CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES
CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE

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Incoming California Community Colleges Chancellor Eloy Ortiz Oakley Applauds Passage of Propositions 51, 55 and Local Bond Measures by California Voters

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – Incoming California Community Colleges Chancellor Eloy Ortiz Oakley today said voter approvals of Proposition 55, which will provide funding for education, as well as statewide and local facilities bond measures are important victories for both students and the state's 113 community colleges.

"Voters made the right choice by continuing to invest in education," said Oakley, who takes over as state chancellor on Dec. 19. "These resources will help us offer the classes we need to educate our state's workforce, improve transfer opportunities and help close achievement gaps. California's community colleges have never been more important to the state than they are in today's economy, and I want to thank the voters for putting their faith in our system."

The passage of Proposition 55 is expected to generate annually between $2 billion to $4.5 billion for education, with about 11 percent of that going to community colleges. The measure continues to restore funding cut during the Great Recession, while helping make more classes and programs available to California's students. Proposition 51 will provide community colleges with $2 billion for much needed construction projects.

Oakley also said that after the divisive presidential election, the California Community Colleges will continue to lead the path forward for positive change for its 2.1 million students. "Our system will always support and advocate on behalf of students who come to our colleges to improve their lives and the lives of their families," Oakley said. "Community colleges are in the best position to help move communities forward and improve social mobility in our state."

In addition to passing Propositions 51 and 55, voters in 11 California community college districts on Tuesday also approved local bond measures totaling $7.3 billion. The funds will be used to renovate community colleges campuses, modernize classrooms and facilities, fund new buildings and improve accessibility for the disabled.

The local bond measures are:

- Antelope Valley Community College District - $350,000,000
- Butte-Glenn Community College District - $190,000,000
- Desert Community College District - $577,860,000
- Glendale Community College District - $325,000,000
- Hartnell Community College District - $167,000,000
- Kern Community College District - $502,821,000
- Los Angeles Community College District - $3,300,000,000
- MiraCosta Community College District - $455,000,000

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- San Jose-Evergreen Community College District - $748,000,000
- Santa Monica Community College District - $345,000,000
- Southwestern Community College District - $400,000,000

The California Community Colleges *is the largest system of higher education in the nation composed of 72 districts and 113 colleges serving 2.1 million students per year. Community colleges supply workforce training, basic skills education in English and math, and prepare students for transfer to four-year institutions. The Chancellor's Office provides leadership, advocacy and support under the direction of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges. For more information about the community colleges, please visit http://californiacommunitycolleges.cccco.edu/, https://www.facebook.com/CACommColleges, or https://twitter.com/CalCommColleges.*

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