## Jolley, Kate

From: Jolley, Kate

**Sent:** Monday, March 1, 2021 2:50 PM

**To:** Jolley, Kate

**Subject:** ACCJC Fiscal Monitoring Special Report

Sent bcc: DL.STAFF.ALL

Dear SRJC Colleagues,

It is no secret that the college has faced long term financial challenges, which have been exacerbated by a number of forces outside of our control, such as wildfires, increasing cost of living and housing shortages in Sonoma County and most recently, the pandemic. However, I believe that our current efforts to attack these challenges head on, which began in 2018, will return SRJC to solid financial footing. The development and implementation in 2018/19 of the Long Range Plan to Fiscal Stability has proven effective to this point. I am proud to say we achieved our targeted reductions of \$15.4 million in the first three years of the plan, including \$4.3 million in reductions to class offerings, \$8.9 million in reductions to non-instructional staffing, and \$2.2 million in reductions to operating expenses. Much of this success is due to the dedication and collaboration of individual faculty, classified professionals, and administrators, and their constituent leaders across the college. We will continue to implement the remainder of the plan over the next three years, which will allow us to achieve our goal of fiscal stability.

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) monitors annual fiscal reports using a rubric that assesses the financial stability of an institution. Based upon that rubric, at its January 2021 meeting, the commission acted to place SRJC on enhanced fiscal monitoring, which requires submission of a Fiscal Monitoring Special Report by April 15, 2021. The Fiscal Monitoring Special Report, and supporting evidence will provide an update on our progress with the Long Range Plan implementation, along with identified timelines and milestones, and the steps taken or planned to resolve the following deficiencies:

- Ongoing declining enrollment
- Low fund balance reserves, excluding other financing sources
- Operating deficit, excluding other financing sources
- Negative operating revenue ratio, excluding other financing sources
- No irrevocable trust set up or funded for the District's Other Post-Employment Benefits (Early Retirement Option) liability

Enhanced fiscal monitoring is not a sanction and does not affect the status of our accreditation. Rather, it means that ACCJC and the college will be working closely together and that SRJC will continue to provide regular updates and reports to the commission on the achievement of identified milestones. It also does not change our current Long Range Plan to Fiscal Stability, which we will continue to follow until we reach our goal of ongoing stability.

I am confident we can and will address our financial issues and have a solid plan to resolve our fiscal challenges in a manner resulting in long-term financial health. As all of you, I look forward to the day when SRJC's fiscal challenges are behind us. In the meantime, I want to reassure you that we will continue to support our excellent academic programs and services, and the faculty, classified professionals and administrators who work hard every day to support our students.

I will continue to provide additional information as it becomes available.

Kate

Kate Jolley

## Vice President, Finance and Administrative Services



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I acknowledge that Santa Rosa Junior College is on the territorial traditional land of the Pomo People, past and present, and honor with gratitude the land itself and the people who have stewarded it throughout the generations.

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