

Sent: Monday, March 3, 2025
Subject: Sent on behalf of Chancellor Bloomberg - March 3, 2024



March 3, 2025

Dear Colleagues,

Jack Hernandez Phronesis Award – Call for nominations

The Kern Community College District invites nominations for its fourth annual District-wide Jack Hernandez Phronesis Award. Phronesis is the Greek word for “practical wisdom” – the practical application of one’s intellectual virtues. This distinguished award honors District Employees who have done an exemplary job of applying their scholarly training and skills beyond the classroom, beyond their college campus, in their community, for the betterment of society.



Nominees for the Jack Hernandez Phronesis Award must meet the following:

- Full-time employee of the Kern CCD for a minimum of 10 years
- History of steadfastly sharing scholastic talents with the community at large

To nominate someone, please email the following to EdServices@kccd.edu:

- Nominee Name, Department, and College Campus
- 300-500-word statement outlining the specific ways in which they have used their academic training to benefit their community

Nominations should be submitted by 5:00pm on Thursday, March 31, 2025.

Nominees will be asked to provide an updated resume/CV for the committee’s review. The recipient of the Jack Hernandez Phronesis Award will be the guest of honor and give the keynote address at an elegant dinner in the Fall of 2025. The recipient will also receive a \$1,500 honorarium. The committee looks forward to receiving your nominations!

Spring Town Hall Dates

This spring, I am excited to continue our Town Hall series, providing an open forum for dialogue, collaboration, and engagement across Kern Community College District. These town halls are an opportunity for me to listen to our employees, hear your insights, and discuss the important work we are doing together. I encourage you to attend, share your thoughts, and help shape the future of KCCD. Dates for each college:

Bakersfield – March 28th

Porterville – April 3rd

Cero Coso – April 8th

Note: Invitations for each employee group will go out from the President's office at each college.

Bloomberg Briefing Webinar

Our next Bloomberg Briefing Webinar is scheduled for March 27th at 9:00am. This session will focus on providing updates on the progress of the District Strategic Plan. A diverse group of representatives from each employee group and college has been collaborating with a consultant to advance this initiative. The briefing will offer valuable insights into the timeline and key developments of this ongoing work.



Registration **not** required. Link to webinar: <https://kccd-edu.zoom.us/j/89130164521>

Women in History Celebration

Please join us on March 18th as we celebrate the achievements, resilience, and leadership of women at our Women in History Celebration. This special event honors the contributions of women throughout history and within our own community, recognizing the impact they have made in education, leadership, and beyond. It is an opportunity to reflect on progress and inspire future generations. We look forward to sharing this



meaningful gathering with you as we celebrate the strength and accomplishments of women past and present. You can RSVP for the event [HERE](#).

Healthy Minds Healthy Bodies Donations

Last semester, we partnered with the United Way to support one of our communities in need—the victims of the Borel Fire. Volunteers from the Supervisory Leadership Institute traveled to Lake Isabella to distribute essential supplies, including gloves, scarves, socks, hygiene kits, and food, to those affected by the disaster.

This semester, we invite you to contribute to the *Healthy Minds, Healthy Bodies* program, which provides food, books, and dental hygiene kits to low-income children and families in Kern County. Literacy and hunger remain two of the most pressing challenges in our community, and this initiative directly addresses both. I encourage you to join me in supporting *Healthy Minds, Healthy Bodies* by making a donation. To contribute, please click [HERE](#).



First Year Reflections

As I complete my first year as Chancellor of Kern Community College District, I am filled with gratitude and pride for the incredible work we have accomplished together. Our colleges continue to be places of opportunity, innovation, and transformation, where students achieve their goals and employees grow in meaningful ways.

This past year, I have witnessed firsthand the dedication of our faculty, staff, and administrators in fostering student success. Whether through expanding access to education, strengthening workforce partnerships, or enhancing support services, our collective efforts are making a real difference.

My commitment remains steadfast: to make KCCD a great place to learn and work. Together, we will continue to build a culture of excellence, inclusion, and collaboration that empowers everyone in our district. I look forward to another year of progress and success, working alongside all of you to shape the future of education in our communities.

Thank you for your passion and dedication—you inspire me every day.

Sincerely,

Dr. Steven Bloomberg
Chancellor

