Partnership for Student Success: Keeping the Doors Open at Compton College

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CELEBRATING 50 YEARS  
PAST IS PROLOGUE  
BUILDING A BRIDGE TO THE FUTURE

#ACCT2019
The Compton Community College was established in 1927 as a component of the Compton Union High School District.

In 1950, voters approved a bond issue separating the college from the high school district.

Classes began on the new campus in fall 1956.

In the spring of 2004, the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges, as authorized under California Assembly Bill 61, appointed a Special Trustee and suspended the authority of the Board of Trustees of the Compton Community College District.
History of Compton Community College District

• The Special Trustee had sole authority over Compton Community College District’s assets, contracts, expenditures, facilities, funds, personnel, and property.

• In the Spring of 2004, the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) conducted a visit to Compton Community College.

• During this visit the Commission noted that Compton Community College was out of compliance with the Commission standards and on January 31, 2005 placed the institution on Show Cause.
On June 17, 2005, the ACCJC took action to terminate the accreditation of Compton Community College.

On June 30, 2006, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger signed AB 318 (Dymally) into law, giving the Compton Community College District (CCCD) a $30 million loan for recovery and the opportunity to partner with a college in good standing with the ACCJC to offer accredited courses.
History of Compton Community College District

• On August 21, 2006, the El Camino Community College District Board of Trustees and the Compton District Special Trustee approved a Memorandum of Understanding between the El Camino Community College District and the Compton District.

• ACCJC and Compton Community College Communications Prior to August 2006 are available online at: www.compton.edu/district/history/communication

• On January 31, 2017, the Director of the Department of Finance and the Chancellor of California Community Colleges issued a joint letter supporting the return of local governing authority to the Compton CCD Board of Trustees. In a letter dated February 10, 2017, Governor Jerry Brown concurred.

• Communications pertaining to the Return of Local Authority are available online at www.compton.edu/district/history/return-of-local-authority.
• California Assembly Bill 318 provided the framework for continued delivery of educational programs within the Compton District through a partnering college.

• Primary intent of the partnership agreement was to assist Compton College with recovery and eventual accreditation.

• Academic programs and student support services were under the oversight of El Camino College.

• The superintendent/president of El Camino College had oversight of the Compton College during the partnership.
The Compton College president directed the educational programs and activities at the Compton College. The president reported directly to the superintendent/president of El Camino College, and acted as the CEO to the Compton District Board of Trustees.

Educational Programs from El Camino College were offered at the Compton campus. Degrees and certificates were awarded by El Camino College for students served at the Compton campus.

**Partnership Agreement** between El Camino Community College District and Compton Community College District.

Final **Partnership Agreement** was adopted by the CCCD Special Trustee and the El Camino College Board of Trustees in November 2016.
Compton Community College District/El Camino Community College District Partnership

- El Camino Community College District Board of Trustees approved Resolution No. 10-15-2018 at its October 15, 2018 meeting.
- Compton Community College District Board of Trustees approved Resolution No. 10-16-2018A at its October 16, 2018 meeting terminating the Partnership Agreement dated November 30, 2016.
- Effective June 7, 2019, at 11:59 p.m., the partnership agreement between the two districts ended.
- At this time, Compton College operates as an independent college under the authority of the Compton Community College District Board of Trustees.
Compton College Accreditation

- **ACCJC Action Letter**: Approval of Substantive Change Application - changing local control from El Camino Community College District to the Compton Community College District (August 27, 2018).

- **Executive Order 2018-01**: Letter from Chancellor Eloy Oakley recognizing Compton College as the 114th California Community College under the authority of the CCCD (August 20, 2018).

- **ACCJC Action Letter**: Compton College’s Quality Focus Essay Report is accepted by the ACCJC (January 26, 2018).

- **ACCJC Action Letter**: ACCJC grants initial accreditation to Compton College (June 7, 2017).

- **ACCJC Action Letters**: Compton Center Eligibility Application was approved by ACCJC (March 18, 2015).

For more information about the Process to Accreditation, go online to: [www.compton.edu/campusinformation/accreditation/](http://www.compton.edu/campusinformation/accreditation/).
Role of the Boards of Trustees During Partnership

Compton CCD
- Oversight of the Compton Community College District operations (Business Services, Facilities, Human Resources, Information Technology Services, and legal).
- Worked with state-appointed Special Trustee.
- Oversight of the Compton CCD’s Measure CC and Measure C bond funds.
- Hiring and the evaluation of Compton (faculty and staff), subject to approval and input from El Camino CCD.

El Camino CCD
- Decision making process for entering into the partnership.
- Oversight for academic and student services programs offered at the Compton College campus.
- Complex mix of responsibilities and relationships in order to serve students.
- Compton employees (faculty and staff) remained employees of Compton CCD.
- Students at the Compton campus remained students of El Camino CCD.
Role of the Boards of Trustees During Partnership

- Working through difficult issues
- Staying focused on student success
- Following the partnership agreement and approving modifications as milestones were achieved
- Regular reports on progress at both board meetings
- Oversight of the Partnership Development plan and the Partnership Transition Plan
- Celebration of successful conclusion of the partnership
Compton College Annual Enrollment

Compton College Annual Enrollment
2008-09 through 2017-18

Total Enrollment (Students)

2008-09 through 2017-18

Academic Year


10,059 12,902 16,203 14,598 13,938 12,651 12,162 11,602 12,370 12,203

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Degrees and Certificates Awarded at Compton College

Degrees and Certificates

- Associate of Arts
- Associate of Science
- Certificates

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Achievements

• Academic programs initiated or expanded during the last 13 years include: Supplemental Instruction, First Year Experience, student-led tutoring, a nursing simulation lab, honors transfer classes, guaranteed transfer partnerships, Upward Bound Math & Science (UBMS), Formerly Incarcerated Students in Transition (FIST) program, a debate team, the Alpha Gamma Sigma Honor and Scholarship Society, and the Historically Black Colleges and Universities transfer program.

• Compton College has initiated a variety of new academic offerings, in addition to enhancing existing Career and Technical Education programs, including cosmetology, robotics, aerospace fastener manufacturing, career advancement, fire academy, and heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC).

• Uninterrupted access to accredited academic programs, Financial Aid, A&R services, fiscal services support, and technical assistance by El Camino College to Compton College during the partnership.
Achievements

• In 2018, Compton College increased the number of dual enrollment courses offered at local high school districts through its Afternoon College Courses, Early College Courses at the Compton Early College High School, and with AB 288 College Courses offered at Compton and Paramount Unified School District high schools.

• Established the Oliver W. Conner College Promise Program with the Compton, Lynwood and Paramount Unified School Districts for Fall 2019.

• El Camino College provided access to curriculum and recognized Compton faculty as members of the El Camino College Academic Senate.

• Continued to safeguard El Camino College’s positive accreditation status while moving the Compton Center to an accredited college within El Camino Community College District and supported the transition of authority to Compton Community College District.
Achievements

• Work continued on the 2002 Measure CC and state capital outlay-funded facilities projects, with many campus improvements including a new central plant, upgraded main north/south road and parking lots, a renovated football stadium, campus theater, weight room renovation, new Library-Student Success Center, student health center, new Allied Health Building, and new cosmetology facility.

• Current projects either in the planning stages or under construction include: a new public safety facility, a student services/administration building, two all-new, multi-story instructional buildings, and renovations to the Vocational Technology and MIS/Math Buildings.

• In 2014, voters approved Measure C, an additional $100 million dollar facilities bond for Compton College.
Lessons Learned from the Partnership

• Placing students at the center of the partnership was critical.
• Takes team work to achieve accomplishments.
• Stable leadership during the partnership between both Boards of Trustees, as well as administration, faculty, and staff.
• Developing priorities and completing tasks are key.
• Relationships with local, state, and federal elected officials are important.
• Ongoing communication with campus and community constituent groups is critical.
Thank You!

QUESTIONS?