



An Extraordinary Election

November 4, 2020

Yesterday's election was an unprecedented exercise in democracy, with a record-setting number of voters casting their ballots for the many candidates and issues that will shape the future of our nation, state and county. I am proud that both Grossmont College and Cuyamaca College served as polling places, and that our colleges took great effort to encourage students, employees and community members to vote.

It may be days or weeks before we know all the election results, and once again we are being called upon for patience as we await the final tallies.

The election's impact on our District

Several of the candidates and propositions on this election ballot will have a strong influence on our college District. Although votes are still being counted, following are the preliminary results from those races as of this morning.

- **Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District Governing Board:**



- Governing Board member **Elena Adams** was re-elected for another four-year term.
- **Julie Schorr**, a career educator, was elected to fill the Governing Board seat now occupied by longtime board member Bill Garrett, who is retiring at the end of the month.

Please join me in congratulating Trustees Elena Adams and Julie Schorr and welcoming our new board member to the District.

- **U.S. House of Representatives:** Two of the House seats that represent our District both had vacancies. In the 50th District, **Darrell Issa** was leading **Ammar Campa-Najjar** for the seat vacated by Duncan Hunter Jr. In the 53rd District, **Sara Jacobs** appeared headed for

victory in the seat occupied by Susan Davis, who is retiring. Incumbent **Juan Vargas**, who also represents a section of the District, was easily re-elected.

- **Proposition 15:** The proposition, which increases taxes on commercial properties worth more than \$3 million, could provide up to \$11.5 billion a year to California cities, schools and community colleges, including almost \$8.8 million to our District. Current totals showed that the measure was slightly behind, although the results are still too close to call at this point.
- **Proposition 16:** The proposition repeals provisions of Proposition 209 to bring back affirmative action and allow public institutions to consider race and gender with the goal of eliminating discrimination in state contracts, hiring, and college admissions. The measure appeared to be failing as of this morning, with less than 44% of the vote so far.

As we await the final election results, concerns have arisen that brewing tensions may erupt. Thankfully, we have not seen any disruption thus far. However, we will be monitoring the situation in our area closely and adding security this week to protect the safety of our students, employees and campus facilities.

Both colleges are holding post-election sessions today and over the next few days to help students deal with the election results. Please encourage students to participate.

Regardless of the election outcome, the Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District will continue to uphold our commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion and condemn any acts that attempt to distract us from our [core values and mission](#).

Thank you for engaging in this vital civic process.

Sincerely,

Lynn Ceresino Neault, Ed.D.

Chancellor, Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District