West Valley - Mission
Community College District

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Dear West Valley-Mission Community College District Faculty & Staff:

The West Valley-Mission Community College District serves a critical role in our community by providing high quality, affordable higher education at West Valley and Mission Colleges. We also have a significant role in preparing students for transfer to 4-year universities and for the high demand jobs of the 21st century. As faculty and staff you are essential to this effort.

We are extremely proud of the efforts of our faculty and staff in providing the very best education to our local communities. We appreciate your commitment to this mission, as providing high quality transfer preparation and career and technical education to local students is more important than ever in today's tough economy.

However, as you well know, we also face significant challenges with aging and deteriorating teaching environments on our college campuses. Recently, we surveyed local taxpayers to determine whether they are interested in continuing to invest in our colleges and educational vision. In fact, taxpayers are potentially interested in supporting key priorities that include:

- Updating academic facilities and technology to help students prepare to transfer to 4-year universities
- Accommodating more students in high-demand classes that currently have long waiting lists
- Repairing or replacing leaky roofs, heating, cooling, plumbing and electricity to ensure effective learning environments and increase energy efficiency
- Updating educational facilities and technology to ensure students are prepared for the high demand jobs of the 21st century, especially careers in emerging technologies
- Making all buildings, classrooms, and facilities accessible to people with disabilities

We are extremely pleased that the community is supportive of considering a local higher education funding measure on the June 2012 ballot. We will continue to work with you over the coming weeks as we finalize potential funding projects with the Board, consistent with educational and community priorities. As always, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us with any questions, comments or input.

Sincerely,

John E. Hendrickson
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