

## Renegade Roundup



### Juneteenth plans

Dear colleagues:

I wanted to update you on the emerging plans for the two-week long conversation, June 3<sup>rd</sup> to June 19<sup>th</sup>, being developed by a great team.

#### Planning Team



*Jennifer Achan  
Director, Financial Aid*



*Paula Parks  
Umoja Community  
Coordinator*



*Tommy Tunson  
Director, Public Safety  
Training Programs*



*Steve Watkin  
Director, Outreach and  
Early College*

This week, join the next #RealTalk dialogue featuring the Bakersfield Police Department: Chief Greg Terry and Assistant Chief Joe Mullins with introductory remarks from Tommy Tunson, BC's director of public safety training.

## #RealTalk on Race with the Bakersfield Police Department



**Hosted by  
Danny  
Morrison**



**Opening  
Remarks by BC's  
Tommy Tunson**



**Panelist  
BPD Chief  
Greg Terry**



**Panelist Asst.  
Chief of Police  
Joe Mullins**

#LightACandle: June 10, 2020 at 8:00 p.m.

**BAKERSFIELD  
COLLEGE**

Tune in to watch the Facebook livecast from Danny Morrison Media on **Wednesday, June 10 at 8pm** at [www.facebook.com/dannymoshow](http://www.facebook.com/dannymoshow)

Please follow along for updates on our #LightACandle Juneteenth Conversation and Celebration on our website: [www.bakersfieldcollege.edu/aa/lightacandle-a-juneteenth-conversation](http://www.bakersfieldcollege.edu/aa/lightacandle-a-juneteenth-conversation)

### BC Joins Prayer Walk

At Steven Watkin's invitation, dozens of BC faculty and staff joined a peaceful community walk and prayer on Wednesday. Led by Pastor Oscar Anthony of St. Peter Restoration Community Christian Ministries, and Pastor Ignacio Valdez of New Hope Family Worship Center, with the support of networks such as Kern County Ministers Conference, Kern Leadership Alliance and CityServe, hundreds assembled to acknowledge the pain our community is in while promoting reconciliation and healing. The June 3<sup>rd</sup> event was our first public event



### #RealTalk on Race with Danny, Reggie, and Julian

On Thursday, June 4, BC launched the first of a series of #RealTalk on Race discussions, hosted by Danny Morrison Media.



Danny, always a friend to BC and an ardent supporter of our African American Initiatives and Inmate Scholars program, kicked off the discussion with a reflection on the recent high-profile deaths of [George Floyd](#), [Breonna Taylor](#), and [Ahmed Arbery](#). I was struck by the weight of the dialogue as he recalled a long history of murders of Black men at the hands of those in power... the stories of [Philando Castile](#), [Eric Garner](#), and [Emmett Till](#).

Reggie Bolton and Julian West described their personal experiences coming to terms with race and racism as Black men. As I listened to Reggie, Julian, and Danny, I felt the enormity of the moment we are in as a nation and the responsibility we have as educators to shine light on these stories. The words of these men – brilliant, courageous, kind hearted, and committed to our students – should strengthen our resolve to work for racial equity at BC and beyond.

If you didn't have a chance to tune in, it is a must-watch. Check out the livestream video [HERE](#).

## BC in the News: The Bakersfield Californian

The Bakersfield Californian [published a great article](#) on BC's plans to shine light on the ways education can advance justice. Thank you, Ema Sasic, for capturing not only our plans for the weeks ahead, but also the ways BC has been advancing educational equity for Black students through the remarkable work of our African American Initiatives team. I enjoyed reading the highlights of our progress on increasing access and success for our students over the past five years:

- Increased overall enrollment of Black students by 45% to more than 1,000 students
- Increased first-time Black student enrollment by 72%
- Increased Black student enrollment in Early College opportunities by 1,017%
- Increased Black student completion of associate degrees by 223%

That's all for now.  
Until next time.

With much Renegade Pride and Collegiality,  
Sonya



#AMustRead @ema\_sasic via @Bakersfieldcali @BAKcollege discussions on race, equity, black liberation 6/3-6/19 [tinyurl.com/y84gw8vt](https://tinyurl.com/y84gw8vt) #LightACandle #RealTalk TY @dannymoshow 4 collaborating @JulianWest44 @EloyOakley @epsteintom @Lande\_Ajose @DrShaunHarper



BC planning virtual discussions on race, equity, black liberation  
Following the Memorial Day death of George Floyd in police custody and nationwide protests that have ensued, Bakersfield College is planning several ...  
[bakersfield.com](https://bakersfield.com)

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