

From: Keith Curry <kcurry@compton.edu>

Sent: Thursday, July 23, 2026 9:14 PM

President/CEO Message - July 23, 2026

Campus Community,

Happy Thursday. I hope everyone had a wonderful week. This week's President/CEO Message is coming out late this evening, as I was touring the campus with Dr. Linda Owens-Jackson, Chief Facilities Officer, identifying various areas for site improvements. Some areas we identified include replacing the concrete and lights on the south walkway near the Math/Science Building and initiating the purchase of access-control exterior doors for the Vocational Technology Building, Math/Science Building, and the Library – Student Success Building. In addition, we are planning to install decomposed granite in various areas throughout campus, including but not limited to areas along campus drive, around the Library-Student Success Building (North, South, and East of the building), and in spaces in Parking Lots A – F. The goal is for these site improvements to be completed by the end of the fall 2026 semester.

There are two articles that I want to bring to your attention this week. First, the CalMatters article "[A new law holds colleges accountable if their grads don't earn more than \\$36,000 a year](#)," which was about the new U.S. Department of Education earnings benchmark. I have written about this topic very often in the [President/CEO Messages](#) as it relates to our [Return on Investment and Economic Mobility Initiative](#). Second, I encourage you to read the recent Inside Higher Ed article, "[New Data on California's Black-Serving Institutions](#)," which highlights new research on California colleges serving Black students. These articles remind us of our responsibility to improve outcomes, promote equity, and remain focused on student success.

This week's message includes summer and fall enrollment updates, the Fall 2026 fee payment deadline and drop-for-nonpayment process, the Annual Summer Band Camp, as well as recently approved Board Policies and issued Administrative Regulations.

Compton College Fire Academy Update

I am pleased to share some exciting news that I did not include in the [President/CEO Message – July 16, 2026](#). Compton College on **Friday, July 10, 2026**, received one-year conditional approval as an Accredited Regional Training Program for our Fire Academy. This is an important milestone for Compton College and provides us with the opportunity to seek three-year approval next year.

At its **July 20, 2026**, meeting, the Compton Community College District Board of Trustees approved the Instructional Services Agreement with the City of Compton to coordinate the Fire Academy. The City Council of Compton is scheduled to consider the agreement at its special August meeting.

Our next steps include recruiting students and hiring faculty to support the program. The accreditation will also be presented to the State Board of Fire Services in August 2026 for final approval. However, we have been approved to move forward with offering the program for the fall 2026 semester. Special thanks to Gerson Valle, Dean of Student Learning, for leading this effort on behalf of Compton College.

Compton College Enrollment Update

- **Fall 2026** (as of July 15): 1,063 FTES, and 7,269 (39%) of the available seats are currently filled.

We currently have **30** days until the start of fall 2026 classes, and we must continue our proactive plan to assist students with registration. Our fall 2026 headcount is currently at 3,401, which is 7% greater than last year at this time. We must encourage our students to explore the [Schedule of Classes](#) and register early to secure courses and times that fit their schedules. Students interested in enrolling are encouraged to connect with a counselor to develop an education plan to stay on track toward graduation or transfer. Additionally, students are

strongly encouraged to meet with a Financial Aid Coordinator, as many financial assistance programs are available to help them navigate their options and support their academic journey. ***Every enrollment counts!***

Fall 2026 Fee Payment Deadline and Drop for Non-Payment

As part of the College's ongoing efforts to support responsible fiscal management and student accountability, students with an outstanding Fall 2026 balance of \$200 or more will receive up to three reminders between **July 23, 2026**, and **August 3, 2026**, encouraging them to resolve their balance before the payment deadline.

Payment must be received by 6:30 p.m. on **Monday, August 3, 2026**. Students who do not pay by the deadline will be dropped from all Fall 2026 classes, including waitlisted classes, on Tuesday, August 4, 2026.

As of **July 21, 2026**, 322 students had balances exceeding \$200, representing approximately \$121,841 in outstanding Fall 2026 enrollment fees.

We recognize that the drop process may impact enrollment; however, it is also an important component of the College's fiscal management practices and ensures consistent application of student fee policies. Students who are dropped will lose their seats in enrolled and waitlisted classes and must re-register if seats remain available. Students with unpaid balances may also be subject to registration holds that could affect enrollment in future terms.

Employees are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the process and direct students to the [Student Fees & Holds webpage](#) for additional information and assistance.

Annual Compton College Summer Band Camp

Next week, Compton College will once again welcome the vibrant sounds of our annual Summer Band Camp, a dynamic collaboration with our K-12 partners in the Compton and Lynwood Unified School Districts. This initiative is more than just a music camp—it's a strategic effort to build a strong pipeline of future Compton College students by nurturing their talents and introducing them to collegiate-level opportunities in the commercial music industry. This year, we anticipate having over 130 high school students participate. Throughout the week, students will sharpen their musical skills, collaborate with their peers, and work toward a culminating performance that showcases their growth. The final concert serves not only as a celebration of their hard work, but also as a powerful marketing tool for our music program. We invite all employees and students to attend the final performance, which is open to the public on **Saturday, August 1, 2026**, at 10:00 a.m. in the Football/Soccer Stadium.

Board Policies and Administrative Regulations

At the **July 20, 2026**, Compton Community College District Board of Trustees meeting, the following Board Policies (BP) were approved, and the Administrative Regulations (AR) listed below were issued.

- [Board Policy 2305](#) - Annual Organizational Meeting
- [Board Policy 3200](#) - Accreditation
- [Board Policy 3550](#) - Drug-Free Environment and Drug Prevention Program
- [Board Policy 4235](#) - Credit for Prior Learning
- [Board Policy 5030](#) - Fees
- [Board Policy 5040](#) - Student Records, Directory Information and Privacy
- [Board Policy 5052](#) - Open Enrollment
- [Administrative Regulation 3550](#) - Drug-Free Environment and Drug Prevention Program
- [Administrative Regulation 4300](#) - Field Trips and Excursions
- [Administrative Regulation 5040](#) - Student Records, Directory Information and Privacy
- [Administrative Regulation 5130](#) - Financial Aid
- [Administrative Regulation 6307](#) - Debt Issuance and Management

- [Administrative Regulation 7270](#) - Student Worker Employment Requirements

Final Thoughts

In previous President/CEO Messages this spring, including [March 20, 2026](#), [April 24, 2026](#), and [July 16, 2026](#), I wrote about our implementation of [Assembly Bill 481 - Law Enforcement and State Agencies: Military Equipment: Funding, Acquisition, and Use](#); today I am sharing that Compton College District Police Department is now accepting applications for the [Community Advisory Committee](#). This Committee has been established to strengthen partnerships between the Compton College District Police Department and stakeholders in the surrounding community. The Committee will provide support through a unified approach to campus safety, transparency, and community engagement. The Chief of Police, or their designee, will serve as the facilitator during their meetings. The Committee will include six members, including but not limited to district residents, senior citizens, faith/community leaders, parents/guardians of Compton College students, business owners, and advocates for youth and community well-being. The Committee shall meet no more than three times per fiscal year. The deadline for community members to submit their application is ***Tuesday, August 4, 2026***.

As I prepare my Fall 2026 reading list—set to be featured in the President/CEO Message on August 27, 2026—I'm inviting your recommendations. Please send your suggestions to kcurry@compton.edu by ***Wednesday, August 19, 2026***.

In closing, the fall semester is almost here, and the campus will be vibrant and busy with students, faculty, staff, and our community, so please enjoy your weekend with family and friends.

Sincerely,

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