From: Keith Curry <kcurry@compton.edu> Sent: Friday, June 6, 2025 9:29 PM

Subject: President/CEO Message - June 6, 2025

Campus Community,

We're just one week away from the 2025 Compton College Commencement, scheduled for *Friday*, *June 13*, 2025, at 6:00 p.m., at the Dignity Health Sports Park Tennis Stadium. Over the past few weeks, we've shared important reminders about the event, including arrival times, parking, and cap and gown details. Commencement is a special opportunity to celebrate the achievements of our students, and we're looking forward to this meaningful occasion.

As we near the end of the academic year, we've already enjoyed many events honoring our students. A few more are scheduled for next week, and I hope you'll be able to attend (click here for the list). Thank you to the faculty, classified professionals, managers, supervisors, and students who have helped plan and carry out these celebrations.

Today's President/CEO Message includes a reminder about the Juneteenth and Fourth of July holidays, 4/10 work weeks, summer hours for Student Services, the Bookstore, and Everytable, and more.

Enrollment Update as of June 5, 2025

- 492 FTES for the **Summer 2025** term. 4,015 (70%) of the available summer seats are currently filled.
- 637 FTES for the **Fall 2025** semester. Our fill rate for Fall is 24% with 4,104 seats filled.

Summer 2025 enrollment is currently up 3% in full-time equivalent students (FTES) and 6% in headcount compared to last year, with 7 out of 10 seats filled and 75 out of 183 sections already full or waitlisted, just 18 days before classes begin. **Fall 2025** is also trending ahead, with FTES up 6% and headcount up 18%; 24% of seats are already taken, and 21 sections are full. Please encourage students to check the class schedules on the Compton College website, meet with an advisor, and register early to ensure a smooth start to the semester.

Regional Transfer Strategy Update – Building on Our Vision

As first introduced in my <u>President/CEO Message - May 23, 2025</u>, Compton College is embarking on a bold new direction to enhance student transfer outcomes through a regional transfer strategy. This initiative, supported by the Ballmer Group grant (originally announced in my <u>President/CEO Message - November 15, 2024</u>, focuses on deepening partnerships with colleges and universities within a 50-mile radius of our campus.

The goal is to streamline transfer pathways and create more accessible, sustainable opportunities for our students by aligning our academic programs with both student needs and institutional capacity. This strategy is a key component of our <u>Compton College 2035</u>, <u>Comprehensive Master Plan</u>, and reflects our commitment to regional collaboration.

In the coming months, I will meet with leadership from many of the four-year colleges and universities that have been identified as potential partners for the new regional transfer strategy to initiate partnership conversations. These meetings will lay the groundwork for future collaboration, with implementation to follow through our respective teams.

I am excited about the potential of this regional approach and look forward to sharing more as these partnerships develop. Once again, I have asked Dr. Maria Garcia, Interim Dean of Counseling and Guided Pathways, to coordinate the development of this strategy. Dr. Garcia will work in collaboration with the Transfer and Career Center faculty and classified professionals, the Counseling Department, and the Guided Pathways and Student Success committees.

If you have creative ideas or recommendations related to this new regional transfer strategy, please share them with Dr. Garcia at mgarcia74@compton.edu.

Juneteenth and Fourth of July Holidays

The campus will be closed on *Thursday, June 19, 2025*, in observance of Juneteenth, which commemorates the end of slavery in the United States. This annual holiday was <u>approved by the Compton Community College District</u> (CCD) Board of Trustees in December 2021.

Please note: Our summer 4/10 work schedule begins the following week, from *June 23, 2025, through August 8, 2025*. Since the Fourth of July holiday falls on a Friday this year—and Fridays are already non-working days under the summer 4/10 work schedule—the campus will be closed and no classes will be held on *Thursday, July 3, 2025*, in observance of the holiday.

Student Services Summer Hours

During the 4/10 work weeks of *June 23, 2025, through August 8, 2025*, the Student Services departments will be available *Monday through Thursday, from 8:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m*. The longer hours will provide students with ample opportunities to access support and resources during the summer sessions.

Annual Voices of Compton Event

The Compton College Art Department is proud to present the 2025 Annual Student Art Exhibition, located in the Art Gallery on the first floor of the Library-Student Success Center. The opening reception will take place on *Thursday*, *June 12, 2025, from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.*, providing guests with the opportunity to view student artwork and meet the artists.

This event also marks the release of the 2024–2025 edition of Voices of Compton, the college's literary and art journal.

The exhibition features a vibrant collection of works created by Compton College students during the 2024-2025 academic year, showcasing a variety of media including drawing, sculpture, and digital art. It's a celebration of our students' creativity and accomplishments.

Compton College California Black-Serving Institution Designation Application Submitted

As a follow-up to the <u>President/CEO Message – April 25, 2025</u>, this afternoon, we submitted the Compton College <u>California Black-Serving Institution (BSI) Designation Application</u>. The BSI Designation recognizes institutions committed to Black student success in higher education. Eligible institutions must have at least 10% of their student population identifying as Black or African American, or have at least 1,500 Black or African American students enrolled. The Compton CCD Board of Trustees approved our application at their meeting on *May 19, 2025*. Special Thanks to Dr. Antonio Banks, director of Black and Males of Color Success, for leading this effort on behalf of Compton College.

Everytable Cafeteria and Bookstore Summer 2025 Hours

The Everytable Cafeteria will be open this summer, June 23, 2025 – August 8, 2025:

- Monday-Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- Closed Fridays
- Closed Wednesday, June 19, 2025, for the Juneteenth holiday and Thursday, July 3, 2025.

Compton College students may continue to pick up one free meal daily with their Compton College ID through *June* 30, 2026. The one-free-meal program for employees ends *August* 22, 2025.

Customers may purchase snacks, drinks, and extra meals to take home. Join the Everytable Rewards Program and earn points toward free food! Earn one point per \$1 spent and redeem points toward discounted or free meals. <u>Join now!</u>

The Compton College Bookstore will be open this summer, *Monday through Thursday*, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. for your on-campus needs. Don't forget, <u>online services are also available 24/7</u> for added convenience!

Compton Community College District Board of Trustees Meeting

On *Monday, June 16, 2025*, the Board of Trustees will meet in the Board Room in the Administration Building. All regular session meetings are open to the public. The closed session begins at 5:00 p.m., with the open session commencing at 6:00 p.m. The Board Agenda is posted 72 hours in advance of the meeting. Agendas are posted on the BoardDocs website under the "Meetings" tab at http://www.boarddocs.com/ca/compton/Board.nsf/Public

President/CEO Closing the Loop

The Employee Retention Credit, also known as the Employee Retention Tax Credit (ERTC), is a refundable tax credit available to certain eligible businesses and tax-exempt organizations that retained employees during the COVID-19 pandemic. Below is a summary of Compton CCD's progress and Board of Trustees-approved actions related to the ERTC:

- *October 17, 2023* The Compton CCD Board of Trustees approved an <u>agreement with CDWL</u> to prepare our Employee Retention Tax Credit (ERTC) forms and associated documentation with an estimated return of \$7.8 million.
- November 21, 2023 The Board of Trustees approved Resolution No. 11-21-2023C Resolution Reserving A Portion of the College's Potential Employee Retention Tax Credit to Support Basic Student Need Services, which allocated \$4 million of the ERTC funds to be used for Basic Student Need Services to support student basic needs, including providing technology to students and funding District food and housing assistance programs.
- April 21, 2025 The Board of Trustees approved Resolution No. 04-21-2025B Reserving a Portion of the College's Potential Employee Retention Tax Credit to Support Visual and Performing Arts Project, which allocated an additional \$2 million of the ERTC to be used to support the Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA) Complex construction project.
- *May 28, 2025* Compton CCD received \$5,767,132.03 from the federal government. In accordance with the agreement, a 10% service fee of \$576,713.20 was paid to CWDL. The net proceeds of \$5,190,418.83 were allocated to VAPA (\$2 million) and Basic Student Needs (\$3,190,418.83), as approved by the Board of Trustees.

Future payments from the federal government are anticipated, with \$809,581.17 to be allocated to fulfill the remaining Basic Student Needs commitment. The allocation plan for the remaining balance of the estimated \$7.8 million may include funding for facilities projects, including the Visual and Performing Arts Complex, Scheduled Maintenance, campus technology, and additional funding to support Basic Needs.

We will provide an update on the ERTC and the finalized allocation plan in a future President/CEO Message.

Final Thoughts

As a following up to information provided in the <u>President/CEO Message – May 16, 2025</u>, regarding the 2025–2026 Governor's May Revision Budget Proposal, next week at the Compton College <u>Planning and Budget Committee</u> and the <u>Consultative Council</u> meetings, we will present the updated <u>2025-2026 Compton CCD Tentative Budget</u> for their review and the revised <u>2025-2026 Compton CCD Tentative Budget Assumptions</u>.

In closing, I wish you a wonderful weekend with family and friends.

Sincerely,

Keith Curry, Ed.D. (he/him/his)
President/CEO
Compton College