



INVEST IN SAN MATEO COUNTY’S FUTURE – “TUITION FREE SMCCCD”

Vision: Support COVID impacted working families and Latinx with rapid retraining programs and financial support to encourage SMCCCD enrollment

Crisis Situation: Unprecedented, emergency conditions

- COVID-19 public health crisis. -- 8,000 cases, 131 dead in SMC (Latinx 25% pop → 50% COVID cases)
- Service and hospitality sectors closed, lower-skill workers hurt disproportionately
- Economy in deep recession. SMC unemployment 9.2% = 41,000 unemployed
- Social unrest raging due to police brutality and persistent unequal economic opportunity

Facts:

1. SMCCCD: \$207 M 2020-21 General Fund budget (87% from local property tax)
 - \$246 M more spent servicing bond debt and delivering special programs via fed/state grants
2. SMCCCD is “Basic Aid District” meaning property tax collected, stays local for use by SMCCCD
 - High property values create funding stability – SMCCCD is able to tolerate economic cycles
3. **San Mateo County residents pay \$10 million/yr in tuition** to attend SMCCCD
 - Students pay \$46/unit, almost \$1,500/yr for full-time student (15 units)
 - Books, fees, transportation, technology, etc. bring full cost to attend over \$15,000/yr
4. Usually SMCCCD enrollment *declines* in full employment, *rises* in recessions
 - Fall 2020 SMCCCD enrollment is FLAT, Full-Time-Equivalent enrollment is *DOWN*
5. **Proposed 2020-21 budget has \$43 million surplus** at end of year
6. Prior to 1985 all California Community Colleges were tuition-free

Emergency Implementation: SMCCCD Board can double Promise Scholars Program (incl. tuition + wraparound services: food, transportation, counseling, mental health, rent); waive resident tuition for needy students; and, rapidly arrange worker retraining programs to help displace service sector workers

- Cost: \$10M lost tuition + \$5M Promise Scholars expansion + some cost to advance on future grants for rapid worker retraining
- Reallocate up to one-third of the Reserve (up to \$15M) for this purpose

Make Permanent: Form committee campus/business/community leaders to recommend by how to make permanent “Invest in SMC’s Future – Tuition Free SMCCCD”. Including:

- Seek new revenues from fed/state grants/programs, County Measure M funds
- Launch capital campaign to corps, foundations, individuals on vision of Tuition-Free SMCCCD
- Seek cost efficiencies (within constraints of no faculty/staff layoffs)
- NOTE: SMC has 168,000 households, replacing \$10 million in student tuition = \$5/month/HH

Set Student Success Goals: Double workforce training graduates, increase transfer students 50%

CISMCF Student Outcome Goals	2019	2021	2023	% Incr.	Student Benefit
Students Transferring to 4-yr	2,400	3,000	3,600	50%	Lifetime earnings incr. 65% w/ college
Workforce Training Completions	2,000	3,000	4,000	100%	Certif. progs incr. income 51% bef/aft