District Position on COLA

Our usual practice is to provide updates on negotiations as required and permitted in the closed session of the Board of Trustee meetings. However, because of some recent publications, I want to be sure that the District's position is clearly stated.

In the recent "Table Talk, Special Edition COLA Update" distributed on May 29, 2014, there are some statements that may not reflect the entirety of the District's position. While I will not attempt nor is this intended to respond to each point, it is important that the each position be clearly stated and contextualized appropriately.

1. Based on a year-end fiscal review, the District has offered all employees, (including CFCE, ACE and CDMA) a 1.57% salary increase for 2013-14, which is equal to the state budget allotment for the Cost of Living Adjustment (“COLA”). The District’s offer is not a one-time increase. The increase offered to all units is a permanent 1.57% on-schedule salary increase that is retroactive to July 1, 2013. That offer has been tentatively agreed to by the Meet & Confer unit of CDMA (as stated in last week's News Briefs).

The District has further made clear with CFCE its willingness to negotiate salaries and benefits during each subsequent year covered by the collective bargaining agreement. However, the District is concerned about language guaranteeing an automatic COLA for future years. Because of the complexities of the state budget process, a statutorily-determined COLA may or may not be funded. The purpose of the COLA is to mitigate the effects of inflation across the spectrum of the District's spending plan and one of the few ways the District has to buffer the effects of increases in the costs of fringe benefits and other annual expenses related to employment. In order to effectively plan and manage the budget, the District intends to eliminate the automatic entitlement "COLA" from a contract and negotiate salary and benefit compensation with each bargaining unit on a year-by-year basis based upon the economic circumstances that exist at that time.
2. The District has never been served with a lawsuit by CFCE with regard to COLA. It is our position that a lawsuit seeking COLA retroactive to July 1, 2013 will result in nothing more than what has already been offered by the District.

3. Measure M funding by law is only available for projects identified in our master plan and on the official ballot language approved by the voters. Measure M funds are not to be used for general fund expenditures.

4. Proposition 30, as passed by the voters, required the creation of an Education Protection Account (EPA) and included an increase in the sales tax that will sunset in 2016 and an increase in the income tax which will sunset in 2019. The passage of this measure allowed the community college system and the Coast district to avoid deep budget reductions. Further, funds under the Proposition 30 EPA are required to be used for instructional purposes and must be earned through additional FTES growth.

**District Student Council Presents Resolution to the City of Huntington Beach**

Student Trustee Tanner Kelly and members of the District Student Council (DSC) invite you to join them at Monday's Huntington Beach City Council Meeting. The DSC will present a resolution asking the City to preserve the Bolsa Chica Wetlands. DSC has focused on environmental and sustainability issues and spent a day cleaning the Bolsa Chica Wetlands. Their work has been documented and featured in articles in the Daily Pilot and the Orange County Register, winning DSC member and OCC student Rachel Gajardo and $1000 scholarship for her writing. I would like to thank the Student Trustee Kelly and the DSC for their efforts and encourage you to attend the Huntington Beach City Council meeting on Monday, June 2 at 6:00pm to support their efforts. A copy of the DSC resolution is attached.

**Workforce Development**

As I was preparing this week's message, it became clear that workforce development is an important focus at many levels. This week, I attended the EDPAC meeting in Sacramento. Discussions centered on strategies to preserve high-cost career and technical education programs and policies. The idea of regionalism garnered much attention as a possible method of managing the costs related to highly technical programs. I was especially proud that Golden West College part-time faculty member, Renah Wolzinger was on hand to present plans for the rollout of the statewide Launchboard program. As you know, Renah is on loan to the State Chancellor's Office assisting with the EDPAC and other workforce development programs. After the EDPAC meeting, I met with State Chancellor Brice Harris to discuss the potential for funding mandates in adult education and workforce development.

As workforce development discussions continue at the state and national levels, I am proud that we are hosting and planning the upcoming Coast Launchpad Conference on June 20. "Mind the Gap" is the theme for this year's event and will bring together educators, CEOs, and foundations to discuss the impact of the skills gap for students and businesses in Orange County. Data specific to Orange County will be presented and is intended to spark conversations on the opportunities for both community colleges and businesses to create a new model and close the gap between graduation and employment. I hope you will join us and participate in this important and exciting event.

The "Doing What Matters" campaign and Los Angeles/Orange County Regional Consortia (LAOCRC), as well as the Coast Launchpad Conference, were again the focus of the OC Chancellors' meeting. LAOCRC Regional Chair Steve Glyer provided information on the regional approach to workforce development and
we discussed how Orange County community colleges can provide training and services to ensure that our local community members have the skills necessary to fill jobs. To read more about the LAOCRC and the EDPAC, please click [HERE](#).

Sincerely,

[Signature]
COAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT STUDENT COUNCIL

RESOLUTION 14-01

In Opposition to Proposed Development of the Ridge Property at the Bolsa Chica Wetlands

WHEREAS, the Bolsa Chica Wetlands provide vital nesting and breeding grounds for birds, breeding and spawning habitats for fish, and a safe haven for many endangered and rare species; and

WHEREAS, the Bolsa Chica Wetlands protect inland areas from flooding and help to clean and filter water; and

WHEREAS, the Ridge and Goodell properties of the Bolsa Chica Wetlands house the last remnants of a nine-thousand-year-old American Indian village and cemetery; and

WHEREAS, the Ridge property of the Bolsa Chica Wetlands has had an Open Space - Park designation prohibiting development of the property for over 30 years, and development of this site would negatively impact the directly adjacent sensitive wildlife habitat of the wetlands.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Coast Community College District Student Council supports the Bolsa Chica Land Trust and opposes the development of the Ridge property at the Bolsa Chica Wetlands.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Coast Community College District Student Council on this day, the sixteenth day of May in the year two thousand and fourteen, urges the Huntington Beach City Council to do everything in its power to acquire the Ridge and Goodell properties at the Bolsa Chica Wetlands, including identifying funding.

Tanner Kelly
Chair

Mitchell Jimenez
Vice Chair

Rachel Gajardo
Public Relations Officer

Kevin Pham
Secretary