

# *Chabot-Las Positas Community College District For Immediate Release*

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## **Chabot-Las Positas Community College District Board of Trustees Commit to Student Success and Equity During Response and Recovery from COVID- 19 and Denounce Xenophobia and Anti- Asian/Pacific Islander Sentiment Arising Due to Fears Of The COVID-19 Pandemic**

(Dublin, CA) - The Chabot-Las Positas Community College District (CLPCCD) joins cities, counties, and states across the country in affirming its commitment to student safety, equity, and success in response and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, CLPCCD affirms the District does not support the rhetoric and racist remarks of some national leaders regarding the virus, and is committed to the safety and well-being of Asian Americans and in combating hate crimes targeting Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, denouncing xenophobia and anti-Asian sentiment.

Since a State of Emergency was declared in response to the threat of COVID-19 on March 4, 2020 by Gavin Newsom, Governor of the State of California, followed by the shelter-in-place ordered issued on March 19, 2020, California residents have experienced unprecedented hardship due to loss of employment, increased food and housing insecurity, and an increase demand for health care.

California community colleges represent and serve one of the most diverse populations in the world. The current pandemic has resulted in a disproportionate impact on California's most vulnerable communities, which has contributed to a deterioration in the level of tolerance, civility and equity in our society, as evidenced by an increase in racially motivated attacks on people of Asian-Pacific Islander descent including microaggressions, racial profiling, hate incidents, and in some cases, violence, in addition to higher mortality rates from COVID-19 illness among African Americans and Latinx persons.

CLPCCD is committed to removing barriers to diversity, equity and inclusion in our communities by working collaboratively with our governing boards, the California community college system, as well as local, state and federal governments, businesses and community-based organizations to provide resources to support our students in their academic programs and by providing basic needs to reduce the hardship imposed by the pandemic, including, but not limited to:

- Access to food pantries that include fresh vegetables and hydration
- Emergency funds to cover necessities related to housing, transportation, medical care, cleaning and sanitation, food and educational expenses
- Access to internet connectivity and hot spots to enable students to participate in online/remote learning
- Access to computer equipment and software to enable students to participate in online learning
- Access to academic counseling
- Access to mental health counseling
- Any other such resources and support that the college(s) may deem necessary to support student success and equity.

The Board of Trustees unanimously passed the resolution which states the District "will advocate and use our collective voice to identify and eliminate those barriers to equity and that we act deliberately to create a safe and inclusive environment where individual and group differences are valued and leveraged for our growth and understanding as an educational community..." and "wishes to affirm its commitment to the well-being and safety of Asian-Pacific Islanders and ensure they know they are not alone and that they can speak out to help stop the spread of bigotry."

### ***About Chabot-Las Positas Community College District***

CLPCCD serves 29,000 students annually, in the San Francisco East Bay Area, particularly southern Alameda County, through its two colleges: Chabot College in Hayward and Las Positas College in Livermore. CLPCCD is governed by a seven-member board of trustees which is responsible for all policy decisions. Board members are elected from trustee areas by the registered voters of nine

communities: Castro Valley, Dublin, Hayward, Livermore, Pleasanton, San Leandro, San Lorenzo, Sunol, and Union City.

-CLPCCD-

