

**WEST VALLEY-MISSION  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT**

# Forward TOGETHER



**2025 ANNUAL REPORT**



West Valley-Mission Community College District equips our students with the tools, support, and resources they need to thrive – delivering exceptional educational opportunities and helping shape a strong tomorrow.

# Future Focused

We do it differently at West Valley-Mission Community College District. Whether our students are just beginning their higher education journeys or returning to the classroom to gain new skills and pivot their careers, we are committed to helping each student realize their dreams.

Our holistic approach goes beyond academics. Our campuses are vibrant and filled with supportive services that break down barriers to learning, faculty who deeply engage with their students, and state-of-the-art facilities that inspire learning and connection. From the moment you step onto our campuses, you feel the strong sense of community that defines us and fosters meaningful engagement.

Every year for the past 60 years at West Valley College and 50 years at Mission College, we’ve taken our commitment to students seriously. As times change, so do the needs of our students and communities, and we continuously adapt to meet them.

In recent times, we’ve focused on removing financial barriers at both the individual and systemic levels with the passing of groundbreaking legislation that ensures free tuition for residents. Our achievements encompass new academic offerings, robust athletic programs, major campus enhancements, and a record number of scholarships, reinforcing our mission to empower students with life-changing education.



“We prepare our students not only to succeed academically, but to unlock their full potential within our community.”



— **BRADLEY DAVIS**  
Chancellor of  
West Valley-Mission  
Community College District

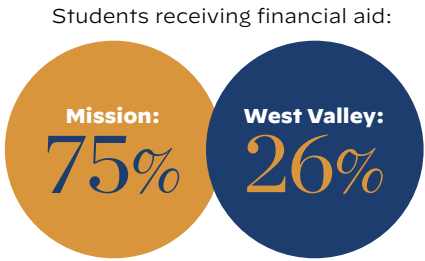


# One student at a time, we build a brighter future for Silicon Valley

The West Valley-Mission Community College District unites our colleges in a shared vision of educational excellence where students representing diverse experiences and identities feel connected and supported in pursuit of their goals and aspirations.

**THE COMMUNITIES WE SERVE:**  
Alviso, Campbell, Los Gatos, Monte Sereno, San Jose, Santa Clara, Saratoga, and Sunnyvale

West Valley College has the **highest 3-year transfer rate** in the Bay Area, the third highest in California



**14,800+ students** currently enrolled

**75%** student success rate

**\$1 million** granted this year in scholarships through the WVM Foundation

**26%** of students are the **FIRST IN THEIR FAMILY** to attend college

**62%** of students are **AGE 24** or younger

**Senior Guided Pathways** program helps **students over age 50** upskill and reskill

## GROUNDBREAKING LEGISLATION ENSURES FREE TUITION

Working closely with elected officials, we brought to life a new law that empowers WVMCCD to waive all tuition fees for residents living within our service area. AB 3158, passed in September 2024, cuts out complicated forms and delays, making it as easy as enrolling and attending.

“This new legislation expands access to higher education and removes financial barriers for thousands of students. It positions us to better serve students and our broader community in the years to come,” says Chancellor Bradley Davis.

**From left:** WVMCCD Board of Trustees President Anne Kepner, West Valley Student Trustee Amrita Gopal, Chancellor Davis, and Assemblymember Marc Berman (D-Menlo Park)



## STEWARDSHIP ROOTED IN EXPERIENCE

“I’m a proud product of California public schools — from kindergarten through law school — and community college played a pivotal role in my path. I want to ensure others have the same opportunities I had.”

Board President Anne Kepner knows firsthand how transformative a public education, especially community college, can be. After struggling during her freshman year at a four-year college, she transferred to her local community college, and set her life on a new path.

“I had been in a sea of people but when I got to community college, I felt seen and heard and I got the attention I needed,” she remembers. With renewed confidence, she earned her associate degree, then went on to succeed at a four-year college and then law school — both at public universities in California.

Anne takes her stewardship role very seriously and has served as WVMCCD board president five times during her 10-year tenure as a trustee. Under her leadership, the District has implemented new programs and changes that make our colleges more accessible and increase student success.

“She cares deeply about her community and inspires others to make improvements to education and quality of life,” according to Chancellor Davis. “She’s both strong and kind, and she knows how to drive positive change.”

“We’re moving our District in the right direction to remove barriers and make college more accessible,” Anne says. “Our students arrive eager to learn, but about two-thirds of them face housing, food, and financial insecurities that make it hard to bring their best selves into the classroom. They need significant support to be prepared to learn and funding to make it financially possible.”

That’s why the board is also prioritizing hiring and retaining engaged faculty and supportive staff at West Valley and Mission, she says. “They’re the ones connecting with students and supporting them inside and outside the classroom. We’re seeing results, and we’re making a difference in the lives of people in our community.”





“I didn’t have the burden of worrying about money, food, or transportation while I was adjusting to college.”

— LAURA FIERRO BARRIOS '23

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# Removing Barriers, Opening Doors

It’s hard to focus in class when you’re hungry or unsure where you’ll sleep at night.

## SUPPORTING STUDENTS

Laura Fierro Barrios '23 was 16 years old when she came to the United States with limited English and a dream of attending college — but no roadmap for navigating California’s higher education system. Her high school counselor recommended she start with community college, and Mission College supported her every step of the way to make graduation a reality.

Counselors at Mission guided her through applying for Mission College scholarships and other financial assistance, which was a game-changer. The tuition she saved then now makes it easier for her to afford UC Berkeley, where she’s a year away from graduating with a psychology degree. Additional support — including public transportation and gas vouchers, free cafeteria meals, and book stipends — helped her stay focused on her studies and find a job that would enhance her skills and enable her to complete her education.

“I didn’t have the burden of worrying about money, food, or transportation while I was adjusting to college,” says Laura. “I found my job on campus at Extended Opportunity Program and Services (EOPS), where I improved my English and professional skills while supporting other students along the way.”

Through the Puente Project, a transfer-prep learning community, she received invaluable academic counseling and she credits her acceptance to UC Berkeley and her success there now to it.

“Mission College had a huge impact on me,” says Laura, who’s considering a career as a therapist. “They guided me through the college process and gave me the confidence I need in life. I was the first person in my family to go to college in America, and now my two younger brothers are following in my footsteps at Mission.”

Nearly two-thirds of our students arrive at West Valley and Mission facing housing, food, or financial insecurity — challenges that can stand in the way of their education. That’s why we support the whole student, helping them stay in school, succeed, and build a better future without the constant stress of meeting basic needs.

No other community college in California offers what we do. Right now, we provide free tuition and fees, childcare, healthcare, transportation, parking, and a full range of support programs — and soon, we’ll add free meals for all students on campus. Our comprehensive services create the foundation students need to complete their degrees, transfer to four-year universities, and build successful careers.

Our students come from diverse backgrounds, each with unique experiences and ambitions. We’re here to meet them where they are, remove barriers, and set them up to prosper.

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## FACULTY VOICE

“No matter where a student starts, our faculty and staff are here to help them achieve their goals. Whether it’s through mentorship, curriculum development, or program innovation, we are committed to making a lasting impact on our students’ lives.”



— JEFF CORMIER

Social and Behavioral Sciences faculty at Mission College



# Shaping Champions on the Field and in Life

The West Valley Vikings and Mission Saints teams have a storied history of athletic success, personal growth, and community connections.

Our student-athletes thrive both academically and athletically, and engage with their community along the way. Under the guidance of award-winning coaches, they learn to work together, overcome adversity, forge lifelong friendships, and proudly represent their school at home and away.

A lot of our student-athletes arrive with dreams of playing sports at a four-year college and, through their hard work, many get scholarships to make that a reality. Our world-class facilities bring the community together, with fans cheering from the stands and the next generation of young athletes enjoying camps and events led by West Valley and Mission student-athletes.

## SPORTS HIGHLIGHTS

**Men's Basketball:**  
*2024 State champions*  
and 2025 Scholar Team of the Year

**Women's Softball:**  
*three consecutive 30-win seasons*

**Men's Soccer:**  
*2023 and 2024 Coast Conference South champs*



**Women's Water Polo:**  
*Conference champions since 2016 and 2022 State champs*

**Men's Water Polo:**  
*State finalists since 2021*

**Women's Tennis:**  
*Lindsay Lee '24 won the 2024 Arthur Ashe Jr. Leadership and Sportsmanship Award from the Intercollegiate Tennis Association*



— **JOHN VLAHOS**  
Associate Vice Chancellor,  
Intercollegiate Athletics

## FROM COLLEGE TO CAREER

“Athletics at West Valley and Mission is a bridge to take our student-athletes from where they are to where they want to go in life. Of course we’re training them to be top-notch athletes, but it’s more than that. Our students get a holistic view of what it’s like to be an adult, and they grow not just as athletes, but as students and productive members of their communities. They are taught to win in life.”

## PERSONAL GROWTH

“My coaches cared deeply about me and all my teammates, and they’re always looking for ways to get players to reach their potential — from supporting our academics to creating our team’s family culture.

I made lifelong friendships and felt a strong sense of pride and connection to West Valley, which can be hard when everyone commutes to school. What I learned about commitment, time management, and work ethic while playing on the Vikings will surely be needed in my future endeavors.

## — JAMES BOSE '24

Former West Valley baseball player who was named 2023 24 Scholar Athlete of the Year by the California Community College Athletic Association and currently plays baseball at Loyola Marymount University







# Unique Programs and Powerful Partnerships

As workforce demands evolve in Silicon Valley and across California, so do the programs at West Valley-Mission.

To address the state’s nursing shortage and the urgent need for skilled professionals in public safety and emergency response, we’re launching new degrees and forging strategic partnerships.

## A NEW BACHELOR’S DEGREE TO STRENGTHEN LOCAL PUBLIC SAFETY



From wildfires to public health crises, California faces growing threats — yet our workforce remains critically understaffed in disaster preparedness, crisis management, and emergency medical services. Mission College has long been a leader in training firefighters and emergency medical technicians, and now our new Bachelor of Science in Emergency Services Administration will equip the next generation of first responders with the leadership skills and expertise to tackle the complexities of public safety in the Bay Area and beyond. Earning this valuable bachelor’s degree at no cost is an unprecedented opportunity for students.

“We don’t teach students what to think, but rather teach them how to think critically, how to find their own answers with the information available.”



— **TIM KELLY**  
History and Political Science faculty at West Valley College

“What I learned at Mission directly translates from the academic side to what I’m doing now as a firefighter. The instructors are current or retired firefighters, so they know what we need to learn. I made strong connections with the firefighting community, and my instructors mentored me and helped me create a career road map. It was incredibly helpful in my job search.”

— **ROMAN MADRUGA '21**  
A San Jose Fire Department firefighter who earned an associate’s degree in Fire Protection and Communications and completed the Emergency Medical Technician and Fire Academy programs at Mission College



**PARTNERSHIP WITH SUTTER  
HEALTH EXPANDS PRACTICAL  
LEARNING FOR NURSES**

We're building a pipeline of nurses to fill the growing nursing shortage in the Bay Area. Our registered nurse, vocational nurse, and nurse assistant programs provide students with hands-on clinical experience at leading health-care institutions. Now, through a new partnership with Sutter Health, we're expanding our impact even further.

The 700,000-square-foot Sutter West Santa Clara Campus healthcare hub will provide care in numerous specialties, alongside advanced diagnostic imaging, lab services, and more. And when West Valley-Mission's new 70,000-square-foot STEM Center opens next door, students will have a seamless pathway to internships, specialized training, and career readiness.

**LEARNING BY DOING**

**"The hands-on practice I got at Mission gave me the knowledge and confidence I needed to land my first job as an RN. The new simulation lab with interactive mannequins was an incredible opportunity to practice our skills so it wasn't nerve-racking when we were with patients."**



**— STEVEN CHACON '24**

Earned CNA, LVN, and RN degrees from Mission and is now a New Grad Nurse at Regional Medical Center in San Jose

**FACULTY VOICE**

**"We bring events from the outside world into our classrooms, and make learning as interactive and engaging as possible. As a faculty member, having small classes, motivated students, and academic freedom makes it easy."**

We encourage our students to push themselves a little harder and aspire to more than they might think possible.



**— SAM LIU**

Economics faculty at West Valley College





# Built to Inspire

We reimagined what learning and community look like.

Measure C and Measure W facilities bonds in 2018 and 2012 fueled over \$1 billion in campus modernizations that are enhancing our students' educational experiences. We've made significant progress in building leading-edge learning environments with a strong commitment to sustainability. Notable projects include Mission's student engagement center and business and technology building, as well as West Valley's fine arts building and softball and baseball complexes — and we're not done yet. In the coming years, we'll complete even more facilities that support our students' academic and personal growth, including West Valley's wellness center and Mission's library.



## A CAMPUS FOR EVERYONE

Our surrounding community is welcome on campus any time. You'll frequently find our neighbors walking their dogs, playing pickleball, or rooting for their favorite team at home games. We also host several large events each year, including:

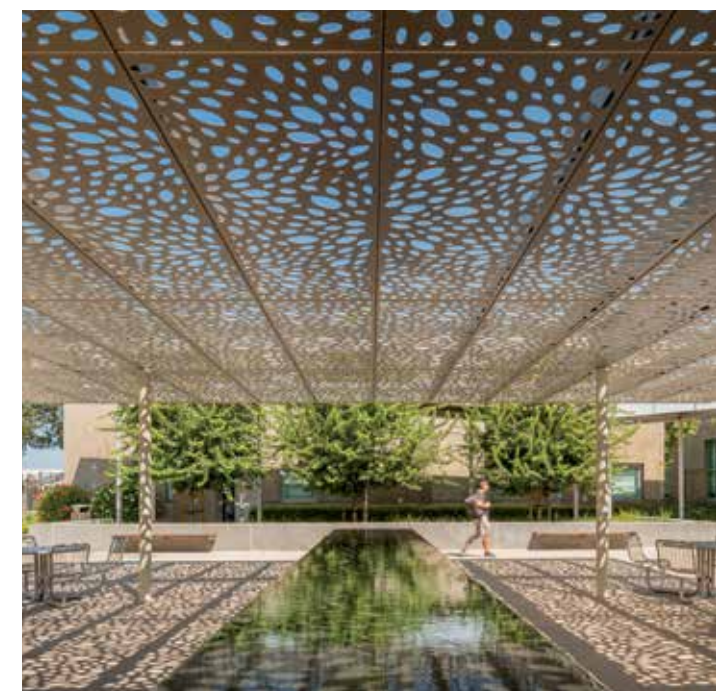
Weekend Farmers' Markets  
Rotary Club of Saratoga Art Show  
Kiwanis Special Games  
Summer Concert Series  
Monster Dash and Bash 5K Walk/Run



“Our transformed Mission campus further differentiates our school as a special place. You feel a strong sense of belonging the moment you set foot on campus — whether you're a student or a community member, you know you're welcome here.”



— DR. SEHER AWAN  
President of Mission College



“West Valley's state-of-the-art facilities and intentionally designed learning spaces inspire creativity and achievement. We've thoughtfully planned out campus programs and services, so students, faculty, staff, and community feel welcome and ready to engage.”



— DR. JENNIFER TAYLOR-MENDOZA  
President of West Valley College





#### MORE THAN FINANCIAL SUPPORT

“This scholarship motivates me to keep pushing myself to do greater things in the future,

and it’s helping me reach my goal of becoming a nurse. I found my footing while I was exploring my career options at West Valley and Mission, and I’m grateful to the donors for their support and encouragement.”

#### — PAIGE MCCROSKEY '23

Paige earned degrees at both Mission and West Valley Colleges, where she played water polo and swam. Now she’s about to graduate from Cal State Long Beach, and the scholarship helps her pay for textbooks, school fees, materials for her healthcare-related job, and nursing school entrance exam fees.

#### BRAGGING RIGHTS

This year, for the first time in WVM Foundation history, we’ve awarded more than \$1 million in scholarships and support.

## Funding Futures

The WVM Foundation keeps students enrolled, focused, and moving forward.

Financial issues are the leading reason students drop out of college. Many of our students need to work long hours while attending school, are learning new skills to change careers, or are parents — challenges that can make it hard for them to meet their basic needs. Our foundation alleviates some of their financial burdens by providing thousands of scholarships and offering just-in-time support for essentials like food, rent, or transportation expenses. By supporting students through the Foundation, donors can make the difference between a student dropping out and staying on a successful path to graduation.



“We enjoy supporting students at both West Valley and Mission Colleges because it’s fulfilling to know we are making a difference in the lives of many others. It has fostered our sense of belonging and strengthens our ties to our local community.”

#### — KIMBERLY AND HOWARD GORE

Their donations to the WVM Foundation have supported scholarships, the business development incubator, paid internships, and expenses for future nurses





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## A Bright Future

We're innovating now to build what's next.

Our history is rich with experiences and a commitment to change. Over the past 50 years at Mission College and 60 years at West Valley College, we've offered students of all ages and backgrounds opportunities to reshape their futures and reach great heights. We listen and respond to the times.

Our new bachelor's degrees, workforce development programs, supportive services, and campus transformations are just the beginning. We'll continue to set new standards for programs and experiences that empower our students and faculty to achieve their full potential.

Our strength is our people — students, faculty, staff, alumni, and supportive community members. Thank you for helping WVMCCD create new opportunities for all of us.



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Community College District**  
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COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT**

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