

**Resolution of the Governing Board of the
Santa Barbara Community College District**

**IN SUPPORT OF DECLARING
APRIL CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE MONTH**

WHEREAS, the California Community Colleges, the largest system of higher education in the country serving more than 2.1 million students, is an essential resource for the State of California, its people and its economy; and

WHEREAS, The Santa Barbara Community College District provides educational opportunities for students who wish to transfer to a four-year university; and

WHEREAS, The Santa Barbara Community College District offers career education programs for students to be competitive in today's demanding workforce, providing them with the skills and knowledge needed to obtain higher wage jobs and supplying the state's fastest-growing industries with the skilled labor upon which their success depends; and

WHEREAS, The California Community Colleges bring higher education within the reach of every Californian because of their open admissions, low enrollment fees, financial assistance for low-income students, academic and career guidance, outstanding teaching by dedicated faculty, and specialized support services for students; and

WHEREAS, California's public community colleges represent an accessible path to a better life for generations of low-income and working-class Californians, and provides innovative programs that respond quickly to the needs of students, employers and regional economies that serve as a primary driver of social and economic mobility for Californians; and

WHEREAS, with the establishment of the SBCC Promise, under the leadership of the SBCC Foundation, our local community has unprecedented access to Santa Barbara City College by the removal of tuition and fees as financial barriers; and

WHEREAS, career skills courses through the SBCC School of Extended Learning provide high quality, tuition-free instruction in critical areas to strengthen our local workforce and begin a bridge to credit coursework; and

WHEREAS, by 2020, 65 percent of U.S. jobs will require some type of college credential or degree, the California Community Colleges Board of Governors adopted the Vision for Success, a strategic plan that articulates bold goals to improve student outcomes, including increased attainment of degrees and certificates, transfer to four-year institutions, reducing excess unit accumulation by students, securing gainful employment and closing achievement gaps; and

WHEREAS, California's 115 community colleges are an indispensable investment in our state's present and future prosperity; and

WHEREAS, April is celebrated as Community College Month across the nation; therefore

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Santa Barbara Community College District, and the faculty, staff and students it represents, urges the Assembly and the Senate of the State of California, to recognize April 2019 as California Community College Month, and commend the nation's community colleges on providing opportunity and excellence in higher education and workforce preparation.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Trustees of the SANTA BARBARA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT this 11TH day of April 2019 by the following vote:

Ayes: Trustee Croninger, Trustee Miller, Trustee Haslund, Trustee Nielsen, Trustee Parker, Trustee Gallardo, Trustee Abboud

Noes: None

Concur: Student Trustee Igbechi



Dr. Helen Benjamin
Interim Superintendent/President and
Secretary/Clerk to the Board of Trustees