



## 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.

## 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!

## Fond farewell for outgoing trustees Pat Donohue and Manuel Osorio



From left: Trustee Ray Montemayor, Trustee Candi DePauw, Interim Superintendent Dr. Raúl Rodríguez, Vice President Pat Donohue, Trustee Manuel Osorio, President Aurelio Salazar Jr., Trustee Erica Padilla-Chavez and Trustee Irma Lopez.

The Nov. 17 regular meeting of the Hartnell Community College District Governing Board concluded with tributes to outgoing board Vice President Pat Donohue, who has represented Area 3 for the past 13 years, and Trustee Manuel Osorio, who has served Area 1 since 2015.

Each received a framed resolution of commendation, which the board unanimously adopted at the meeting. Donohue also received a commemorative clock for her extended service. Both are former board presidents who also served in a variety of community and college leadership roles on behalf of the board. Donohue received special recognition for her long advocacy of the excellence of Hartnell's educational excellence, and Osorio was singled out for his leadership in establishment of the educational center now under construction in Castroville. (Pictured: Trustee Candi DePauw offers personal thanks to Pat Donohue.)

Two new board members will take their seats at the board's year-end organizational meeting on Dec. 15 in Steinbeck Hall, Building C on the Main Campus. The incoming Area 3 trustee is Margaret D'Arrigo-Martin, a longtime member of the Hartnell College Foundation Board of Directors, and Area 1's new representative will be Alejandra Gonzalez, a school secretary from north Monterey County.

In accepting the recognition, Donohue offered her thanks to her college colleagues: "It's been a blessing for 13-plus years," she said. "I've enjoyed meeting administrators, I've enjoyed meeting presidents, and I'm particularly pleased to have gotten to know you, Dr. Rodríguez."

Osorio said he planned to stay in touch with the college, especially to follow the opening of the Castroville center, expected next fall. "The faculty I've worked with personally on our campus have been wonderful, and the administration, and student services – we've got a great organization there – and the CSEA, all the classified employees I've had contact with have been great. It's been a great ride for my years here, and I just want to thank all of you. It's been marvelous."



## In-person study area opens in Main Gym as finals approach



Hartnell has invited students to the Main Campus in Salinas for by-appointment study hours in the Main Gymnasium beginning Nov. 30, the week before fall semester finals. Students can [reserve](#) a spot at two sessions daily, from 9 a.m. to noon and 1-4 p.m., using desks and tables spaced widely apart or separated by plexiglass (pictured).

The study area plan was approved by the Monterey County Health Department and the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office and is following their guidelines, which are posted at the gym entrance (pictured). In addition to completing an online health questionnaire

concerning COVID-19 symptoms and exposure and an acknowledgment of risk, arriving students undergo temperature checks and are required to wear face coverings at all times. Employees who have volunteered to supervise the sessions also follow safety precautions.

Interim Superintendent/President Dr. Raúl Rodríguez announced the pilot study area on Nov. 18 in emails to students and employees, noting that many students "still struggle with inadequate Wi-Fi, an unreliable computer and the lack of a suitable place to study at home."

"Next to everyone's safety and well-being, our highest priority is to make sure our students continue to achieve their educational and career goals," Dr. Rodríguez said. "We are determined to do all we can to keep them on track."

Depending on student demand and the evolving public health situation, the study hours may continue during the Spring 2021 semester, including a possible second location at the King City Education Center, where a building expansion is scheduled to open in January.

**HARTNELL COLLEGE**

**Health Screening**

1. Ensure Face covering is worn at all times.
2. Temperature Check.
3. Answer the following:
  - In the last 48 hours, have you:**
    - Had a cough?
    - Had a Fever <99.5 Degrees F?
    - Had shortness of breath?
    - Had a sore throat, chills, muscle pain?
    - Had nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea?
    - Experienced any confusion or loss of taste or smell?
  - In the last 14 days, have you or anyone you live with:**
    - Had a test for COVID-19 that is not yet confirmed negative?
  - In the last 14 days, to your knowledge have you been in contact with anyone who has:**
    - Had these same symptoms?
    - Has been diagnosed with COVID-19?
    - Has been under quarantine?

**We can serve only those who answer "NO" to all questions.**

## MBEP presents video on Alisal Campus during State of the Region conference

The Agricultural and Business Technology Institute (ABTI) on Hartnell's Alisal Campus and industry partnerships that made it possible were featured in a [video](#) shown during the Monterey Bay Economic Partnership Sixth Annual State of the Region event on Dec. 1.

The four-hour online conference had a theme of "Creating Economic, Social and Environmental Resilience," and the Hartnell video highlighted industry's role in shaping, supporting and helping to continually refine the ABTI facility and the Career Technical Education academic programs offered there.



Interim Superintendent/President Raúl Rodríguez gave a welcome to start the five-minute video (pictured), and Clint Cowden, dean of Career Technical Education and workforce development (pictured), showcased advanced hands-on learning tools such as diesel vehicle driving simulators purchased through a \$1 million state grant received in 2018 with assistance from State Sen. Anna Caballero.



"When students get these jobs in local industry, that is really the reward that we're all looking for and why this center is doing vital work for our community," Dr. Rodríguez said.

David Gill, chair of Hartnell's Ag Steering Committee, which spearheaded development of the Alisal Campus, also appeared on the video to share a personal testimonial about the value of agriculture's partnership with Hartnell (pictured).



"We know Hartnell can provide that education we need as an industry," said Gill, owner of Rio Farms. "We need additional training; we need technicians; we need additional training; we need automation; we need students who have software knowledge. What we're doing here at Hartnell is not only investing in our students; we're investing in the industry."

## **Dr. Steven Crow named new VP for administrative services**

Dr. Steven Crow will join the Hartnell Community College District on Jan. 4 as vice president of administrative services. He has served more than 13 years as a vice president at several California community colleges, including from 2015-17 at Monterey Peninsula College. His career in college administration spans 25 years, beginning with leadership in information technology, and he also was a faculty member for 23 years.

"I greatly appreciate the thorough work of the search committee, co-chaired by Dave Phillips, vice president of Information Technology Resources, and Executive Assistant Lucy Serrano," said Interim Superintendent/President Dr. Raúl Rodríguez. "I also join with the entire Hartnell College community in thanking former longtime Hartnell vice president Al Muñoz for once again stepping in to provide outstanding service during a leadership transition for Administrative Services."

Muñoz has been in an interim role since September, when former vice president Linda Wilczewski left to become executive director for fiscal services for the West Valley-Mission Community College District.



## **Cruz, local partners highlight teamwork for community 'rise'**

Hartnell's ongoing work to improve and expand educational and career opportunities and improve the quality of life throughout the Salinas Valley was showcased on Dec. 3 during the California Economic Summit, produced by the organization California Forward. Other speakers for the two-day program included Leon Panetta and Gov. Gavin Newsom.



Jackie Cruz, vice president of advancement and development and executive director of the Hartnell College Foundation (pictured), presented along with Hartnell sociology and ethnic studies instructor Dr. Carissa Parnell, director of the Alisal Family Resource Center; Alfred Diaz-Infante, president and CEO of the non-profit CHISPA housing development corporation and a Hartnell foundation board member; and Elvis Fraser, a former senior program officer for the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

During their 30-minute segment, titled "Salinas Regions Rise Together," Cruz provided an overview of the positive impact of state laws AB

705, which ended remedial community college instruction, and AB 288, which enabled dual high school-college enrollment. She also emphasized the crucial importance of community partnerships and philanthropic support, as well as the impact of cohort-based academic programs such as CSin3, the three-year computer science degree program jointly offered by Hartnell and Cal State Monterey Bay.

"We have been working in collaboration with industry leaders and with community-based organizations to develop pathways of opportunity for our students," Cruz said. "Decades of collaboration and advocacy efforts by many in our community have been complemented by major educational reforms taking place in the K-12, community college and university systems statewide."

## **Prospective donors and local leaders get advance look at King City center**

A by-invitation tour and lunch on Nov. 18 allowed about 40 King City-area leaders and prospective donors to get an up-close but physically-distanced look at progress on the King City Education Center expansion, scheduled for completion in January.

The Hartnell College Foundation seeks to raise \$1 million through naming opportunities and other gifts to fund the expanded center's first five years of operations. Measure T bonds paid for construction and furnishings in the 12,500-square-foot addition, but do not cover staffing and other operating expenses.

Candi DePauw (pictured), Area 7 trustee for the Hartnell Community College District Governing Board, shared her personal pride in two-story expansion, which includes new wet and dry science labs, a community room, Student Success Center and courtyard.



Tour guides were Interim Superintendent/President Dr. Raúl Rodríguez, Dean of South County Education Services Mostafa Ghous, Cerisa Skinner of Kasavan Architects and Matt Bouquet, project manager for Avila Construction. Foundation board member and King City advocate Susan Gill spoke, along with Jackie Cruz, vice president of advancement and development, King City Mayor Mike LeBarre and King City High School senior Joshua Riley, who will attend Hartnell next fall.



Dr. Rodríguez emphasized the variety of agriculture-related courses that will be offered at the center, including plant science, agricultural automation and technology, and engineering fundamentals, as well as English as a second language and several other programs.

(Pictured at right: Matt Bouquet of Avila Construction speaks to King City Mayor Mike LeBarre as a group tours the first floor of the King City Education Center expansion.)

## **Foundation crowdfunding campaign urges donors to keep students 'strong'**

The Hartnell College Foundation on Nov. 30 launched a two-week crowdfunding campaign around a theme of "Hartnell Students Strong," emphasizing both the resilience of students amid the COVID-19 pandemic and their need for continued support for learning technology and emergency assistance.

The foundation invited student organizations and college units to join in the effort, which seeks a viral impact through sharing on participants' own social media networks. Campus partners stand to receive 20% of funds raised for their own projects. The online campaign is based on a collegiate fundraising website called GiveCampus.



An overview on the campaign's [homepage](#) states, "Hartnell College students are staying strong, despite the immense challenges of pursuing their education from home amid COVID-19 pandemic. The fact is, they face even greater obstacles than most college students because of job loss, crowded housing, and limited access to computers and Wi-Fi across the Salinas Valley. By uniting in support of these Hartnell Panthers, we can make sure our hardworking students keep on learning and achieving their educational and career goals."

Messaging includes a series of videos featuring Hartnell students, such as nursing student [Hugo Gutierrez](#) (pictured), who says, "To be doing schooling in this environment is extremely challenging."

## **Virtual Gala for the Arts is huge success in an 'extraordinary year'**

The 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Gala for the Arts happened to fall in a year when the traditional in-person party and theatrical presentation by The Western Stage were impossible, but the show did go on thanks to a one-hour virtual program on Nov. 21.

More than 100 people watched the prerecorded event when it debuted at 7 p.m. that evening, and about 225 more have since viewed it on [YouTube](#). Sponsorships and donors have [contributed](#) nearly \$40,000 for The Western Stage and other arts programs at Hartnell, making it one of the most successful galas ever.

"The gala has been a great way to raise funds to support all the amazing programs at Hartnell College," said Council for the Arts President Paulette Lynch, in closing remarks (pictured). "Many of you have great memories like I do. We're so grateful for your wonderful support in the extraordinary year that we have this year."



Interim Superintendent/President Raúl Rodríguez helped open the evening, and entertaining segments ranged from a Zoom performance by Hartnell vocal students, alumni, family and

staff, as well as recorded performances by the college's Community Orchestra and Jazz Band, a preview of "Over the Rainbow" sung by Savannah Allen, from next year's stage presentation of "The Wizard of Oz" — and much more.



Dustin Lance Black, a Hartnell and Western Stage theatre alum who won an Oscar in 2008 for Best Original Screenplay ("Milk"), offered a heartfelt testimonial about the impact of the arts throughout students' lives (pictured).

"I can tell you without a doubt that when I was a boy, a painfully shy boy who felt like an outsider and just too different and considered dire solutions to end that pain, I found Hartnell College," Black said, "and there I found mentors and teachers and a family that helped me understand that my differences were my strength."

## Carnegie e-newsletter features Contreras' ideas for online syllabi



A blog post by Hartnell math instructor Leticia Contreras about ways to optimize the traditional printed syllabus for online learning was featured in the November e-newsletter of Carnegie Math Pathways.

In her post titled "[How To Make Your Solid Syllabus Liquid](#)," Contreras described ways that teachers can create a "dynamic, visually compelling, online syllabus that can be accessed, bookmarked and read easily from a digital device."

"A liquid syllabus gives me the opportunity to embed pictures and a personalized [video welcome message](#) (pictured) that can do wonders for humanizing my classes and encouraging my students to let their armor down and let me get to know them as well," she wrote.

## Transitions and Curriculum Institute spotlights Hartnell's best practices

Hartnell hosted its annual College Transitions & Curriculum Institute as a Zoom event on the morning of Nov. 20, with the purpose of sharing best practices, opportunities for growth and collaboration with our high school and regional education partners.

The online program brought together K-12 Administrators, the Monterey County Office of Education (MCOE), high school teachers, Hartnell and Monterey Peninsula college faculty, alternative education partners and staff from the University of California, Santa Cruz. Hartnell staff also distributed institute materials and Hartnell swag to participants in advance at drive-up locations on the Main Campus and King City Education Center (pictured).



Interim Superintendent/President Raúl Rodríguez offered a welcome, and the keynote speaker was State Sen. Anna Caballero, who spoke on the Central Coast's digital divide and work to erase it. Hartnell staff, faculty and administrators provided an overview of Guided Pathways and Meta Majors, as well as the transition from high school to college. The event ended with a panel of high school and college students speaking on their experiences learning online, as well as their vision for education.

Carla Johnson, dean of student affairs, thanked the event planning team: Dr. Jennifer Elemen (MCOE administrator), Dr. Sachiko Matsunaga, Dr. Mohammed Yahdi, Director Laurencia Walker, Brook Foley and Isaura Arreguin.

## In the News

**Hartnell Education Center comes to Castroville. Here's what the facility plans to offer:** <https://www.thecalifornian.com/story/news/2020/11/27/hartnell-education-center-comes-castroville/6319857002/>

## Upcoming Events

**Note:** All in-person campus events are cancelled until further notice in compliance with a statewide shelter-in-place order.

**Hartnell College Choir and Chamber Singers  
Ensemble Virtual Choral Concert**

7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 9

Information:

[sites.google.com/view/hartnellwinterconcert2020invit/home](https://sites.google.com/view/hartnellwinterconcert2020invit/home)

**Hartnell Governing Board – Regular/Annual  
Organizational Meeting**

5 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 15

Steinbeck Hall (Building C)

**Pop-Up Pantry Food Distribution**

12 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 18

Hartnell Parking Structure

Information: 831-755-6734

