Renegade family,

Today, Kern County Public Health has confirmed 952 more COVID-19 cases over the weekend. While the daily case count seems to be declining in recent days, Kern County Public Health reported a staggering 8 deaths. Kern County cases rates continue to be higher than the statewide average, as only 42.7 percent of the population in Kern is fully vaccinated.

I wanted to remind you once again, like I will every week, that the Kern Community College District is requiring that all BC students and staff are fully vaccinated against COVID-19. If you do not confirm your vaccination status or receive an exemption by November 1, you will receive a red pass on your KCCD Campus Pass app and will not be allowed to access KCCD campus property or in-person instruction and services. For more information about the vaccine mandate, including Q&As, visit the KCCD Coronavirus Update page.

Where Can Employees Get the Available (K)N-95 Masks?

Employees may receive up to five (K)N-95 masks by stopping by the Fireside Room in the Campus Center between 9:00 am and 4:00 pm on Monday through Thursdays. Alternatively, they are available at the front desk of the Office of Maintenance & Operations during regular operating hours. BC's COVID Response Team also has face coverings for students.

Self-COVID Tests and Vaccinations Also Available

BC's team also continues to administer self-COVID tests, and COVID vaccinations in the Fireside room daily from 9:00AM to 3:30PM. The self-COVID tests are considered to be very accurate. I have done these tests in the last few weeks and have received my results within two days.

Please contact the BC COVID Response Team at (661) 395-4773 with any questions.
BC and Rudy Salas to Announce new Building Funded by $14M Secured by Salas

On Tuesday, Bakersfield College and Assembly member Rudy Salas will announce the construction of a new two-story building for the Delano Campus, thanks to $14 million in state funding secured by Salas in the most recent budget cycle.

Since 2013, BC’s Rural Initiatives has increased access to courses and expanded student support services in Delano, McFarland, Wasco, Shafter, Arvin, Lamont, Lost Hills, and South Bakersfield. Between 2015 and 2019, the number of courses offered at BC’s rural sites has more than doubled. More details to come on this exciting announcement.

Virtual Grand opening of BC's First Outdoor Learning Space: The Peace Garden

You may have noticed that the cement being poured in front of the library is beginning to take shape into our first Peace Garden on the Panorama Campus.

On Monday, October 4 at 10:00AM, we’ll be commemorating the completion of the Learning Garden with a virtual grand opening event featuring KCCD Chancellor Sonya Christian, the Ravi and Naina Patel Foundation, BCSGA President Edith Mata, and members of the Peace Garden team.

Additionally, the garden will feature “Peace Poles,” provided and paid for by local Bakersfield Rotary Clubs.

Register to participate and a link to the livestream will be sent to you via email.
Introduction to Linguistic Anthropology at BC

ANTH B4 Introduction to Linguistic Anthropology has been recently added to BC’s Behavioral Sciences curriculum! With this edition BC’s anthropology program now offers the four main courses in anthropology. ANTH B4 will better prepare majors for transfer and is a required course for most UC anthropology programs. This course meets GE requirements for majors and non-majors. ANTH B4 gives us a global perspective of human language with various cultural contexts, and compliments many classes and programs on campus.

Anthropology student, Lori Bagala says “What makes us unique as humans is the complexity of our language. How we communicate, our social structure, and our place in the world are all informed by language. Having a Linguistic Anthropology course is essential to truly understand the human experience and I am thrilled to be part of this inaugural class.”

Professor, Dana Heins-Gelder said that “Language is a trait that makes us uniquely human. It also is the focus of one the four fields of anthropology, specifically linguistic anthropology. BC’s anthropology courses cover the human fossil record, our cultural past and present, and now includes a course on that which binds us - our ability to interact through language. There is much that is fascinating about the study of language - we explore the roots of language, the intersection of language and culture, language change, the preservation of disappearing languages, and related topics. We created Linguistic Anthropology along with Medical Anthropology to be offered in Fall 2022 and Culture, Religion and Ritual in Fall 2023, to offer our students the full range of anthropological study.”

The Scoop on Renegade Athletics

Over the weekend, the Renegade Wrestling Team participated in the West Hills Tournament and placed third.

Renegade, Josiah Hunter, placed 1st in the 184 bouts, at 157’s. Josiah Quiroz finished in second place, while Uriel Vasquez placed third at 197’s.

On Wednesday, Women's Volleyball will start conference play at home, taking on the College of the Canyon's Cougars at Gil Bishop Sports Center at 6:00PM. A livestream of the game will be available at gogades.com.
Renegade Football returns home on October 2nd as they challenge the San Bernandino Valley Wolverines at Memorial Stadium. The game will kickoff at 6:00PM. Gates open at 5:00PM.

**Renegade Star Spotlight on Richard "Rocky" Maraccini**

Richard “Rocky” Maraccini has worked at Bakersfield College for over 30 years and has supported our students across the entire county. As a veteran adjunct professor, Rocky has taught in Arvin, Delano, Bakersfield, Shafter, Wasco, McFarland, and at area prisons. He teaches the entire spectrum of sociology, helping prepare students for careers in law, social work, human services, urban development, law enforcement agencies, public service, counseling, mental health, teaching, and community service.

Since the pandemic began, Rocky challenged himself to improve his Academic Technology skills and loves telling his story of how he acquired new skills. As noted by our Academic Technology Team, Rocky is a wonderful example of how much we can learn no matter where we are in our careers. As he says, “...return(ing) to face-to-face instruction...won’t be going-back to how we used to do things, but rather we will have the opportunity to take what we have learned teaching remotely to continually work to better serve our students.”

Rocky also recently switched all his classes to OER textbooks, thereby reducing student costs.

**Save the Date for Upcoming Agriculture/Water/Energy (AWE) Series Webinar**

The Energy Technology Transfer and Workforce Development initiative will host its second webinar on October 5th, at 3:00PM. The program will feature a panel of local stakeholders and national researchers sharing their perspectives on the impacts of technology and water resources on farming, including:
• **John Moore III**, President of the Kern County Farm Bureau, Owner of Moore Farms and White Wolf Potato Co.

• **Dr. Joshua Viers**, Professor of Water Resources Management, UC Merced School of Engineering.

• **Dr. Helen E Dahlke**, Professor in the Department of Land, Air and Water Resources at the University of California, Davis.

**Register for the Oct. 5th Webinar**

**Spotlight on College Safety**
With the return to in-person instruction this Fall, we have BC’s College Safety team to thank for maintaining a welcoming and secure environment at all of our campuses. All of BC’s College Safety officers are trained and certified by the California Bureau of Security and Investigative Services and receive continual professional training in first aid, CPR, emergency response, and disaster preparedness. Since BC serves more than 40,000 students at several campus locations, College Safety officers encourage all students and staff to walk in pairs and groups when possible, especially at night. If you’re unable to walk in a group or you feel like you need extra protection, you can request a safety escort 24 hours a day by calling (661) 395-4554.

Another service that College Safety provides, primarily to students with mobility impairments, is the Courtesy Cart Service, built along predetermined pick-up and drop-off zones to provide the safest experience. To arrange for access to the Courtesy Cart service, please contact the Disabled Students and Services department, who will verify users through a designation on their DSPS card.

There have been a number of changes to the department over the last few years, including the rebranding of the department from Public Safety to College Safety, which director Shelly Castaneda says places “a greater emphasis on the department’s dedication and commitment to providing our college community with a safe and secure learning environment.”
For more information about BC College Safety, including parking permits and enforcement, visit the College Safety website. Please report incidents of suspicious or criminal activity, or general emergencies to College Safety by calling (661) 395-4554.

**Virtual Express Enrollment for Late Start Courses**

**October 6th from Noon to 5:00PM**

Late start registration is now open!

Encourage students to register for the upcoming Express Enrollment on October 6th from noon to 5:00PM for assistance with late start registration. Students can also receive this same help every day of the week by visiting the Student Information Desk.

**Late Start Classes**

Financial Aid Awareness Month

October is approaching and so is Financial Aid Awareness Month.

The 2022-23 FAFSA opens up October 1st, and BC’s Office of Financial Aid & Scholarships will be hosting 25 Virtual Workshops throughout the month to help students with completing their FAFSAs (and Dream Act Applications), along with providing information on grants, scholarships, and answering any and all financial aid questions!

**Keeping Up with Workforce Development**

In a recent Workforce Development newsletter, the headline article shared how BC is leading proactive efforts around sustainability.

Proactive approach needed to avoid major economic, job losses from new water rules

*Bakersfield College* is engaged with experts, industry and community leaders to be a partner in tackling the challenges facing the agriculture industry in Kern County. As an engine of workforce development, community colleges play a critical role not only in training workers for the jobs of today but also preparing them for the jobs of tomorrow. Through partnerships and information exchange, solutions are being pursued now to solve anticipated challenges down the road.
Have a story to share?
Submissions for the President's weekly update are due each Friday by noon.
Send in your submission online!

Make a submission!

Photos from Bakersfield College's Peace Day Webinar

The Bakersfield College Peace Initiative hosted a virtual gathering last Tuesday as part of the International Day of Peace. The event featured short speeches of local peacemakers, musical performances, and is the first in a series of activities in the coming months. The full program is available on YouTube.

Last Saturday, Chancellor Christian shared in her blog that good news is all around us at KCCD. This week, let's continue to support students through the fall semester.

I look forward to communicating with you soon.

Zav

Zav Dadabhoy,
President, Bakersfield College