



Looking Ahead

Looking ahead nobody has a crystal ball, and part of an evolving business plan is to say, 'I might have said we're going left, but I see the opportunity and we're going right.'

Ryan Kavanaugh, Warner Bros. Pictures executive

As we continue to observe stay-at-home orders, hopeful signs are beginning to emerge. As one county official stated: "It's the end of the beginning." Although some state and county orders are now being relaxed, with a focus on reopening businesses, we can expect to continue exercising physical distancing, required quarantining for some, and strict sanitation protocols until more testing is available and a vaccine is discovered. These expectations are guiding our planning.

The district and college leadership have been meeting day and night to consider the many factors and challenges involved with returning to campus in an environment of massive uncertainty and rapid change. Considerations are extensive and multifaceted. We have been considering several key factors in making our decisions to ensure the health and safety of our students and employees, including: feasibility of enforcing physical distancing requirements; capacity to meet rigorous sanitation/disinfection requirements; and the potential for immense disruption should another Coronavirus outbreak occur.

With those factors in mind, the district leadership has decided that **all fall semester classes will be delivered online or remotely, with the exception of classes that are difficult to convert to online/remote delivery. Those include science and allied health laboratory classes, and career technical education courses that require specialized equipment and training.** The presidents and academic leadership are working to plan the fall schedule and assess the specific laboratories and classrooms needed for this.

We must be prepared in case a second wave of coronavirus cases strikes and a new shelter-in-place order is issued. This is one of the driving forces behind minimizing the numbers of students congregating on campus in the fall. Our planning also includes a number of important steps to begin to return to campus.

- Once the stay-at-home orders permit, we will plan for employees to methodically return to the campuses in phases. In accordance with County guidelines, our goal is to have all employees back at the campuses by late summer. The specific details for each phase of our return are being discussed, and we will keep you informed as information becomes available. **Employees who may be unable to return to campus for any reason should contact [Cheryl Detwiler](#) at Human Resources for guidance.**
- The college and district leadership are assessing offices and shared spaces, as well as a limited number of classrooms and laboratories needed for fall, to determine physical distancing needs.
- Equipment, PPE and supplies are being procured.
- The Facilities directors will be convening to develop a plan for sanitation and disinfection, following Centers for Disease Control guidelines, including training protocols and required PPE.
- Human Resources will provide all employees health and safety protocols to help avoid the spread of the disease.
- Technology needs are being assessed and procured. Plans are also being made to procure additional laptops configured for remote access in the event we need to quickly move employees off campus again in the future.
- Beginning this month, the college leadership will provide additional training and support for faculty who will be teaching online or remotely in the fall.

Grossmont College is offering both a [self-paced and a synchronous training option](#). The self-paced training, structured for participants to pursue DE or ERT certification, will be available this month. A six-week facilitated course with the same learning outcomes as the self-paced training will be offered starting May 11 and June 29. The facilitated program is designed for DE certification, but ERT certification is also supported.

Cuyamaca College is offering two options for summer training to prepare teachers for Distance Education (DE) teaching. The **Teaching Online Certificate** fast track for full DE certification is a 5-week online class that begins either June 1 or July 6. **Emergency Remote Teaching (ERT)** is simpler and self-paced, so it only qualifies a teacher for ERT classes. For details and to sign up, please see the [Online Teacher Certification](#) page.

During this time of remote learning and working, I am so proud to see the many ways our district employees have stepped up to serve our students as best we can in these challenging times. I have received feedback from students expressing their gratitude for all that we are doing to allow them to continue their education. Thank you for your

continued dedication to our students even as we deal with obstacles we never dreamed we would encounter.

As we begin to prepare to return to the campuses, we are doing our best to anticipate and plan in a climate of ambiguity since we know our students and community are counting on us for the future. Even though we do not have a crystal ball, we will remain nimble, and want to do everything we can to meet their needs!

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