



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE BOARD



# NOVEMBER 2025

October always brings opportunities to engage in the community through cultural and industry events and I am always look forward to engaging with students, community members and our team to learn from and share how SRJC is changing lives and our community.



### Undocumented Student Success Week (Oct. 13-17)

Recognized throughout the California Community College system, SRJC was proud to participate in this recognition week. From “Know Your Rights” workshops, healing circles, and creative justice expressions, the SRJC community created a space for belonging and active support for undocumented students.

**EOPS program hosted “Prieto”,** a one-man show by Yosimar Reyes. Through spoken word, poetry, music, and visual art, Reyes shared his personal story of growing up in a mixed-status family in the South Bay. His performance offered a powerful reflection on immigration, family, and the impact of poverty and undocumented identity on his life.

### Equity in Action: SRJC Recognized as 2025 Pathway Champion



Santa Rosa Junior College was recognized by the Campaign for College Opportunity as a [2025 pathway Champion of Transfer Equity](#), honored specifically for excellence in Black student success in transfer-level math. This distinction highlights colleges with the highest percentage of Black students completing transfer-level math within one year of enrollment. I want to express my congratulations to the students, faculty, classified professionals, and administrators whose collective efforts ensure that SRJC continues to provide high-quality education.

### Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) National Leadership Congress: Reimagining Community College: Innovation for a Changing World

Together with Board President Chaaban and Zehra Sonkaynar, Executive Officer, Santa Rosa Junior College was at ACCT's national conference, where we presented **“From Day One: Reimagining Trustee Orientation for Innovative and Inclusive Governance.”** The presentation highlighted SRJC's redesigned trustee onboarding program, which emphasizes relationship-building, data-informed decision-making, and equity-centered leadership. Key components include cross-functional sessions led by executive experts, campus and community immersion experiences, ongoing mentoring and support for trustees (including the Student Trustee), and the integration of student success and personnel equity data into every module. The session also showcased SRJC's alignment with the Aspen Presidents and Trustees Collaborative framework, positioning the College as a statewide leader in innovation, inclusive governance, and strategic plan alignment. The presentation was well received, with several districts expressing interest in adapting SRJC's model to strengthen their own board development practices.



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SANTA ROSA  
JUNIOR COLLEGE

### Telling our Story

I joined KSVY's *Strictly Business* radio program to discuss the value of higher education and the essential role community colleges play in California's economy. I shared how SRJC continues to advance access and affordability while preparing students for high-demand careers in healthcare, construction, clean energy, and agriculture. In this thoughtful interview with hosts Kip Altman and Scot Hunter, we also discussed how community colleges, especially SRJC, remain vital to preserving equity and opportunity amid shifting political and economic pressures. It reminded listeners that when students succeed at SRJC, businesses and communities thrive. Listen to the full interview on Spotify: [here](#)





## PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE BOARD



SANTA ROSA  
JUNIOR COLLEGE

2025-2030  
**Strategic Priorities**

ACADEMIC QUALITY • STUDENT SUCCESS & SUPPORT • RESPONSIVENESS TO OUR COMMUNITY • CAMPUS CLIMATE & CULTURE

The 2025 – 2030 Strategic Plan serves as our roadmap for how SRJC will continue to provide a comprehensive community college education experience grounded in our legacy of excellence, while ensuring academic programs and student services prepare students for their future goals. In this report, I want to highlight **Responsiveness to Our Community**.

Together with Board President Chaaban and the SRJC Foundation Board, I kicked off SRJC's first Community Roundtable in Sonoma Valley. This marks the beginning of a new series of conversations aimed at strengthening partnerships, building connections, and increasing visibility across our district. The event brought together local officials, education partners, business leaders, and community organizations to discuss education and workforce priorities in the region. I was encouraged by the recognition of SRJC's impact and by the opportunities to expand awareness of the programs and services already supporting Sonoma Valley residents. I look forward to continuing these conversations, with our next Roundtable scheduled for November 10 in Roseland.

### Calendar Highlights

1. Hosted President's Address to the Community
2. Attended community events including 2025 STEM Shadow Day Dinner, Lime Foundation Gala, The Comedy of Hamlet (A Prequel) and various Athletics events
3. Travelled to Washington DC to attend Aspen Institute, Presidents and Trustees Collective.
4. Participated in "Student Town Hall: Meeting with the President" hosted by Student Government Assembly
5. Served as a mentor and participated in the MESA & HSI STEM Shadow Day
6. Engaged in community events including Shone Farm Fall Festival and Lumafest
  
7. Co-facilitated the Committee Chair Training for participatory governance
8. Conducted a peer ACCJC follow-up visit in Southern California