



Office of the Chancellor
Frank Gornick
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[West Hills College Coalinga](#) [West Hills College Lemoore](#) [North District Center, Firebaugh](#) [Naval Air Station, Lemoore](#)

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

January 27, 2009

President
Mark McKean

Good morning, Everyone:

Vice President
Bill Henry

I hope your New Year is off to a positive start. All indications are that we may experience our best year as a district. We could very easily enroll more than 7,000 students this semester. That would be fantastic!

Clerk
Nina Oxborrow

Steve Cantu

Since my November letter, the state and nation have experienced significant upheaval in revenue and financial markets. During these uncertain times we can all become more anxious about what the future holds. Rumors begin to evolve and, for the most part, they are harmless until they begin to affect our effectiveness as professionals. A recent rumor making the circuit had us not making payroll next month. I want to address that specifically.

Edna L. Ivans

Jeff Levinson

Jack Minnite

Student Trustee
Jaqueline DePue

We are in excellent financial condition and we have enough in reserve to make payroll. At our January meeting the Board of Trustees accepted the District Audit Report for fiscal year 2007-2008. It was one of our best audits, revealing a \$3.9 million reserve.

ADMINISTRATION

Chancellor
Frank Gornick

The one condition that will change our ability to make payroll is the state declaring bankruptcy. The Governor and the Legislature should determine our fate within three weeks. What can you do? Let your legislator know what you are thinking by calling or writing.

President
West Hills College Coalinga
Willard Lewallen

President
West Hills College Lemoore
Don Warkentin

In November, we began to take the following steps which will strengthen our current reserve and buffer us from the reductions we expect to see from the state this year and next year.

Vice Chancellor
of Business Services
Ken Stoppenbrink

- In 2007-2008 we reduced our budget by \$2.8 million.
- In November we froze all general fund new hires and eliminated all general fund travel and expenditures. We have had regular contact with faculty and classified representatives concerning this matter. Our mutual goal has been and continues to be retaining all full time positions for this year and next.

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- The Presidents are managing their budgets to realize maximum efficiency and effectiveness.

Our enrollments continue to climb, our communities enthusiastically support our efforts, and we continue to make a difference in the lives of our students. Do not let the distractions of the moment deter you from our bright future. Our dedication and enthusiasm to our mission is what separates us from other colleges.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Frank", written in a cursive style.

Frank Gornick
Chancellor