



### **MSJC Board of Trustees Names Dr. Tawny Dotson as Eighth Superintendent/President**

The Mt. San Jacinto College Board of Trustees announced the selection of Dr. Tawny Dotson as the District's eighth Superintendent/President. Her appointment follows a comprehensive national search that included public forums and community feedback opportunities to engage students, employees, and community members throughout the process.

A retired Lieutenant Colonel in the United States Air Force, Dr. Dotson brings more than 20 years of military leadership experience and a strong background in higher education administration. She has led initiatives focused on student success, enrollment growth, workforce alignment, and expanded access to higher education. Dr. Dotson will become the first woman to serve as Superintendent/President in MSJC's history, succeeding Dr. Roger Schultz following his nearly two decades of leadership and service to the District.

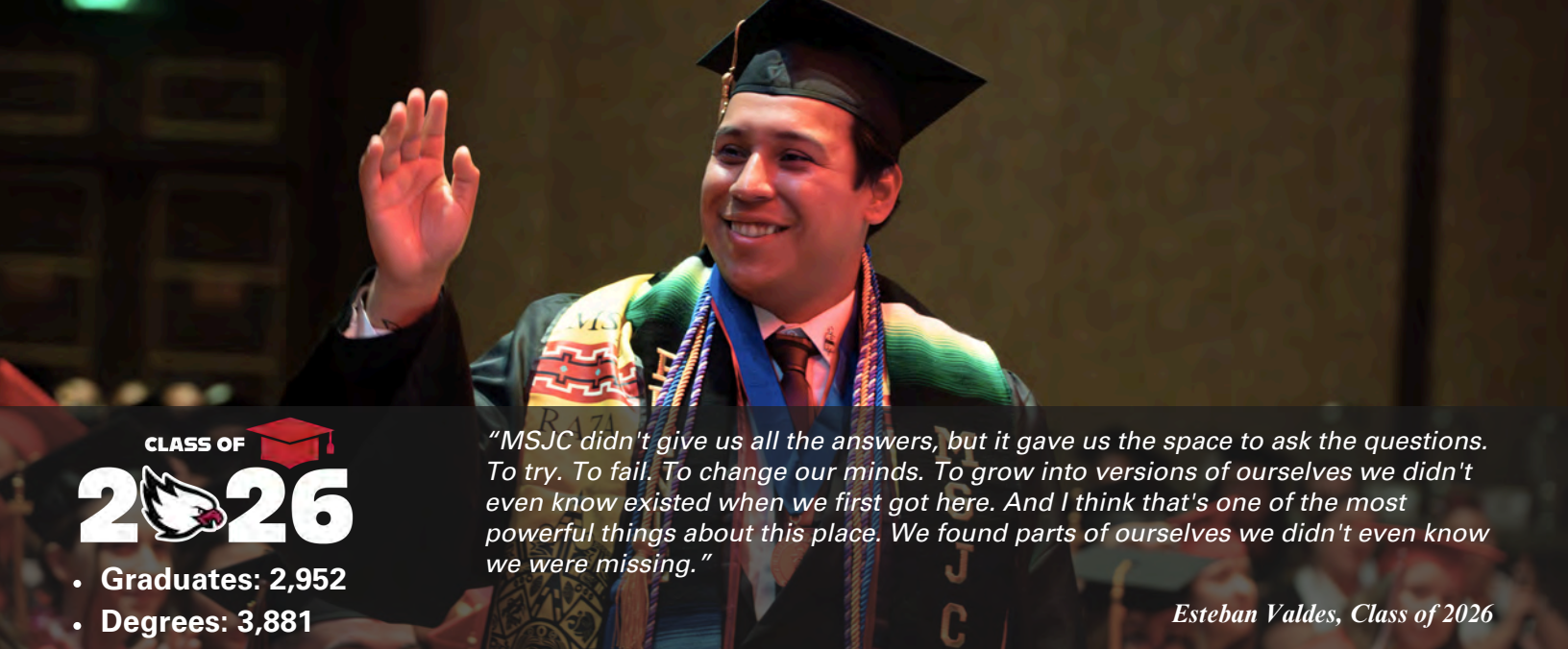
"As an educator committed to ensuring students have equitable outcomes that lead to the good jobs and transfer opportunities they want, I knew MSJC was a place that I would love to work," said Dr. Dotson. "During the selection process, I learned even more about MSJC's welcoming environment, the care employees show their students, and the college's drive to transform lives firsthand."

### **MSJC Board of Trustees Elects 2026 Leadership**

The Mt. San Jacinto College Board of Trustees selected leadership for 2026, continuing its commitment to serving MSJC students and the community.

**Trustee Tom Ashley** (Area 5) was elected Board President, while **Trustee Vicki Carpenter** (Area 3) was chosen as Clerk of the Board.





CLASS OF   
**2026**

- Graduates: 2,952
- Degrees: 3,881

*"MSJC didn't give us all the answers, but it gave us the space to ask the questions. To try. To fail. To change our minds. To grow into versions of ourselves we didn't even know existed when we first got here. And I think that's one of the most powerful things about this place. We found parts of ourselves we didn't even know we were missing."*

*Esteban Valdes, Class of 2026*



**Nursing Graduates, Class of 2026**

## MSJC Honors the Class of 2026 While Celebrating a Legacy of Growth

The Mt. San Jacinto College Class of 2026 reflected the perseverance, diversity, and determination that define the college's mission of transforming lives through education. From dual enrollment students and first-generation college students to returning adult learners and graduates overcoming personal challenges, this year's ceremonies celebrated the many pathways students take toward success.

When MSJC held its first commencement ceremony in 1965, the college graduated just eight students. Sixty-one years later, the college awarded 3,881 degrees and certificates to 2,952 graduates during four ceremonies over two days, highlighting the institution's continued growth throughout one of California's fastest-growing regions.

The ceremonies also marked the final commencement season for Dr. Roger Schultz after nearly two decades of leadership. "Every graduate carries a story of perseverance, sacrifice, growth, and hope," Schultz said. "Watching students transform their lives through education has been the greatest privilege of my career." Reflecting on his final commencement season, he added, "As our Eagles prepared to soar into their futures, I found myself reflecting on how far this college has come—and how much potential still lies ahead."

### MSJC Foundation

There are many ways to help keep the MSJC legacy going. Discover how you can support MSJC and its students. Contact Rebecca Orlauski, Executive Director of the Foundation:

**(951) 487-3171 or [rorlauski@msjc.edu](mailto:rorlauski@msjc.edu)**

### A Farewell to Leadership, A Celebration of Legacy

After nearly two decades of leadership, Dr. Roger Schultz announced his retirement effective summer 2026, concluding a 38-year career in higher education, including 25 years at Mt. San Jacinto College. During his tenure, MSJC expanded campuses, increased enrollment and graduation rates, added major facilities, and earned state and national recognition for student success and access. "As I reflect on my own journey, I am reminded of something very simple: I achieved absolutely nothing by myself. Every meaningful outcome was the result of people working together toward something greater than any one individual." Schultz said.





## MSJC Opens Studio215 and ieNOW to Expand Student Opportunities and Regional Storytelling Across the Inland Empire

Mt. San Jacinto College celebrated the grand opening of Studio215 and ieNOW at the Menifee Valley Campus, marking a major investment in workforce development, student learning, and regional media production. Studio215, a full-service production studio operated in partnership with the college's Creative Media Department, provides students with hands-on industry experience while creating content for local businesses, cities, and community organizations. Meanwhile, ieNOW strengthens local storytelling through streaming content focused on the Inland Empire and addressing the region's growing need for local media coverage.

Supported through funding secured with assistance from Riverside County leadership, these initiatives reflect MSJC's commitment to innovation, career preparation, and expanding opportunities for students to build creative careers close to home. The facilities also create new opportunities for businesses, nonprofit organizations, municipalities, and community partners seeking professional media production services while helping students gain real-world experience alongside industry professionals.

Community members interested in learning more about Studio215 services or ieNOW can contact Nathan Marriott at [nmarriott@msjc.edu](mailto:nmarriott@msjc.edu) or visit [MSJC.edu/Studio215](https://MSJC.edu/Studio215) for additional information.

Your story doesn't end at graduation—it becomes part of our legacy. Whether you transferred, launched a career, started a business, or are still exploring your next chapter, we want to hear from you. Join our growing alumni community, share your story, reconnect with classmates, and stay engaged with the college that helped shape your journey. Visit [I Am MSJC](https://IamMSJC.com) and show future Eagles what's possible. Once an Eagle, always an Eagle!



**Stay Connected.**  
**Stay Inspired.**  
**Stay MSJC.**



## MSJC Partners to Launch New Pass Area Business Hub

Mt. San Jacinto College partnered with the City of Beaumont and Riverside County to launch the Pass Area Business Hub, a new one-stop resource center designed to support entrepreneurs, small businesses, job seekers, and startups across the San Geronio Pass. Located in Beaumont, the Hub brings together education, workforce development, economic development, and business support services under one roof to strengthen the region's economy and expand opportunities for residents and employers.

As part of the partnership, MSJC will provide contract education, community education, workforce training, and educational partnerships that connect businesses and residents with the skills and resources needed to grow and succeed. The initiative reflects MSJC's continued commitment to regional collaboration, workforce development, and supporting economic vitality throughout the communities it serves.

## Inspiring Future Innovators: MSJC Hosts 32nd Annual STEM Conference for Eighth-Grade Girls



Mt. San Jacinto College partnered with the American Association of University Women (AAUW) Redlands Branch to host the 32nd Annual STEM Conference for Eighth-Grade Girls, welcoming 264 students from across the Pass Area to the San Jacinto Campus for a day of hands-on learning, mentorship, and career exploration. The annual conference connected students with women leaders in STEM through interactive workshops and activities designed to inspire future scientists, engineers, healthcare professionals, and innovators.

For the second consecutive year, award-winning author, international keynote speaker, and education advocate Erica Alfaro delivered the keynote address, "You Can Succeed Despite Adversity," encouraging students to embrace resilience, curiosity, and confidence as they pursue their academic and personal goals. The conference continues a more than three-decade tradition of expanding access, empowering young women, and encouraging future generations to explore STEM careers and higher education opportunities.

### MSJC Board of Trustees (left to right):

- Jhalister Corona, Area 4
- Calvin Smith, Area 2
- Vicki Carpenter, Area 3
- Tom Ashley, Area 5
- Brian Sylva, Area 1





## MSJC Named One of the Nation's Top Hispanic-Serving Community Colleges

Mt. San Jacinto College has been recognized as one of the nation's top two-year Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs), earning a place among only 10 California community colleges included in the rankings. The recognition highlights MSJC's longstanding commitment to advancing equity, student success, and opportunity for Hispanic students through strong transfer pathways, career preparation, and inclusive learning environments.

More than half of MSJC's student population identifies as Hispanic, and the college has proudly held its Hispanic-Serving Institution designation since 2001. The ranking reflects MSJC's continued focus on social mobility, graduation outcomes, and student achievement while serving one of the region's most diverse student populations.

## First Annual Hero Climb to Honor 9/11 First Responders



More than 200 students, employees, community members, and local first responders came together at MSJC's Menifee Valley Campus for the inaugural Hero Climb, honoring the courage and sacrifice of the first responders who responded during the September 11, 2001, attacks. Participants climbed 1,650 steps—equivalent to 66 stadium steps repeated 25 times—to symbolize the climb made by first responders at the World Trade Center.

Organized under the theme "Together, We Climb," the event brought together students and community partners, including first responders and military representatives, while reinforcing MSJC's commitment to service, remembrance, and community connection. Participants received commemorative challenge coins and shirts, and the college plans to continue the Hero Climb as an annual tradition.

## MSJC's Erik Ozolins Receives National Award for Excellence in Honors Education



Dr. Erik Ozolins, director of MSJC's Honors Enrichment Program, received national recognition for excellence in honors education, honoring his leadership and dedication to expanding opportunities for high-achieving students. Under his guidance, the program has helped students access research, mentorship, transfer pathways, and academic enrichment opportunities while reinforcing MSJC's commitment to student success and educational excellence.



## **Building the Future: MSJC Celebrates New Math and Science Building and Completion of Measure AA**

Mt. San Jacinto College celebrated the dedication of its new Math and Science Building at the Menifee Valley Campus, marking the completion of Measure AA and more than a decade of transformational investments across the District. Approved by voters in 2014, the \$295 million bond measure funded critical facility upgrades throughout MSJC's 1,700-square-mile service area, expanding access to modern learning environments and workforce training opportunities.

The college expressed its gratitude to the community for its support in making these projects possible. Two of the most significant investments funded through Measure AA include the Science and Technology Building at the San Jacinto Campus, completed in Fall 2024, and the new Math and Science Building at Menifee Valley Campus, both designed to provide students with state-of-the-art laboratories, collaborative learning spaces, and expanded opportunities in high-demand fields. Together, these projects reflect MSJC's continued commitment to student success, workforce development, and serving one of California's fastest-growing regions.



## **Driving Transformation: MSJC Celebrates Growth, Community, and Student Success**

Mt. San Jacinto College's annual State of the College – Report to the Community brought together community leaders, students, employees, and partners at the Temecula Valley Campus to celebrate the college's continued growth and impact across the region.

Centered around the theme Driving Transformation, the event highlighted student success, enrollment growth, regional partnerships, financial stability, and the college's reaffirmation of accreditation through 2032.

Attendees celebrated both the college's accomplishments and the legacy of leadership that helped shape MSJC into a regional leader in higher education.

## From Sacramento to Washington, D.C.: MSJC Delegations Advocate for Students and Communities

Students, trustees, and college leaders from Mt. San Jacinto College traveled to both the state capitol and Washington, D.C., this year to advocate for community college priorities and ensure student voices were represented at the state and federal levels. College representatives met with lawmakers and policymakers to discuss issues including higher education funding, workforce development, financial aid, basic needs, and expanding access to educational opportunities.

MSJC student leaders also participated in statewide and national advocacy programs, gaining firsthand experience in policymaking while sharing their personal stories and perspectives on issues affecting community college students. These efforts reflect the college's ongoing commitment to civic engagement, leadership development, and advocating for policies that strengthen opportunities for students and the communities MSJC serves.

During these meetings, the MSJC delegation emphasized the importance of securing legislative support for three key priorities:

- 1. Fully Funding Enrollments, Including Support for K-12 Dual Enrollment** – Ensuring adequate funding to support student growth and increase access to higher education through dual enrollment partnerships with K-12 districts.
- 2. Workforce Development Funding for Emerging Programs** – Advocating for investment in high-demand fields, including Regional Media, Regenerative Systems, Radiologic Technology, and Fire Technology, to prepare students for critical workforce needs.
- 3. Support for High-Priority Students** – Securing resources to enhance educational access and success for historically underserved student populations.



## Two MSJC Students Selected for FIFA Club World Cup 2026™ Los Angeles Dream Team



Two Mt. San Jacinto College students have earned an extraordinary opportunity to showcase their skills on a global stage after being selected for the FIFA Club World Cup 2026™ Los Angeles Dream Team. James Suzuki and Nathaniel Doromal, students in MSJC's Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA) pathway, secured two of only three available spots nationwide through a competitive selection process coordinated by Cisco and FIFA.

As members of the Dream Team, the students will work alongside industry professionals, supporting networking and technology operations for one of the world's largest sporting events, and gain hands-on experience with enterprise-level infrastructure, wireless systems, and event technology. Their selection highlights the strength of MSJC's career education programs and the college's commitment to preparing students for high-demand technology careers through real-world learning opportunities.

*Transform your life*

MSJC offers classes designed to fit your lifestyle and help you reach your goals:

- Hundreds of classes
- Online and hybrid classes from anywhere
- In-person classes at the San Jacinto, Menifee Valley, and Temecula Valley campuses



**Fall Semester begins Aug. 10**

*Check out the Schedule of Classes at*

[MSJC.edu/ScheduleOfClasses](https://msjc.edu/ScheduleOfClasses)

**San Jacinto Campus • Menifee Valley Campus • Temecula Valley Campus  
San Geronimo Pass Campus - Beaumont Middle College High School**

**MSJC proudly serves the following cities, unincorporated communities, and Tribal Nations:**

Aguanga, Anza, Banning, Beaumont, Cabazon, Calimesa, Canyon Lake, Cherry Valley, Cahuilla Band of Indians, Gilman Hot Springs, Green Acres, Hemet, Homeland, Idyllwild, Lake Elsinore, Menifee, Mountain Center, Morongo Band of Mission Indians, Murrieta, Nuevo, Pechanga Band of Indians, Perris, Pine Cove, San Jacinto, Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians, Temecula, Valle Vista, Wildomar, and Winchester.



**MSJC Voted "Best of" in Three Categories by the Press-Enterprise Readers**

**#1**

- Community College
- Nursing School
- Extension Program

**+ Favorite: Trade/Specialty School**

