

HORIZON

OUR DISTRICT. OUR FUTURE.

A quarterly newsletter from the office of Chancellor Kathleen F. Burke, Ed.D.

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SOCCCD Fights Against Breast Cancer with a Knockout Event

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month and like many organizations and businesses, District Services staff promoted in pink with an event to fight breast cancer. With themed pink boxing gloves, a sparring robe, and props galore – staff gathered together to display how they would knock-out cancer.

Staff demonstrated their support by therapeutically honoring those who lost the fight or are still battling against the deadly disease with wall memorandums. Other acts of support included taking photos, eating pink treats, and picking up pamphlets created by Susan G. Komen Orange County about mammograms,

healthy living, and male breast cancer.

Aside from the light hearted nature of the event, the most important aspect was to promote breast cancer awareness and educate employees about the disease that has touched many lives.

While survival can be as high as between 88 and 93 percent when breast cancer is detected early and treated, breast cancer accounts for roughly a quarter of all cancer occurrences in women in the United States.

On the biological level, cancerous cells are formed when cells, which normally grow and divide in an orderly fashion,

begin to grow out of control. These cells may form a tumor and tumors may be benign (and do not spread to other cells or tissues) or malignant (cells that spread to other tissues). When a malignant tumor forms in the breast tissue, it is considered breast cancer.

Treatment options range from surgery to remove the affected tissue, radiation, chemotherapy, hormone therapy and other therapies, depending on the type of cancer and how much it has spread.

- If you are a woman age 40 to 49, ask your doctor about when to start mammograms and how often to get them.
- If you are a woman age 50 to 74, be sure to get a mammogram every two years. You may also choose to get them more often.

Let's continue to fight cancer together.
[Information/resources at Komen.org](https://www.komen.org/information/resources)



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Prioritizing Partnerships in Tustin

As a faculty member, dean, and administrator for 30 plus years in the community college system, I can attest to the value of partnerships in the community. I am a firm believer that schools and the community are one unit, essential to ensuring our future workforce is prepared to be the innovative and entrepreneurial leaders we need. Community collaboration complements and reinforces values, culture, and the learning opportunities that we can provide students. In other words, all of us — faculty, staff, parents, business, nonprofit, service clubs and the like — working together, truly make a difference in the lives of our students.

Over the last several months, I had an opportunity to meet some of our strongest supporters in the Tustin community by attending the State of the Schools Breakfast hosted by the Tustin Public Schools Foundation and Tustin's State of the City Address hosted by the Tustin Chamber of Commerce.

The State of the Schools breakfast featured remarks by Superintendent Dr. Gregory Franklin, who shared an overview of the Tustin K-12 district's success through innovative practices, bold dreams for students to achieve beyond the classroom, and plans for the future with new programs and new buildings.

The State of the City Address, featuring Mayor Chuck



From left to right: Tustin Mayor Chuck Puckett, Trustee Tim Jemal, Chancellor Kathleen Burke, former Mayor of Lake Forest Scott Voigts.

Puckett did not disappoint, as the audience was entertained with a thematic video featuring game show antics. The city council and mayor reenacted a 1970's style game show and challenged the audience with their knowledge about Tustin. Included was information about the development and progress on our ATEP campus. The existing Irvine Valley College IDEA Building, focused on innovation, design, engineering, and automation, is the start to an epicenter of advancement in an area of modernization. The State of the City also

featured the opportunities to lease available space on the ATEP site and provided an update about Saddleback College as they move forward with plans to develop space to further cultivate programs for mechatronics, logistics, hospitality, autonomous vehicle repair, and data analytics.

We will continue to work with the business and education communities to further our success in serving students and Orange County's next generation of leaders.



SOCCCD Boosts Local Economy

An investment in community colleges is an investment in the local economy.

It's no secret that universities and colleges are major factors in the economic development of cities and metro areas. Stanford is often credited as the innovative spur to the Silicon Valley, while MIT is seen as a catalyst for startups and high-technology in and around Greater Boston. Orange County is no different, in that the higher education community contributes greatly to the local economy.

Orange County is home to the University of California, Irvine, California State University, Fullerton, a number of private universities, and nine community colleges. The South Orange County Community College District (SOCCCD) has two of the nine community colleges that serve 26 communities throughout the southern Orange County area.

Irvine Valley College and Saddleback College collectively serve 42,000 students with rigorous academic classes to prepare them for transfer to four-year colleges and universities, basic skills attainment, or career technical training.

With a vision to be an educational leader in a changing world, SOCCCD remains committed to offering dynamic courses for students that meet the demands of a growing and diverse workforce. SOCCCD also strives to lead as an economic engine for the county's boosting economy.

In partnership with the Los Angeles

Orange County Regional Consortium (LAOCRC), SOCCCD conducted an economic impact study to evaluate the value of Irvine Valley College and Saddleback College to the local economy.

The study administered by Emsi takes a detailed, data driven look at the impact that graduates from Irvine Valley College and Saddleback College have on the local Orange County economy. The study also breaks down the rates of return on investment in the South Orange County Community College District for not only students, but for taxpayers, and the overall business community.



BENEFITS TO STUDENTS

Results of the analysis show that Irvine Valley College and

Saddleback College students earn \$1 billion in increased earnings over their working lives based on the money invested into their community college education.



BENEFITS TO THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY

While the local business community sees

\$1.3 billion in income to the Orange County economy. Based on the Emsi report, SOCCCD's impact supports 18,341 jobs. For perspective, this

means that one out of every 124 jobs in Orange County is supported by the activities of SOCCCD and their students.



BENEFITS TO TAXPAYERS

Taxpayers make an investment in community colleges and

SOCCCD is thankful for the ongoing support. As an investor, taxpayers see a healthy return as well. In 2016-2017, taxpayers paid \$224.8 million to support the operations of SOCCCD and saw a return of \$531.9 million of added tax revenue to the county for other community services. In addition, the educated workforce contributed to \$42.9 million in savings to the public sector, due to a reduced demand for government-funded services in California.

Overall, the study helps confirm that SOCCCD, Irvine Valley College, and Saddleback College touch every aspect of life in Orange County by enriching lives and driving the economy forward. Irvine Valley College and Saddleback College impact the local economy through economic contributions, enhanced quality of life, and long-term social benefits.

An investment in education is an investment in the economy, with a positive impact to the community.

Economic Impact on Orange County

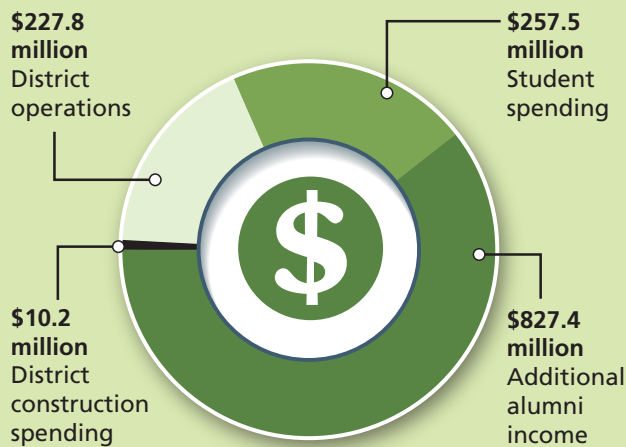
By increasing incomes, creating jobs, and reducing costs to society, our colleges have an impact on the quality of life in the county.



INCOMES INCREASED

\$1.3 billion

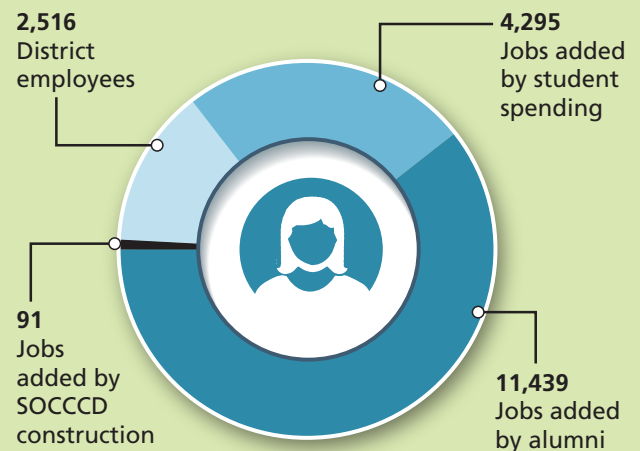
Total annual income added to O.C. economy



JOBS CREATED

18,341

SOCCCD supported jobs in the county



RETURN ON INVESTMENT

10.2%

Average annual return for students.

8.1%

Average annual return on investment for taxpayers.

For every \$1 spent on college by:

Students

They gained
\$2.60
in added
lifetime earnings



Taxpayers

They gained
\$2.60
in added taxes
and public sector savings



Society

It gained
\$11.40
in added state
revenue and social savings



Note: All figures are approximate for fiscal year 2016-2017

Source: Emsi (www.economicmodeling.com)

A Pathway Toward Addressing Nonacademic Barriers for Students

Community colleges have long been a destination for students to seek what they may not find in four-year institutions – smaller class sizes, greater access to faculty and counselors, and close proximity to family and friends. Many students seek a nurturing environment to begin college and those same community college students may need more than academic support.

While many community college students encounter significant academic barriers in completing a degree, they also face nonacademic barriers that are often equally significant. Some of these barriers – financial struggles, housing and food insecurities, transportation difficulties, and insufficient childcare – are more common as cost of living increases in a growing metropolis like Orange County.

Learning about how to best address the basic needs of students has grown as a priority amongst leaders at the District, Saddleback College, and Irvine Valley College. Both colleges have already implemented programming that serves the students with the greatest basic needs insecurities.

To address food insecurity, Saddleback College offers free groceries (fresh produce and canned goods) on the first and third Wednesday of each month through a partnership with Helping Hand Worldwide. In addition, Saddleback College has a food pantry accessible to all students, no questions asked, to support them with sustenance throughout the day.

Irvine Valley College's Food Resource Center opened in 2017 and has served over 500 bags of food. In partnership with the Orange County Rescue Mission, 400 Starbucks protein packs and sandwiches are delivered to the college



Resource centers at both colleges offer food, clothing and other essentials to students, no questions asked, throughout the day.

for students every Monday.

Both colleges have staff that can help students navigate through resources on campus to address immediate needs, but also serve as liaisons to direct students to support services throughout the county to connect students to housing, health-care, clothing and more.

In a report released by California Community Colleges in March 2019, a survey demonstrated that more than half of the students attending a California community college have trouble affording balanced meals or worry about running out of food. Also, nearly one in five community college students in California do not have a stable place to live.

For Saddleback College and Irvine Valley College leaders, the survey results were not jarring. Jeannie Harris Caldwell of

Saddleback College and Nancy Montgomery of Irvine Valley College know all too well the needs that our students face, and the numbers continue to grow.

Staff and faculty continue to identify practical solutions to nonacademic barriers for students with the development of programs that address food, housing, and health-care insecurities.

The Board of Trustees recently toured one of the resource centers at Saddleback College to learn about the extent of services that our students need. As a priority, the Board of Trustees will continue to support effective strategies through education, innovation, and collective actions to ensure that Saddleback College and Irvine Valley College are institutions where students can afford and complete their studies.

400

Starbucks protein packs and sandwiches are delivered to IVC for students every Monday.

Nominees for Orange County Teachers of the Year

The Orange County Teachers of the Year program provides recognition for outstanding teachers in Orange County. Each community college may nominate one teacher per accredited college. Candidates are honored at an annual recognition banquet hosted by the Orange County Department of Education and Schools First Credit Union at the Disneyland Hotel in Anaheim.

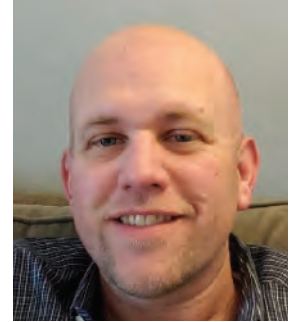
On Friday, November 1, Saddleback College President Dr. Elliot Stern and Irvine Valley College Acting President Dr. Cindy Vyskocil attended the Orange County Teachers of the Year ceremony to celebrate our faculty of the year nominees. **Mike Hoggatt**

from Saddleback College and **Ben Mis** from Irvine Valley College were in the running amongst Orange County's leading educators. On behalf of the South Orange County Community College District, we congratulate both faculty members for the recognition and thank them for all they do for students.

Hundreds of teachers across the county were nominated, six were named Orange County Teachers of the Year. Ultimately, Mandy Kelly, a sixth grade teacher from Trabuco



Ben Mis
Irvine Valley College



Mike Hoggatt
Saddleback College

Mesa Elementary School in the Saddleback Valley Unified School District was also named by the California Department of Education as one of the five 2020 California Teachers of the Year.

TRENDS OF EXCELLENCE

Turning Red Tape into Red Carpet

The Orange County Business Council hosted their annual "Turning Red Tape Into Red Carpet" awards ceremony on November 20, where they recognized public organizations for programs that cut through the red tape and open the door for business growth and success.

Since its inception, this award ceremony serves as an avenue to acknowledge the good work local government can do to shape the future of Orange County. The award categories showcase what local public entities are doing to implement innovative policies and programs that cut through bureaucracy, eliminate barriers to economic growths, and open doors to jobs creation.

Within the South Orange County

Community College District, we are fortunate to have a board committed to efficiency and effectiveness. Through policy development, thoughtful oversight, and a commitment to good stewardship, our Trustees help encourage programs that advance economic development in the community.

Both Irvine Valley College and Saddleback College entered nominations for award considerations. Irvine Valley College's "**Battery Storage Energy Management System**" was nominated in the Sustainable and Green Development category and Saddle-



back College submitted a nomination for their "**Customized Training Program**" that enhances economic and workforce development regionally, while fostering partnerships with the business community.

Both programs were featured in print and online materials produced by the Orange County Business Council.