

**From:** [Gribbons, Barry C](#)  
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Good Morning, Monarchs!

**Happy election day!** Clearly, election season has been in full swing for quite some time now. Voter turnout could reach record levels, which is always good for democracy. If you haven't seen it, the [LA Valley Choir has a new video](#). Check it out and remember to vote if you haven't already!

**CARES Act funding for students** is still available. If you know of any students in need of a Chromebook/Tablet, technology award for other needs, or emergency grant, please refer them to the application on the LAVC COVID-19 page for students at the [LACCD Coronavirus Student Update webpage](#). Scroll down for lots of good information for students.

**Student Wi-Fi access on campus** is being investigated. LACDPH has given the approval to allow students to access Wi-Fi in parking lots. IT has recently done a test of signal strength in every parking lot on the nine campuses. Signal strength is not very strong in any parking lot at Valley, so IT is working on some options. As soon as we receive the options, we will develop plans to make Wi-Fi available to students in one of our parking lots.

**Recovery planning** continues. While we are currently planning for the Winter and Spring terms to be offered in a similar mode as the Fall, with most classes online except some labs in Nursing, Respiratory Therapist, EMT, and Technology/Manufacturing, we are beginning to work with the District on plans for the next phases of recovery when we can offer more classes and services in-person. While personally I hope that we will be well underway with bringing most classes back next Fall, there is no indication on the timing of the phases of recovery from the LACDPH. Nonetheless, we will continue the planning process so that we are well prepared for future recovery phases as they are authorized by the County and safe to implement.

**A survey on Valley's Commitment to Anti-Racism** is available at [this link](#). Please take a few minutes to provide feedback.

**Professional development** opportunities are available. Check out yesterday's **PD Blast** for more details on opportunities like the following: BUILD Series with book groups and conversations on anti-racism; Cultural Inclusiveness Series, including Safe Zone; TCB with a department chair series and mindfulness workshop; and Technology Matters with Microsoft Office Specialist training. I want to thank everyone for making these available to the campus community and look forward to attending many of them myself.

The **District Equipment Loan Policy** has been updated. The major change clarifies that some items, such as office chairs, can be loaned if there is a business necessity with the appropriate approvals. If you still have needs for items, such as an office chair, Chromebook, monitor, etc., please let your supervisor know.

**Enrollments at Valley** are down 10 percent compared to last year, though are higher than the District overall and the second highest in the District. Clearly, this is largely due to the pandemic. Students 24 years old and younger are showing the greatest declines in enrollment. We continue to study the details and are developing action plans in outreach and marketing for moving forward. This includes engaging with students virtually in their homerooms, connecting with dual-enrolled students, virtual events at

schools and in the community, mailing directly to local households, and marketing on social media, radio, and strategic cable and print media outlets. We also are planning targeted campaigns for areas especially hard hit by the pandemic, like Kinesiology, to help recover enrollment losses.

**Testimonials and student work** are needed! We all know that Valley has changed thousands of lives for over 70 years. In just the short amount of time I've been here, many people in the community have shared amazing stories of the impact you all have had on their lives. And, the student stories have been nothing short of inspirational! We are going to work hard at sharing these stories with our prospective students and need your help. If you know of a student or alumni who has a great story, please let Tanya Sirkin or Meredith Stoops in my office know (and please cc me). They will be working closely with Jennifer Borucki in collecting these stories, both in print and video form, for our marketing messages. In the same spirit, what you are doing in classrooms is amazing. I'm delighted to share the LA Valley Choir's "Voting Is a Sexy Thang" video linked above and would love to share more student work. Please send me, Tanya, and Meredith exemplars of student work that we can share to further inspire our community and prospective students. Of course, I selfishly am also interested as the student work continues to amaze and inspire me as well.

With everyone's support in pulling together student stories that will serve as inspirations for our outreach and marketing efforts, I remain optimistic that we will not only recover from the enrollment decline, but increase from pre-pandemic levels.

As always, I want to express my appreciation for everyone's hard work in serving our students and ensuring that they can continue pursuing their dreams. Please continue to share your ideas and feedback with me.

Stay safe and be well!

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