

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-17 VENTURA COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF ACCESS AND ACCESSIBILITY

WHEREAS, the National Federation of the Blind, in 2016 reported 7,675,600 people in the United States, 4,037,600 people between the ages of 16 to 64, and more than 40% of the workforce, to have a visual disability; and

WHEREAS, the number of non-institutionalized, male or female persons with a visual disability, all ages, all races, regardless of ethnicity, in all education levels in California, is 797,300; and

WHEREAS, the number of non-institutionalized, male or female persons, ages 21 to 64, all races, regardless of ethnicity, in the United States, reported to have a visual disability in 2016, who have achieved less than a high school diploma or GED is 2,048,600; and

WHEREAS, for students who are blind or visually impaired, transitioning to and succeeding in college is an important step in mobility, independence, and career success; and

WHEREAS, for employees, community members, and others who are blind or visually impaired, an accessible environment is imperative to success, independence, and mobility; and

WHEREAS, the California Community Colleges served 121,748 DSPS students in the academic year 2017-2018;

WHEREAS, the Moorpark, Oxnard, and Ventura colleges Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS) and Educational Assistance Centers (EAC), provide support services and educational accommodations to students with disabilities so they can have full and equitable access to the community college experience; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Ventura County Community College District, believes that higher education should be available to everyone and we support a diverse community that includes people with disabilities.

We are committed to increasing access and opportunity for all students, faculty, classified professionals, and our community.

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees, on the 30th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act, is fully committed to making Information and Communication Technology (ICT), instructional technology, and student, employee, and community communications accessible and believe accessibility of such material is foundational to our mission and in alignment with the Board of Trustees Strategic Goals.

Adopted this 11th day of August, 2020.

Bernardo M. Perez, Board Chair

Joshua Chancer, Vice Chair

Larry Kennedy, Trustee

Dianne B. McKay, Trustee

Gabriela Torres, Trustee

Greg Gillespie, Ph.D., Chancellor