Valley College
4 p.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 28
Hartnell Soccer Field
Men’s Soccer vs. Evergreen Valley
1 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 1
Hartnell Soccer Field

Volleyball vs. San Jose
6:30 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 1
Hartnell Gymnasium

Men’s and Women’s Cross Country – Toro Park Invitational
Friday, Oct. 1
3:30/4:30 p.m.
Toro County Park

Hartnell Governing Board – regular meeting
5 p.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 5
Soledad Education Center, 1505 Metz Road

Men’s Soccer vs. Canada
4 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 8
Hartnell Soccer Field

Football vs. Feather River
1 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 9
Rabobank Stadium