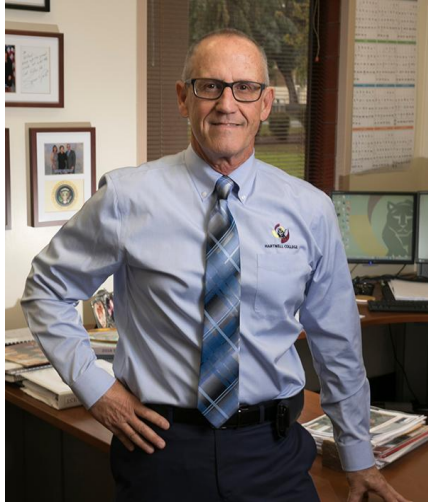




HARTNELL COLLEGE

A Special Message from Hartnell College Superintendent / President



Dear Hartnell College Community,

In a letter received on June 28, the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) informed us that Hartnell College's accreditation has been reaffirmed for seven years. This is a tremendous accomplishment and a testament to everyone's efforts in putting "**students first**" and improving student success and institutional effectiveness. It is worth noting that Hartnell College satisfied all 128 accreditation standards, satisfied all eligibility requirements, and demonstrated compliance with all Commission policies and regulations. The [external evaluation report](#) and [action letter](#) include three commendations for exemplary practices. The external evaluation report identified three improvement recommendations, but the Commission deleted one of the recommendations. The two remaining recommendations are "improvement recommendations." These improvement

recommendations are not deficiencies, but are simply suggestions for strengthening efforts already underway.

It is also worth framing this outcome in a historical context. In 2007, the ACCJC placed Hartnell College on accreditation probation and issued seven compliance recommendations and two Commission concerns. In 2013, the ACCJC again placed Hartnell College on accreditation probation and issued 12 compliance recommendations. In addressing probation status and resolving the deficiencies noted in these previous evaluations, Hartnell College was required to submit numerous follow-up reports and incurred additional visits from Commission representatives. With the most recent action from the Commission, there will be no follow-up reports required and no visits from Commission representatives. Over the next seven years, the College will only be required to submit a standard mid-term report in March 2023. The next comprehensive accreditation evaluation will take place in spring 2026. The Team Chair for external evaluation team that visited in March provided the following conclusion after the team conducted its evaluation:

"Overall, the team's thoughts walking away is that we are very impressed by Hartnell College, and we commend you on developing a culture of professional excellence. There's no absence of pride. As I think you know, you know who you are as a college and as a community, and this sense of meaning and purpose permeates the entire organization. We were able to feel it. We found it from your staff, from your faculty and from your administration, and most importantly from your students and the community members we were able to talk to."

Congratulations to everyone who contributed to this exceptional outcome that will carry forward over the next seven years. I am profoundly honored to have worked with all of you in achieving this reaffirmation of accreditation.

Regards,

Will

Willard Clark Lewallen, Ph.D.
President / Superintendent Hartnell College