

BOARD REPORT



Chancellor Goldsmith, President Buckley and distinguished guests touring the Center for Early Childhood and Education.

CHANCELLOR'S CIRCLE

President Buckley and Reedley College were thrilled to host Chancellor Goldsmith at this year's Chancellor's Circle Luncheon January 31. Dr. Buckley gave a presentation to district and college officials and distinguished community guests, updating them on enrollment numbers, construction projects, and graduation rates. Following the presentation and lunch, everyone went on a tour to the Math & Sciences Building and took an exclusive look at the progress of the new Center for Early Childhood & Education.

CUT THAT RIBBON!

We're proud to announce the addition of our Career Certification Center! A ribbon cutting ceremony was held January 26 to celebrate the occasion. The new facility will help support professionals in enhancing and demonstrating their knowledge, skills, and professionalism by administering industry exams that lead to career certification. "The addition of the Certification Center on the Reedley College campus provides our students with the opportunity to acquire valuable job skills and certifications, allowing them to increase their earning potential and competitiveness in the job market," said Assessment Tech Erick Kroll. "With the constantly evolving job market, having a certification center on campus provides students with the tools they need to stay ahead and succeed." The presence of a certification center also supports local businesses by providing them with a highly skilled and knowledgeable workforce. The new center has 14 computer stations and will be open from 8am-5pm Monday-Friday.



GRAND OPENING

Another celebration took place at the Grand Opening of the Engineering Studio February 3. STEM Ambassadors gave open demonstrations to students and staff using 3D printers, a laser cutter, scanning electron microscope and more. Guests took home free items that were made in the studio. Refreshments were served.

STEM Ambassador Yuli Velazquez helps future STEM student Avyana Martinez look into a microscope.



AERIAL ADDITIONS

Reedley College has purchased five brand new aircraft to provide flight training for students at Reedley Municipal Airport (RMA). "Reedley College will own five 2023 Skyleader 600 aircraft with modern avionics and new unleaded fuel efficient engines," said Dean of Instruction David Clark, who flew all the way to the Czech Republic with Aviation Maintenance Technology Instructor Joseph Woolsey in December to learn more about the planes and see them in person. "Older flight training aircraft consume twice the amount of fuel per hour and use leaded fuel, which increases maintenance costs and is detrimental to the environment. Reedley College will own the newest fleet of aircraft in the valley and will lower the flight training cost for our students. These airplanes will be modern, safe and cost efficient to operate." This purchase is part of the transition for Reedley College to launch its own flight school and hire an instructor to oversee operations directly at RMA instead of renting aircraft and using the flight instructors of JB Aeronautics at the Fresno Yosemite International Airport. RC is partnering with the City of Reedley to operate its flight training at RMA, agreeing to lease hangar space and the tarmac area to park aircraft. The city will also help provide a location for student parking, office space and construction of a new restroom for our students. Funding for this project was assisted by Assemblyman Juan Arambula. Community College Strong Workforce funds were also used.



A Skyleader 600 aircraft. Dean of Instruction David Clark and Aviation Maintenance Tech Instructor Joseph Woolsey visited the Czech Republic in December to learn more about the planes.





EQUITY WALK

In honor of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King’s vision of equal rights for all and his historic civil rights marches, RC hosted its very own Equity Walk January 26. Approximately 100 students, faculty and staff members participated in the walk, which started at the new Center for Early Childhood & Education and ended at the Student Center, where Rev. DJ Criner delivered a powerful message about Dr. King’s legacy and the work that still needs to be done.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT FOR TIGER PANTRY

Rodney Horton works for the City of Reedley as its Community Development Director, so he’s familiar with the needs of our area. Horton was a guest to our State of the College program last November, where he found out about the Tiger Pantry and Clyde’s Closet and how both resources help provide basic needs for our students. Soon thereafter, Horton applied for, and was awarded a two-thousand dollar grant through Foresters Financial, a financial services provider dedicated to improving lives and building stronger communities. The result: two trips to the Tiger Pantry with vehicles filled with canned food, drinks, bread, chips, cereal, and more. “I know what the struggle was like when you’re trying to make it,” said Horton. “Life is not easy as a college student, so this is my way of paying it forward.” Student workers and staff helped stock shelves on January 6 and 13. “These donations will greatly help with food insecurities, and it makes their experience at Reedley College more welcoming,” said Food Pantry Coordinator Elba Vidal. “What’s unique about Reedley College is that it feels like a family, and to receive a donation from someone in the community makes it feel like that even more. It’s very special, and we really appreciate it.” Horton has \$100 left in his grant, which will go towards one final donation of produce to the Tiger Pantry. He hopes to get another grant to help fill Clyde’s Closet with business attire for our students.



Rodney Horton (far left) has been a very generous supporter of the Tiger Pantry.

CLUB RUSH

Over 250 students came out to Club Rush on the Forum Hall Lawn January 25 & 26. RC now has 22 clubs on campus including four new clubs (Writing, Astrophotography, Anime, Suenos Unidos). Thanks to Dutch Bros and Burrito Queens for coming out as well. They were both a hit, as usual!

The Veterans Club is one of the 22 clubs on campus students can join.



Beams (plate girders) going up on the CFPA.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATES

MCCLARTY CENTER FOR FINE & PERFORMING ARTS: With much of the underground work complete, attention turned to the highest points of the facility recently, as steel beams were secured into place in early February. Completion of the project is now estimated in January, 2024.

CENTER FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD & EDUCATION: Work on this project is fast and furious as well, with much of the exterior work complete, kitchen equipment installed, and interior paint on the walls. We’re looking forward to the ribbon cutting ceremony this June.

