

Classified Senate
Board of Trustees Report September 2025

Good afternoon, President Chabaan, Board of Trustees, Dr. Garcia, colleagues and community. Thank you for the opportunity to speak on behalf of the Classified Senate for our September 2025 report.

Congratulations to Lisa Hotchkiss, Payroll Analyst, on the September Employee of the Month award! I've had the pleasure of working closely with Lisa throughout my 19 years at this district. She has consistently been reliable, kind, patient, and a wealth of knowledge. I have appreciated her help and friendship tremendously throughout the years. It's wonderful to see her get her overdue and well-deserved recognition!!

I am very happy to report that our Welcome Back Table hosted by Human Resources, located at the cross roads outside of Bailey, offered assistance to around 1400 students the first week of school!! This is a powerful reminder of how even a single resource can make a meaningful difference in supporting our cubs learning their way.

The Classified Senate is in support of the joint resolution being presented today by the AFA, SEIU and Classified Senate. This resolution reflects our shared responsibility to safeguard the dignity, rights and opportunities of every member of our college community.

Especially now, as national policies and rhetoric seem to only divide, SRJC must remain a safe and trusted place of inclusion, safety and empowerment. By advocating for immigrant, LGBTQ+, and labor rights, and by ensuring that our students are informed of the resources and protections available to them, we are upholding our commitment to cultivating a welcoming and antiracist environment, removing oppressive structures, and fostering cultural competency and civic engagement. These actions affirm SRJC's vision of being an accessible, barrier-free institution

and reflect our values of equity, community, integrity, and social responsibility.

Lastly, the Classified Senate is very concerned with the Health Care Premium Pay Cuts, shared by SEIU. These proposed health premium increases are not equitable, and they place the heaviest burden on the lowest-paid employees of this District.

Those negatively affected the most are our lowest paid classified employees with families. Meanwhile, administration would be harmed the least. It is not equitable or just for the District to ask those who make the least to carry the greatest financial burden.

This contradicts our commitment to equity, to community, to trust, and to wellbeing. This harms the very people who are already most vulnerable.

This institution used to have a proud history of leadership taking the biggest cuts first, to ease the burden on those who could least afford it. That was a principle of fairness, of responsibility, and of shared sacrifice.

We cannot build trust, equity, or a sustainable future by protecting those at the top while pushing down on those at the bottom. We are not okay with this plan, and we ask you to reconsider.

Thank you.