



# SOCCCD

South Orange County Community College District

## 2023 ANNUAL REPORT





# Thank You for Your Support!

**T**he district values its connections with the community and our partners that help make our educational goals a reality. The district extends its appreciation for our sponsors below:

.....  
Title Sponsor

*Keenan<sup>®</sup>*

.....  
Official Sponsor

**MCDUGAL BOEHMER FOLEY  
LYON MITCHELL & ERICKSON**

.....  
Supporting Sponsor

**Gensler**

.....

# Chancellor Julianna M. Asperin Barnes, Ed.D.

**A**s we reflect on the achievements and milestones of the past year, it is with great pride and gratitude that I present the South Orange County Community College District's 2023 Annual Report. This year has been marked by resilience, innovation, and a collective commitment to excellence.

In the face of challenges and opportunities, our district has demonstrated remarkable adaptability. Although COVID-19 continues to have an impact on daily operations, **we found safe ways to come together in person, be productive in hybrid and online settings, and offer flexibility** to students, faculty and staff that help in achieving their goals.

One of the many **highlights of the year were the number of groundbreakings and ribbon cuttings** that occurred in our district. New classrooms, workspaces, technical training grounds and

green open space to provoke thought, teaching, and collaboration. Every new space on the campuses across the district will support our students with cutting-edge knowledge and skills.

**Community engagement remained a cornerstone of our mission**, and this year, we amplified our outreach efforts. Collaborative projects with local schools, businesses, and non-profit organizations showcased the positive impact SOCCCD has on the broader community. We made an effort to bring elected and business leaders to the campuses to see life transformation through education. We also supported community organizations by attending their events and serving on boards.

**Inclusivity and diversity were at the forefront of our efforts** in 2023. We launched initiatives to foster a more inclusive campus environment with Caring Campus programs, celebrating the rich tapestry of backgrounds and experiences that our students bring to the table. Our commitment to equity was further demonstrated through increased support for underrepresented groups, scholarships, and outreach programs aimed at creating a level playing field for all.

The **dedication of our faculty and staff** was acknowledged through various awards and recognitions in 2023. Their unwavering commitment to student success, innovative teaching methods, and contributions to academic research have elevated our reputation both locally and nationally.

Looking ahead, we remain steadfast in our commitment to supporting Saddleback College and Irvine Valley College in providing a high-quality education that empowers our students to achieve their goals. As we embark on a new year, we are excited about the possibilities and challenges that lie ahead. Together, we will continue to build a brighter future for the district. Thank you for your support.

*Sincerely,  
Julianna M. Asperin Barnes*







# What's Inside

- 2 Message from the Chancellor
- 4 Message from the Board of Trustees
- 5 Department Profile: Business Services
- 6 Department Profile: Human Resources
- 7 Department Profile: Educational & Technology Services
- 8 Campus Profile: ATEP
- 9 Campus Profile: Saddleback College
- 10 Campus Profile: Irvine Valley College
- 11 Building Caring Campuses
- 13 Staff Highlights
- 15 District Leadership
- 17 Facilities Planning Projects
- 19 District Data Visualization
- 21 Employee Recognition
- 22 College Foundations





# Board of Trustees

## Message from Board President Timothy Jemal

**A**s I reflect on the accomplishments of the past year, it is evident that the South Orange County Community College District continues to thrive as a hub of academic excellence and community impact. Our District's unwavering commitment to higher education, coupled with visionary leadership, ensured that Irvine Valley College and Saddleback College continue to be two of the best colleges in the state and nation.

I am very grateful for the outstanding work of our faculty, staff and administrators – they help make our students shining stars in Orange County and prepared to lead with impact in their communities and beyond.

I thank the Board of Trustees for the vital role they played in the achievements and successes of our institutions. The dedication, expertise, and leadership of each Trustee has been instrumental in shaping the success and growth of our district. Through advocacy, fiscal stewardship, sound policy guidance, and unwavering support of college initiatives and activities, the Board of Trustees consistently demonstrated their strategic vision and commitment to the district's goals – and acted as a guiding force in the district's pursuit of academic excellence. 2023 was a year of terrific progress and we look forward to what can be achieved in 2024.

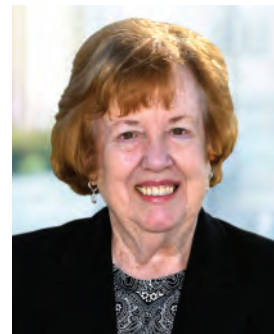
– Timothy Jemal, President, Board of Trustees



**Timothy Jemal**  
President



**Terri Rydell, EdD**  
Vice President



**Carolyn Inmon**  
Clerk



**Ryan Dack**  
Trustee



**Dr. Barbara J. Jay**  
Trustee



**Marcia Milchiker**  
Trustee



**T.J. Prendergast III**  
Trustee

## Business Services

**B**usiness Services is responsible for Facilities Planning, Fiscal Services (including Payroll/Benefits and Accounting), Internal Audit, Risk Management, Procurement, and the Central Warehouse. This year our division was heavily involved in the design and preparation for Banner, our new enterprise resource planning (ERP) system. A major accomplishment for the Facilities Planning department was putting the finishing touches on two major college construction projects – Gateway at Saddleback College and the Fine Arts Village at Irvine Valley College. Some fiscal highlights in 2022-23 include:

- Total POs & Contracts Issued: **5,971**
- Value: **\$187.6 million**
- Total RFQ&Ps & Bids Issued or Awarded: **44**
- Value: **\$152.8 million**
- Total Financial Aid Paid to Students: **\$32.2 million**



**“Business Services supports the colleges in enabling our students to reach their educational goals. We pride ourselves in being good stewards of taxpayer dollars and are delighted that external auditors found our financial statements needed no audit adjustments. We are thankful for having such a dedicated team and look forward to another successful year.”**

**Ann-Marie Gabel**  
Vice Chancellor  
Business Services





# Human Resources

**H**uman Resources provides services and support in hiring, employee relations, compensation, and staff development which enables our employees to contribute to student success. Key 2023 achievements include:

- In May, SOCCCD received a \$300,000 Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Innovative Best Practices Grant to bolster the Building Leadership Opportunities through Outstanding Mentorship (BLOOM) program. The district will increase cohort sizes, enhance stipends, and fortify efforts in recruitment. These initiatives aim to ultimately create a more diverse faculty on our campuses.
- In May, 27 employees completed the first Excellence in Communication and Educational Leadership (EXCEL) Academy. The success of the first cohort generated a tremendous amount of interest for the 2024 academy, with the district receiving 88 applications, with 35 participants selected from classified, faculty, and management employees.
- Completed the project of fully cross-training HR staff for optimum efficiency.
- Participated in local job fairs to increase recruitment efforts.
- Filled HR Compliance and Title IX Analyst position to keep in compliance with regulations and accreditation standards.



**“Reflecting on 2023 fills me with pride and optimism. From securing grants, to expanding programs, to completion of cross-training initiatives, our commitment to excellence has been unwavering. Together, we’ve not only navigated change, but embraced it, shaping a workforce that mirrors our values of innovation, diversity, and efficiency.”**

**Dr. Cindy Vyskocil**  
Vice Chancellor  
Human Resources





# Educational & Technology Services

**E**ducational & Technology Services leads and/or assists with the coordination and review of educational programs and technology services offered in the district. A few of our accomplishments in 2023 include:

- Banner Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) business process analysis, system configuration, data load, and backend system testing sessions.
- Formation of the Public Safety Advisory Committee and development of the Public Safety Compact.
- Partner with the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office for Full Time Equivalent Students simulations based on proposed changes to the Student Attendance Accounting Manual and provided detailed information to the Common ERP Project Team.
- Efforts to streamline existing cybersecurity software and consolidate applications under the Microsoft A5 Premium license.
- Progress on the 508 Compliance assessment recommendations.
- Development of tabletop exercises to support business continuity.
- Completion of the district firewall refresh.



**“Educational and Technology Services made significant strides with the most impactful district-wide technology project of this decade, implementing Banner. Decisions made collaboratively with functional leaders regarding the implementation timeline and selection of third-party vendors will shape a unique end-user experience for years to come.”**

**Dr. Chris McDonald**  
Vice Chancellor  
Educational &  
Technology Services







## Advanced Technology & Education Park

**A**TEP is a 61.4 acre developing campus in Tustin that is dedicated to workforce training. In addition to both colleges having instructional buildings at ATEP, the district also leases parcels to educational and commercial companies who then provide internships and work programs to students.

### ATEP Projects in 2023

#### Goddard School

In 2023, building started on the 14,400 square foot educational preschool on a 1.44 acre parcel. Opening in early 2024, it will offer childcare and educational services, with outdoor play areas.

#### Advantech Headquarters

Advantech is building a six-story office tower and a two-story warehouse for its North America headquarters at ATEP. During 2023, the project underwent design and permit approval, with construction starting in 2024.

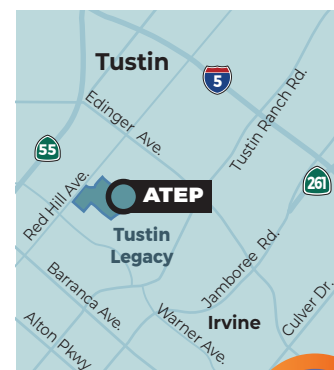


#### Saddleback Advanced Transportation

The 30,000 square foot facility will include four classrooms and an automotive shop with 14 lifts and a high-tech lab.

#### Saddleback Culinary Arts

The 20,000 square foot space will house four commercial kitchens, a restaurant, and a student-run coffee bar with pastries.





# Saddleback College Bobcats

## Saddleback College

**S**addleback College has been serving students for 55 years, with more than 500,000 alumni who can attest to the quality of its academic and career programs. These rich traditions make Saddleback College an ideal place for students seeking associate degrees, certificates, university transfers, workforce training, or simply pursuing lifelong learning.

Saddleback College is fully accredited, offering more than 300 associate degrees, certificates, and occupational skills awards in 190 program areas. Additional programs include study abroad, cooperative work experience, online learning, and honors programs.

Saddleback offers non-academic resources as well – such as a medical center, CARE Corner, financial assistance, and support for student needs outside the classroom. The college also invites students to enjoy the full campus experiences by joining clubs, attending cultural events, cheering on athletic teams, or seeing a performance at the McKinney Theatre.



Founded  
**1968**

Size  
**200 Acres**

2023-24 Students  
**30,898**

City  
**Mission Viejo**

**Dr. Elliot Stern**  
President





# Irvine Valley College Lasers

## Irvine Valley College

Irvine Valley College is a vibrant and inclusive institution, offering diverse pathways for transfer, certificates, associate degrees, and employment. With over 170 degrees and certificates, IVC stands out with the #1 transfer rate in California and leads in transfers to the UC system from O.C. students.

IVC offers a small-college atmosphere with state-of-the-art facilities and equipment. Its dedicated faculty and staff bring a wealth of knowledge and experience, coupled with a genuine commitment to learning. Among IVC's faculty are authors, Fulbright scholars, scientists, accomplished musicians, and entrepreneurs, all of whom prioritize student engagement. IVC is committed to creating a welcoming atmosphere for every student, organizing numerous campus events throughout the year to promote cultural interactions, and building a sense of community. IVC competes in 10 varsity sports and offers engaging opportunities in the arts, across multiple disciplines, including theater, music, and dance.



Founded  
**1985**

Size  
**100 Acres**

2023-24 Students  
**18,145**

City  
**Irvine**

**Dr. John C. Hernandez**  
President



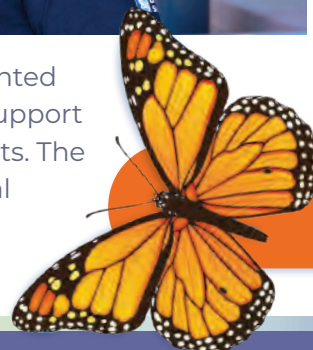
# Student Support



**FIRST-GEN STUDENTS** An important mission for the district is to welcome students who are the first in their families to attend college. The colleges offer support in the form of financial aid, tutoring, and success coaching to help students who are new to a campus reach their educational goals.



**DREAMERS** The colleges participated in Undocumented Student Action Week in October, when state-wide support for DACA students was expressed with campus events. The Dream Scholars Program provides legal and financial support and a safe and welcoming space for all undocumented students and their families.



Recognizing our various heritages, often through month-long celebrations, such as Black History, Women's History, Latinx, or Philippine Independence Day (above), gave us an appreciation for the rich diversity in our community.



Pride Month in June is a way for our campuses to celebrate and embrace our LGBTQIA students and share that the colleges are safe spaces for our diverse community.



Theater, music, and dance performances were on full display at both colleges, bringing the joy of live theater to the community.





**VETERANS SUPPORT** Veteran centers at both colleges offer a wide array of support for student veterans, including counseling, tutoring, help for disabilities, emergency grants, and GI Bill guidance.

#### GRADUATION HIGHLIGHTS

From 11 years old to 80, district graduates were awarded more than 9,000 degrees and more than 7,000 certificates in 2023. Graduating students took the next step on their educational journey by being awarded workforce certificates, associate degrees, or the more than 5,000 students who earned a transfer to universities across the nation.



## Celebrating Student Success





# Staff Highlights

**INVESTITURE CEREMONY** For the first time, on April 27, 2023, SOCCCD held an investiture ceremony for a new chancellor. The ceremony brought together the county's community and educational leaders to welcome and honor Chancellor Barnes. At the event, the chancellor shared her "First 100 Days and Beyond: Listening Tour Report" which highlighted her observations on the district's strengths and the challenges moving forward.



Through consistent employee efforts, both colleges were awarded the prestigious Aspen Prize "Top 150" – recognizing them as one of the best 150 colleges in the country for delivering equitable outcomes for Black and Hispanic students, and for improving retention and graduation rates.

## EXCEL ACADEMY 2023

In May 2023, the district celebrated the graduation of 27 employees who completed the first Excellence in Communication and Educational Leadership (EXCEL) Academy cohort. Drawing from classified, faculty, and management employees, the academy focuses on teaching management and work-related skills that fosters diversity and inclusion in all district functions.







**BLOOM FACULTY INTERSHIP PROGRAM** In 2023, SOCCCD received a \$300,000 EEO Innovative Best Practices Grant to bolster the Building Leadership Opportunities through Outstanding Mentorship (BLOOM) program. By connecting current faculty as mentors to prospective teachers, the BLOOM program provides hands-on training and helps the district create a more diverse faculty presence on campus.







# District Leadership



**LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY** One of the important functions of district leadership is advocating for public policies that benefit college students. A delegation from SOCCCD (above) visited Washington, D.C., in January 2023, to meet with several local congressional members in an effort to get key legislation passed. The district's 2023 legislative goals included: increasing resources for student veterans; helping students overcome non-academic barriers (such as housing, food and healthcare); and advocating for DACA students to pursue their education without fear of deportation.

**GROUNDBREAKINGS** There were several groundbreaking ceremonies in 2023, with district leadership supporting a robust program of improving facilities to provide students with the best possible learning environments. The board and chancellor officiated at the ceremonies at three groundbreaking ceremonies at ATEP (Saddleback@ATEP buildings, Goddard School, and Advantech). In December, the board and chancellor attended the groundbreaking for the award-winning Science Math building (below) at Saddleback College.





COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

In 2023, Chancellor Barnes was selected to serve on the Orange County Business Council’s Board of Directors (swearing in on the right). The OCBC provided the district with valuable input on workforce development. A recent study showed that SOCCCD contributed more than 20,000 jobs and billions of dollars in economic activity to the county.



ECONOMIC IMPACT OF SOCCCD ON ORANGE COUNTY

<b>INCOMES INCREASED</b> <b>\$1.9 billion</b> Total annual income added to O.C. economy due to SOCCCD	<b>RETURN ON INVESTMENT</b> <b>14.8%</b> Annual rate of return to students in increased lifetime earnings for college education investment.	<b>JOBS SUPPORTED</b> <b>20,466</b> Due to SOCCCD activities <small>Note: Data was from study for fiscal 2020-2021.</small>
---	---	--







# District Improvements

**D**istrict Services and the colleges work collaboratively to create welcoming, safe, and state-of the-art spaces for our dynamic courses, programs, and services. The Facilities Planning Department annually manages 15-20 district-wide projects in various stages. Facilities Planning is shaping the future of SOCCCD through the Facilities Master Plan, which guides all projects through 2040. The plan includes sustainable designs, while also addressing critical accessibility and infrastructure needs on each campus.

**SADDLEBACK COLLEGE'S GATEWAY BUILDING** This \$65 million project consists of a three-story building with a total of 77,985 gross square feet. It hosts nine student services departments, including counseling, admissions, veterans services, and financial aid. Gateway is intended as a welcome center for students entering the campus – a central place to get their questions answered and help in navigating the many aspects of attending college.



**INSIDE GATEWAY** With a digital queue, students can hang out in the lounge and not wait in a line. The interior is an open concept, with fewer walls and low-rise furniture that gives a feeling of welcoming accessibility – and it has great wi-fi!





OPEN  
JANUARY  
2024



**IRVINE VALLEY COLLEGE'S ARTS VILLAGE** The \$61 million project consists of three buildings with a total of 62,471 gross square feet. The village consolidates the Fine Arts department in one location, where instruction will include art, art history, music, and dance. The Arts Village includes classrooms, a gallery, assembly hall, labs, and offices.

## Progress Report

### Completed 2023

- SC – Gateway Building
- IVC – Arts Village
- SC – Landscape Improvements Phase 1
- IVC/SC – District-wide Standards

### Under Construction 2023

- SC @ ATEP – Culinary Arts/Advanced Transportation
- SC – Softball Field/Parking Lot 12 Expansion
- SC – Solar Canopies Phase 1
- SC – Math and Science Building

### Starting Construction 2024

- IVC – Electric Vehicle Charging Stations
- IVC – Warehouse Canopy
- IVC – Promenade/Coffee Structure
- SC – Quad Renovation

### Programming / Design 2023-2024

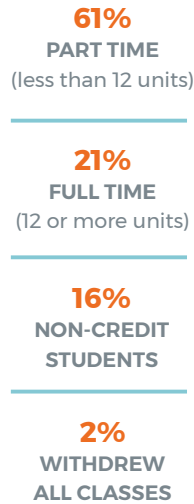
- SC – Horticulture
- SC – Central Plant Renovation
- SC – Baseball Field/Scoreboard Replacement
- SC – Solar Canopies Phase 2
- SC – Landscape Phase 2
- IVC – Solar Shade Structures / Electrical Upgrades



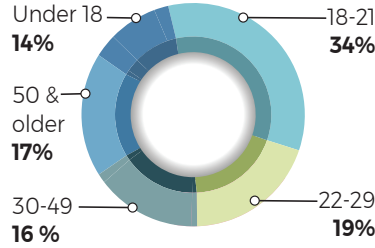
# Student Demographics

District-wide data is for 2022-2023 academic year.

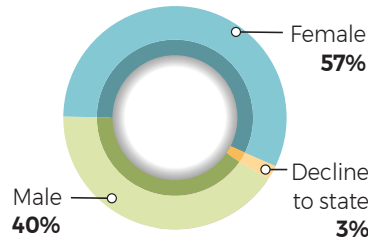
## Student Unit Load



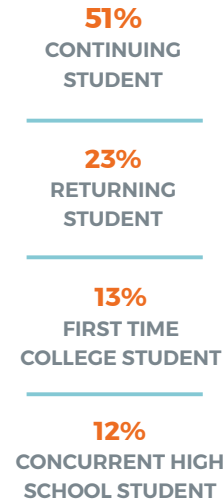
## Student Age



## Student Gender



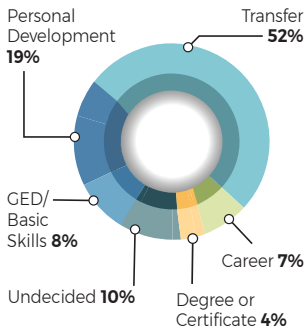
## Student Enrollment Status



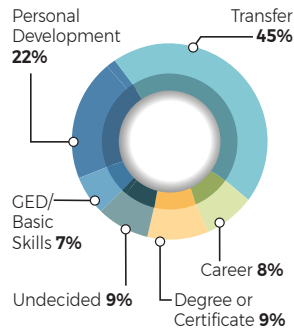
Note: "Other" is 1%.

## Educational Goals

### Irvine Valley College

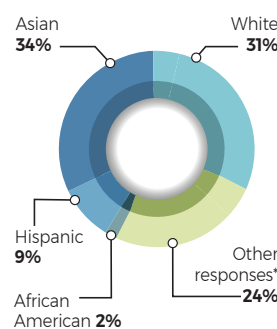


### Saddleback College

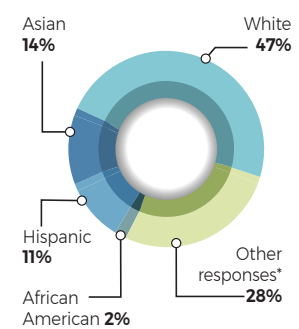


## Student Ethnicity

### Irvine Valley College



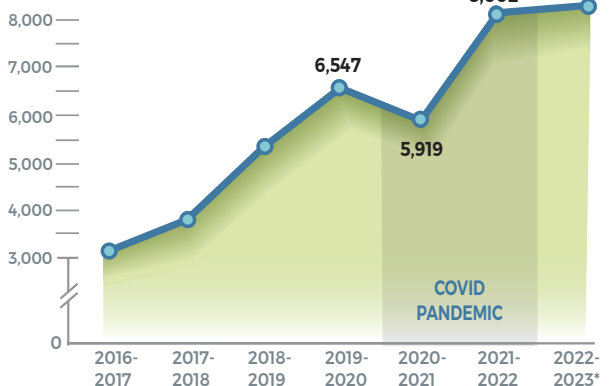
### Saddleback College



\*"Other" includes "Decline to state" or "Mixed race."

## Degrees Awarded

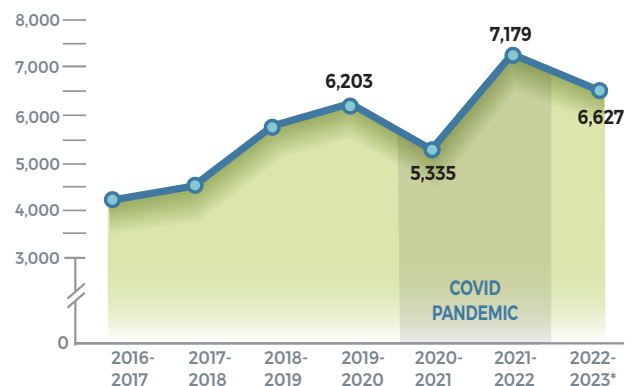
District-wide



\* This data is reported by fiscal year only.

## Certificates Awarded

District-wide



\* This data is reported by fiscal year only.



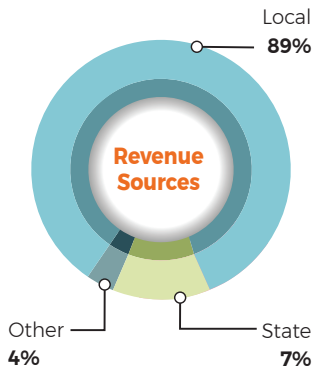
# District Profile

## Total District Budget

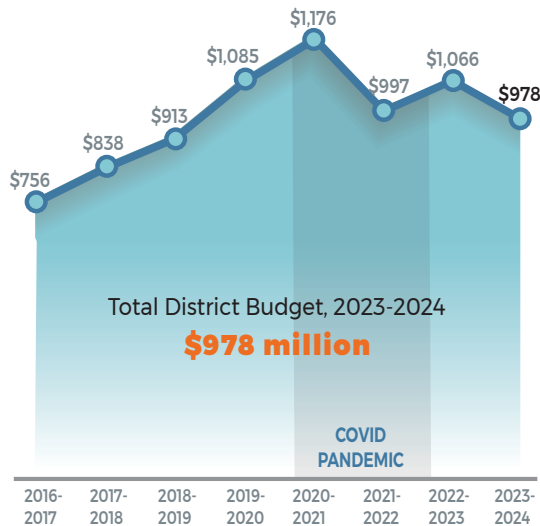
In millions of dollars

### District Operating Revenue, 2023-2024

**\$354 million**

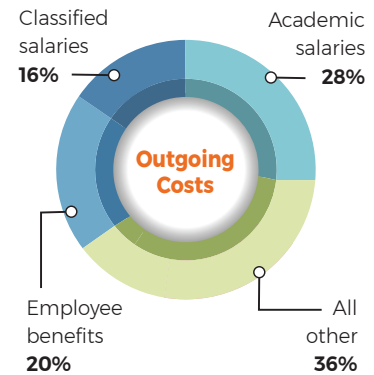


Note: This is for "unrestricted general funds."



### District Operating Expenditures, 2023-2024

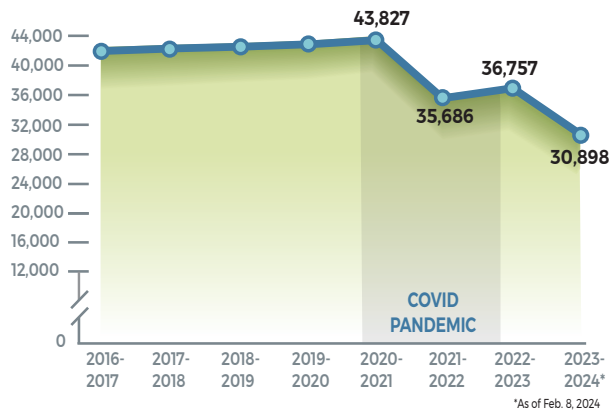
**\$373 million**



Note: Data is in fiscal years

## Student Headcount

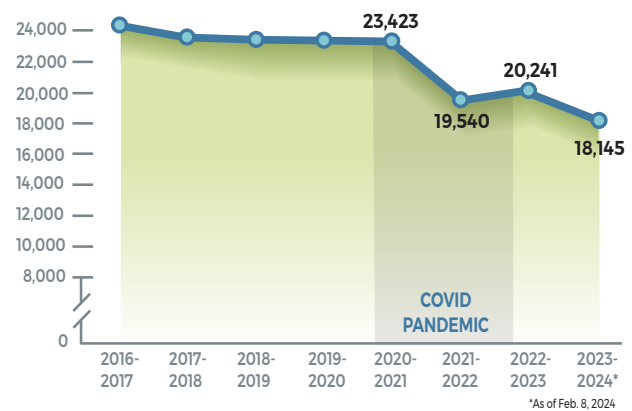
Saddleback College



\*As of Feb. 8, 2024

## Student Headcount

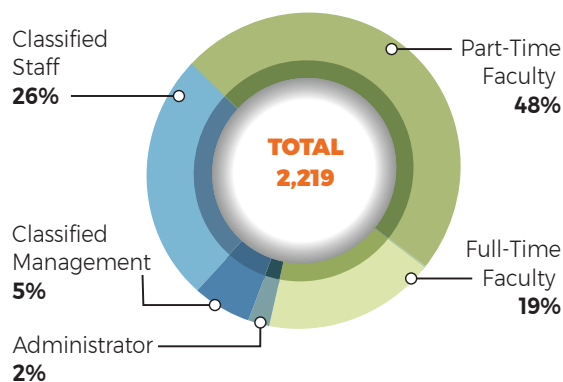
Irvine Valley College



\*As of Feb. 8, 2024

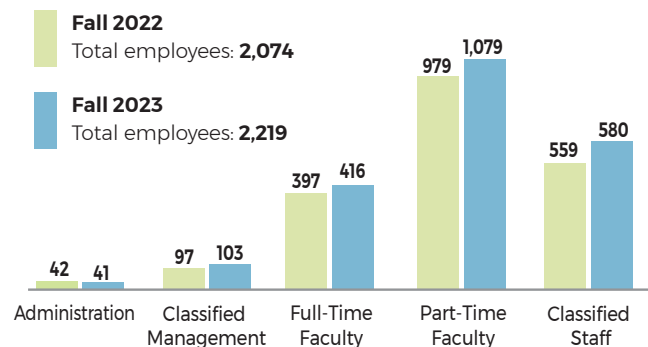
## Employee Category

District-wide, Fall 2023



## Employee Category Comparison

Fall 2022 vs. Fall 2023



Note: Includes part-time, but does not include short-term temporary (NBUs) or student workers.



# Employee Recognition

All of the district’s employees are valuable, but a few were recognized in 2023 as exhibiting the highest level of achievement in job performance. Here are the professors and employees of the year:

## Teachers of the Year

### Irvine Valley College



**Winnie Dinh**  
*Full-time Teacher of the Year*



**Dr. Hartrisha Dhindsa**  
*Part-time Teacher of the Year*



**Rosa Turi**  
*Emeritus Teacher of the Year*

### Saddleback College



**Dr. Ryan McKeachie**  
*Full-Time Teacher of the Year*



**Merry Mariano**  
*Part-Time Teacher of the Year*



**Jane Kim**  
*Emeritus Teacher of the Year*

## Employees of the Year

### Managers



**Danielle Heinbuch**  
District Services



**Scott Farthing**  
Saddleback College



**Frank Rivera**  
Irvine Valley College

### Classified Employee



**Billy Ly**  
District Services



**Sandra Kudza**  
Saddleback College



**Stefanie Alvarez**  
Irvine Valley College



# Supporting Our Foundations

**B**oth colleges have robust foundations that are dedicated to providing financial assistance to students and improving their experiences. The district community and its leaders lend their support to the foundations during the year by participating in events, including the gala fundraising dinners.



Thank you to Trustee  
Barbara J. Jay, DDS, board  
liaison to the Irvine Valley  
College Foundation.

**Irvine Valley  
College  
Foundation**  
Annual Gala  
**Friday,  
March 8, 2024**

For Info  
**949-451-5290**



Thank you to Trustee  
Terri Rydell, EdD, board  
liaison to the Saddleback  
College Foundation.

**Saddleback  
College  
Foundation**  
Annual Gala  
**Friday,  
October 25, 2024**

For Info  
**949-582-4479**



# **SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY**

## **COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT**

[www.socccd.edu](http://www.socccd.edu)

949.582.4850

28000 Marguerite Parkway  
Mission Viejo, CA 92692

### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Timothy Jemal, President  
Terri Rydell, Ed.D., Vice President  
Carolyn Inmon, Clerk  
Ryan Dack, Member  
Barbara J. Jay, DDS, Member  
Marcia Milchiker, Member  
T.J. Prendergast III, Member

Katelyn Hidde, Student Member

### **CHANCELLOR**

Julianna M. Asperin Barnes, Ed.D.

It is the policy of the SOCCCD to fully comply with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Consistent with that policy, this material is available in alternative formats. Such materials and other disability accommodations will be provided as needed upon request. For needed accommodations or alternate formats, please contact: **Cindy Barron, [cbarron@socccd.edu](mailto:cbarron@socccd.edu)**