

SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

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Dear Colleagues:

As you know, yesterday, Congress passed a new federal holiday, which President Biden signed today. Even though we have had less than a 24-hour notice, the District will honor this new holiday by closing tomorrow.

Juneteenth commemorates the date of June 19, 1865, when Texas finally emancipated enslaved people, even though the federal emancipation of enslaved people had been declared by President Abraham Lincoln fully two and a half years earlier. Thus, the official ending of slavery in America, a horrible practice that began in the year 1619, is noted as "Juneteenth," a blending of the words June and nineteenth.

Because of the importance of this date in our nation's history, Board President Maria Nieto Senour and I feel it is best to proceed with observing the holiday tomorrow, even though there has been very little time to adjust to it.

Please therefore note that the San Diego Community College District will observe the new federal holiday, Juneteenth, tomorrow, as the last working day before that actual date. The District will be closed.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

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