

1000 W. Foothill Blvd., Glendora, CA 91741



DATE: January 13, 2022

TO: Citrus College Colleagues

FROM: Greg Schulz, Ed.D., Superintendent/President

RE: A Message from Superintendent/President Schulz

# Dear Colleagues,

I hope you all had a safe, relaxing and enjoyable holiday break. As we begin a new year, I wanted to provide you with an update on a few items, including our ongoing planning and response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

First, I want to acknowledge that the pandemic has caused – and continues to cause – challenges for all of us. For nearly two years, our college community has been forced to adapt to a new way of life. The patience, flexibility and understanding shown during these unprecedented times has been nothing short of remarkable. As superintendent/president, working with our Board of Trustees, Cabinet members, faculty, staff, and students, our highest priority is to provide our campus community with a safe learning and working environment, while maintaining access to the quality instruction and services that Citrus College is known for.

As we continue to operate the College with a variety of safety protocols in place, including mandatory weekly testing, I want to share a couple of other measures the College is currently taking in light of the recent increase in regional COVID-19 cases.

#### Winter Term Classes

Thanks to the collaborative work of our deans, staff, and full-time and adjunct faculty, we are moving more winter term class sections online. This decision was made in consultation with bargaining group leadership and input from department faculty who have agreed to move the remainder of their class sessions online. I appreciate this collaborative effort which will allow us to keep our campus open to students while decreasing the population on campus as an additional short-term safety measure. Working together, the percentage of winter term classes offered online has increased from 61% to 70%.

### Temporary Hybrid Work Schedules for Many Staff

Many classified staff in departments throughout the College will <u>temporarily</u> move to a hybrid work schedule through January 31. This will primarily apply to classified staff working in areas of our campus that are more densely populated. Our managers and supervisors will continue to work with staff to implement these temporary schedules in a way that enables us to keep offices open for our students and the community. I want to express my appreciation to our managers,

CSEA leadership and others who are working collaboratively to implement this temporary measure.

## Weekly Testing and Additional Safety Protocols

As we continue to adhere to the many safety protocols that are already in place, including daily self-screening assessments for COVID-19-related symptoms, QR Code location check-ins on the CitrusMobile app for students and employees who are on campus, mandatory weekly COVID-19 testing, and the wearing of masks when inside any college building, the College will continue to share any updates to our protocols that are directed by the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health, Cal/OSHA or the CDC. Thank you for your continued adherence to these safety protocols.

I am very grateful for the efforts of our faculty and staff to implement and operate the mandatory testing program we've had in place since September, and that program will continue. As you have likely read, due to the rise in COVID-19 cases, there has been an extraordinary increase in the demand for antigen tests, thus impacting the available supply. Thanks to the efforts of our Health Services and Purchasing teams, the College was prepared and recently received another large shipment of antigen tests during the holiday break. To ensure ongoing access to testing for students and employees, and to expand our testing capacity as we prepare for the spring term, the College entered into an agreement with an outside company, PMH Laboratory, to provide on-campus PCR testing. This service began on January 3 and will remain in place through the winter and spring terms.

### Superintendent/President Open Office Hour

I have appreciated the opportunity to visit with many of you, either in person or via Zoom. If you'd like to visit with me in the near future, I invite you to join me virtually during my next Open Office Hour on Tuesday, January 25, at 4 p.m. To confirm an appointment, please contact Raquel Perez at <a href="mailto:raperez@citruscollege.edu">raperez@citruscollege.edu</a>. An email invitation will also be shared with our campus community in the near future.

Once again, I want to thank each of you – our students, faculty and staff – for following our health and safety protocols. I remain hopeful that brighter days are ahead, and I wish you good health and much success throughout the new year.

Sincerely, Greg Schulz, Ed.D. Superintendent/President