



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT/ SUPERINTENDENT  
PRESIDENT'S CAMPUS UPDATES



November 15, 2018

Dear Colleagues,

As we celebrate Thanksgiving, I encourage you to take some time to think about all of the many things – big and small – that you have to be grateful for. We've seen our fair share of disappointments and tragedies over this year, making it is easy to lose sight of hope. The way to keep our eyes focused on the positive things is to concentrate on ways we can make things better for our families, our communities, and our campus.

Personally, I think about all of the good work we are doing here on campus to change the lives of so many students. When I reflect on where our students come from and the hardships that they overcome, it is incredibly rewarding to know that we make it possible for them to dream big. Some of our students come to Cerritos College for second, third, and even fourth chances at a better life. Thankfully, we have many examples of student success stories that highlight their ability to overcome the odds and achieve their goals. In fact, we exceeded our graduation record for the third straight year with the largest graduating class in campus history. It takes an enormous campus effort by everyone to achieve this level of success – thank you.

It doesn't stop there. Every day, we are meeting student needs whether it's addressing food insecurity with the help of the L.A. Regional Food Bank and our campus pantry or funding scholarships to help our students pay for their living expenses, books and supplies. Beyond the tangible things, the greatest impact to our students is the sense of family they have here on campus and the personal investment you make into their lives with your wisdom and enthusiasm. This is what sets us apart from other colleges – our ability to put students first and serve students no matter their background.

As we get closer to Thanksgiving, I am reminded of how incredibly grateful I am for the opportunity to serve this great institution. My favorite time of the day is when I walk around campus or attend a special event, and talk to students, staff, and faculty. Hearing about all of the amazing testimonies makes me so proud. Most of all, I am thankful for your hard work, passion, and commitment to making the lives of our students better and for making Cerritos College a welcoming place.

I hope you have a Happy Thanksgiving filled with lots of fun with family and friends, and I hope you don't stay in a food coma for too long.

Thanks,  
Jose

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