



---

**OFFICIAL COLLEGE STATEMENT**

**March 7, 2018**

**FLEX DAY NOTES**

Dear Colleagues:

Like many of you, I came away inspired from yesterday's Flex Day keynote address by Dr. Pedro Noguera, the nationally renowned Professor of Education at UCLA, who challenged us to place student equity at the center of everything we do.

I want to thank each of you--each teacher, counselor, and librarian, each staff member, each administrator--for your abiding commitment to creating a student-centered environment for teaching and learning. Keep up the great work!

**MARCH 14: #ENOUGH**

Day of Action and 17 Minute Walkout

10:00 AM, Wednesday, March 14

Following the Parkland High School shooting, students in Florida and throughout the nation have taught us all a great deal about the power of solidarity and activism.

Our commitment to our students should extend to supporting their right to non-violent political demonstration. On March 14th SFUSD students will join students throughout the nation for a 17-minute walkout from class to call attention to the urgent need to take action to guarantee safety for all students, teachers and school staff. Details of this demonstration are on this link:

[https://www.actionnetwork.org/event\\_campaigns/enough-national-school-walkout](https://www.actionnetwork.org/event_campaigns/enough-national-school-walkout)

I have received a request from the Associated Students and our friends in AFT 2121 and SEIU 1021 and many others to support those who wish to participate in this walkout. The Board of Trustees and I are grateful to support this request to exercise each individual's rights to free speech and demonstration and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

*I therefore formally request that any student, instructor, librarian, counselor, staff member or administrator who wishes to join the walkout be permitted to do so without penalty.*

As a practicing teacher myself, I acknowledge the disruption of such an activity and at the same time I also understand the importance of supporting students' right to peaceful political demonstration.

No individual should feel compelled to join in this activity. We must respect the rights of those who do not wish to participate in this demonstration and who may hold differing views and approaches on this issue.

### **SAFETY AND SECURITY UPDATE: ACTIVE THREAT PREPAREDNESS**

I also wanted to update you briefly on actions we are taking to improve the safety and security at all of our campus locations.

We held two Flex Day training sessions on *Active Threat Scenario Training*, conducted by the Knowledge Saves Lives organization. This training was well received and was just one result of a year-long effort to upgrade the safety and security environment at CCSF.

We have formed the college Health and Safety Committee to review and make recommendations on updating our Emergency Preparedness Plan in all areas. In addition, the Board of Trustees has approved a new position, Emergency Preparedness Director, whose primary responsibility will be the implementation of safety and security measures. Some measures under current consideration include warning alarms, enhanced text alert systems, video cameras and expanded security at major entrance points to our campuses and centers. We are also in the process of hiring six additional police officers.

Our action and preparedness plans will include a comprehensive training for all employees to identify individuals who may need assistance or intervention.

I encountered this article today that describes how we can best address the threats to our safety as a public health issue. I offer it as food for thought in inviting your feedback on how we can make a good plan for CCSF:

<https://www.npr.org/sections/ed/2018/03/07/590877717/experts-say-here-s-how-to-prevent-the-next-school-shooting>

Thank you for your help and wisdom as we strive to create an environment free of fear and full of friendship. Today and every day all of us at City College will continue to do our best to wage peace by acting with profound respect and genuine concern for each member of our community.

With kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark W. Rocha". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "M" and "R".

Dr. Mark W. Rocha, Chancellor  
City College of San Francisco