



DATE: May 1, 2020
TO: Chabot-Las Positas Community College District
FROM: Chancellor Ronald Gerhard, CLPCCD
President Susan Sperling, Chabot College
President Dyrell Foster, Las Positas College
SUBJECT: COVID-19 Update

Dear Colleagues:

Well, here we are, the first day of May, and seventh week of shelter-in-place. These seven weeks feel both like an eternity but also feel that they have passed us by in lightning speed. I'm remembering fondly that during this time we would be preparing to attend a number of student end of the year celebrations. We are thankful for the work the colleges continue to do to make our students feel supported and for our graduating class, acknowledged and celebrated. Speaking of graduation, you may want to know that the colleges surveyed their students, and from those results it was decided that Chabot College will hold their virtual commencement as originally scheduled on Saturday, May 23, 2020 and Las Positas College will postpone their commencement, but will have an online celebration page for their graduates. Look for more information via email, from your respective college, on these activities.

Speaking of today being May 1, "Happy May Day" or "International Workers' Day." Further, we would like to express thanks to the leadership of SEIU, Local 1021, and the District negotiating teams for coming together on both a Side Letter of Agreement, as well as a Memorandum of Understanding/Temporary Telecommuting Agreement, both regarding working under COVID-19 conditions. These documents reaffirm that employee safety remains a top priority.

The following are some updates for this week (as of May 1, 2020):

Payroll will continue normal operations. Employees will be paid on time, **including hourly employees who were authorized to work and submitted a timesheet within the payroll deadline for April.** The only change is for those employees who pick up checks on campus. Starting in May, all paychecks will be distributed either through direct (ACH) payments to the employee's bank account or through USPS mail.

County health update: Alameda County has reported 1,603 confirmed cases of COVID-19 (last updated May 1, 2020).

Planning for Fall semester is in progress: We continue to discuss and plan various scenarios that include the continuation of remote instruction to offering a combination of hybrid face-to-face and remote instruction. As new information comes to us from the State and County, these scenarios are being revised. We look to decide on a model for Fall 2020 operations within the coming weeks. Our goal in planning is to be thoughtful and deliberate with a decision that best serves the needs of *our* students.

State and County's Executive Order: On April 29, 2020, the Alameda County Public Health Officer provided an update to the shelter-in-place order previously issued. This [new order](#) does not have new effects on the Colleges and the District. The new order includes the following guidelines:

- **The order to shelter-in-place and work remotely has been extended to May 31, 2020.** This time frame is still in line with prior District decisions to move instruction to a fully on-line delivery mode thru the summer semester. However, this timeline remains fluid, and we continue to review information and plan for everyone returning to the workplace.
- **The County has eased some restrictions, with social distancing measures still in place, that enable specific businesses and activities to gradually resume.** This does not apply fully to our district operations yet, and thus we will continue to operate under the current, remote instruction, framework until further notice.

Please note that there are two shelter-in-place orders, one from the County and one from the State. The State's shelter-in-place does not have an end date. The County's shelter-in-place order is the strictest in terms of health and safety regulations, and thus the order we must follow. But even though the County's shelter-in-place has an end date, until the State's shelter-in place order is lifted, we would still be under the State's order.

As we look to the immediate future, the following are items that we continue to discuss:

- When shelter-in-place is lifted, what will "the new normal" look like and how will we transition?
- How will the shelter-in-place impact the State's fiscal outlook?
- How will we (CLPCCD) be impacted with a reduction in the State's economy?

Even though we continue to be bombarded with information related to COVID-19, most recently, more information has been shared related to the fiscal impact of the shelter-in-place. This week it was announced that new unemployment claims reached historic levels (dating back 60 years). In this unprecedented time, guidance has come out from the State's advising agencies to plan for a carry-over budget until new fiscal data is released in July. What does this mean for us? While we continue to be on hold harmless, we will not be immune to reductions and overall State funding. We will not know exactly what this means until September, when the final State budget is adopted. Although we have some protections in place, we will continue to closely monitor the fiscal outlook and its potential impact on our district.

Health protocols:

1. If you are feeling sick, do not come to the office, contact your doctor, and notify your supervisor.

2. If you are an essential employee, while at or away from office, please continue to practice social distancing, wash your hands frequently, and follow other standard health practices.
3. A reminder that all essential employees must speak (no texts, emails, or voicemails) to their immediate supervisor (or someone else if directed) to answer three simple questions (e.g. cough, fever, shortness of breath, etc.) before entering the workspace.

As always, please continue to visit the [district urgent alerts webpage](#) for up to date information, and contact your Presidents' Office or administrator for additional questions and/or guidance.


Lastly, we will leave you with some "Zoom" humor...enjoy!

Regards,

Ron Gerhard
Chancellor

Dr. Susan Sperling
President, Chabot College

Dr. Dyrell Foster
President, Las Positas College



Me: This show is boring.

Boss: Again, this is a Zoom conference.