



September 28, 2021

Dear Colleagues,

In-person, remote, hybrid and online instruction is off to a successful start this fall semester with the expectation that we will expand the list of face-to-face classes for the upcoming winter session and spring semester. We have worked hard at GCC to provide learning options that best fit our students' needs, but our core directive has always been to maintain a safe and healthy environment on our campuses.

In August, the Board of Trustees unanimously approved a new board policy that requires students and employees who access district facilities to be fully vaccinated by October 31, 2021. That same board policy requires that all GCC employees be fully vaccinated by December 21, 2021, whether or not they are working remotely or in-person.

The vaccine mandate ([Board Policy 3507](#)) will remain in effect for the entire 2021-22 academic year. As a GCC employee, if you are not yet vaccinated, I strongly encourage you to do so. The vaccination process can take up to six weeks, so do not delay making your first appointment, which you can do by clicking myturn.ca.gov.

Later today, you will receive instructions on how to provide proof of your vaccination. We are partnering with Kokomo 24/7 to offer an easy, secure platform where you can upload all your documentation.

You may apply for an exemption due to an ADA-qualifying medical disability or a valid religious accommodation. If you receive an exemption, you will be required to provide proof of a negative COVID-19 test on a weekly basis, no exceptions. We will send you instructions on how to apply for a qualifying exemption through the online vaccine portal.

Masks are still required while inside a district facility. Coupled with the vaccination policy, these two actions will go a long way in making our campuses more safe. By working together, we can help turn the corner on the pandemic and assure a safe and healthy learning environment for our students.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Viar".

David Viar
Superintendent/President

Superintendent/President Dr. David Viar

Board of Trustees Sevan Benlian • Yvette Vartanian Davis • Dr. Armine Hacopian • Desireé Portillo Rabinov • Ann H. Ransford