



Hello Mesa College Community!

Weekly Update from Prez Hands provides a brief overview of the exciting efforts taking place within our community. The updates are also a great way to tell our collective story of success, and to document our journey of becoming the Leading College of Equity and Excellence. Enjoy!

OFFICE OF THE *President*



Mesa College continues to hold in our thoughts all those impacted by the recent tragic act of violence and reported hate crime at the Islamic Center of San Diego. In response, the College shared messages from District leadership and Mesa Mental Health Services reaffirming our commitment to care, compassion, and community, while providing resources and support for students and employees affected by this tragedy. Mesa remains dedicated to fostering a campus environment where every member of our community feels welcomed, valued, respected, and safe.

For messages of care and resources, please click the links below:

[Message from Mesa Mental Health](#) | [Message from Chancellor Smith](#)

SAN DIEGO
MESA COLLEGE

Commencement Ceremony 2026 Countdown

8

Days until Friday May 29th

#SDMesaGrad #ClassOf2026

Mesa College Celebrates our Class of 2026!

Mesa College will celebrate the Class of 2026 during its Commencement Ceremony on Friday, May 29, at 2 p.m. in Merrill Douglas Stadium. The ceremony will honor Summer and Fall 2025 graduates, as well as Spring and Summer 2026 students who have applied for graduation, marking an important milestone for the Mesa community and its students' academic achievements.

For information about commencement, click [here](#).

Our Commencement team is still looking for volunteers!

We are currently looking for volunteers to assist with the following roles:

Field Setup

Guest Liaison (Still Needs Support)

Gate Support (Still Needs Support)

Student Check-In (Still Needs Support)

Student Refreshments (Still Needs Support)

Faculty Room Support

If you would like to volunteer, please complete the [Commencement Volunteer Registration Form](#). Additional details regarding volunteer roles, arrival times, and day-of logistics will be shared with registered volunteers as we get closer to the ceremony.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to **Ayana Woods** or **Liza Abuyo** at:

awoods002@sdccd.edu | fabuyo@sdccd.edu

Thank you for helping us celebrate and uplift our graduates. We truly appreciate the Mesa community coming together to make this milestone moment unforgettable.



Summer 2026 Modified Work Schedule

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San Diego Mesa College will transition to its Summer 2026 Modified Work Schedule from June 1 through August 14, with many employees participating in a Monday–Thursday 4/10 workweek. The adjusted schedule supports operational efficiency while providing employees with greater flexibility during the summer months, with holiday observances coordinated at the manager’s discretion.

June 1, 2026-August 14, 2026

**Monday-Thursday
4x10s WORK WEEK**

Note:

Friday, June 19th - Juneteenth

HOLIDAY - observed on an alternate date at the manager’s discretion.

Friday, July 3rd - Holiday observed for Independence Day

HOLIDAY - observed on an alternate date at the manager’s discretion.



REGISTER NOW!
JUNE 2ND - 4TH

EVENT SCHEDULE

Classicon
2026 Stronger Together

[Classicon 2026 is Registration is Open!](#)

On behalf of our Classified Professional Learning Committee (CPLC), we invite you to Classicon, Mesa's professional learning conference for classified professionals! The event is taking place on June 2nd – 4th. Our theme this year is centered on teamwork and collaboration, bringing us together to strengthen how we support one another and serve our diverse campus community. Together, we’ll explore how collective effort leads to more inclusive and equitable outcomes for all.

We are “Stronger Together”!

- **June 2nd, 2026 (Tuesday)** 10am – 3:30pm | Workshops
- **June 3rd, 2026 (Wednesday)** 10am – 3:30pm | Workshops
- **June 4th, 2026 (Thursday)**) 10am – 3:30pm | Sports Day

Please note that some sessions have limited capacity and will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Once a workshop reaches capacity, registration for that session will close.

Non-Participation in Immigration Enforcement Activities

Please remember that our district has an official immigration policy, [AP 3415](#). This policy directs all inquiries regarding immigration enforcement to the District Chancellor and District General Counsel. If you receive a confirmed report of immigration enforcement on campus, please contact:

- SDCCD Chancellor's Office (Greg Smith): 619-388-6957 | chancellor@sdccd.edu
- SDCCD General Counsel (Ljubisa Kostic): 619-388-6589 | lkostic@sdccd.edu

You are not expected to engage with immigration enforcement or place yourself or others at risk. If approached by immigration officials, you may respond: "I am not authorized to speak with you, answer your questions, or provide access to any people or facilities per SDCCD policy. Only the District Chancellor and General Counsel have authority to assist you." To stay informed and prepared:

- Update your emergency contact information in the [MySDCCD portal](#)
- Download the [SDCCDsafe App](#)
- Refer to the [District's Immigration Resources page](#)
- Continue to read campus emails and official updates

San Diego Mesa College has a clear, coordinated Immigration Enforcement Response Plan centered on our Emergency Management Response Team, led by the President and including College Communications, Vice Presidents, Facilities and Operations, OEHS, and the Campus Community Emergency Response Team, in coordination with SDCCD Police. Recognizing that every incident is unique, this structure ensures we are prepared to act quickly and compassionately with clear communication, coordinated safety measures, and robust support for students and employees should an incident occur.

OFFICE OF *Instruction*

ENROLLMENT
update

Summer 2026 enrollment continues to climb with an FTES of 1,262 and a headcount of 7,220. At this same time last year for summer 2025, our FTES was 1,255. We have been analyzing waitlist data, reviewing student demand across the district, and will be opening up more sections of select courses before the start of the summer semester. Fall 2026 enrollment is at 2,471 FTES with a headcount of 7,316. While this is a lower FTES when compared to this same time last year, this number will steadily increase as we move towards the fall semester.



The Small Business Virtual Incubator (SBVI) showcase is TODAY @ 4pm via Zoom. The SBVI is an online space where students receive guidance and 1:1 business coaching from experts in the industry who help our students start or expand their business. The program was launched in Spring 2023 with great success. So far, we have helped more than 50 students in various fields (food & beverage, e-commerce, dance, construction, design, health and wellness, fashion, massage therapy, consulting, etc.). Today the Spring group will present their business concepts and share their experience in the program. We are proud to offer students financial support, up to \$1,000 per student, and the opportunity to take their business idea to the next level. In summary, we help them design an action plan that will increase their probability of success.

When: [Thursday, May 21 from 4pm to 5:30pm via Zoom](#). We hope you can join us!

For more information on the SBVI Program: [Click here](#).

Flex Credit for Faculty: # 32089

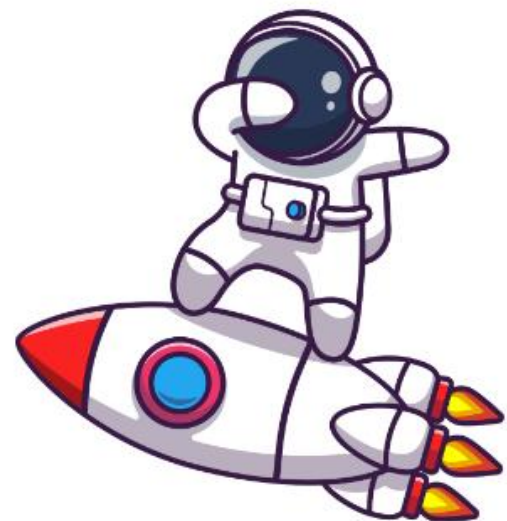
OFFICE OF *Student Services*

New Issue
Alert

[Click here for the latest Mesa Journeys Newsletter!](#)

The Mesa Journeys newsletter gives a more in-depth look at all the great things that are happening on our campus. We encourage all faculty and staff to pass this along to our students, and also to sign up to receive these newsletters straight to their inboxes! Click below to sign up and for more information about Mesa Journeys:

<https://linktr.ee/mesajourneys>



Click on the flyer to enlarge



Read about the latest and greatest on Measure HH!

The May 2026 Bond Measure HH newsletter highlights ongoing progress toward modernizing San Diego Community College District campuses through major capital improvement projects, including new educational facilities, athletics and performing arts upgrades, infrastructure improvements, and expanded student resources designed to support future generations of students.

To read more, [click here](#).

A graphic for the "NON-EVENT PARKING PERMIT REQUEST FORM". It features a "NEW!" banner in the top right corner. On the left, there is a screenshot of the "EVENTS & RESERVATIONS PORTAL" with the "Non Event Parking Permits" link circled in red. To the right of the screenshot, there is explanatory text and a list of requirements for the form. At the bottom left, the URL "WWW.SDMESA.EDU/EVENTS" is provided.

Reminder regarding parking permits for events, guest speakers, and meetings.

Event Parking:

All parking for events should be included as part of your Event Request in the [Events & Reservation Portal](#). Please keep in mind that all event requests must be submitted at least three weeks before the date of your event (longer for large events). More information can be found in the [Event & Reservation Portal FAQs](#).

Non-Event Individual/Group Permits:

Requests for non-event parking can be submitted via the [Non Event Parking Permit Request Form](#) now available on our [webpage](#), within the [Events & Reservations Portal](#). These would include requests that are not part of an “event,” such as guest speakers, departmental meeting attendees, etc. that do not require any other support.

A "WEEKLY SAFETY TIP" graphic. It features a yellow vertical bar on the left with the text "AED SAFETY TIP". The main content area is dark blue with white text. It says "SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE · ADMIN SERVICES" and "WEEKLY SAFETY TIP". The main heading is "KNOW WHERE YOUR AED IS LOCATED". Below this, it explains that Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) are mounted in clearly marked cabinets throughout buildings across campus. It provides instructions on how to use an AED and emphasizes that no prior training is needed. On the right side, there is a yellow banner that says "WEEKLY" and a large "75% SURVIVAL RATE" statistic, with a note that immediate use of an AED within 2 minutes can increase survival rates as high as 75%.

Notice: Effective Monday, April 6, the Business Services Office will close at 12:00 PM daily for walk-up service to accommodate year-end processing. We appreciate your patience and understanding during this busy time.

[Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Year-End Deadlines](#) | [Consolidated Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Year-End Deadlines](#)

New Resource: Data Element Dictionary & Acronym Glossary

The Institutional Effectiveness (IE) Office has published a new [Data Element Dictionary & Acronym Glossary](#) on our website to support a shared understanding of the terminology used across Mesa College. Whether you're reviewing reports, navigating dashboards, or interpreting campus communications, this resource is designed to clarify common data definitions and acronyms in one central place. You can find it on the [IE website](#) under the **Data Dictionary & Acronym Glossary** section. We invite you to explore it and reach out to the IE Office with suggestions for new additions, updates, or corrections as we continue to build and refine this tool together. For feedback, please contact **Adriana Caetano** at acaetanofournier@sdccd.edu.

IE Office Hours – A Dedicated Time to Think Through Your Data Together

The Institutional Effectiveness (IE) Office is launching weekly Office Hours to serve as a partner for your data questions and ideas. Whether you're exploring data for program review or accreditation, thinking through how to use our dashboards, or simply trying to make sense of what the data is telling you, we welcome the opportunity to work alongside you. During the Spring semester, **from January 20 (Flex Week) through June 1**, we will pilot these new office hours. Join us **Tuesdays from 12:30–1:30 p.m.** in the IE Office (A-109). We have a conference room for collaborative conversations—and yes, there's coffee too! We look forward to being your data thought partner.



FOUNDATION CORNER

A space to learn about our latest efforts to connect partners who share our passion for education with opportunities to give. See how fundraising can help you, our students, and Mesa's mission.

[Learn More](#)



Want to learn more about grant seeking?

View the flex workshop hosted by Dr. Michael Lettieri, who is leading grant writing efforts, and Krista Stellmacher, CFRE and Director in service to the Office of Resource Development and Foundation.

[View Recording](#)



Join us for the San Diego Mesa College Olympian Open on **July 24, 2026**, at 12 p.m. as we tee off to support our incredible student athletes. This signature golf fundraiser brings together community leaders, alumni, and champions of education for a day of fun, connection, and purpose. Your participation, whether through sponsorships, donations, or in kind gifts, directly fuels athletic equipment and academic support that help our Olympians succeed both on the field and in the classroom.

[▶ Register and Donate](#)

Our **annual Mesa College Giving Day** will take place on the eve of our graduation commencement, Thursday, May 28th. This is a day where we join together to build community and support for Mesa and our students. With the help of Maria Teresa Rodriguez Rivera (Mesa Impactship Program Intern), Kiana Kikuchi, and Amanda Brown, we are elevating our efforts this year. Here's our timeline:

- April 20: Ambassador Toolkit Available
- May 4: #MesaGivingDay Kickoff
- May 28: #MesaGivingDay
- May 31: Deadline for #MesaGivingDay donations

We are seeking Ambassadors to help spread the word about #MesaGivingDay - anyone can support!

[▶ Join our Ambassador Interest List](#) for updates on how you can get involved

Participatory Governance

To learn more about our Associated Students, Academic Senate, and Classified Senate, please visit the links below:

[Associated Students](#)

[Academic Senate](#)

[Classified Senate](#)

In The Know

For additional information on what is happening on campus and in our community - visit the links below:

[Mesa College Newsroom](#)

[Mesa College Events Calendar](#)

Ashanti Hands, Ed.D.

President | San Diego Mesa College

Creating conditions that matter for our students to succeed!

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[Mesa College](#) | [Student Support Services](#)

