

## Statement of Appreciation and Support of District Employees for Exemplary Efforts During COVID-19 Pandemic

Adopted by the Board of Trustees on October 14, 2020

To say that 2020 has been a year that has tested educational, social, economic, political, and general operational norms would not adequately describe the state of our world. In fact, the societal factors and practical capabilities that influence our work within the District have imposed further challenges and limitations on our ability to operate and serve the broader interests of students and our community.

With this as context, the Board of Trustees acknowledges and understands the extraordinary circumstances under which the District is operating and faculty, staff and administrators are working. Moreover, the Board wishes to make known to all faculty, staff and administrators that we recognize, support and appreciate your exemplary efforts during this unprecedented time. We commend all employees of the District for adapting to and thriving in this new environment.

As the District continues to operate in a largely remote modality, the Board recognizes the amount of effort it takes to make and continue this transition. Through the efforts of faculty, staff and administrators, the District has not only maintained but excelled in its services to students. For that we should all be immensely gratified and proud.

We, the Board of Trustees, also realize that this is a time of great uncertainty that can lead to anxiety and concern, and we want to make clear to all faculty, staff and administrators that the Board's highest priority is the safety of the District's employees and students. The physical, mental and emotional health of District employees is critically important and the Board encourages all faculty, staff and administrators to utilize District resources as they focus on their overall health.

The Board is, and students and our community should be, reassured by the fact that the District has a rich history of having very welcoming, talented and dedicated employees who make extraordinary efforts in supporting students and our community. While the current state of the world has tested our collective ability and capacity, the Board is immensely proud of the faculty, staff and administrators of the District who continue to exemplify the highest levels of professionalism and service. The Board offers, with its greatest sincerity, a heartfelt THANK YOU to all faculty, staff and administrators who continue to make the San Mateo County Community College District a great place to learn, work and visit.