

# Campus Forum

October 8, 2026

# Forum Topics



**COLLEGE-WIDE  
INITIATIVES AND UPDATES**



**DIVISION UPDATES**



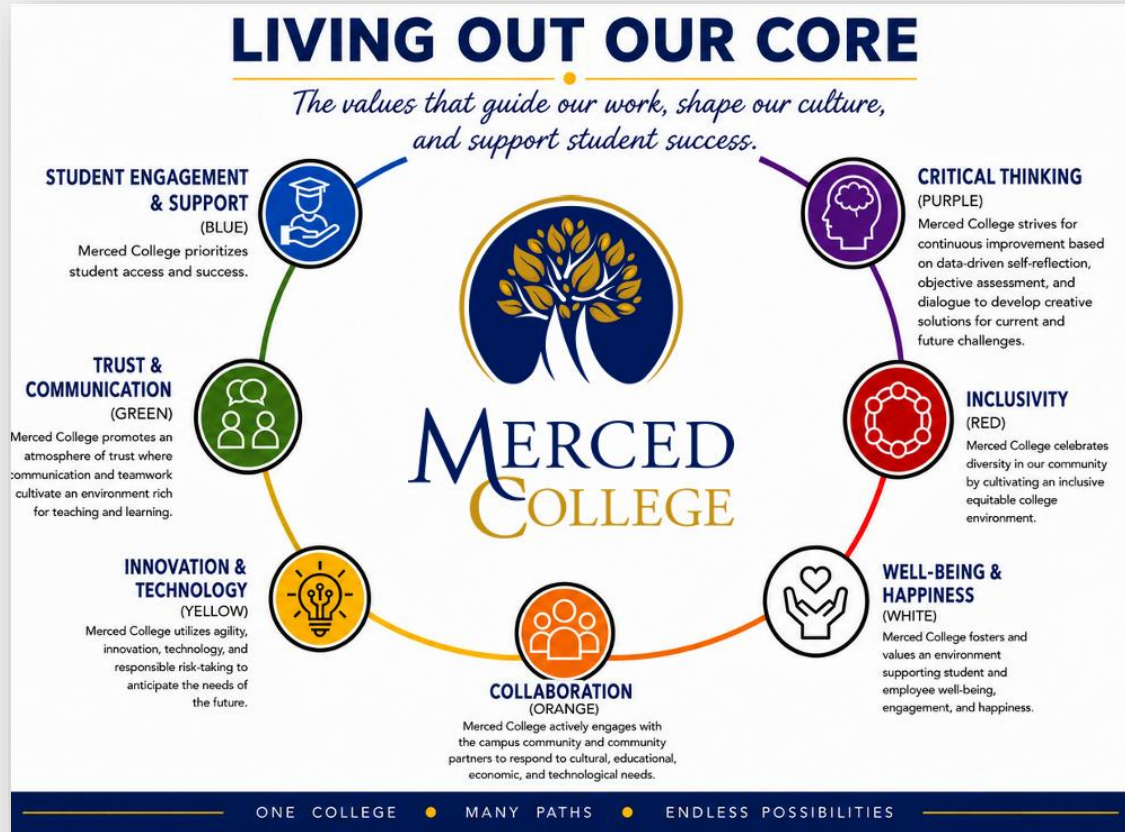
**GENERAL DISCUSSION  
AND Q&A**

# College-wide Initiatives and Updates

- President's Advisory Council
- Year 3 of Current Educational Master Plan
- Next Educational Master Plan – Fall 2027
- Employee Engagement Survey and Initiatives
- President's Leadership Academy Experiential Lab
- Living Out Our Core



# Instruction Updates



## Enrollment Update for Fall 2026

- 5,021.33 FTES (13,109 students) as of September 23<sup>rd</sup> (Credit Only)
- 1,371 Total Sections (Credit Only)
  - 679 Face-to-Face equates to 49.5%
  - 230 Hybrid equates to 16.8%
  - 462 Online equates to 33.7%

## CCAP

- 332.33 Total FTES (1,723 students)
- 109 Sections

## Rising Scholars

- 152.47 Total FTES (593 students)
- 74 Sections

## Los Banos

- 627.70 Total FTES (2,889 students)
- 197 Sections

# South Merced Center

- **Fall Workshops**
  - AgTEC Information Sessions
  - Allied Health/Public Safety Information Sessions
  - Careers in STEM
  - Maintaining Trees for Winter
  - Protecting Plants from Low Temperatures
- **Spring Courses/Programs**
  - Certified Nursing Assistant
  - SOCI-03
  - ESL-40/ENGL-822
  - GUID-30



# Dental Assisting Program

- Continuing to move forward toward full program approval and implementation.
- Program application as been resubmitted after addressing Board's initial areas of concern.
- Finalizing clinical/externship partnerships.



# AgTEC

- AgTEC continues to grow as a regional workforce initiative focused on competency-based education and agricultural technology. The program is helping students build industry-relevant skills while strengthening partnerships with employers, K-12 districts, and community colleges across the region.
- The new Associate Degree in Ag Technology Systems expands the AgTEC pathway and gives students an opportunity to continue beyond the short-term certificate into a broader degree focused on agricultural technology, systems, and applied workforce skills.
- Merced College has submitted its proposal for a new Bachelor of Science in Applied Agricultural Technology Systems. The proposed degree will create an advanced pathway for students interested in agricultural technology, automation, food systems, and related careers, with a planned launch in Fall 2028 pending approval.

# Campus Farm

- Development of the instructional farm continues with new orchards, vineyards, irrigation systems, automation technology, and industry-supported demonstration areas.
- The farm is increasingly being used as a hands-on instructional site for students across agriculture programs.
- The annual Pumpkin Patch will be held October 17, 18, 25, and 26, providing another opportunity to bring students, families, and the community onto campus.



# Artificial Intelligence Resources & Support & CBE Update

*Empowering Merced College Faculty & Staff*

## LEARNING, POLICY & GUIDANCE

### AI Foundations Course

*AI with Purpose: A Human-Centered Guide for Education, Work, and Life*

Self-paced · 6–8 hours · Built for MC faculty & staff · Self-enroll available

### Merced College AI Resources

*AI & Next-Gen Learning / AI Resources on the MC Portal*

Includes guidance on responsible use, FERPA considerations, syllabus & assignment design, tutorials, and additional training resources.

### Governance & District Briefings

Status of AI at MCCD committee briefing slides are currently making their rounds through district governance groups.

## ENTERPRISE TOOLS & PLATFORM ACCESS

### Institutionally Supported Tools

*Available via MC Portal Card:*

#### Google Gemini

Research, drafting, and document analysis

#### Google NotebookLM

AI-powered research notebooks and source analysis

#### Microsoft Copilot

Everyday productivity and workflow assistance

#### Nectir.AI

Course-aware AI assistants with Canvas integration

### BoodleBox AI — Pilot

Advanced collaborative AI workspaces. Access is being expanded — interested faculty can contact the Dean of Innovation to request course access.

[Kody.Stimpson@mccd.edu](mailto:Kody.Stimpson@mccd.edu)

## CONSULTATION & PEDAGOGICAL SUPPORT

### 1-on-1 AI Consultations

Our Instructional Designers are available to meet individually with faculty or staff to explore:

- AI tool selection and integration
- Course and assignment redesign
- Assessment strategies with AI
- Syllabus language and academic integrity
- Teaching and learning applications

### Connect with Our Instructional Designers:

#### Pamela Huntington

*Instructional Designer*

#### Keri Ortiz

*Instructional Designer*

#### Angel Comer

*Instructional Designer*

## COMPETENCY-BASED EDUCATION UPDATES

### Child Development CBE ADT Launches Fall 27

Faculty working on development and next steps include:

- Completion of Child dev courses in Canvas
- Confirmation of faculty to develop GE courses
- Finalization of Student & Faculty Support Model

# Theater/Music/Art



## Theater

- Immersive Haunted Attraction: Project Terminus
  - October 23-25, 27-31 from 6pm-10pm

## Music

- Concert Band performing after closing ceremonies of Field of Honor at 7:30 pm
- Community Chorus performs holiday music Friday, December 4th
- Two nights of Jazz on Thursday December 10th and Friday December 11th

## Art

- Art show opens September 30th, reception was on October 7<sup>th</sup>
- Regular Art Gallery hours are MTW 9am-3:30pm

# Promise Housing



**Housing Applications open on Wednesday, October 14th for Spring 2027**

- Students are encouraged to apply early as spaces are limited
- All students will be screened for eligibility. Those approved, will be sent offers to finalize their housing confirmations.

**Move-in is set for Thursday, January 7th**

- Residents will check in directly in Promise Housing
- A small celebration will occur with a larger ribbon cutting event to happen in late summer 2027 –more details to come

**Housing has hosted 2 of their 3 information sessions spreading the word to students. Last session was on Wednesday, October 7th**

- A total of 24 students have attended, a pre-recording can also be located on the website

**The website for Promise Housing has been updated with the costs, how to apply, eligibility requirements, an expanded FAQ, and much more!**



# Career & Transfer Center

## Upcoming Transfer Opportunities

### •STARS Highway 99 Tour | September 28

Merced College welcomed representatives from several universities, including UC Berkeley, USC, Stanford, Brown, and Notre Dame.

### •UC Davis AAPI Student Field Trip | October 10

In collaboration with Equity, the Career & Transfer Center will take 54 students to UC Davis for a campus visit focused on supporting AAPI students and strengthening transfer pathways. UC Davis is providing transportation for the trip.

### •Fresno State Bulldog Bound

A Fresno State Bulldog Bound representative will be available in the Career & Transfer Center on October 21 and November 18, providing students with direct access to transfer support and Fresno State resources.

## Important Transfer Dates

•November 30 is the application deadline for Fall 2027 UC transfer admission and the end of the CSU priority application period. The CTC will continue supporting students with applications and transfer planning throughout the fall.

## Transfer Success Spotlight: UC Merced

•Our partnership with UC Merced is showing significant growth:

○209 applications from Merced College students

↑ 34% from 156 last fall

○114 enrolled students

↑ 58% from 72 last fall

|                              | Merced | Los Banos | Total |
|------------------------------|--------|-----------|-------|
| Unduplicated Students Served | 295    | 30        | 321   |
| Total Student Check-Ins      | 353    | 33        | 386   |

# Athletics

Merced College Athletics is off to a strong start as our teams continue to compete across the state and prepare for conference play.

- **Men's Soccer:** Currently ranked **No. 2 in the state in RPI**, reflecting a strong start against a competitive schedule.
- **Women's Soccer:** Currently ranked **No. 37 in the state** and **No. 14 in the Northern California RPI**.
- **Women's Water Polo:** Currently ranked **No. 15 in the state** and **sitting in first place in the Coast Conference standings**.
- **Men's Water Polo:** Currently in the **middle of the Coast Conference standings** and has competed well against several of the top teams in the state.
- **Women's Volleyball:** Currently **5-5** to start the season and begins **conference play this week**.
- **Football:** Will look to rebound from a slow start as the head into conference play in October.

Overall, our fall programs continue to represent Merced College well, with several teams earning state and regional recognition while competing against strong competition throughout California.



# Student Success Workshops

- Free Drop-in Workshops in Study Central (Downey Center, Room 156)
- Various topics that support student success
- Hybrid – Students and staff can attend in person or online via Zoom
- Workshop videos are posted on the SSTC page within 24 hours
- Some presenters, including EECU, provide free food
- Students are entered into a raffle to win a Samsung tablet at the end of the semester (donated by EECU)
- We are always looking for new topics and opportunities to promote campus services



# AB 148

Merced College will provide pre-assembled food boxes to eligible classified employees experiencing temporary hardship. This two-year statewide pilot supplements employee food access through the Basic Needs Center.

## Eligibility Checklist:

- Current Classified Professional, Confidential Employee, or Classified Manager
- Actively employed at the time of assistance
- Completed Self-Certification Request Form
- No income verification or financial documentation required

## Distribution Matrix

### 2026-27 Distribution Schedule (In-person pickup at Basic Needs Center)

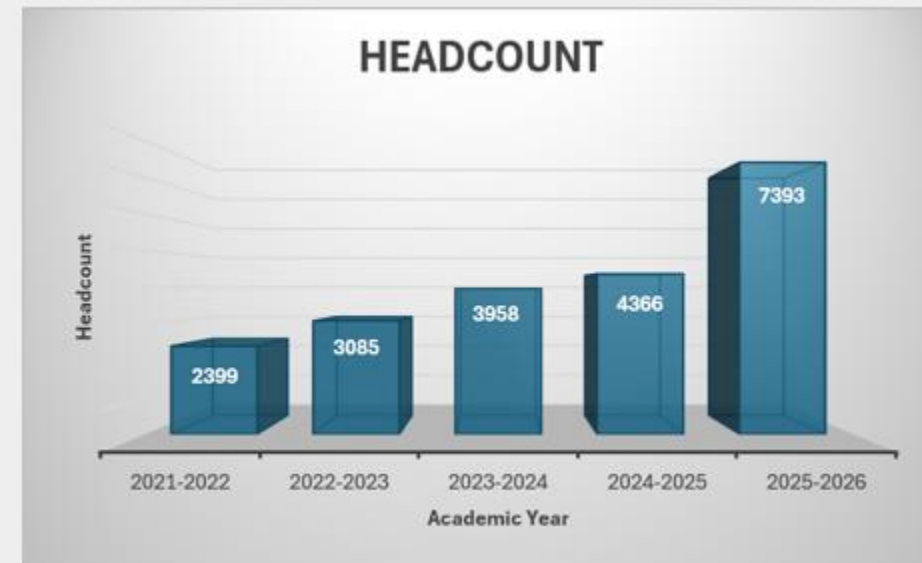
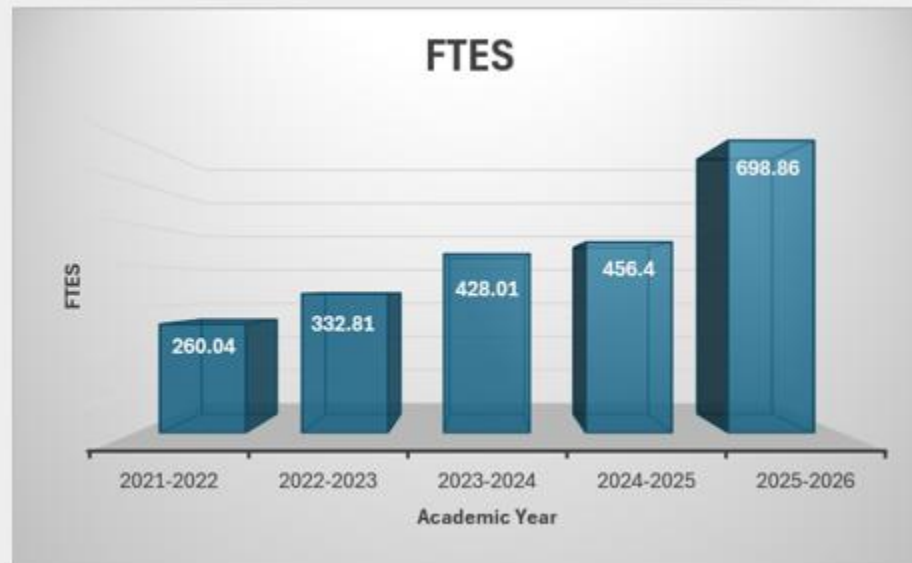
| Term       | Los Banos    | Merced       |
|------------|--------------|--------------|
| Fall '26   | Nov 19, 2026 | Nov 20, 2026 |
| Spring '27 | Feb 18, 2027 | Feb 19, 2027 |
| Spring '27 | Mar 18, 2027 | Mar 19, 2027 |
| Spring '27 | Apr 22, 2027 | Apr 23, 2027 |

# Dual Enrollment, Outreach, Guided Pathways & Admissions

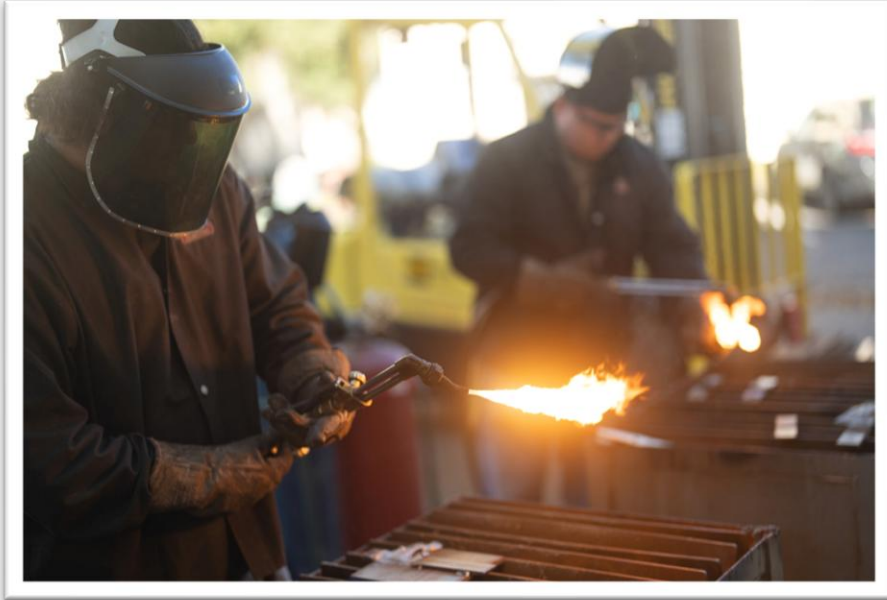
## Dual Enrollment

### College and Career Access Pathways (AB288)

- Continued Growth and Expansion of the CCAP Program
  - 9th Grade MUHSD Program, Agriculture, Math Bridge, Fire Science, Criminal Justice, Child Development & Kinesiology
- Pathways Counseling Program
  - Providing On-Site College Counseling for Dual Enrollment students at all comprehensive High School Campuses within our service area



# Administrative Services Updates



- **Los Banos Campus Expansion**

- Welding Facility and Quad
- Dreamscape Learn Carts
- Pending: Allied Health Facility

- **Merced Campus Projects**

- Music/Arts/Theater Complex
- Gym-Pool Complex
- Keyless Entry (Phase 2) – BRC and Los Banos Campus

- **Migration to SaaS**

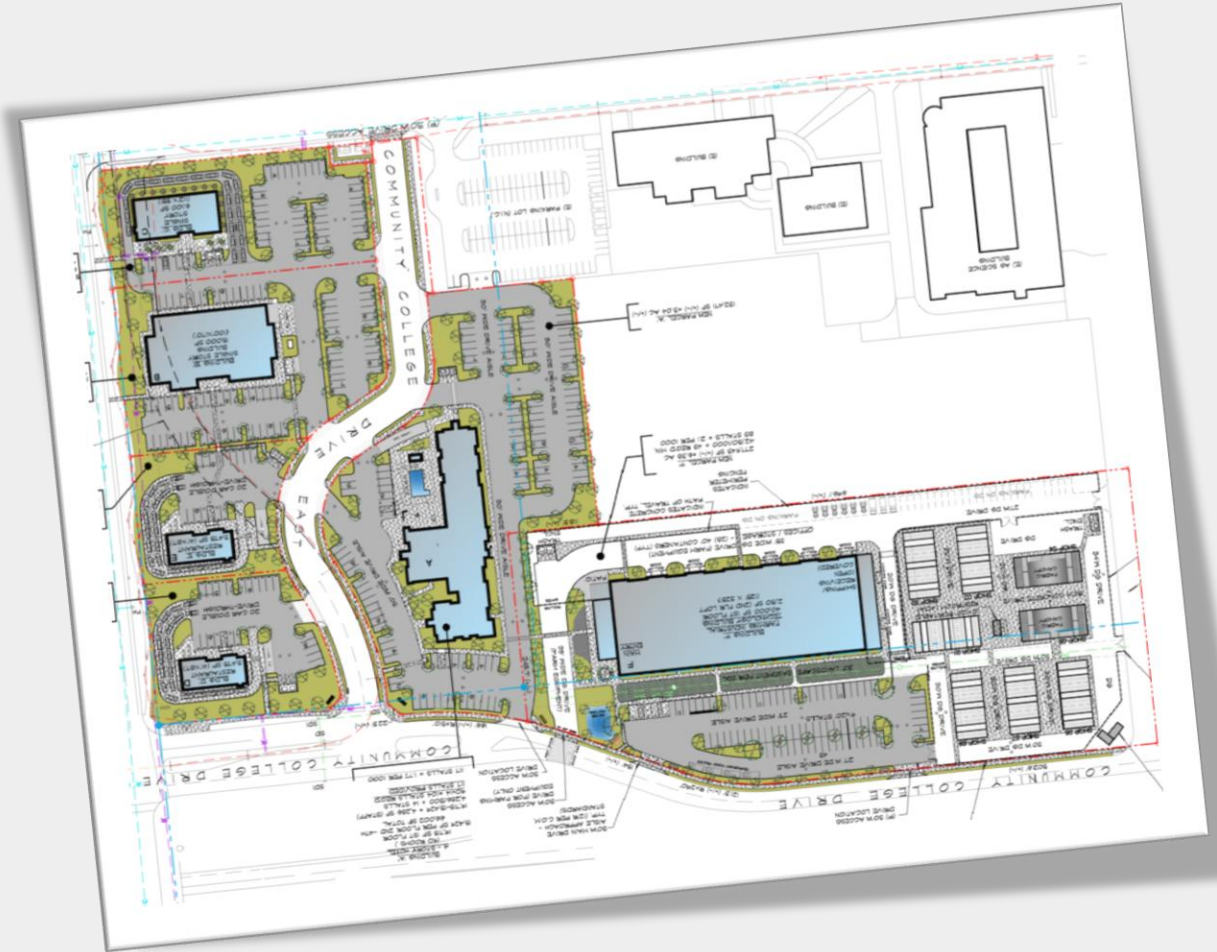
- **Robotic Deliveries – Meet “Blaze Runner”**



# Enterprise and Academic Partnerships Update

## Public Private Partnership

- Pre Development Agreement is coming to a close
- Next stage is Definitive Submittal and board approval (Oct. and Nov.)
- Expected groundbreaking in Spring 2027
- Tenants include The Reservoir, Marriott, Lumira Health
- Campus Integration Plan will make a significant impact for our students



# Enterprise & Academic Partnership Updates

## Contract Education:

- John C Fremont Healthcare, Mariposa – professional development series (6 months) - in talks for a second cohort.
- Prospero/Merced County – 2 contracts for CNA Cohorts, 1 in Merced, 1 in Los Banos (9-weeks)
- Blooming Futures Initiative – Horticulture & Nutrition training for faculty (4-year program)
- Kellogg Supply - Team Building
- Hilmar School District - Strengths Training
- Concord Prep - ARTH & ECON currently being offered via online closed cohorts
- Ongoing leadership courses for: Merced County, Rental Zebra, Morning Star Farms, Joseph Gallo Farms
- **Recently Completed Contracts:** Merced High (Service with Impact), Golden Valley High (Service with Impact)

# Enterprise & Academic Partnership Updates

## Community Education:

- **College for Kids: Summer 2026 was our 50th Anniversary!!** This year we offered 219 programs to 1,244 students. The number of enrichment classes nearly tripled compared to 2025!
  - Notable partners included MCSD and the Boys & Girls Club.
  - Researching Los Banos CFK for 2027.
- **Skills for Success open classes** started Sept 17. Students attending open classes are from: Merced County, Image Masters, City of Merced, Jane Farm Fresh, Restore Merced, Agrecom, Merced, MSUFCU, El Capitan Hotel, & Kind Neighbor.
- **MID Partnership** MOU allowing Community Ed classes to be offered at MID rec. sites including Lake Yosemite
- **Community Education Classes** include: Healthy Eating On A Budget; Soups Of The Season; Patchwork Pumpkin - Mosaic Workshop, Patch to Pumpkin: Upcycle Decor Workshop; Paper Bag Alchemy, a DIY Faux Leather Journal Workshop; Winter Watercolors Workshop;  
**Bus Trips:** to Apple Hill on 10/25 and San Francisco on 11/21



# Enterprise & Academic Partnership Updates

## YII: Yosemite Innovation Institute

- **Inaugural conference:** March 4–5, 2027, with optional Yosemite National Park experience on March 6
- **Target Audience:** Leaders in education, workforce development, government, and industry
- **Locations:** Downtown Merced and Merced College, with lodging at the El Capitan Hotel
- **Program in development:** We are finalizing speakers and session topics. Potential keynote speakers include representatives from ASU, Ellucian, Dreamscape Learn, and AQL Labs.
- **Potential sessions:** AI, immersive learning, hands-on Dreamscape Learn experiences, future workforce skills, and building a culture of innovation

# Enterprise and Academic Partnerships Update

## Child Development Center Update

- Currently serving 93 families (123 children) across the Los Baños and Merced Campus Child Development Centers
- Both locations are currently fully staffed, including 11 non-work-study student employees interns who are gaining hands-on experience and training as they prepare to enter the workforce.
- Through the Child Development Observation and Practicum courses, 99 students are currently completing their required laboratory experiences between the Los Baños and Merced Campus Child Development Centers for the Fall 2026 semester.
- Current priorities include exploring ideas to: Increase awareness of services to students, Expand available services, Align operations with Merced College's 16-week calendar, and Upgrade observation technology to facility high –quality student field experiences.



# Human Resources Updates

## Professional Development

- Update on Job-Shadowing: Since F25, 17 employees approved to job shadow; 22 total.
- New Mentor Program
- Well-Being Compressed: Fall Well-Being Summit, Nov. 3-5
- Gallup Dashboard for Managers
- Invited to give 4CPD and ACHRO presentations in October on Merced College Employee Engagement and Well-Being Initiatives

## Negotiations

- October 6, 2026 – Start bargaining with MCFA
- Dates with CSEA Pending

## NEW! Concentra Telemed: Access to e-care for industrial illness and injury



**About Concentra Telemed**

Concentra Telemed® is a telemedicine platform for work-related injuries and illnesses. Since 2017, it has connected thousands of employees with licensed Concentra® clinicians via video for injury care, rechecks, and more.

Available through workers' compensation programs for initial injuries and nurse triage (if included), Concentra Telemed can be a valuable component of your workplace injury program and process.

| Concentra Telemed Advantages                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                         | Treatable Conditions:                       |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| • <b>Expertise.</b> Concentra Telemed clinicians are trained to deliver quality occupational health care in a virtual setting. | • <b>Enhanced functionality.</b> Our platform offers an exceptional patient experience with limited downtime and great user options (e.g., invite video guest feature). | • Relatively minor strains/sprains          |
| • <b>Complete care.</b> Concentra Telemed                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                         | • Bruises/contusions                        |
|                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                         | • Relatively minor burns, cuts, and scrapes |
|                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                         | • Work-related rashes                       |

**Treatable Conditions:**

- Relatively minor strains/sprains
- Bruises/contusions
- Relatively minor burns, cuts, and scrapes
- Work-related rashes

Other conditions listed include: repetitive-use injuries, biological pathogen (BBP), biological trauma, and injuries with any symptoms.

**Concentra Telemed Services**

Concentra Telemed



**MERCED COLLEGE**  
WELL-BEING INITIATIVE

**Well-Being Summit 2026**

**Speaker:**  
Mikayla Carey

**November 3-5, 2026 | 9:00am - 4:30pm**

**Merced College Business Resource Center**

The Well-Being Institute at Merced College reflects our ongoing commitment to investing in our people. This engaging 3-day summit provides practical tools and strategies focused on resilience, mindfulness, gratitude, and overall well-being – empowering employees to thrive both personally and professionally.

# External Relations/Foundation Updates

- **Employee Giving Campaign**
- **Alumni Trident Campaign**
  - Plaques are still available for purchase
  - Pay in 5 installments
  - Ask Foundation about paycheck deduction options



# External Relations/Foundation Updates

- Blaze Athletics Campaign coming soon!

**MERCED COLLEGE**



**EST. 1962**

**MERCED COLLEGE**



**EST. 1962**

# External Relations/Foundation Updates

## August Social Media Highlights

### First Day of the Semester



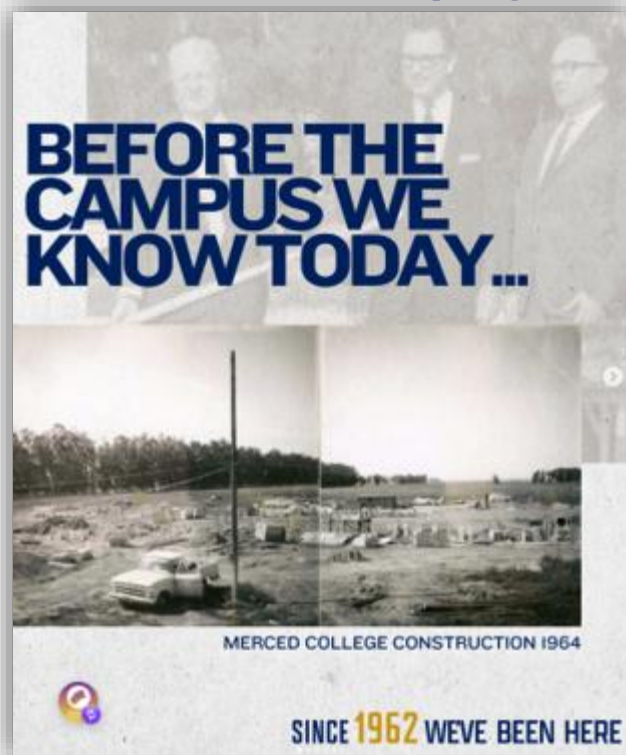
**123k views**

Comments:

"I went to Merced College and now my son is attending! Love it!"

"Loved my time at Merced Junior College. Enjoy it all. Go Blue Devils!"

### Since 1962 Campaign



**21.5k views**

Comments:

"I love Merced College!"

### Since 1962 Campaign



**29.5k views**

Comments:

"Blaze definitely had a glow up!"

"State champs football 1978!"

# Q & A

