

**Contra Costa
Community College District**

STRATEGIC PLAN

2009-2014



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LETTER FROM THE CHANCELLOR



As the Contra Costa Community College District (District) completes its 60th anniversary celebration, I reflect on the great vision of our founders in creating the first county-wide junior college district in the state. Back in 1948, Contra Costa County enjoyed country style living for a population of over 100,000, while today it boasts over one million residents housed in some of the best communities to live and work in the greater Bay Area.

Just as our population has changed over the years, so has the District. From our beginnings at Camp Stoneman in Pittsburg to the Kaiser Shipyard where students filled our first West County classrooms, the opportunity to provide higher education to our residents needed to reflect the changes in our county. As our Central County area grew in population and density, Diablo Valley College responded to meet the growing educational demands.

With the tremendous growth of East County, the District will once again make the necessary changes to provide opportunities to meet that area's increasing educational demand.

Taking the cue from our past, nothing can be more important to meeting the educational needs of our community than proper evaluation, planning and implementation. That is the purpose of this document, to reflect upon the changes that surround us, and to use our resources wisely to:

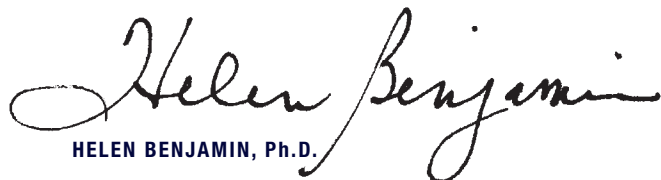
- provide general and transfer education;
- meet the shifting employment needs of our changing economy;
- prepare students for future success by offering basic skills and English as a second language courses; and
- offer a variety of courses that fulfill lifelong learning goals.

Meeting the educational needs of our community is matched by the standards of accreditation and our own high standards of excellence, ethical behavior and integrity. We take great pride in our fiscal prudence and accountability and are committed to open communication and transparency in how we conduct our work.

As we are learning through our current state fiscal crisis, things can change quickly. So while this five-year plan provides us with a roadmap to help navigate our future, we are fully aware that changes and adjustments to any plan are normal and just good leadership. That is why we are committed to reviewing this plan in two years to make sure our efforts continue providing the pathways to success.

Finally, our 2009-2014 Districtwide Strategic Plan was completed thanks to the participation and involvement of many staff, faculty, students, administrators, and community leaders. Through their dedication, Contra Costa Community College District can continue making a difference in the lives of our students and in the community.

Sincerely yours,


HELEN BENJAMIN, Ph.D.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The following participants were involved in development of this Strategic Plan.

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INTRODUCTION



With an annual enrollment of nearly 61,000 students, the Contra Costa Community College District is an essential part of Contra Costa County. Our three Colleges provide meaningful benefits to the county's youth, adult learners, local businesses, public agencies, community organizations, and the general public. Through their high-quality career and technical, basic skills, ESL, transfer education, and life-long learning programs, Contra Costa College, Diablo Valley College, and Los Medanos College prepare students to be global citizens and educated, productive members of their communities. In addition to providing accessible, innovative, and outstanding learning opportunities and support services to individual students, the Colleges also enrich the quality of life across the county through enhanced culture and arts, improved public health and safety, and increased economic vitality.

PURPOSE OF THE PLAN

The Contra Costa Community College District developed the 2009–2014 Districtwide Strategic Plan to meet the challenges and opportunities we will encounter over the next five years as it continues to support student learning. The Plan affirms the District’s values, vision, and mission and sets forth the goals and objectives that will guide long-term planning and annual operational plans of action for the District Office and Colleges in coordination with College-level plans. Recognizing that each College has its own distinct character and particular issues to address, the Districtwide Strategic Plan is intended to support individual College strategic plans. The Districtwide Strategic Plan should be viewed as a living document that is dynamic, open for change, and based on the principles and values outlined in this report.

STRATEGIC PLAN DEVELOPMENT

The Contra Costa Community College District has a long history of strategic planning that involves broad, inclusive participation by faculty, staff, students, and administrators throughout the District. The planning process for developing the 2009–2014 Districtwide Strategic Plan began in September 2008, when the District Governance Council (DGC) achieved consensus on the assumptions needed to guide the planning process and develop the Plan. The Chancellor’s Cabinet, comprised of the College presidents and District Office executive staff, approved the recommendations by DGC and agreed to expand DGC to include the District’s Research and Planning Council (RPC) to engage in the Districtwide strategic planning process.

From September 2008 through May 2009, a draft framework of the Districtwide Strategic Plan was developed in an iterative manner through internal meetings of the Expanded DGC, Chancellor’s Cabinet, the Governing Board, and the RPC. The Vice Chancellor for Districtwide Planning and Educational Services, along with the RPC, worked closely with consultants from MIG, Inc. to coordinate the planning process and guide the review, revision, and refinement of each draft of the Plan. Guided by our values, vision, and mission statements, the content of the Plan was developed with the following intents: describe what we know about the communities and students we serve, identify our Districtwide beliefs, determine what we need to do to effectively address the County’s educational challenges and opportunities, and move the District forward in the next five years.



Note: Accreditation standards were considered in the development of the Districtwide Strategic Plan



Strategic Planning Charrette

On February 27, 2009, the District held an inclusive strategic planning charrette at Diablo Valley College. Participants included members of the Governing Board, administrators, faculty, staff, and student representatives from each of the three Colleges and the District Office, as well as key external stakeholders from local businesses, government, and community groups. This interactive work session provided an opportunity to review the draft Plan Framework and suggest revisions to the proposed Districtwide values, vision, and mission statements as well as the goals, objectives, strategies, and performance measures.

The charrette began with an overview of the history and rationale behind the Plan, followed by small discussion group sessions. Each small group conducted a comprehensive analysis and refinement of one of the five goal areas: Student Learning and Success, College Awareness and Access, Partnerships for Workforce and Economic Development, Organizational Effectiveness, and Resource Management. A sixth group reviewed and refined the Districtwide values, vision and, mission statements.

Each group report was documented and summarized by designated reporters and then submitted to the Research and Planning Council for review, consideration, and inclusion in subsequent drafts of the Plan.

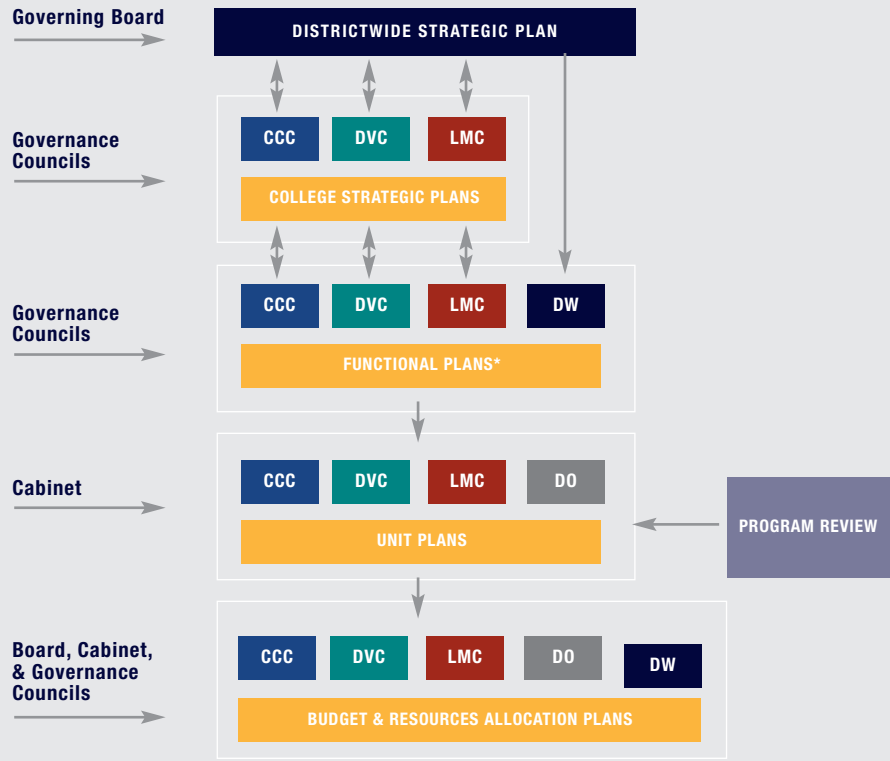
In the weeks following the charrette, the Chancellor's Cabinet, DGC, and RPC, each met to review the revised draft of the Plan and make additional edits to ensure a cohesive and coherent Strategic Plan. The final version of the Strategic Plan that incorporated feedback from the charrette participants, Chancellor's Cabinet, DGC, and RPC was presented to the Governing Board for approval in May. On May 27, 2009 the Governing Board approved the plan subject to their requests and comments.

DISTRICTWIDE INTEGRATED PLANNING

In order to ensure alignment between the Districtwide strategic directions and the Colleges' strategic directions and initiatives, it will be necessary to continually update the Colleges' crosswalks as their strategic directions and initiatives are updated. (See the current Crosswalk in Appendix C.) It will also be necessary to ensure alignment between the Districtwide strategic directions and the Districtwide functional plans (i.e. College Facilities Master Plans, Technology Master Plans, College Educational Master Plans, Enrollment Management Plans, Marketing Plans and Human Resources Plans.) as they are developed or updated. Commencing in 2009–2010 with the implementation of the Strategic Plan, the Colleges and the District Office will conduct program reviews, develop annual operational plans, and ensure integration of planning processes with budget and resource allocations. The Chancellor's Cabinet will continue to establish annual management performance objectives and recommend resource allocations to accomplish the Districtwide and the Colleges' strategic directions and initiatives.

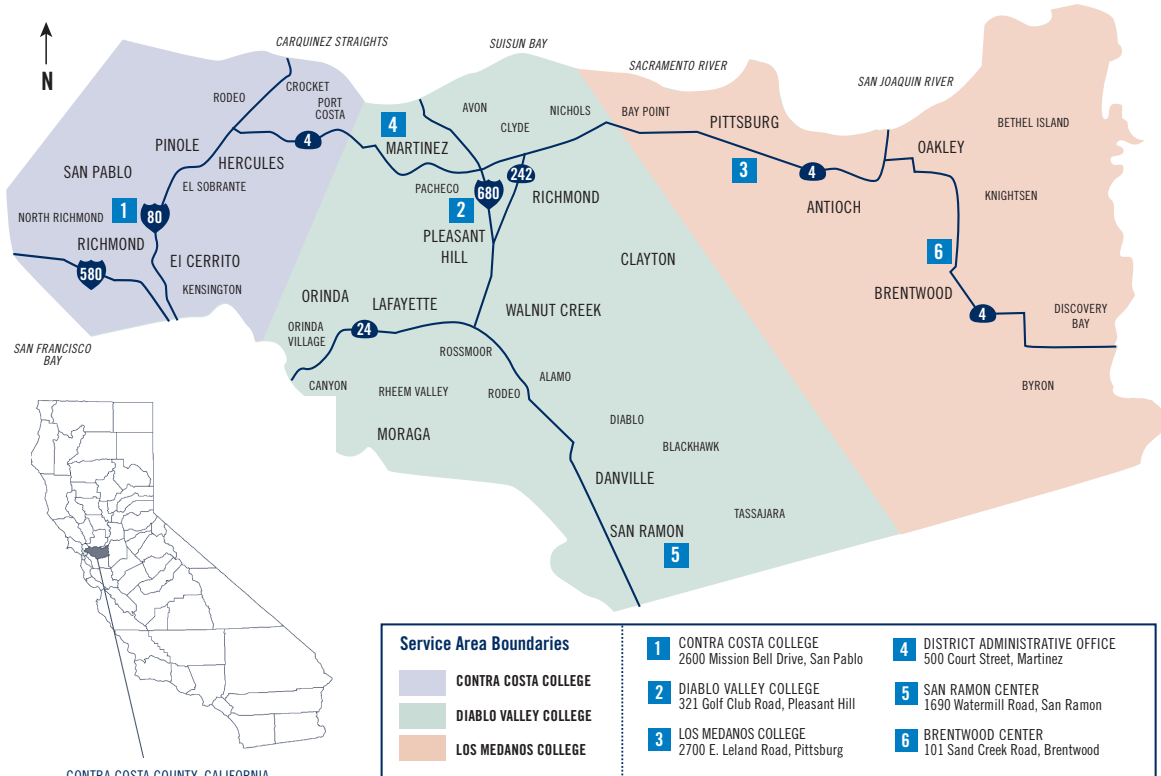
DISTRICTWIDE INTEGRATED PLANNING

SHARED GOVERNANCE



*College Facilities Master Plans. Technology Master Plans. College Education Master Plans. Enrollment Management Plans. Marketing Plans and Human Resources Plans

CONTRA COSTA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT MAP



Source: Office of District Research, Contra Costa CCD. August 2002. Placement of cities, freeways, highways and district locations are based on Thomas Bros. Maps 2000. Service area boundaries are determined by Board approved negotiations.



DISTRICT PROFILE

THE DISTRICT AND THE COLLEGES

The Contra Costa Community College District (CCCCD) was founded by a public vote in December 1948 and first opened its doors in 1949. It is one of the largest multi-college community college districts in California. CCCC serves a population of 1,019,640 people, and its boundaries encompass all but 48 of the 734-square-mile land area of Contra Costa County. The District Office is located in historic downtown Martinez.

The Contra Costa Community College District is governed by an elected five-member Governing Board who serve four-year terms. One student member, selected by student government, serves a one-year term on a rotational basis among the Colleges. The Chancellor, appointed by the Governing Board, carries out the policies of the District.

For 60 years, our institutions have been a vital part of Contra Costa County. Young and old alike are encouraged to take advantage of an incomparable array of educational choices, including studies leading to an associate degree, transfer to four-year colleges and universities, short-term training to update professional skills, and specialized vocational and technical training programs—many in partnership with local businesses and industry—to help build a strong workforce in Contra Costa County.



Contra Costa College

CONTRA COSTA COLLEGE

Contra Costa College (CCC), a premier community college serving approximately 13,500 students annually, is a model of excellence in successfully providing transformative education in an urban environment. CCC opens doors to opportunities that strengthen the lives, families, and neighborhoods of the diverse population of West Contra Costa County. Since 1949, CCC has offered a safe environment for students to learn, explore, and make informed decisions about their future.



DIABLO VALLEY COLLEGE

Diablo Valley College (DVC) is the region's number one transfer institution, passionately committed to student learning through the intellectual, scientific, artistic, psychological, and ethical development of its diverse student body. DVC prepares students for transfer to four-year universities; provides career and technical education; supports the economic development of the region; offers pre-collegiate programs; and promotes personal growth and lifelong learning. DVC serves more than 33,000 students annually on its main campus in Pleasant Hill, a campus in San Ramon, and an outreach center in Walnut Creek.



LOS MEDANOS COLLEGE

Los Medanos College (LMC) is a rising star, the fastest-growing college in the District, serving the needs of its 14,500 students and the community both on the main campus in Pittsburg and in its Brentwood Center. Since 1974, LMC has been continually improving its innovative and supportive learning environment and state-of-the-art facilities. The intellectual, economic, and social success of all of its students by preparing them to be citizens and leaders in a dynamic and ever-changing world is the College's passion.

ECONOMIC IMPACTS

In 2006, the District conducted an analysis of the three Colleges' economic impact on Contra Costa County. Since that time, the economy has shifted dramatically. However, the current economic climate reinforces the importance of the District's Colleges in stimulating growth and supporting the region's businesses. The analysis showed these impacts:

Stimulating State and Local Economy

- \$113 million of increased regional income annually
- 14% of out-of county students produce \$15 million in regional income
- \$3.5 billion generated in income through past and present District efforts

Leveraging Taxpayer Dollars

- Reduced tax burden
- Reduced social costs (e.g., improved health, reduced crime, etc.)
- \$143 million in earnings generated annually

Generating Return on Investment

- 10% rate of return for state and local governments

Increasing Student Earning Potential

- Increased income of approximately \$9,500 per year
- 21% annual rate of return on college investment costs

Voters in the county understand the importance of our Colleges, as shown through their support for Measure A and Measure A+, which helped fund essential upgrades to College facilities.



QUALITY OF LIFE BENEFITS

A 2008 study by the Community College League of California included a number of indicators showing the benefits of community college education on the state's quality of life, including:

- **Safety and Security:** 80% of firefighters, law enforcement officers and EMTs are credentialed at community colleges;
- **Public Health:** 70% of nurses in California received their education from community colleges.

CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES



The Strategic Plan responds to the trends, challenges, and opportunities identified through a comprehensive environmental scan. The scan highlighted the internal and external factors that will influence the District and the Colleges over the next three to five years. These challenges and opportunities set the context for the framework of the Strategic Plan and lead directly to the goals, objectives, and strategies outlined. The Plan brings all of the issues and opportunities facing the District into a cohesive whole.

A wide range of factors will shape the District's growth and the community's needs in the coming years. This includes population growth, ethnic and racial diversity, academic preparedness of graduating high school students, and workforce needs, among others. As California economies shift and new needs arise, the District and Colleges must be positioned to respond to these changes and prepare students for new opportunities. In addition, the Plan must consider needed changes and growth in the physical environments at each of the Colleges.

The following potential challenges and opportunities were drawn from the District's *Environmental Scan 2006*, with updates based on information derived from the *U.S. Census Bureau 2007 American Community Survey*.

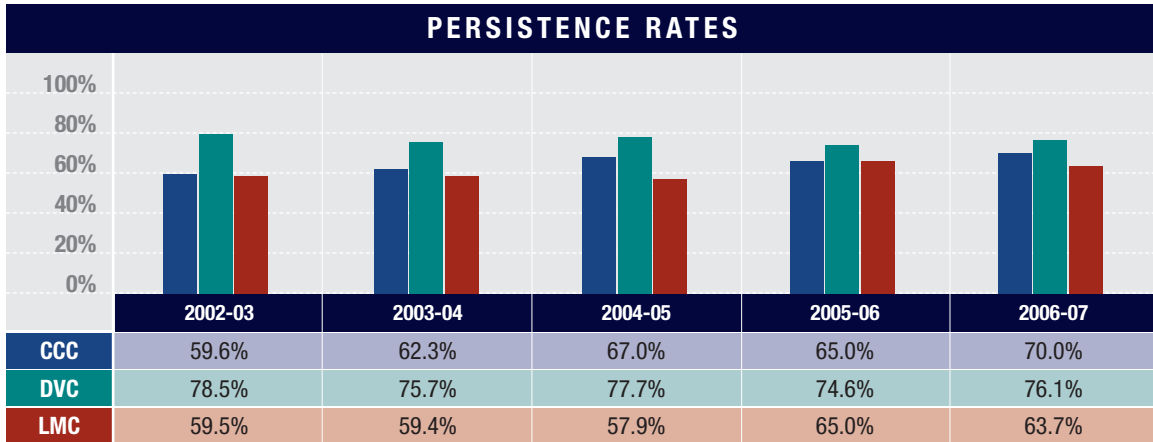
In general, these challenges and opportunities are organized to roughly parallel the order of the Goals and Objectives section with relevant data corresponding to the five goal areas: Student Learning and Success, College Awareness and Access, Partnerships for Workforce and Economic Development, Organizational Effectiveness, and Resource Management.

EDUCATIONAL CHALLENGES

Over the next several years, new students will need more basic skills remediation, and more students with language barriers may enroll in the District's Colleges. The changing demographics of the District's service area indicate the educational preparedness of entering students is also changing. In particular, new immigrants and English language learners may need additional support to overcome educational barriers and become successful.

STUDENT PERSISTENCE AND SUCCESS

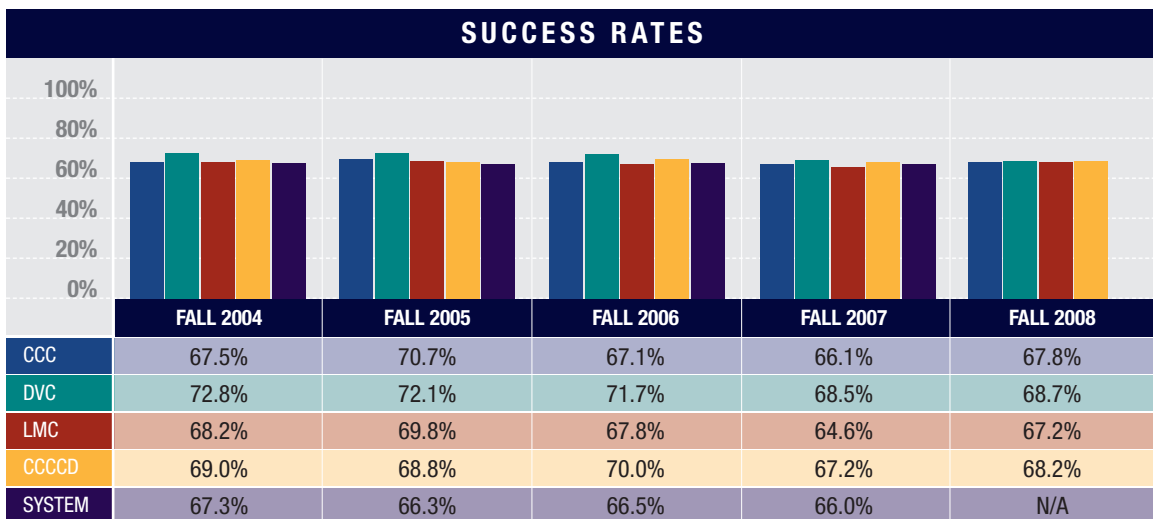
Student success is a critical factor for the District, and an important function of the District Office is to support the Colleges as they work to increase persistence and success rates for all students. From 2002 to 2007, persistence rates for students in the Contra Costa Community College District have been mixed, increasing from 59.5 percent to 63.7 percent for Los Medanos College and from 59.6 percent to 70 percent for Contra Costa College, and decreasing from 78.5 percent to 76.1 percent for Diablo Valley College. Persistence rates are defined by Accountability Reporting for the Community Colleges (ARCC) as the percentage of first-time students with a minimum of six units earned in a fall term and who returned and enrolled in the subsequent fall term anywhere in the system.



California Community Colleges, Accountability Reporting for Community Colleges (ARCC), 2007-2009

With the number of students combining work, education, and family—a pattern that is increasingly common—there is a need to provide traditional academic, career, and technical courses and programs in innovative ways. Many of our students will move between the academic and professional worlds throughout their careers instead of following the more traditional pattern of full-time college attendance.

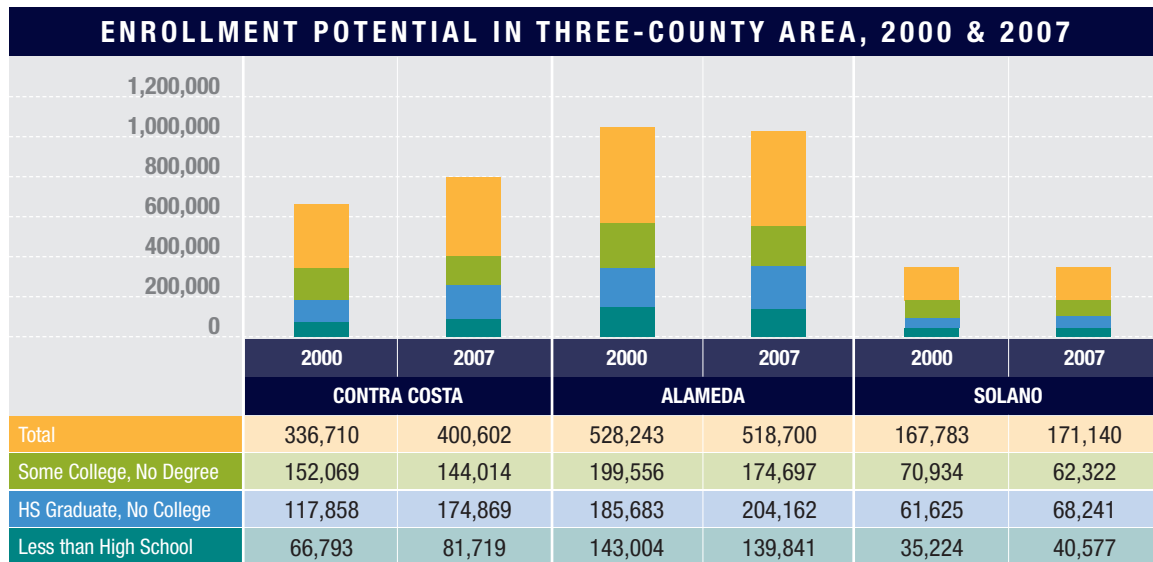
While persistence rates on average increased, student success rates between 2004 and 2008 decreased 0.8 percent throughout the District, from 69.0 percent in 2004 to 68.2 percent in 2008. The District will need to implement a range of strategies to increase the number of students who successfully complete their courses of study, in particular addressing performance gaps in traditionally underserved populations.



State of California, California Community Colleges, Chancellor's Office, Data Mart.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY

Between 1990 and 2007, college enrollment in Contra Costa County grew by only 7.7 percent, while K-12 enrollment grew by 26.2 percent (*American Community Survey 2007*). College enrollment relative to total enrollment at all levels of education declined by 3.2 percent during that same period, from 29.7 percent in 1990 to 26.5 percent in 2004 (*ibid*). The drop reflects a lower level of community participation in higher education, especially for adult learners. In addition, the number of high school graduates is expected to peak in 2008-2009, to be followed by a gradual decline for the next five years. Educational attainment levels vary dramatically for each area of the county, impacting the strategic plans for each of the Colleges in markedly different ways.



U.S. Census 2000, American Community Survey, 2007

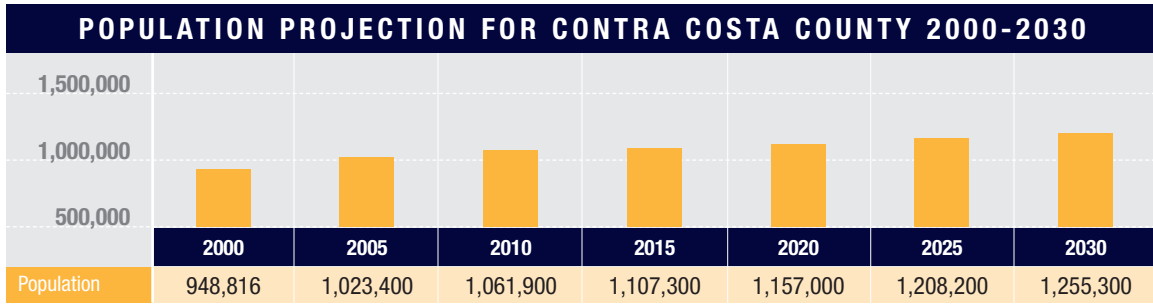
ENROLLMENT POTENTIAL

In 2007, the District identified 400,000 persons in Contra Costa County who could benefit from community college education and an additional nearly 700,000 from neighboring counties who may also be reached.

Related to potential enrollment is the fact that there are almost 100 educational institutions and/or their branches located in Contra Costa County and in the neighboring counties of Alameda, Solano and San Francisco. This abundance of institutions creates a competitive environment for attracting students.

COUNTYWIDE DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS

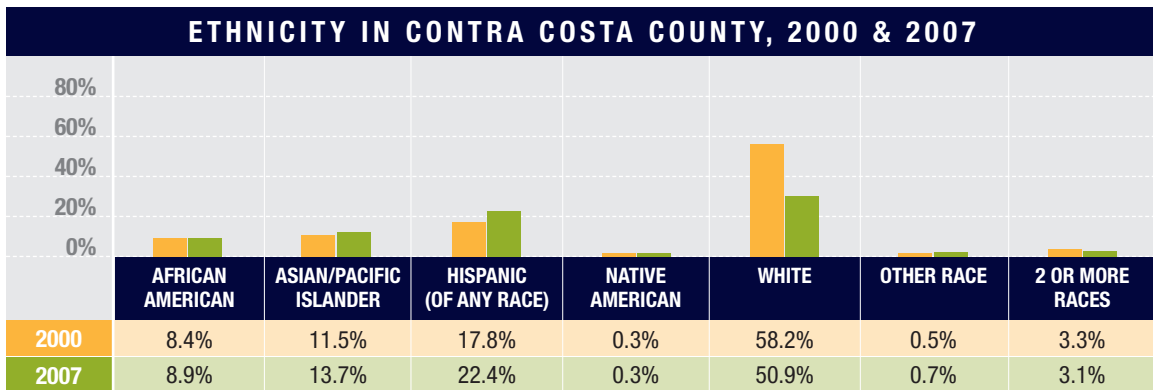
Contra Costa County has experienced steady population growth in recent years, increasing from 948,816 in 2000 to over one million people in 2007, or 7.5 percent during this seven-year period. The county's population is projected to grow at a slower rate than it has over the past two decades, adding approximately 230,000 by 2030. Most recent growth is the result of foreign immigration and domestic migration.



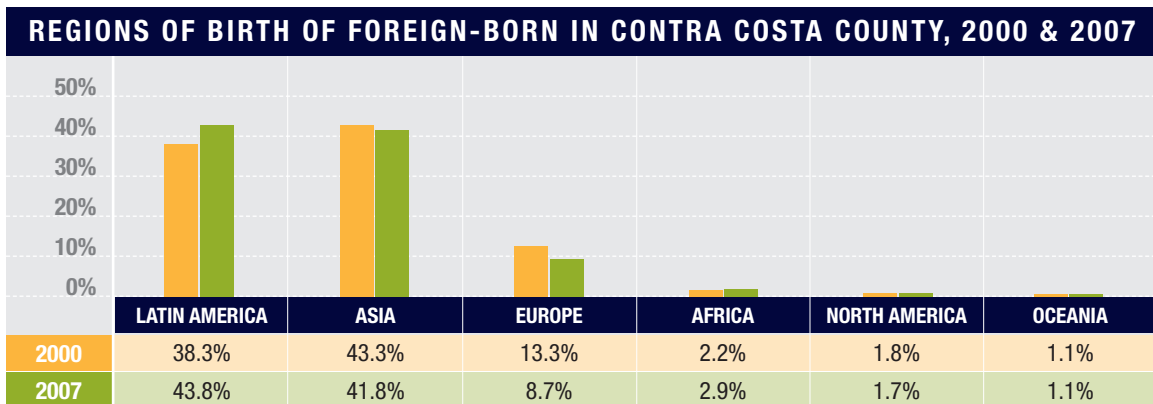
Association of Bay Area Governments (AGAB), March 2007

DIVERSITY

The region—and the Colleges—will continue to diversify, led by a strong increase in the Hispanic and Asian American populations. Different areas of the county will experience growth in different ethnicities, resulting in unique issues, challenges, and opportunities for each of the Colleges serving those communities. In the coming years, the District will need to offer programs and services to meet the needs of different students. For example, new immigrants and non-English speakers may require additional support and services to meet their particular needs.



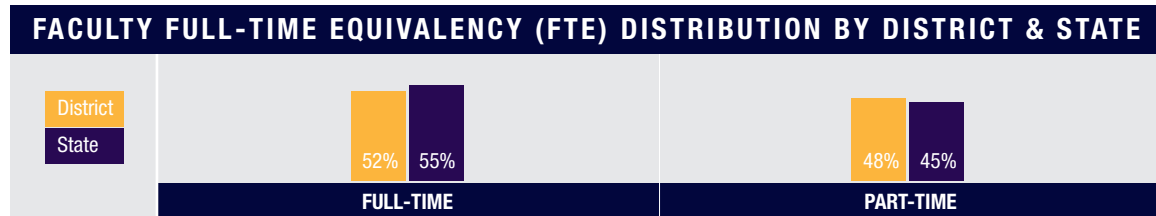
U.S. Census 2000, American Community Survey, 2007



U.S. Census 2000, American Community Survey, 2007

HUMAN RESOURCES

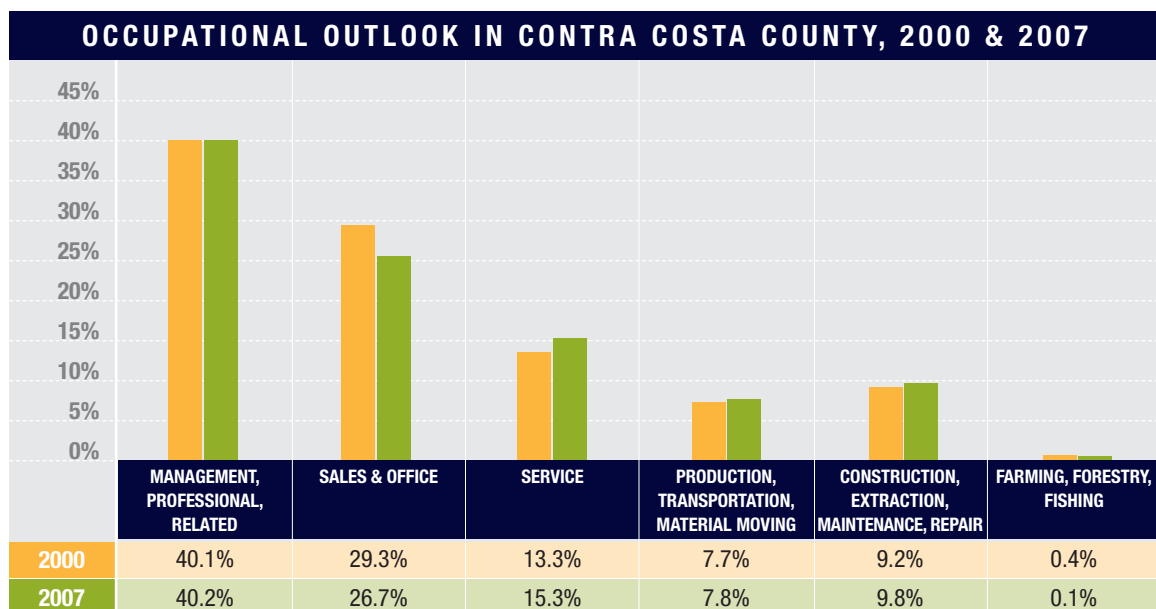
Human resources issues directly affect the District's ongoing operations. Issues include retirement of the baby boomers, declining base of full-time faculty and staff, high cost of health care, and offering of competitive salaries and compensation packages. A large proportion of part-time employees can create a sense of instability regarding instructional responsibility, committee service, and student advisement and guidance. This places an undue burden on those employed on a full-time basis. Additionally, transparency and accountability are key concerns for employees.



Report on Staffing for Fall 2007, CCCC MIS Database for the reporting period Fall Term 2007

REGIONAL ECONOMIC TRENDS

Numerous economic factors and trends may affect the District's strategic planning in different ways. These factors include changing industries and job opportunities and the uncertain economic outlook both regionally and nationally.

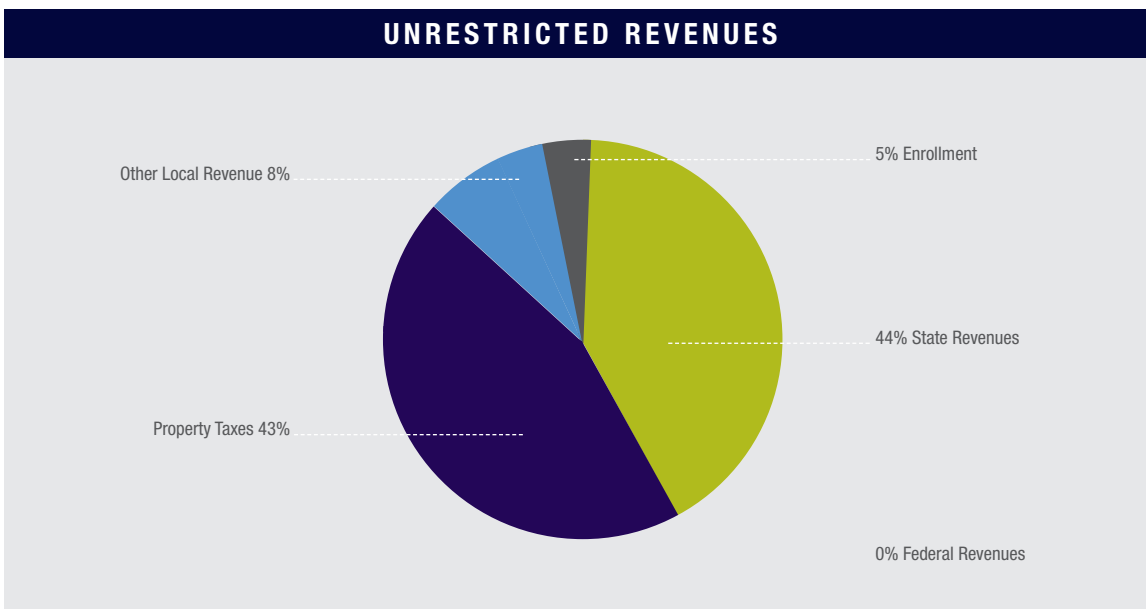


Report on Staffing for Fall 2007, CCCC MIS Database for the reporting period Fall Term 2007

Contra Costa County has experienced shifting employment growth over the last five years. While some of the region's traditional industries—including farming, natural resources and mining, and manufacturing—have declined in recent years, jobs have grown at a rate of 15.3 percent overall. Locally, growth has occurred in a range of areas. Most notably, these are leisure and hospitality; education and health services; finance, insurance, and real estate; professional and business services; and construction. The education and health care fields comprise 20 percent of the total workforce. Over the next three years, the region projects high growth in the fields of nursing, computer support, and health technology, all positions requiring two-year degrees. High-growth occupations requiring some level of career and technical training also include administrative assistants, health field aides and assistants, teaching assistants, and carpenters.



On a funding level, recent budgetary constraints at the State level may require the District to redouble its efforts to diversify funding sources. The challenges facing the State and the District will require assessing resource needs and strategies. The overall level of need will rise dramatically with population growth, and the educational needs of new county residents could require even higher levels of funding to support the practices and support services known to be effective for students needing basic skills. Assessing resource needs will be especially important given current funding levels. In 2007-2008, total District resources for the unrestricted general fund were \$190.8 million, and unrestricted expenditures were \$161.7 million.



A photograph of three people—two women and one man—gathered around a laptop, looking at the screen with interest. The man on the left is wearing glasses and a light blue t-shirt. The woman in the middle is wearing a blue top and a black turtleneck. The woman on the right is wearing a brown jacket. The background is a soft-focus green wall. The text 'CORE BELIEFS' is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font on the right side of the image.

CORE BELIEFS

Guiding all District affairs and operations is the District's steadfast resolve to maintain openness in all activities and decisions (transparency); to involve all constituent groups (engagement); to collect and analyze data to improve outcomes (a culture of evidence); to take responsibility for all actions (accountability); to ensure all groups play a role in critical decisions (participatory decision-making); and to strive for ongoing economic vitality, environmental health, and social equity (sustainability).

VALUES

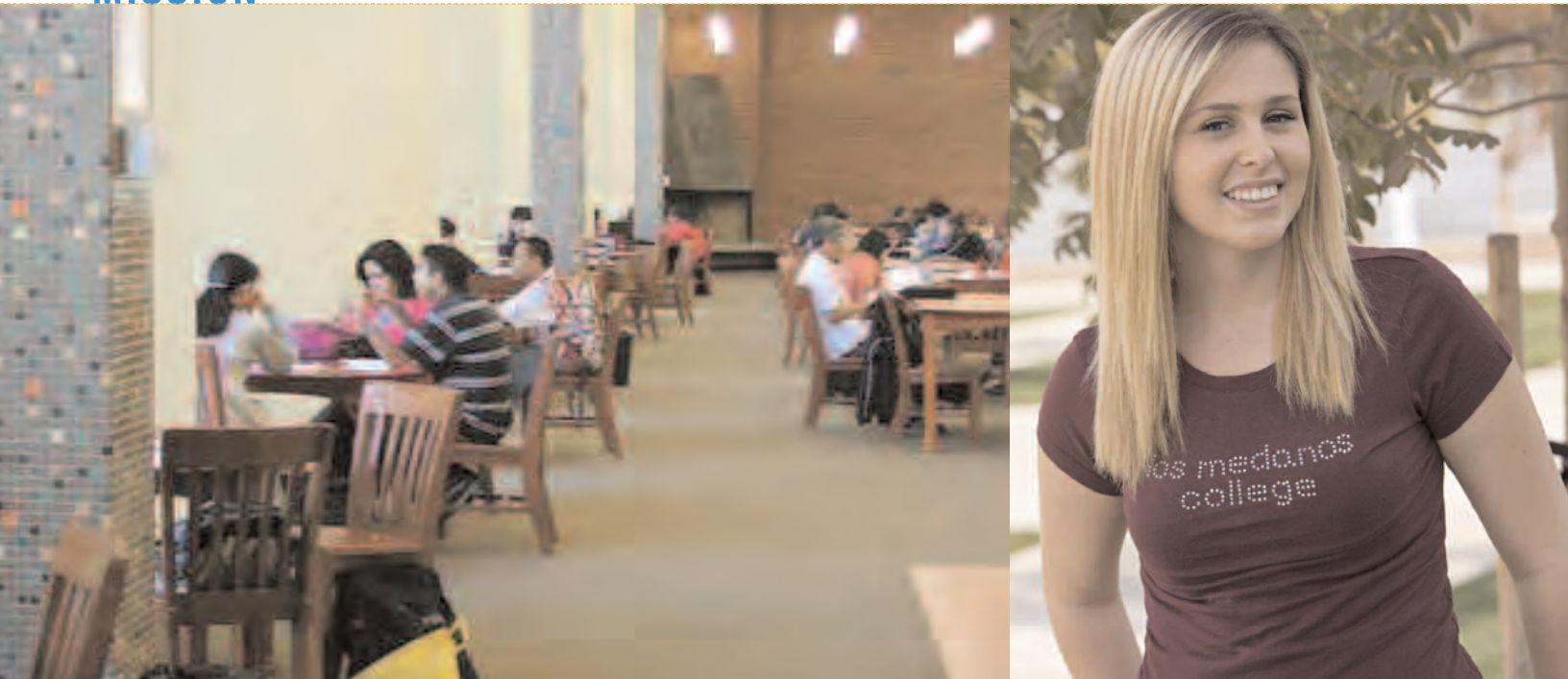
Committed to the following core values, the Contra Costa Community College District strives to reflect them in its service to students and the community.

- **Learning:** The District appreciates the inherent value of learning. It is the reason we exist. Through learning, people grow and communities flourish. Learning opens our minds, strengthens our awareness, and expands the world of the possible. With this understanding, the District pursues excellence in its teaching and support services, seeks to be responsive to the needs of its students and the community at large, and inspires all members of our community to view learning in a global context.
- **Social Justice through Access and Equity:** Recognizing that a fundamental goal of a democratic society is the development of human potential, the District promotes social justice and equity by embracing the principle that humanity is made up of people representing an immense universe of different thoughts, beliefs, abilities, traits, characteristics, and life situations. The District is dedicated to an environment of mutual understanding and respect among staff, students and the communities they represent. We actively work towards the elimination of all forms of prejudice and discrimination. Moreover, we promote open access and inclusion through our actions, as well as a commitment to advocacy for and the allocation of proper resources to meet the needs of the students and communities we serve. By increasing equitable access to the benefits of education, we contribute to the region's cultural and economic vitality.
- **Integrity:** The District respects the integral relationship between words, plans, and actions. We do our utmost to adhere to the overarching principles we espouse, always with an eye toward honesty and openness. By building a culture of evidence and promoting accountability, we certify the importance of integrity.
- **Academic Freedom:** The District values the freedom of faculty and students to pursue knowledge without constraint and to explore the life of the mind and express observations in an open, responsible, and respectful academic environment. Only in such a free environment can imagination thrive and intellectual skills develop.
- **Innovation:** The District understands that a dynamic learning environment is dependent upon a culture where creativity and risk-taking are encouraged and rewarded. We promote innovation in all areas and encourage our faculty, students, and staff to evaluate our effectiveness and continuously explore opportunities to improve and enhance our organization, methods, and systems.
- **Stewardship:** The District embraces its role in ensuring the sustainability, safety, and fiscal stability of the Colleges. Through diligent care and cultivation of our resources we are planning for a strong future, preparing today for a healthy tomorrow.

VISION

The Contra Costa Community College District – providing an empowering and inspiring environment in which to work, learn, and grow – is a premier educational organization where individuals of diverse backgrounds and cultures share a passion for learning and where there is energy, enthusiasm, and pride among students, faculty, and staff.

MISSION



The mission of the Contra Costa Community College District is to attract and transform students and communities by providing accessible, innovative and outstanding higher education learning opportunities and support services.

This **Mission** reflects the District's commitment to a culture of student learning and success that prepares students to lead thriving and productive lives. The following five areas of educational focus advance the Mission.

- **General and Transfer Education:** Providing a challenging education in the liberal arts and sciences which prepares students for life and transfer to four-year institutions
- **Economic and Workforce Development:** Supplying relevant and timely career and technical education to develop skills for the global workplace and to contribute to the region's economic vitality
- **Basic Skills:** Preparing students for success in life and academic programs by improving their skills in math, reading and writing
- **English as a Second Language (ESL) Education:** Implementing quality language programs for students speaking English as a second language
- **Lifelong Learning:** Offering a variety of courses and experiences that support learning throughout a lifetime

A photograph of a modern building courtyard. In the foreground, a man sits on a black metal bench, looking towards a fountain with several water jets. To the left, another bench is visible, and a few people are walking in the background. The building has a stone-clad lower level and large windows above. The scene is bright and sunny.

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

The District developed a series of overarching goals and objectives in order to advance the Mission and to guide the District's ongoing work. In addition, the District identified potential strategies to achieve objectives and performance measures to monitor effectiveness. A one-page summary of goals and corresponding objectives is shown in Appendix A.

GOAL AREAS

The District has established five key goal areas, each of which is critical to the fulfillment of the Mission:

Goal 1 STUDENT LEARNING AND SUCCESS

Significantly improve the success of our diverse student body in pursuit of their educational and career goals with special emphasis on closing the student achievement gap.

Goal 2 COLLEGE AWARENESS AND ACCESS

Increase awareness of and equitable access to Contra Costa Community College District for a changing and diverse population.

Goal 3 PARTNERSHIPS FOR WORKFORCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Support partnerships for workforce and economic development through education and leadership in collaboration with government, community organizations, business, and industry.

Goal 4 ORGANIZATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS

Improve the effectiveness of Districtwide planning, operations, resource allocation, and decision-making.

Goal 5 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Provide sound stewardship of the District's physical and fiscal assets to ensure a sustainable economic future consistent with our values, vision, and mission.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Performance measurement provides valuable management information, supports good decision-making, forces a clear articulation of desired results, and translates those results into measurable indicators. Using indicators developed through the *ARCC Core Indicators of Effectiveness* as well as other performance measures developed internally, the District will evaluate progress toward achievement of the goals and objectives.

STRATEGIES TO ACHIEVE OBJECTIVES

Each goal area also contains a list of proposed strategies to guide the development of action steps that will accomplish the desired objectives. These strategies represent what we believe are the most appropriate means and methods that the District can utilize to ensure success. Individual strategies can serve multiple objectives, and a single objective may be served by more than one strategy. Appendix D illustrates the links between potential strategies and objectives. The intent is to provide an extensive “menu” of approaches available to meet our objectives and arrive at our goals.

ACTION STEPS

The District will establish a series of processes, initiatives, and actions to ensure effective implementation of the Plan. The District will assess the strategies and action steps annually to guarantee future success.

PLAN FRAMEWORK



GOAL 1

STUDENT LEARNING AND SUCCESS:

Significantly improve the success of our diverse student body in pursuit of their educational and career goals, with special emphasis on closing the student achievement gap.

The District's primary goal is to advance student success, both in terms of performance in the Colleges and in later achievements in education and the workplace. Any measurement of student success must be comprehensive and fair, yet rigorous. Measurement of success must include evaluating critical thinking skills, vocational abilities, and to the extent possible, the desire to engage in lifelong learning and the ability to engage in a complex and interconnected world.

In order to advance student learning and success, the District will allocate resources to the Colleges and provide the necessary oversight to create an effective support network that assesses and improves student learning, establishes principles for student success, and maintains a service-oriented culture. The District will also work with the University of California and California State University systems to increase opportunities for community college students. In addition, we will address our students' post-academic success through evaluating such measures as the Career Technical Education (CTE)/Perkins Assessment improvement outcomes.

Objectives

- 1.1 Increase the percentage of students who transfer to a variety of four-year institutions while narrowing the transfer gap across subgroups.
- 1.2 Increase the percentage of students who receive relevant and timely training for the workplace while narrowing the achievement gap across subgroups.
- 1.3 Increase the percentage of Limited English Proficient (LEP) students who become proficient in the English language.
- 1.4 Increase the percentage of students who are proficient in Basic Skills while narrowing the proficiency gap across subgroups.



Potential Strategies to Achieve Goal 1 Objectives

- Foster a learning culture that promotes high student expectations and performance.
- Implement student learning outcomes at the course, program and institutional level.
- Implement student equity plans to improve achievement for all students.
- Adjust student support services to meet student needs on an ongoing basis.
- Develop programs for at-risk students.
- Continue to use learning communities.
- Provide a range of teaching and learning pedagogies and multiple modes of instructional delivery.
- Engage in partnerships with four-year institutions to facilitate articulation and transfer.
- Respond and adjust quickly to CTE trends.
- Develop rubrics for evaluating curricula that are relevant to changing labor demands.

Performance Measures

- Successful student course completion (C or better)
- Persistence
- Transfer readiness
- Student satisfaction
- ESL and basic skills improvement rates
- Performance after program completion
- Student Learning Outcomes at course, program and institutional level
- Number of awards (e.g., certificates, degrees, etc.)
- Number of visits to various student service areas

GOAL 2

COLLEGE AWARENESS AND ACCESS

Increase awareness of and equitable access to Contra Costa Community College District for a changing and diverse population.

The District proactively responds to the community it serves, providing access to high quality education and delivering comprehensive support services to reduce or eliminate significant barriers, promote diversity, and achieve equity.

Increasing awareness of and access to higher education will require the District to keep pace with the needs of prospective students and improve outreach to elementary and secondary schools throughout the county. Research shows that early awareness of college as a viable option increases participation rates. While honoring the unique characteristics of each individual College, the District can support the Colleges in enhancing their image and reputation as a means of attracting students.

Objectives

- 2.1 Increase awareness of our Colleges as a source for higher education, career preparation, and lifelong learning options for our diverse community.
- 2.2 Increase equitable access to our Colleges for a diverse population of learners.
- 2.3 Hire and retain employees who are sensitive to and knowledgeable of the needs of our continually changing student body.



Potential Strategies to Achieve Goal 2 Objectives

- Provide support services and programs to reduce barriers to student access.
- Implement and evaluate enrollment management plans for maximum access and awareness.
- Expand outreach to underserved populations.
- Expand partnerships with K-12, business and community providers.
- Identify and implement new programs and activities to meet community needs.
- Expand professional development opportunities.
- Increase the number and percentage of full-time faculty and staff.

Performance Measures

- Participation rates for all students
- College-going rates for high school graduates in Contra Costa County
- Number of outreach visits to K-12 schools
- Number of partnerships implemented with K-12, businesses, and community organizations
- Number of new programs and activities developed to meet community needs
- Full-time, part-time faculty and staff ratios
- Number of new full-time faculty and staff

GOAL 3

PARTNERSHIPS FOR WORKFORCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

Support economic and workforce development through education and leadership in collaboration with government, community organizations, business, and industry.

The District is dedicated to the ongoing cultural and economic strength of the region. In response to changing demographic trends and shifting economic needs, the District supports a range of economic development programs and partnerships with business, labor, and industry that serves students seeking to enter the workforce as well as employers in search of qualified workers.

Any partnership development strategy must keep pace with community needs and priorities and will necessitate a diverse set of programs and services to maintain the District's commitment to Contra Costa County's long-term cultural and economic vitality.



Objectives

- 3.1 Increase percentage of students successfully entering the workforce.
- 3.2 Increase District participation in workforce and economic development activities.
- 3.3 Increase collaborative initiatives with educational partners from preschool through four-year institutions, business and industry, government, and community organizations to increase economic vitality and supply well-qualified workers for current and emerging industries in Contra Costa County.

Potential Strategies to Achieve Goal 3 Objectives

- Identify community needs on an annual basis.
- Provide programs and collaborate with county agencies to meet the educational, training, and skill-development needs of businesses within the region.
- Provide programs and adjust curricula to prepare students for success in a global, multi-cultural society.
- Provide leadership on critical issues at the local, regional, national, and global levels.
- Strengthen community and alumni relationships.
- Create programs to meet the educational needs of government, business, and industry.
- Initiate and enhance industry partnerships and facilitate collaborative strategies to meet industry needs and place students into jobs.
- Align degrees and certificates with industry needs, creating opportunities for students to enter the workforce.
- Host collaborative community forums.
- Initiate alumni development programs for the Colleges to promote partnerships and expand funding sources.

Performance Measures

- Licensure and certification pass rates
- Community needs survey
- Responsiveness to community needs (e.g., number of new courses offered, expanded offerings, etc.)
- Level of community participation (e.g., board memberships, cultural events, etc.)
- CTE core performance indicators

GOAL 4

ORGANIZATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS:

Improve the effectiveness of Districtwide planning, operations, resource allocation, and decision-making.

Organizational processes play a critical role in student success and overall institutional effectiveness. The District will continually improve and refine its systems and processes in order to provide efficient and effective support to the Colleges and our students.

Human resources are a key component of organizational effectiveness. To that end, the District seeks to achieve diversity throughout the District Office and the Colleges; address tensions and boundary issues; maintain morale; and build a sense of teamwork and collaboration among the Colleges and District Office. The District also works to improve communications; align the District and College budgets with District and College values, priorities, and plans; and maintain flexibility and transparency in the budgeting process.



Objectives

- 4.1 Use accurate data and information as a basis for decision-making.
- 4.2 Evaluate and improve the effectiveness of services provided by the District Office.
- 4.3 Implement, align, evaluate, and improve strategic planning processes within the District on an ongoing basis.
- 4.4 Increase the creation and implementation of professional development programs to prepare employees for internal promotional opportunities and also enhance their knowledge, skills, and abilities.

Potential Strategies to Achieve Goal 4 Objectives

- Promote trust through transparency in actions and decision-making and openness in communications.
- Conduct succession planning at the Colleges and District Office as part of human resources planning.
- Educate staff and students on history and purpose of shared governance.
- Document functions, roles, responsibilities, and accomplishments of District committees and councils.
- Review and evaluate committee and council structure to improve engagement and effectiveness.
- Encourage exchange of information among constituents.
- Create consistent procedures and formats for staff and committee reports, agendas, and minutes.
- Orient staff on how to access and utilize information from reports and minutes.
- Encourage broad-based student participation in student government and shared governance.
- Evaluate constituency satisfaction with shared governance.
- Clarify decision-making roles, responsibilities, and accountability among the Colleges and District Office.

Performance Measures

- Stakeholder satisfaction
- Student satisfaction with quality of services and programs across the Colleges
- Number of approved and implemented plans
- Employment diversity profiles
- Performance evaluations
- Full-time to part-time faculty and staff ratios

GOAL 5

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT:

Provide sound stewardship of the District's physical and fiscal assets to ensure a sustainable economic future consistent with our values, vision, and mission.

A strong District financial foundation is essential to support student learning and success. In uncertain economic times, it is more important than ever for the District to manage resources with diligence and forethought and to explore new and innovative funding methods.

The District seeks to create an ongoing and sustainable planning process model that includes developing strategies and tools to assist financial planning and resource development. By implementing some degree of standardization in business systems, the District can become more efficient and fiscally prudent without losing the unique identity of each College. Identifying the District's "right size" is a key issue that will impact future resource allocation.



Objectives

- 5.1 Manage enrollment to maximize District productivity.
- 5.2 Diversify funding sources to increase the level of discretionary control over resources and increase the total funding received by the Colleges.
- 5.3 Allocate resources according to planning priorities.
- 5.4 Increase operational and administrative efficiency to deliver educational services utilizing the most cost-effective methods.
- 5.5 Develop practices and procedures that promote sustainability in all areas of the District, including but not limited to, instruction, operations, construction, facilities, land use, energy, water conservation, and environmental integrity.

Potential Strategies to Achieve Goal 5 Objectives

- Develop planning processes that link budget priorities to program review.
- Maximize revenue-generating opportunities.
- Establish a budget line item for strategic priorities.
- Identify the District's "right size," considering factors such as management, faculty, and classified staffing levels; facilities; and equipment.
- Expand grant-writing activities to increase sources and levels of funding.
- Increase utilization of technology for greater productivity and efficiency.
- Educate all constituents regarding funding.
- Consider the use of outsourcing where appropriate.
- Look at different budget methodologies, e.g., zero-base budgets.
- Centralize appropriate services for cost effectiveness.
- Establish efficiency targets.
- Increase awareness of initiatives and actions that promote sustainability.
- Create base lines and targets to "reduce, reuse & recycle."
- Meet requirements for LEED certification or equal for new construction projects.
- Reduce green house gases to 1990 levels by 2020.

Performance Measures

- Student enrollment trends
- Funding levels
- California Community Colleges System Office Monitoring and Assessment of Fiscal Conditions, FS05-05
- Facilities utilization
- Dashboard indicators for enrollment management
- Full-Time Equivalent Student to Full-Time Equivalent Faculty, Management and Classified ratios

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A: SUMMARY OF GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

GOALS	OBJECTIVES
<p>GOAL 1 STUDENT LEARNING AND SUCCESS: Significantly improve the success of our diverse student body in pursuit of their educational and career goals with special emphasis on closing the student achievement gap.</p>	<p>1.1 Increase the percentage of students who transfer to a variety of four-year institutions while narrowing the transfer gap across subgroups. 1.2 Increase the percentage of students who receive relevant and timely training for the workplace while narrowing the achievement gap across subgroups. 1.3 Increase the percentage of Limited English Proficient (LEP) students who become proficient in the English language. 1.4 Increase the percentage of students who are proficient in Basic Skills while narrowing the proficiency gap across subgroups.</p>
<p>GOAL 2 COLLEGE AWARENESS AND ACCESS: Increase awareness of and equitable access to Contra Costa Community College District for a changing and diverse population.</p>	<p>2.1 Increase awareness of our Colleges as a source for higher education, career preparation, and lifelong learning options for our diverse community. 2.2 Increase equitable access to our Colleges for a diverse population of learners. 2.3 Hire and retain employees who are sensitive to and knowledgeable of the needs of our continually changing student body.</p>
<p>GOAL 3 PARTNERSHIPS FOR WORKFORCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: Support economic and workforce development through education and leadership in collaboration with government, community organizations, business, and industry.</p>	<p>3.1 Increase the percentage of students successfully entering the workforce. 3.2 Increase District participation in workforce and economic development activities. 3.3 Increase collaborative initiatives with educational partners from preschool through four-year institutions, business and industry, government, and community organizations to increase economic vitality and supply well-qualified workers for current and emerging industries in Contra Costa County.</p>
<p>GOAL 4 ORGANIZATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS: Improve the effectiveness of Districtwide planning, operations, resource allocation, and decision-making.</p>	<p>4.1 Use accurate data and information as a basis for decision-making. 4.2 Evaluate and improve the effectiveness of services provided by the District Office. 4.3 Implement, align, evaluate, and improve strategic planning processes within the District on an ongoing basis. 4.4 Increase the creation and implementation of professional development programs to prepare employees for internal promotional opportunities and also enhance their knowledge, skills, and abilities.</p>
<p>GOAL 5 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT: Provide sound stewardship of the District's physical and fiscal assets to ensure a sustainable economic future consistent with our values, vision, and mission.</p>	<p>5.1 Manage enrollment to maximize District productivity. 5.2 Diversify funding sources to increase the level of discretionary control over resources and increase the total funding received by the Colleges. 5.3 Allocate resources according to planning priorities. 5.4 Increase operational and administrative efficiency to deliver educational services utilizing the most cost-effective methods. 5.5 Develop practices and procedures that promote sustainability in all areas of the District, including but not limited to, instruction, operations, construction, facilities, land use, energy, water conservation, and environmental integrity.</p>

APPENDIX B: DEFINITION OF TERMS

The Strategic Plan uses the following terms:

- **Values.** Desirable qualities that will guide plan implementation.
- **Vision.** The preferred future for the District.
- **Mission.** Purpose and primary focus areas of the District.
- **Strategic Directions.** The compilation of goals, objectives, performance measures and strategies.
- **Goals.** Directions for long-range change.
- **Objectives.** Desired results that are measurable and time-specific.
- **Strategies.** Specific actions and initiatives that will achieve the stated objective. One strategy may have a beneficial effect on multiple goals and objectives.
- **Performance Measures.** Quantitative and qualitative tools used to evaluate the effectiveness of particular strategies.
- **Crosswalk.** A tool used to map relationships and equivalencies across multiple data sources.

APPENDIX C: DISTRICT PLANNING CROSSWALK

CCCCD Strategic Plan 2009-14	CCC Strategic Initiatives 2007-12	DVC Strategic Plan 2006-11	LMC Educational Master Plan 2006-16
<p>GOAL 1 STUDENT LEARNING AND SUCCESS: Significantly improve the success of our diverse student body in pursuit of their educational and career goals, with special emphasis on closing the student achievement gap.</p>	<p>GOAL #1 – Improve student learning experiences and successful educational goal completion. GOAL #2 – Develop strategies to increase student enrollment, to improve the College's image, and to create positive public awareness about the College. GOAL #3 – Utilize research and data to improve College effectiveness.</p>	<p>A. Becoming a Learning College A-1. Assess student learning outcomes. A-2. Enhance student success. A-3. Improve the progress of at-risk students. A-4. Expand the learning communities. A-6. Implement multicultural perspectives.</p>	<p>GOAL #1 – Improve the learning of students. GOAL #2 – Create an educational environment in which all people have a chance to develop their potential and achieve their educational goals. GOAL #3 – Offer high quality programs that meet the needs of students and the community.</p>
<p>GOAL 2 COLLEGE AWARENESS AND ACCESS: Increase awareness of and equitable access to Contra Costa Community College District for a changing and diverse population.</p>	<p>GOAL #2 – Develop strategies to increase student enrollment, to improve the College's image, and to create positive public awareness about the College.</p>	<p>A-5. Expand the modes of delivery B. Realizing the Potential of All Students B-1. Improve school outreach. B-2. Strengthen enrollment management. B-3. Create a seamless transition for student progress B-4. Strengthen services to under-represented groups B-5. Create and implement new retention strategies B-6. Engage students in college activities. E-1. Strengthen professional development. E-2. Diversify human resources.</p>	<p>GOAL #3 – Offer high quality programs that meet the needs of students and the community. GOAL #2 – Create an educational environment in which all people have a chance to develop their potential and achieve their educational goals.</p>
<p>GOAL 3 PARTNERSHIPS FOR WORKFORCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: Support economic and workforce development through education and leadership in collaboration with government, community organizations, business, and industry.</p>	<p>GOAL #2 – Develop strategies to increase student enrollment, to improve the College's image, and to create positive public awareness about the College.</p>	<p>B-7. Strengthen collaborations with four-year institutions. C. Enhancing the Region's Economic Development C-1. Create new programs to meet community needs. C-2. Enhance industry partnerships. C-3. Develop community partnerships. C-4. Align degrees and certificates with industry needs.</p>	<p>GOAL #3 – Offer high quality programs that meet the needs of students and the community.</p>
<p>GOAL 4 ORGANIZATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS: Improve the effectiveness of Districtwide planning, operations, resource allocation, and decision-making.</p>	<p>GOAL #1 – Improve student learning experiences and successful educational goal completion. GOAL #2 – Develop strategies to increase student enrollment, to improve the College's image, and to create positive public awareness about the College. GOAL #3 – Utilize research and data to improve College effectiveness.</p>	<p>D. Demonstrating Institutional Learning and Effectiveness D-1. Align program review with funding and staffing. D-2. Use relevant data for decision making. D-5. Improve organizational effectiveness. E-5. Develop long-term plans for the College. F-2. Involve stakeholders in decision making.</p>	<p>GOAL #5 – Enhance a culture of innovation, inclusiveness and collaboration. GOAL #6: - Establish a culture of research and planning, implementing, assessing and improving.</p>
<p>GOAL 5 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT: Provide sound stewardship of the District's physical and fiscal assets to ensure a sustainable economic future consistent with our values, vision, and mission.</p>	<p>GOAL #3 – Utilize research and data to improve College effectiveness.</p>	<p>B-2. Strengthen enrollment management. D-3. Align budget priorities with strategic plan. D-4. Develop measures of effectiveness. E. Enhancing College Resources E-3. Diversify funding sources. E-4. Implement strategies to make the campus attractive. E-6. Expand efforts to sustain and improve the environment. F. Strengthening College Communication F-1. Encourage the exchange of information among constituents. F-3. Enhance effective communication with students.</p>	<p>GOAL #4 – Ensure the fiscal well being of the College</p>

APPENDIX D: STRATEGIES AND OBJECTIVES MATRIX

Goal 1		Goal 2		Goal 3		Goal 4		Goal 5	
Strategies	Objectives	Strategies	Objectives	Strategies	Objectives	Strategies	Objectives	Strategies	Objectives
Foster a learning culture that promotes high student expectations and performance.	1.1 1.2 1.3	Provide support services and programs to reduce barriers to student access.	2.1 2.2	Identify community needs on an annual basis.	3.1 3.2	Promote trust through transparency in actions and decision-making and openness in communications.	4.1	Develop planning processes that link budget priorities to program review.	5.2 5.3
Implement student learning outcomes at the course, program and institutional level.	1.1 1.2 1.3 1.4	Implement and evaluate enrollment management plans for maximum access and awareness. (Objectives 2.1, 2.2)	2.1 2.2	Provide programs and collaborate with county agencies to meet the educational, training and skill-development needs of businesses within the region.	3.1 3.2	Conduct succession planning at Colleges and District Office as part of Human Resources Plan.	4.2 4.4	Maximize revenue-generating opportunities.	5.2
Implement student equity plans to improve achievement for all students.	1.1 1.2 1.3 1.4	Expand outreach to underserved populations.	2.1 2.2	Provide programs and adjust curricula to prepare students for success in a global, multi-cultural society.	3.1 3.2	Educate staff and students on history and purpose of shared governance.	4.1 4.2	Establish a budget line item for strategic priorities.	5.2
Adjust student support services to meet student needs on an on-going basis.	1.1 1.2 1.3 1.4	Expand partnerships with K-12, business and community providers.	2.1 2.2	Provide leadership on critical issues at the local, regional, national and global levels.	3.1 3.2	Document functions, roles, responsibilities and accomplishments of District committees and councils; review and evaluate committee and council structure to improve engagement and effectiveness.	4.1	Identify the District's "right size" considering factors such as management, faculty and classified staffing levels; facilities; and equipment.	5.1
Develop programs for at-risk students. (Objective 1.4)	1.4	Identify and implement new programs and activities to meet community needs.	2.1 2.2	Strengthen community and alumni relationships.	3.1 3.2	Encourage exchange of information among constituents.	4.1	Expand grant-writing activities to expand sources and levels of funding.	5.2
Continue to use learning communities.	1.4	Expand professional development opportunities.	2.3	Create programs to meet the educational needs of government, business and industry.	3.1 3.2	Create consistent procedures and formats for staff and committee reports, agendas and minutes.	4.1	Increase utilization of technology to increase productivity and efficiency.	5.4 5.1
Provide a range of teaching and learning pedagogies and multiple modes of instructional delivery.	1.2 1.3 1.4	Increase the number and percentage of full-time faculty and staff.	2.3	Initiate and enhance industry partnerships and facilitate collaborative strategies to meet industry needs and place students into jobs.	3.1 3.2	Orient staff on how to access and utilize information from reports and minutes.	4.1	Educate all constituents regarding funding.	
Engage in partnerships with four-year institutions to facilitate articulation and transfer.	1.1			Align degrees and certificates with industry needs, creating opportunities for students to enter the workforce.	3.1 3.2	Encourage broad-based student participation in student government and shared governance.	4.4	Consider the use of outsourcing where appropriate.	5.4
Respond and adjust quickly to CTE trends.	1.2			Host collaborative community forums.	3.1 3.2	Evaluate constituency satisfaction with shared governance.	4.1	Look at different budget methodologies, e.g. zero-base budgets.	5.3
Develop rubrics for evaluating curricula that are relevant to changing labor demands.	1.2			Initiate alumni development programs for the Colleges to promote partnerships and expand funding sources.	3.1 3.2	Clarify decision-making roles, responsibilities and accountability among the Colleges and District office.	4.1	Centralize appropriate service for cost effectiveness.	5.4
								Establish efficiency targets.	5.4
								Increase awareness of initiatives and actions that promote sustainability.	5.5
								Create base lines and targets to "reduce, reuse & recycle."	5.5
								Meet requirements for LEED certification or equal for new construction projects.	5.5
								Reduce green house gases to 1990 levels by 2020.	5.5

APPENDIX E: REFERENCES

- *Accountability Reporting for the Community Colleges (ARCC) Core Indicators of Effectiveness*
- *American Community Survey 2007*
- *Board of Trustees Meeting 12-10-08*
- *Bond Measure Report 2007–2008*
- *Contra Costa College Strategic Plan 2007–12*
- *Contra Costa Council Workforce Development/Education Task Force, 2008-2013 Policy Paper*
- *Community College League of California Fast Facts 2008*
- *Chancellor’s Cabinet Meeting 11-25-08*
- *Community College Market Scan Results 2008*
- *District Governance Council Meeting 12-02-08*
- *District Strategic Plan 2001–2006*
- *Draft Strategic Plan 2007–2010*
- *Diablo Valley College Strategic Plan 2006–11*
- *Economic Impact Study 2006*
- *Environmental Scan 2006*
- *Los Medanos College Educational Master Plan 2006*



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