

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

Happy Juneteenth! Yesterday the District sent out a note letting everyone know that President Biden just signed legislation establishing June 19<sup>th</sup> as “Juneteenth National Independence Day” and that we would observe the holiday today. Juneteenth annually commemorates Union Army General Granger’s arrival in Galveston, Texas, on June 19, 1865 announcing the Emancipation Proclamation, which states, “all persons held as slaves” in Confederate states “shall be then, thenceforward, and forever free.” Please join me in commemorating this important historical moment in celebration of Juneteenth!

I have a few updates that I also want to share with you.

CAL OSHA Emergency Temporary Standards. Yesterday, Cal OSHA approved new [Emergency Temporary Standards](#) (ETS) and Governor Newsom sign an [executive order](#) making them effective immediately. The new ETS allows for an easing mask wearing and physical distancing requirements in many instances and in alignment with the California Department of Public Health and Los Angeles County Department of Public Health. There are a few details that the District is still working through in deciding how to implement the ETS across the District. I expect additional guidance from the District in the next few days on how the standards are to be implemented. I should note that nothing in the ETS prevents employees from wearing a mask if they chose to do so and we are securing additional N95 masks for those that would like to wear one at the College. Also, we are contracting with a Cal OSHA expert who will help the campus community understand the sometimes-confusing requirements to ensure that we have a safe working environment. Lastly, I want to express my thanks to Xiao Behlendorf, our WEC chair, for her efforts working over the summer providing feedback and ensuring that we have strong communication on these important safety issues.

Vaccination Pop Ups. We will be hosting vaccination pop ups on campus on July 3, 17, and 31. They are open to our students, staff, and the public. Vaccinations are free. Students and staff will receive a \$150 gift card for our bookstore for each dose they receive at our pop-up events. More announcements will be sent out soon.

Dean Marriott. Our esteemed colleague, Doug Marriott has accepted a senior dean position at Napa College. While we are excited for him and his future endeavors in the renowned wine country, we of course will deeply miss Doug. Doug has left an indelible mark on all of us and we greatly appreciate his incredibly positive attitude and capable leadership. Thank you, Doug! Onward and upward, our friend!

Thank you, everyone, for your commitment and tireless efforts! I hope that you are soon able to take some time to rest and recharge following this past 15-month marathon.

Warm regards,

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