

News Brief



**Sandra Serrano,
Chancellor
Kern Community College
District**

Message from the Chancellor

The high point for the month of June is that the District staff has returned to the remodeled District Office at 2100 Chester Avenue in Bakersfield. The District Office move was facilitated by Kellie Van Westen, Administrative Assistant to the Chancellor. Kellie insured that the facilities were ready for occupancy and that every box was packed. The move took place on Friday, June 2. Everyone returned on June 5 to find boxes in place and ready to unpack. By the end of Monday, everyone was close to settled. Many things are yet to be completed including some wiring and cleaning, but the offices are functional. Kellie has done an outstanding job of organizing and facilitating the move to the new facility and the return home. She is to be commended for her excellent work.

Update on Educational Initiatives – Greg Chamberlain

Each college held exciting and unique graduation ceremonies this spring. This is always an exciting and rewarding experience for all who participate. (Even with the power outage at Cerro Coso!) The State Department of Education Child Development Division conducted their compliance review of the KCCCD centers (similar to accreditation) . The process was very informative and the review was very positive. Progress is being made on the hiring of an Institutional Researcher at the district level. The screening committee hopes to identify finalists by the end of June.

Business Office Update – Tom Burke

The status of the community college budget bill for 2006-2007 is that the bill will be resolved in the upcoming budget conference committee. The Assembly significantly altered the Governor's proposal by altering how the money can be spent. They did, however, retain the same dollar amount. The Assembly's changes included a reduction of the compromise on equalization from \$159.4 million to \$80 million and a reduction of tuition fees from \$26 to \$20, making up the difference in one time monies. The Senate retained the equalization funding agreed to by the governor, did not provide a reduction in student fees, and provided \$25 million in additional Prop 98 funds. Both houses approved \$30 million to increase the per-student rate for selected noncredit courses. Both houses reverted \$85 million of one-time savings and made a corresponding adjustment to the base apportionment. Both houses reduced growth from 3% to 2% and approved the 5.92% COLA. For a complete analysis, you may consult the State Chancellor's web page analysis.

Information Technology Update – David Palinsky

IT recently finished the Voice Network and Telephone System Upgrade project that included the replacement or installation of new phone switches, replacement of multiple voicemail systems with a common voicemail system platform and the interconnection of all phone systems into KCCCD's Voice Network. The move of the District Office back to the Weill Institute marked the end of the project when the last old phone switch was taken out of service. To learn more about this Measure G funded project, go to http://www.kccd.edu/Information_Technology/Telephone_System_Upgrade/Default.aspx KCCCD will be upgrading its administrative software system, Banner, from version six to version seven beginning on July 7th at 4:00pm. Several hardware components that support the Banner infrastructure have been replaced as part of the five year replacement cycle. The result of these upgrades will be a more user friendly, robust and

higher performing system that positions KCCD to take advantage of emerging technologies from Sungard HE (formerly SCT) and its partners.

Measure G Progress and Projects –

Chris Addington Scheduled Maintenance projects are being planned at each campus this summer using Measure G funds including HVAC, Roofing and Repair projects. DSA approval of the Fine Arts Project at Cerro Coso is scheduled for approval this summer with bidding to follow thereafter, funded by Measure G funds. The Porterville College Learning Resource Center/Library project has been approved to go to bid by the California Community College Chancellor's Office and will be bidding soon which was funded by State Funds and Matching Measure G funds. The Weille Center Modernization, Bakersfield College Planetarium and Bakersfield College Applied Science Technology Modernization projects are scheduled for completion early this summer.

Accreditation Preparation – Rosa Carlson, Bill Andrews, Mitch Capet BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE ACCREDITATION UPDATE

A final draft of the Self Study has been completed and distributed to faculty chairs and managers for review. Particular attention will be given to finding errors of fact and to adding additional evidence to support assertions. The Administrative Council will meet on June 19 for a thorough discussion of any recommended revisions. Self Study Chair Bill Moseley and Self Study Editor Michele Bresso will attend. The final Self Study will be ready for distribution to Board Trustees by mid-July in preparation for approval at the August Board meeting.

CERRO COSO ACCREDITATION UPDATE

The Accreditation Self Study is going through a last review and will soon be published in its final form. The college is also actively collecting the ancillary and evidentiary material in anticipation of the site visit scheduled for October 23-26. The Accrediting Commission has appointed Dr. Shirley Kelly, President of San Mateo College, as chair of the visiting team. The entire staff is looking forward to the visitation.

PORTERVILLE COLLEGE UPDATE

The Porterville College accreditation self-study standards are complete and include basically all of

the recommendations provided by readers from the college, district office and the community. Each standard is followed by the evidence section for that portion. Randy Morgan, PC graphics artist, is compiling the material for the introductory section, which includes demographic and institutional organization information in the form of colored graphs and charts. Mike Carley, PC Institutional Researcher, has established a "PC Accreditation Central" web page which contains the standard reports and links to all of the evidence for each standard. During the summer we will be compiling all of the evidence and supporting documents in hard copy form so they will be available for the team in their meeting room. The week of June 12 Steve Schultz will work with Tom Bethurum in Graphics to finalize the format of the final report. The plan is to print it like the last accreditation self-study with wired spiral binding, tabs for each section and harder paper stock. The final version of the self-study, though not in the professionally printed and bound form, will be given to the District Office by the third week in June so it can be given to the Board to review at the July meeting. The professionally printed and bound document that will be sent to the commission and self study team will be given to the Board for its August meeting for final approval.

Legislative Update – Sharon Dyer

Several bills have been on the "watch list" for the Chancellor's office. Agreement has been reached in the legislature on the Public Education Facilities Bond Act that will go to the ballot in November. This bond, if passed by the voters, would provide funding for \$10.4 billion for school and college buildings. The Chancellors Office has provided several letters of support/opposition for bills that impact KCCD. Specifically, the District supports the Senate version of the community college budget that more closely resembles the intent of SB361. Additionally, the Community College Initiative is moving forward. Signatures in support of the initiative are being collected.

About the Publication — This newsletter will serve as a communication tool for the District with Board members and with the Colleges. It will be sent electronically to every employee of the District. The editorial staff welcomes feedback and ideas for inclusion.

