

HARTNELL COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
Resolution 26:1

IN SUPPORT OF PROPOSITION 55: TAX EXTENSION TO FUND EDUCATION AND HEALTH CARE

WHEREAS, the mission of the Hartnell Community College District is to provide accessible, high-quality educational opportunities that support student success, workforce development, and the economic vitality of the Salinas Valley and surrounding communities; and

WHEREAS, stable and predictable state funding is essential to ensuring that California community colleges can continue to serve diverse student populations, maintain academic programs, retain faculty and staff, and provide critical student support services; and

WHEREAS, California voters last approved Proposition 55 in November 2016, extending a temporary increase in personal income tax rates on the state's highest earners that was originally enacted under Proposition 30, with those revenues providing ongoing support for K-12 schools, California community colleges, and health care services; and

WHEREAS, the current Proposition 55 measure seeks to further extend and make permanent these tax provisions, continuing a proven funding mechanism that helps maintain fiscal stability and protect education funding during periods of economic uncertainty; and

WHEREAS, revenues generated by Proposition 55 support California community colleges through the State General Fund, helping to sustain instructional programs, student services, financial aid support, and campus operations; and

WHEREAS, if the Proposition 55 tax extension appearing on the November 2026 ballot is not approved by voters, California schools and community colleges would face the expiration of revenues generated under the 2016 measure beginning in 2030, resulting in an estimated loss of approximately \$14.6 billion annually statewide, or roughly 15 percent of public education funding; and

WHEREAS, continued investment in community colleges is vital to meeting California's educational and workforce needs, particularly for first-generation college students, low-income students, working adults, and underserved communities such as the Salinas Valley; and

WHEREAS, funding provided through Proposition 55 helps protect against significant cuts to education during economic downturns and contributes to long-term fiscal stability for public higher education institutions; and

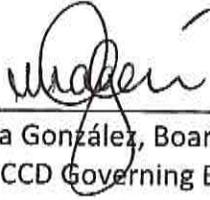
WHEREAS, the Hartnell Community College District has a responsibility to advocate for policies that support students, strengthen educational access, and promote equity and opportunity throughout the region;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Hartnell Community College District formally expresses its support for Proposition 55: Tax Extension to Fund Education and Health Care; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees affirms its commitment to advocating for sustainable public funding that ensures California community colleges can continue to meet the educational, economic, and workforce needs of the communities they serve; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be entered into the official minutes of the Board of Trustees and communicated as appropriate to district stakeholders and the broader community.

Passed and adopted on this 10th day of March 2026.



Alejandra González, Board President
Hartnell CCD Governing Board



Michael Gutierrez, Board Secretary
Superintendent/President