

**From:** [Gribbons, Barry C](#)  
**Subject:** Campus Update  
**Date:** Friday, August 21, 2020 11:33:52 AM  
**Attachments:** [CARE ACTS FLYER.pdf](#)

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Dear Monarchs,

Good afternoon! The Fall semester is fast approaching and I have a few updates that I'm excited to share:

- **Fresh Caller, Fresh Desk, and Zoom.** Students have several new ways of connecting with Student Services. Over the past week or so, an open Zoom room, Fresh Desk, and Fresh Caller were all implemented. I greatly appreciate all the efforts to create more ways for students to connect and get help. Also, for those who are helping to staff them, thank you! This is an especially critical period to ensure students have access and I think that the efforts will have an important impact.
- **Advertising.** Also to help increase enrollment, we launched advertisements on cable to complement the mass emails, text messages, and social media campaign from the District. We of course will be monitoring enrollments carefully over the next week and a half.
- **Enrollments for Fall.** Speaking of enrollments, as of yesterday headcount is at 94% compared to last year and enrollments are at 91%. This is up about 5-6% compared to the last update and we remain 3-4% higher than the District average.
- **Valley cloth facial coverings.** The Valley cloth facial coverings have arrived. We will be working to get them out to you in the next week or so.
- **Additional technology needs.** Thank you for sending in your technology needs. We are reviewing them right now and will let requestors know soon (hopefully by next week) about their requests.
- **Student Surface Gos and other CARES support.** You might recall that last week I mentioned that the order of 1,850 Chromebooks for our students was delayed until October, which is obviously too late. As a result, the District quickly moved to Plan B. Surface Go devices were identified as an alternative by IT and confirmed to be in stock. Wednesday night, the Board had a special meeting and approved a purchase of the devices. We expect to receive them in about two weeks. Although a little later than we would have liked, it is much better than October. An application for the tablets was created using Next Gen and is available through the SIS. Student applications will be reviewed around September 1. At that time, we will begin implementing logistical plans for distribution as the devices are being received by the college. In addition to these devices, students will also be able to request emergency grants and technology support for internet access or other needs. This application is available through Survey Monkey. Students received a message about all three types of support: Surface Gos, emergency grants, and technology support. Please forward the attached flyer to anyone you know that might have a need.
- **Additional Chromebooks.** We also are going to proceed with ordering additional Chromebooks for delivery in October, albeit a somewhat smaller order than the original one. This will help us meet ongoing needs and will be funded by the CARES Act.

- **New Safety Advisories.** New Safety Advisories the District has issued can be viewed at: [the LACCD Safety Advisory webpage](#). These advisories include information about accessing campus and wearing facial coverings. The advisories do not have a significant impact on us as our protocols already covered these items. Nonetheless, it is important to take a moment to read through them. Also, in terms of accessing campus, another email is being sent in the next day or so to reiterate the requirement to obtain prior approval and the process for doing so. This is especially important to keep everyone as safe as possible.

Again, I want to express my appreciation to you for all of your efforts. These are indeed challenging times. Stress and anxiety levels are high not just our students, but for many of our Monarch family members. Your efforts to reduce the impact on our students are wonderful and please let me know how I can support you. Thank you!

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