

**Subject:**

Sent on behalf of Chancellor Bloomberg - November 4, 2024



## MESSAGE FROM THE CHANCELLOR

**November 4, 2024**

Dear Colleagues,

### **Board Meeting at Cerro Coso Community College**

It was a pleasure to transport a group comprising representatives from Porterville, Bakersfield, the District Office, and our Trustees to Cerro Coso Community College for the Kern CCD Board of Trustees Meeting. This marked our first board meeting at Cerro Coso since 2019. We began the day with a tour of the impressive new athletics facility, which offers a stunning view, followed by a visit to the Administration Building, where we enjoyed a wonderful lunch before proceeding to the board meeting. I would like to extend my sincere thanks and compliments to President Hancock and his team for their exceptional efforts in making the day a success.



### **Fall Campus Town Hall Focus Groups**

We have recently concluded our Fall town hall focus groups, which provided a valuable platform for each of our employee groups to engage directly with the Chancellor. These sessions offered an opportunity for meaningful dialogue and candid feedback regarding both their respective colleges and the district as a whole. The discussions have been highly productive, insightful, and have fostered an environment conducive to open and courageous conversations.

### **District Administrative Unit Reviews (AUR's)**

Each department within the District Office has completed its Administrative Unit Review (AUR), and these have been shared with the colleges for evaluation and feedback. This annual process is designed to assess the current status of each department, including staffing requirements and budgetary adjustments. The colleges are invited to provide input, after which I collaborate with the Chancellor's Cabinet to finalize decisions.

### **Managing Director, California Renewable Energy Laboratory (CREL)**

Kern Community College District is proud to welcome Dr. Ellen Morris as the newly appointed Managing Director of our California Renewable Energy Laboratory (CREL). Formerly the Director of the University Partnerships Program at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) in Golden, Colorado, Dr. Morris brings deep experience in policy analysis, applied research, and entrepreneurship related to the design and deployment of clean energy projects in frontline communities, especially in developing countries. Morris' leadership will be pivotal in expanding the



regional workforce and career pipeline for renewable energy careers, while launching innovative research and demonstration projects within CREL's three current Centers of Excellence, and more to come.

### Borel Fire Donations

As we approach the upcoming weeks, many of us will gather with our loved ones to share a meal and reflect on the blessings in our lives, especially as we celebrate Thanksgiving. However, it's important to remember that not everyone will have the comfort of their home or a warm meal this year. Many families in our neighboring community,

affected by the devastating Borel Fire, have lost everything. With little or no insurance and limited federal aid, they are struggling to rebuild their lives.

Now is the perfect time to extend a helping hand to those in need. If you're able, we invite you to make a difference by donating to support the victims of the Borel Fire. Let's come together to show our compassion and provide relief to those who need it most. Your generosity can truly make an impact.

To donate, please click [HERE](#).

Sincerely,

Dr. Steven Bloomberg  
Chancellor

