



RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY  
COLLEGE DISTRICT

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OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

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MORENO VALLEY COLLEGE | NORCO COLLEGE | RIVERSIDE CITY COLLEGE

November 29, 2016

Dear Students,

On Thursday, November 10, shortly after our national election, I sent a message of reassurance to the RCCD community. I reaffirmed our longstanding commitment to valuing diversity, promoting inclusion, and supporting all of our students, faculty, and staff. I recognize, however, that many in our community remain deeply concerned for how future changes in government policy may affect their daily lives. While I have no certain answers for those unknowns, I want to offer more concrete information about what the RCCD will do to support members of our community.

First, our College Police Department has the safety and security of our students, faculty, and staff as its primary mission. Our officers are not charged with the enforcement of immigration policy. They do not seek, check, collect, or monitor immigration information. Unless specifically required under the authority of law, our College Police will remain focused on maintaining a safe learning and work environment. They will not be used to accomplish goals unaligned with our principles.

Second, although we are a member of the California Community Colleges and must act in a manner aligned with the statewide system, the RCCD does not intend to enter into agreements with external law enforcement agencies regarding immigration-related matters of any kind, unless required to do so under law or by mandate of the state system.

Third, the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) protects the educational records and personal information of our students from being accessed without their permission. The RCCD will continue to scrupulously shelter all student information to the full extent of the law.

I want to assure everyone in the RCCD community that the District's intention is to not cooperate in actions destructive to the lives and educational goals of our students without being compelled to do so under the force of law. I urge our entire District to continue a vibrant community-wide discussion of these issues, as this kind of engagement is one of the healthiest hallmarks of higher education.

For my part, I will continue to sustain the long-held, inclusive values of the RCCD.

Sincerely,

*Michael L. Burke*

Michael L. Burke, Ph.D.  
Chancellor