

Sent: Thursday, August 27, 2026 11:39 AM

Subject: UPDATED: Weekly Update from Prez Hands - Week of August 24, 2026



Hello Mesa College Community!

Weekly Update from Prez Hands provides a brief overview of the exciting efforts taking place within our community. The updates are also a great way to tell our collective story of success, and to document our journey of becoming the Leading College of Equity and Excellence. Enjoy!

OFFICE OF THE *President*



Thank you to everyone who joined us for Fall Convocation last week! This year's theme, **One Mesa. One Mission.**, celebrated the strength of our collective commitment to our students, one another, and the Mesa College community. We are grateful to everyone who helped make the day meaningful and energizing as we came together to kick off another exciting academic year

One Mesa. One Mission. One community moving forward together.

For photos from the event, please visit our [Mesa College Flickr Album](#).

To view the Convocation Presentation, please visit our [Office of the President page](#).

For our Mesa College Year-In-Review video, please visit the [Office of Communications Hightail link](#).

🔑 **New Professional Learning Opportunity: #RealCollege Curriculum Now at Mesa College! (FLEX#35460)**

Mesa College now offers the [#RealCollege Curriculum](#)—four asynchronous, on-demand courses from [Believe in Students](#) designed to help faculty and staff better support students facing basic needs insecurity.

What's Included:

- **Four-Course Series:** Foundational Basic Needs 101 plus specialized modules, including support for parenting students.
- **Flexible & Practical:** Learn at your own pace with evidence-based tools you can apply right away.
- **Campus Impact:** Strengthen your role in improving our basic needs ecosystem.

🔑 Access the courses by [creating an account](#) and entering our campus code: **Mesa2526** (*Please keep the code internal to our institution.*)

Please reach out to Janue Johnson, jjohnson001@sdccd.edu, if you have any questions. If you encounter technical issues please view this document for accessing the modules: [Guidance for RCC Partners_2026](#)



SAN DIEGO
Community College District
City College · Mesa College · Miramar College
College of Continuing Education

START@SDCCD

New CCCStart process
for an improved student
entry experience

Beginning **September 15, 2026**, CCCApply will transition to **CCCStart**, introducing a new Start@SDCCD process designed to provide students with an improved and more streamlined entry experience.

Learn more about the transition and why the change is being made by watching this brief video: [Why CCCStart?](#)

OFFICE OF *Instruction*

ENROLLMENT
update

Fall 2026 FTES is 6,342 and our headcount is 22,227. For Fall 2026, we are 102.9% towards meeting our goals and anticipate being able to meet our targets even with changes in enrollment and fraudulent "bot" students being removed. As for Fall

2026, the numbers continue to increase, and we have 2.79% more students this week compared to last week. Please note that the data has not yet been calculated based on the new attendance accounting method.

OFFICE OF *Student Services*



Mesa College Leads Binational Education Week, Expanding Pathways for Our Community

San Diego Mesa College led the planning and promotion of the San Diego Mexican Consulate's Semana Binacional de Educación (Binational Education Week), building on a partnership established in November 2025 to connect community members with educational resources and opportunities.

The event brought together universities, community colleges, K-12 schools, adult education programs, ESL providers, workforce training organizations, and other community partners to highlight educational and career pathways. Attendees received information on academic programs, support services, and training opportunities, while a former Mesa College student shared their inspiring journey as an adult learner pursuing higher education. Community members also benefited from additional resources, including free fresh produce and Conchas (Mexican sweet bread) provided by La Planta and backpacks filled with school supplies donated by Northgate Market.

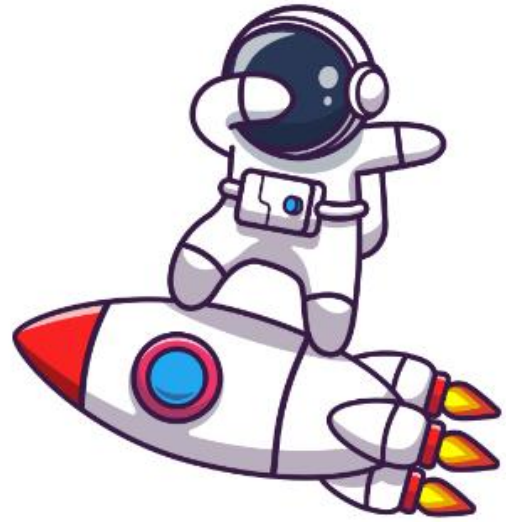
As a result, participants increased their awareness of available educational opportunities, connected directly with local institutions, and gained valuable information to support their academic and career goals.

New Issue Alert

[Click here for the latest Mesa Journeys Newsletter!](#)

The Mesa Journeys newsletter gives a more in-depth look at all the great things that are happening on our campus. We encourage all faculty and staff to pass this along to our students, and also to sign up to receive these newsletters straight to their inboxes! Click below to sign up and for more information about Mesa Journeys:

<https://linktr.ee/mesajourneys>



Click on the flyer to enlarge



OFFICE OF *Administrative Services*

NON-EVENT PARKING PERMIT REQUEST FORM

WELCOME TO THE EVENTS & RESERVATIONS PORTAL

[Create Event](#)
[Edit Event](#)
[Non Event Parking Permits](#)

This form can be used for parking permit requests that are **NOT** related to an event and do not require additional resources or a space/room (i.e. community clinic, meetings in dept. conference rooms, guest speakers during a class, etc.)

- Must be entered two weeks in advance
- Requests require manager approval, similar to Event Requests
- Can be used for single or group permits

Parking related to events will need to be entered as part of an Event Request.

NEW!

Reminder regarding parking permits for events, guest speakers, and meetings.

Event Parking:

All parking for events should be included as part of your Event Request in the [Events & Reservation Portal](#). Please keep in mind that

all event requests must be submitted at least three weeks before the date of your event (longer for large events). More information can be found in the [Event & Reservation Portal FAQs](#).

Non-Event Individual/Group Permits:

Requests for non-event parking can be submitted via the [Non Event Parking Permit Request Form](#) now available on our [webpage](#), within the [Events & Reservations Portal](#). These would include requests that are not part of an "event," such as guest speakers, departmental meeting attendees, etc. that do not require any other support.

OFFICE OF *Institutional Effectiveness*

Summer IE OFFICE HOURS

A DEDICATED TIME TO THINK THROUGH YOUR DATA TOGETHER

EXPLORE DATA
for program review or accreditation

NAVIGATE
our dashboards

UNDERSTAND
what your data is telling you

COLLABORATE
on questions, ideas, or projects

EVERY TUESDAY
12:30–1:30 P.M.

1ST & 3RD

TUESDAYS
In person in the IE Conference Room (A-109)

2ND & 4TH

TUESDAYS
Via Zoom
Meeting ID: 872 4762 5082

Questions?
Ideas?
Projects?

Let's work through them together! ★

We look forward to being your data thought partner.

On behalf of the SDCCD Institutional Review Board (IRB), we are sharing that the district is seeking Mesa College faculty participation on the IRB from Fall 2026 through June 2027.

The IRB supports the review of research involving human participants and helps promote ethical research practices across the district. This opportunity may be a good fit for faculty with experience or interest in research methods, human subjects research, ethics, program evaluation, or applied inquiry.

Commitment details include:

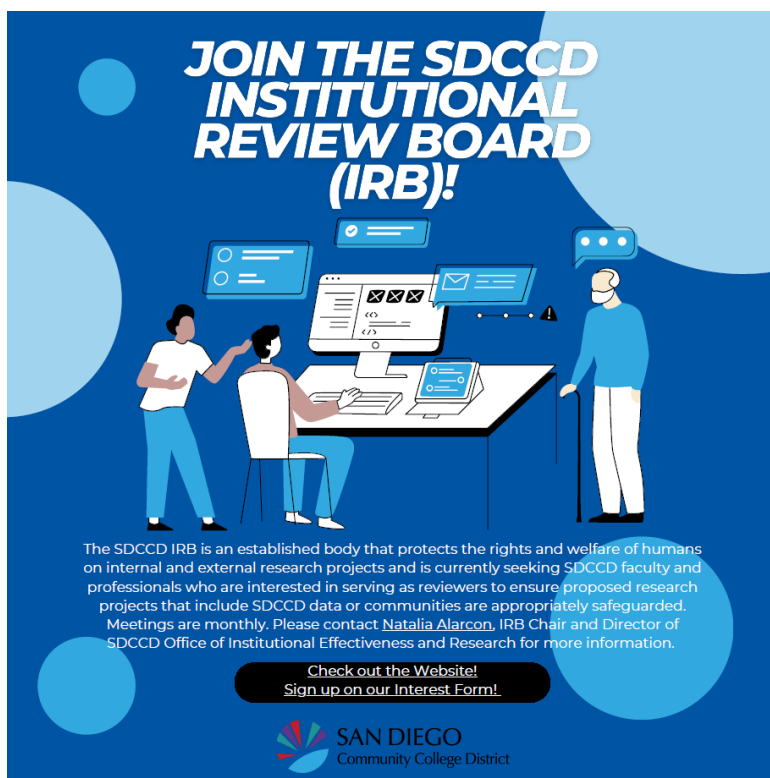
- 1-year term
- One 1.5-hour meeting per month
- Review of approximately 5-6 proposals per semester
- Onboarding and Human Subjects training required
- No summer meetings

Interested faculty are encouraged to reach out to Natalia Alarcón, District IRB Co-Chair, at nalarcon@sdccd.edu.

Learn more by clicking these links:

[SDCCD Institutional Review Board](#) | [IRB Steps to Become a Member](#)

Thank you for your considering this opportunity."



JOIN THE SDCCD INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW BOARD (IRB)!

The SDCCD IRB is an established body that protects the rights and welfare of humans on internal and external research projects and is currently seeking SDCCD faculty and professionals who are interested in serving as reviewers to ensure proposed research projects that include SDCCD data or communities are appropriately safeguarded. Meetings are monthly. Please contact [Natalia Alarcón](#), IRB Chair and Director of SDCCD Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Research for more information.

[Check out the Website!](#)
[Sign up on our Interest Form!](#)

 **SAN DIEGO**
Community College District



FOUNDATION CORNER

A space to learn about our latest efforts to connect partners who share our passion for education with opportunities to give. See how fundraising can help you, our students, and Mesa's mission.

[Learn More](#)



Want to learn more about grant seeking?

View the flex workshop hosted by Dr. Michael Lettieri, who is leading grant writing efforts, and Krista Stellmacher, CFRE and Director in service to the Office of Resource Development and Foundation.

[View Recording](#)

Non-Participation in Immigration Enforcement Activities

Please remember that our district has an official immigration policy, [AP 3415](#). This policy directs all inquiries regarding immigration enforcement to the District Chancellor and District General Counsel. If you receive a confirmed report of immigration enforcement on campus, please contact:

- SDCCD Chancellor's Office (Greg Smith): 619-388-6957 | chancellor@sdccd.edu
- SDCCD General Counsel (Ljubisa Kostic): 619-388-6589 | lkostic@sdccd.edu

You are not expected to engage with immigration enforcement or place yourself or others at risk. If approached by immigration officials, you may respond: "I am not authorized to speak with you, answer your questions, or provide access to any people or facilities per SDCCD policy. Only the District Chancellor and General Counsel have authority to assist you." To stay informed and prepared:

- Update your emergency contact information in the [MySDCCD portal](#)
- Download the [SDCCDsafe App](#)
- Refer to the [District's Immigration Resources page](#)
- Continue to read campus emails and official updates

San Diego Mesa College has a clear, coordinated Immigration Enforcement Response Plan centered on our Emergency Management Response Team, led by the President and including College Communications, Vice Presidents, Facilities and Operations, OEHS, and the Campus Community Emergency Response Team, in coordination with SDCCD Police. Recognizing that every incident is unique, this structure ensures we are prepared to act quickly and compassionately with clear communication, coordinated safety measures, and robust support for students and employees should an incident occur.

Participatory Governance

To learn more about our Associated Students, Academic Senate, and Classified Senate, please visit the links below:

[Associated Students](#)

[Academic Senate](#)

[Classified Senate](#)

In The Know

For additional information on what is happening on campus and in our community - visit the links below:

[Mesa College Newsroom](#)

[Mesa College Events Calendar](#)

Ashanti Hands, Ed.D.

President | San Diego Mesa College

Creating conditions that matter for our students to succeed!

7250 Mesa College Drive, A-104, SD, CA 92111 | 619.388.2721

[Mesa College](#) | [Student Support Services](#)

