



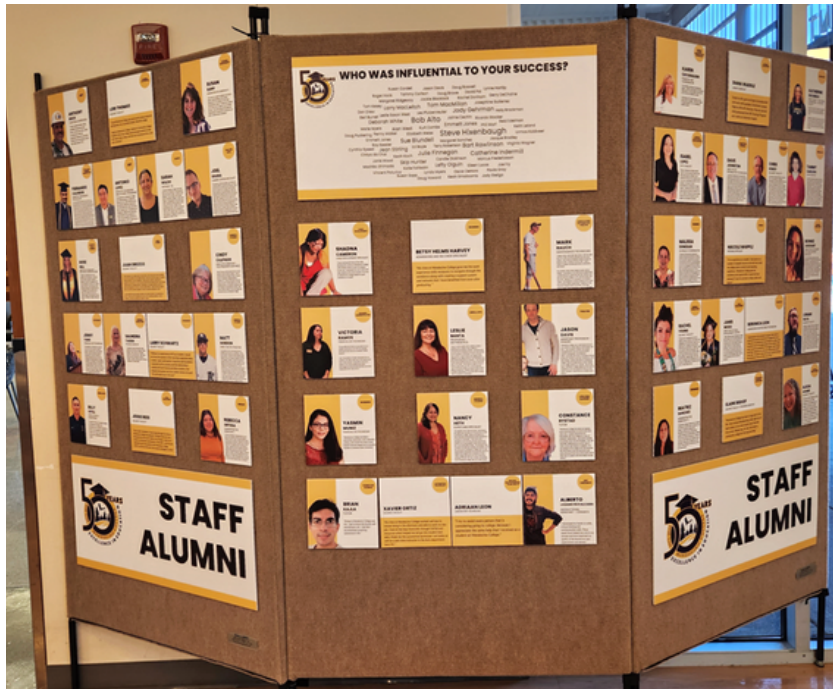
# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

FEBRUARY  
2023

REPORT FROM SUPERINTENDENT/PRESIDENT KARAS



## 50TH ANNIVERSARY



As part of the 50th Anniversary celebration, an information display was created highlighting employees who attended Mendocino College. The display includes a picture and a quote about their journey. Mendocino College is unique in having a higher percentage of employees that attended our institution than other California Community Colleges. The display is located in the student center café seating area.

### SAVE THE DATE!

#### 50th Anniversary Community Day

Saturday, March 25, 2023 - 11am to 4pm at the Ukiah Campus  
More details coming soon.



## PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

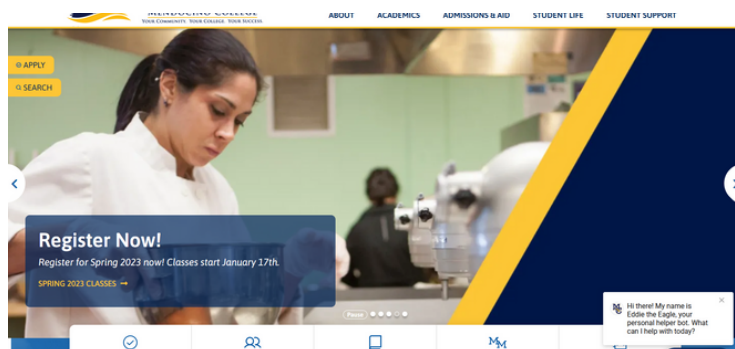
It has been a month since ushering in the 2023 new year and a few weeks after the beginning of the Lunar New Year. This lunar year is the year of the rabbit. The rabbit is the fourth animal in the Chinese zodiac and symbolizes grace, beauty, mercy and good luck. Rabbits are also associated with the moon, because of the mythical Jade Rabbit who lives there.

Over the past month everyone district-wide was focused on preparing for the start of the spring semester, welcoming students to campus, beginning of instruction, and assisting students in the initial weeks of the semester.

I had the privilege of being re-appointed as a director for the Lake County Economic Development Corporation board.

## NEW DISTRICT WEBSITE

After a year-long planning, testing, and implementation process, the district has launched a new website. There are many technological enhancements to the website, including it being mobile-friendly. This was a huge undertaking that many people were involved in updating content on their department and services pages. Content will continue to be refreshed. The effort was led by Rose Bell, Director of Community Relations and Communications, with the assistance of a dedicated team including Tony Novelli, Tim Todd, and Dave Johnston.



## IN THE NEWS

Mendocino College was featured in a recent EdSource article on the UC’s plan to expand outreach to community colleges. Our transfer counselor, Mark Osea, is quoted in the article. Mark serves on the joint CCC-UC Transfer Task Force. We are proud to have strong representation at the State level. <https://edsources.org/2023/university-of-california-planning-to-expand-outreach-at-65-california-community-colleges/684591>

## ENROLLMENTS

Enrollments for the district continue to rise. The district has significantly increased in the number of students and FTES over Spring 2022. The district trails our last pre-pandemic semester (Spring 2020) by 13% in FTES but has more new and returning students.

SEMESTER	ACTIVE STUDENTS	FULL-TIME	PART-TIME	NEW STUDENTS	RETURNING STUDENTS	TOTAL FTES
SPRING 2023	4188	729	3389	245	594	912.17
SPRING 2022	3451	620	2831	178	475	775.36
SPRING 2020	4198	968	3230	220	507	1051.4
PERCENT OF 2023 FROM 2020	100%	75%	105%	111%	117%	87%

## FEATURED EVENTS

A full listing of events can be found on the College webpage at <https://www.mendocino.edu/events>

### Fine Woodworking Exhibition

TC Space gallery, 324 N Franklin St, Fort Bragg  
Jan 28 - Feb 5, 10am-6pm daily and Feb 6 - Feb 26 1 PM - 5 PM Wed – Sun.

**Friends of the Lake Center Mixer** - Lake Center  
Thursday, February 16, 2023, 11:45am to 1:00pm

**Friends of the Coast Center Mixer** - Coast Center  
Thursday, February 16, 2023, 5:00pm to 7:00pm

**Lake Center College Day** - Lake Center  
Thursday, March 9, 2023, 10:00am-12:30pm

**Native Learning Symposium Panel 1 (Sovereignty)** -  
Friday, March 10, 2023, 3:00-4:30pm, Ukiah Campus.  
*Funded by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Library, Instruction office, and Institutional Research, in collaboration with representatives from a number of tribes in the district, are organizing a speaker series featuring local Native American experts, elders, and educators.*

**50th Anniversary Community Day**  
Saturday, March 25, 2023, 11:00am to 4:00pm, Ukiah Campus

**Once, the Musical**  
March 23, 2023 to April 2, 2023 in the Center Theater

### Athletics

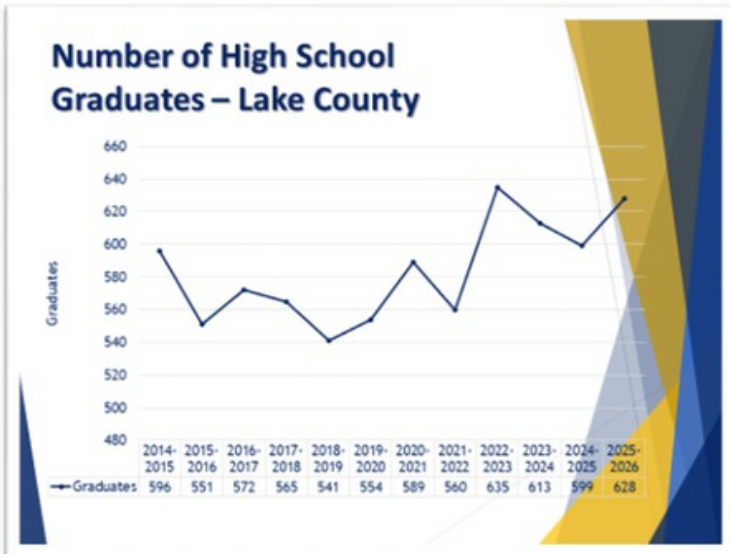
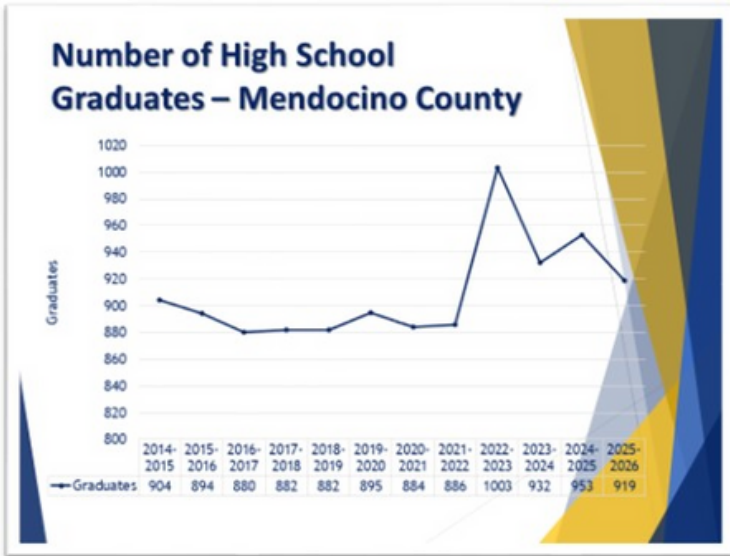
To check out upcoming athletic events go to <https://www.mendoeagles.com/landing/index> for a full listing of game days and times.



## HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT PIPELINE

At the recent trustees' conference there was concern expressed from many districts about future K-12 enrollments. Many districts are experiencing significant declines in K-12 student leading to school closure and fewer high-school graduates. As the major feeder for most community colleges, this impact community college enrollment.

Mendocino College does not face those stark declines in high-school graduates in the foreseeable future. Below are graphs for Mendocino and Lake counties through 2026. Thank you to Minerva Flores, Director of Institutional Effectiveness, Research, and Grant, for the information.



## HIGH SCHOOL OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

The Outreach Team has been busy visiting high schools for Reg-2-Go and presentations and joining Financial Aid staff at financial aid nights. Over the last month, the team has visited the following schools and programs: Round Valley High School, South Valley High School, Willits High School, Kelseyville High School, Anderson Valley High School, Laytonville High School, Fort Bragg High School, and Ukiah High School.

## ADMISSIONS & RECORDS UPDATE

The International Student Program was successfully recertified. The recertification process requires a comprehensive review of the college and programs and must be completed every two years.

A Veterans Affairs compliance audit was completed in December 2022 by a Saint George Consulting Survey Specialist on behalf of the VA. The compliance audit consisted of a school visit, review of selected files, and a comprehensive interview with staff. Compliance audits are mandatory for schools that certify VA educational benefits for students and are generally completed every 1-2 years, dependent upon the number of students using educational benefits. No findings were made in the audit and the college was found to be in compliance with the regulations reviewed.

## EARLY ALERT NOTIFICATIONS

As is done every semester, the Counseling Department sent out a notice and reminder to all instructional faculty regarding the Early Alert process. Faculty are encouraged to connect and leverage Counseling and Student Service resources to support students that may be struggling in their class. Concerns may include academic performance, behavioral issues, personal matters, and learning challenges requiring accommodations and special services. Through the Early Alert Process, the Counseling Department pairs the student in need with a Counselor to ensure their needs are addressed.

**BROWN ACT: OPEN MEETINGS UPDATE**

The Governor's Office announced that the COVID-19 State of Emergency will end on February 28, 2023. Ending the state of emergency will restrain how cities can conduct remote meetings by limiting their ability to utilize AB 361 (Rivas, Robert), which is effective during a declared state of emergency.

Beginning March 1, 2023, we will revert back to the pre-pandemic teleconferencing restrictions for trustees. If a trustee is unable to attend a meeting in-person, the location of the trustee must be noted on the board agenda. A public agenda notice would be posted at the remote location and members of the public could come to that location. Under limited "emergency conditions/just cause" circumstances an alternative option can only be used for a limited time.

Members of the public and presenters will continue to have the option to attend the meetings in-person or via zoom.

**RENEWED PARTNERSHIP WITH MTA**

Mendocino College was able to secure an agreement with Mendocino Transit Authority (MTA) to continue the Students Ride Free program. Through this agreement, students will be able to ride any MTA bus free of charge by simply showing their student ID. Students must be enrolled in the current semester to receive a sticker that is placed on their ID. This renewed partnership with MTA mirrors the agreement we also have in place with Lake Transit Authority. Through these two agreements, Mendocino College students can ride public transportation free of charge in both Lake and Mendocino Counties.

**FEBRUARY IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

<https://libguides.mendocino.edu/blackhistory>

**TRANSFER ACTIVITIES**

Students have received a reminder that it is time to submit their Transfer Student Academic Update (TSAU) for the CSUs, or the Transfer Academic Update (TAU) for the UCs (both due January 31st). There are many other details unique to specific majors and campuses, and students are encouraged to connect with their counselor or the Transfer Center for assistance and support.

The Transfer Talk series initiated in the Fall semester through the Transfer Center continues this semester. Transfer Counselor/Coordinator, Mark Osea collaborates with the counselors to offer pertinent and engaging workshops. Spring semester scheduled Transfer workshops include:

**Choosing Your Transfer Major and University**

Presenter: Prof. Apryl Guisasola, Counselor - Equity  
January 31, 2023, at 12:30 p.m.

**University Begins Here: Planning Your Transfer Journey**

Presenter: Prof. Mark Edward Osea, Articulation Officer & Transfer Counselor  
February 28, 2023, at 12:30 p.m.

**Transfer Transitions: Next Steps After Applying**

Presenter: Prof. Brenda Estrada, Career Counselor  
March 28, 2023, at 12:30 p.m.

**IMMIGRANT LEGAL DEFENSE PARTNERSHIP**

Assembly Bill 1809, appropriated funds for the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to execute Agreements with qualified organizations to provide immigration legal services and support to Dreamers on California community college campuses. Through a statewide established process, Mendocino College was able to secure a partnership with Immigrant Legal Defense (ILD). Through this partnership, students seeking legal support through our Dream Center will be able to connect directly with legal experts. This partnership has been secured through the middle of the Fall 2023 semester and will provide our Dreamers with legal support they greatly need free of charge.