



Tragedy in Monterey Park

January 23, 2023

Dear GCCCD community,

We are devastated to learn of yet another mass shooting in our country, this time in Los Angeles County's Monterey Park, over the weekend. The violence left 10 people dead and at least another 10 injured. Minutes later, people in Alhambra managed to stop another incident from unfolding. Law enforcement in Los Angeles County announced that the suspect in the incidents is no longer a threat.

This latest tragedy came on the eve of the Lunar New Year, an important holiday celebrated around the world and in particular in many Asian nations and communities. Though we do not yet know the motive of this mass shooting, we are reminded of the hate and discrimination that Asian American communities encounter all too often. Sadly, hate crimes against Asian Americans have been on the rise in recent years. Our hearts go out to the families and loved ones of those killed and injured, and we join those across the country grieving this loss of life.

At the Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District, our utmost priority is to offer a safe learning and work environment where all students and employees feel welcome and included.

As a mark of respect for the victims of the tragedy in Monterey Park, flags are being lowered to half-staff until sunset on Thursday, January 26. This follows a [White House proclamation](#) yesterday.

As we grapple with this latest mass shooting, we wanted to remind you of resources available to students and employees.

Resources Available for Students

Grossmont College

- Free mental health appointments are available at the Grossmont College Health and Wellness Center. Please call 619-644-7192 to schedule an appointment or visit the [Health and Wellness Center webpage](#).

Cuyamaca College

- Personal counseling is available at the Cuyamaca College Health and Wellness Center. Please call 619-660-4200, email cuyamaca.pc@gcccd.edu or visit in person on the first floor of the Student Center. More information is also available through the Health and Wellness Center's [Personal Counseling webpage](#).

Resources Available for Employees

- The [mental health and support page](#) on the District's website contains a variety of information and resources available to employees.

Please take care of yourselves, your families and each other.

Sincerely,

Lynn Ceresino Neault, Ed.D., Chancellor, Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District

Jessica Robinson, Ed.D., Interim President, Cuyamaca College

Denise Whisenhunt, J.D., President, Grossmont College