



Office of the
President



August 19, 2021

Good evening Colleagues,

Let me start by saying THANK YOU to all of you who made the first week of the semester possible. While not everything went perfectly, I like to thank you for adjusting and making the necessary changes for the benefit of our students.

Walking the campus this week, I saw a strong commitment to follow the guidelines of our Return to Campus plan—guidelines that each of you contributed to in countless ways. I believe that our students are grateful for the efforts we made to reopen the campus, and I am very proud that we are working together to be as safe as possible so that they may continue to succeed.

During the last Board meeting in closed session, the Board of Trustees and I had a nice conversation about the persistence and dedication of our employees who operate in these ever-changing conditions. It is clear that the Board and I continue to appreciate your efforts and your willingness to adjust as needed.

In consideration of the impacts of returning to campus with modifications, and addressing changes in working conditions and additional work-related and personal household expenses incurred by employees due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Board of Trustees approved a one-time stipend **of \$2,500** to each full-time and part-time faculty member employed in the Fall 2021 and Classified, Confidential, Child Development Center employees, Managers, and Contract managers employed by the District as of August 18, 2021.

I am thankful for the Board members for their commitment to support all of us and our students during these challenging times. I encourage each of you to continue to be active participants in our return to campus by providing innovative ideas that enable us to provide the best experience for our students. Thank you for all that you do.

Jose

Jose L. Fierro, D.V.M., Ph.D.
President/Superintendent