




Memo from the Interim Superintendent/President

DATE: September 21, 2020
TO: All Employees and Students
FROM: Raúl Rodríguez, Ph.D. 
RE: Spring 2021 Semester

Dear Members of the Hartnell College Community,

Many inquiries have been made about how Hartnell College is going to operate next semester, especially as a growing number of colleges around the state are announcing their decisions. As much as we all would like to go back to our previous in-person operations, that is just not possible given all of the constraints and issues caused by COVID-19. The only reasonable decision we can arrive at for next spring semester is to maintain all instruction in the online format, to deliver our student services in the same manner, and to keep the majority of Hartnell employees working remotely from their homes.

This decision is being made to protect the health and safety of students and employees. The only exception that is allowable at this time is for those limited number of courses in the Nursing and Allied Health programs that have been provided with an exemption under an order from California Governor Gavin Newsom. Those courses will have some limited face-to-face interaction.

The majority of college facilities remain closed to the public. The Monterey County Department of Health is allowing the college to open up certain outdoor facilities, such as the track, tennis courts, and the pool (although with certain restrictions). There are also times that are being scheduled for students to pick up materials, such as textbooks, science lab kits, and computers.

Nearly all Hartnell faculty, staff, and administrators will continue to work remotely. Only those individuals whose duties require them to be on campus will be allowed to work on campus. Daniel Scott is leading our effort to develop a detailed plan for the eventual return of personnel to campus. A draft plan was presented to the board last Tuesday and it is expected that a more finalized draft will be available for wider distribution next month.

Thank you all for your patience and understanding during these difficult times.