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Ventura College Response to Oxnard College Proposal for District Reserve Funds

Executive Summary

At the 9/3/2021 meeting of the VCCCD Consultation Council, Oxnard College President Luis Sanchez presented a proposal for Oxnard College to receive a special allocation of $1.5 million from District reserves. The proposal was not formally on the agenda and was provided to Consultation Council less than an hour prior to the meeting. Funds for the proposal would be used to offer 100 additional class sections over a period of three years, and to rent space in the El Rio area of Oxnard for the purpose of opening a new satellite location.

Ventura College **opposes this plan** for the following reasons:

1. The proposal's **assertions are not data informed** and appear to be based on anecdotal evidence. Given that a new satellite campus would have a significant and ongoing impact to district operations and resource allocation, it is concerning that the proposal lacks any extensive data analysis.
2. The **proposal has not been vetted** at any level of rigor, nor was it reviewed by any participatory governance committee. If the Board of Trustees were to vote on this proposal without it going through the established participatory governance process, the colleges would be in violation of a number of ACCJC Accreditation Standards. These Standards require that the Board operate at a broad policy level, and that multi-college districts adhere to their documented policies for planning and resource allocation. The relevant ACCJC Standards are IV.C.4, IV.C.7, IV.C.12, IV.D.3, IV.D.5, and IV.D.6.
3. The proposal would **circumvent the district's established budget allocation model**. This model has recently been revised to align with the State of California's Student Centered Funding Formula, and it now provides colleges with funding based on specific equity metrics.
4. The location of the proposed satellite, **El Rio, is in an area that is already well served by the VCCCD**. In fall 2021, Rio Mesa High School was the 4th highest-enrolling feeder school in the VCCCD. Further, the El Rio zip code (i.e. 93036) was the 4th highest enrolling zip code in the district.
5. The majority of students from **Rio Mesa High School and the 93036 zip code choose to enroll at Ventura College**. Thus, an Oxnard College satellite location in this area would likely only **shift enrollments from Ventura College to Oxnard College**. This would benefit Oxnard College, but not the District as a whole. Further, this does not seem to be a compelling reason for the district to expend over a million dollars and enter into a lease agreement to rent new space at a satellite location. **Additional and ongoing costs** would also be associated with a satellite location to replicate campus services as required for ACCJC accreditation
6. As our district has adapted to the Covid-19 pandemic, student preferences have shifted away from in-person classes and towards online classes. A recent survey found that after the Covid-19 pandemic is over, only 31% of Oxnard College students plan to only take in-person classes. The highest preference was for a mix of online and in-person classes. Thus, opening a new physical location does not appear to be a fruitful strategy to grow district enrollment.
7. An analysis of student demand data indicates that the **"high-demand, transfer-track" classes** that Oxnard College proposes to expand are classes that **are in high demand at all three colleges in the district**. In many cases, student demand for these classes is lower at Oxnard College than it is at Moorpark College or Ventura College.

For these reasons, it is the view of Ventura College that this proposal should not be supported. The Office of Institutional Effectiveness at Ventura College has conducted an analysis of relevant geographic and student demand metrics, which can be found on the following pages that support the college's stance.

Relevant Geographic Area

Rio Mesa High School and the El Rio area are located in the area north of Highway 101 and south of Highway 118, as shown in the map below.
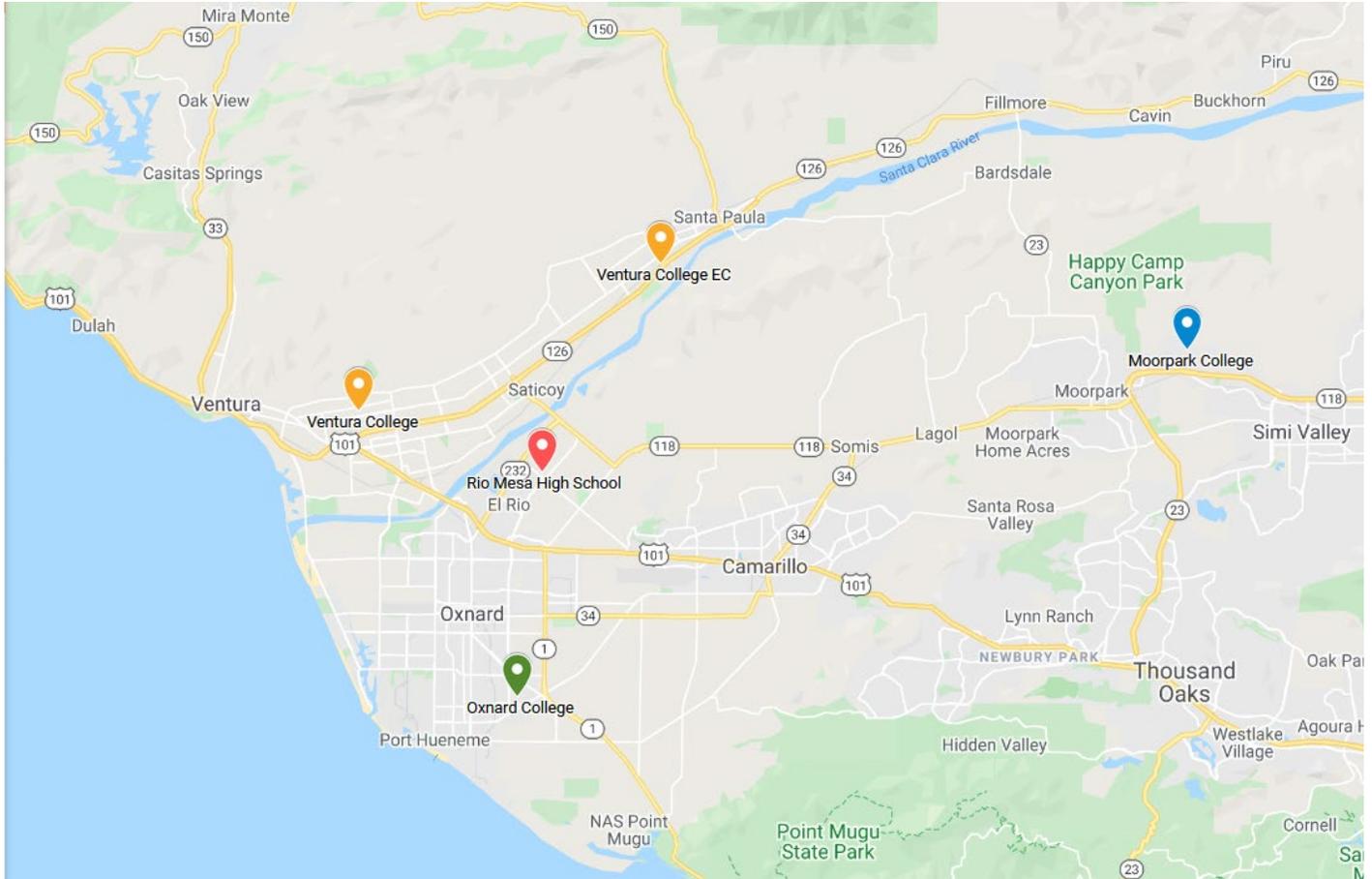
Rio Mesa High School is approximately 8 miles away from Oxnard College, and 9 miles away from Ventura College. In terms of driving time, it takes slightly less time to drive from Rio Mesa High School to Ventura College or the Ventura College East Campus than it does to drive to Oxnard College.

Driving Distance and Time from Rio Mesa High School to Each VCCCD Campus

	Driving Distance	Driving Time
Oxnard College	7.9 miles	12-22 minutes
Ventura College Main Campus	8.9 miles	12-20 minutes
Ventura College East Campus	9.6 miles	12-18 minutes
Moorpark College	20.5 miles	28-45 minutes

Driving Distance and Driving Time were obtained from Google Maps using an estimated departure time of 8:00am on Monday, September 13th, 2021.

Rio Mesa High School and El Rio Area Enrollment

Rio Mesa High School and the El Rio area are both well-served by the VCCCD. In fall 2021, Rio Mesa High School ranked 4th out of all high schools in the number of first-time students it sent to the VCCCD. Further, the zip code which contains Rio Mesa High School and the El Rio area (i.e. 93036) was the 4th highest enrolling zip code in the VCCCD. This data does not appear to justify a need for a new satellite location in this area.

Fall 2021 **First-Time** Credit VCCCD Students
by High School

Rank	High School	Students
1	Oxnard High	338
2	Pacifica High	318
3	Channel Islands High	270
4	Rio Mesa High	235
5	Newbury Park High	232
6	Thousand Oaks High	228
7	Simi Valley High	220
8	Buena High	215
9	Camarillo High	212
10	Hueneme High	203

Fall 2021 - **First-Time** Credit VCCCD Students by High School
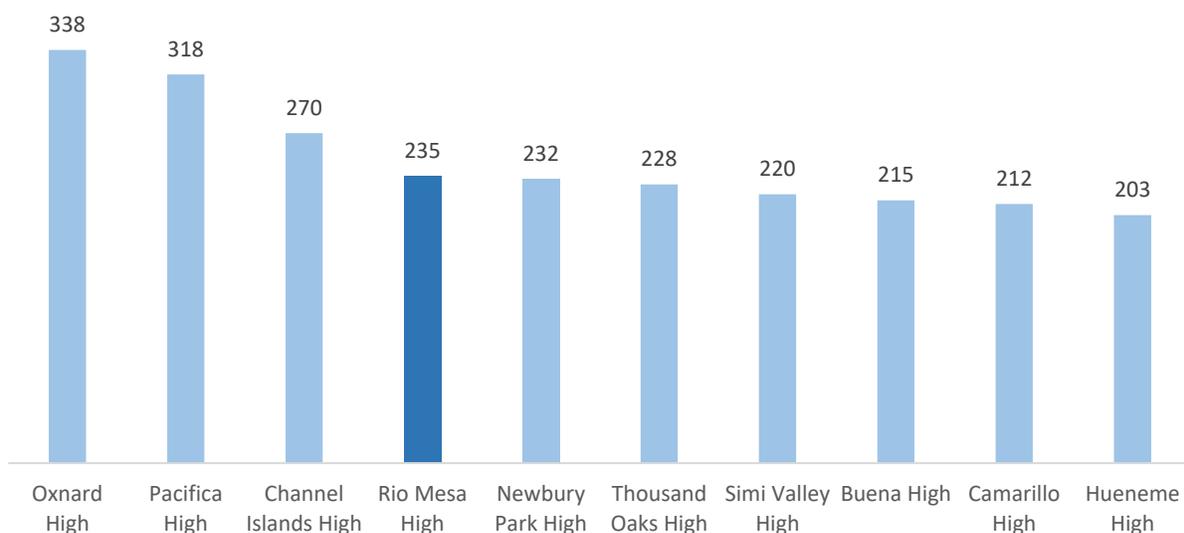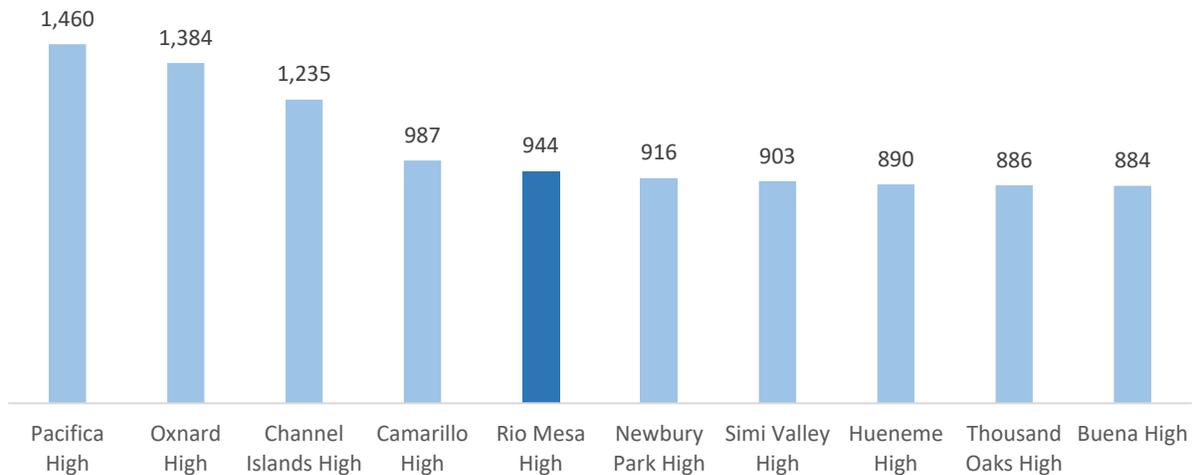

Data Notes

- Students = unduplicated count of students who took at least one credit class in the district in fall 2021.
- High school is reported by students on their CCC Apply Application.

- Data were pulled on 9/16/2021 and will likely vary slightly from final semester-end numbers.

Fall 2021 **All** Credit VCCCD Students
by High School

Rank	Zip	Students
1	Pacifica High	1,460
2	Oxnard High	1,384
3	Channel Islands High	1,235
4	Camarillo High	987
5	Rio Mesa High	944
6	Newbury Park High	916
7	Simi Valley High	903
8	Hueneme High	890
9	Thousand Oaks High	886
10	Buena High	884

Fall 2021 - **All** Credit VCCCD Students by High School

Data Notes

- Students = unduplicated count of students who took at least one credit class in the district in fall 2021.
- Student zip code is based on the Banner hierarchical zip code.
- Data were pulled on 9/16/2021 and will likely vary slightly from final semester-end numbers.

Fall 2021 **First-Time** Credit
VCCCD Students
by Zip Code

Rank	Zip	Students
1	93033	629
2	93030	476
3	93065	416
4	93036	349
5	93063	325
6	93003	317
7	93010	273
8	91320	257
9	93021	235
10	93060	234

Fall 2021 - **First-Time** Credit VCCCD Students by Zip Code

Data Notes

- Students = unduplicated count of students who took at least one credit class in the district in fall 2021.
- Student zip code is based on the Banner hierarchical zip code.
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Fall 2021 **All** Credit VCCCD Students by Zip Code

Rank	Zip	Students
1	93033	2,683
2	93030	2,160
3	93065	1,983
4	93036	1,552
5	93003	1,551
6	93063	1,445
7	93010	1,237
8	93021	1,185
9	91320	1,103
10	93060	1,069

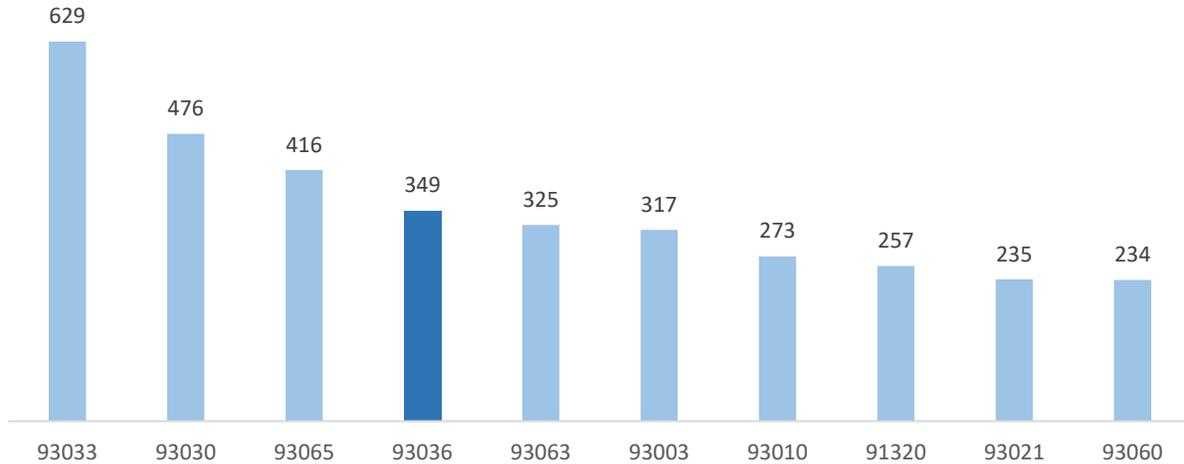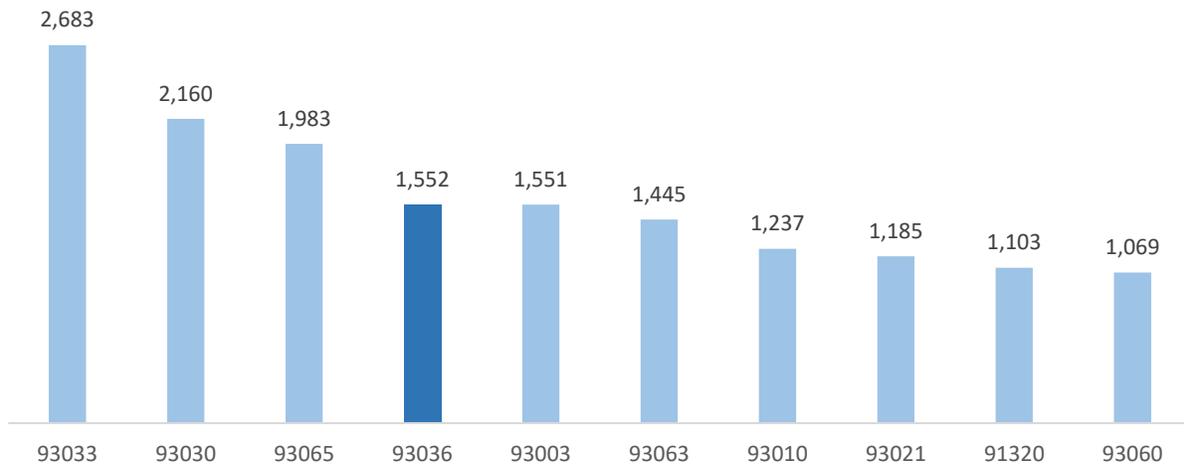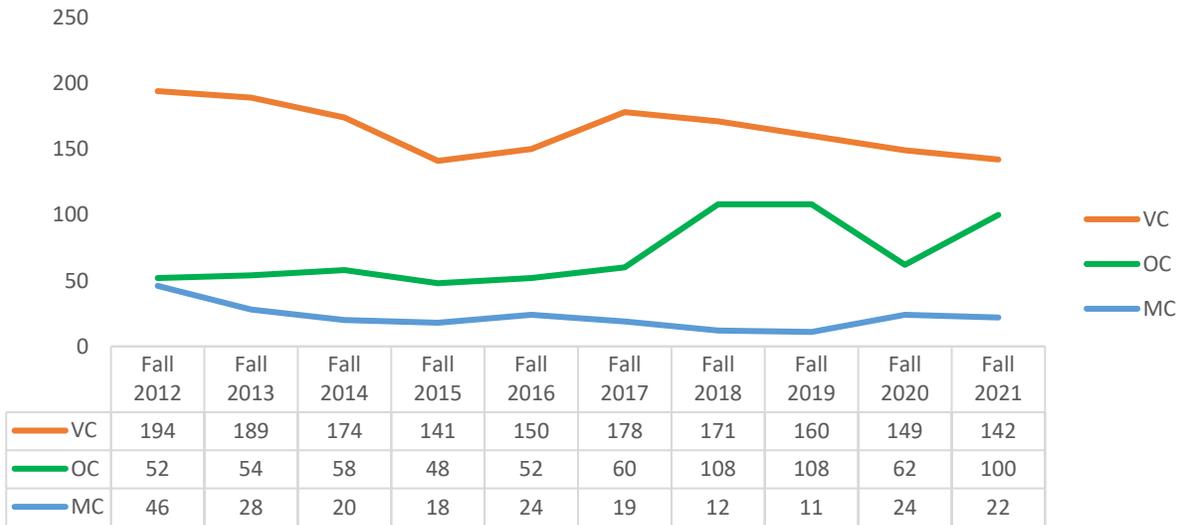Fall 2021 - **All** Credit VCCCD Students by Zip Code

Data Notes

- Students = unduplicated count of students who took at least one credit class in the district in fall 2021.
- Student zip code is based on the Banner hierarchical zip code.
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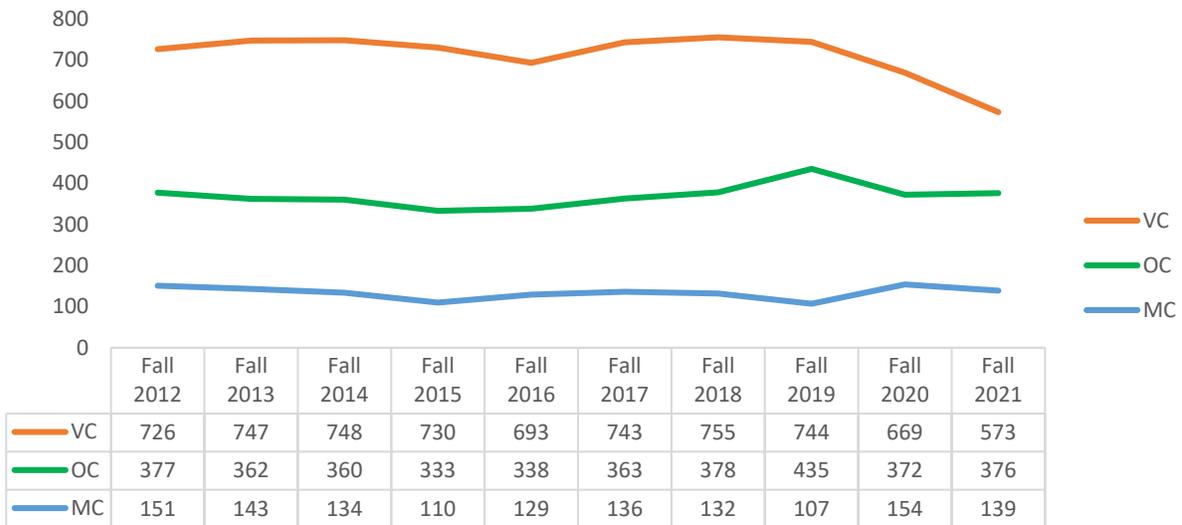
Rio Mesa High School and El Rio Area Enrollment by College

Over the last 10 fall semesters, the majority of VCCCD students who attended Rio Mesa High School or who live in the 93036 zip code chose to enroll at Ventura College. Taken together with the data above that demonstrate how well-served this area is by the VCCCD, it appears unlikely that the district would gain many additional students with a new satellite location. Rather, students would be shifted from Ventura College to Oxnard College. From a district point of view, this does not appear to be a compelling reason to expend over a million dollars and enter into a lease agreement to rent a new space.

First-Time Credit VCCCD Students from Rio Mesa High School

	Fall 2012	Fall 2013	Fall 2014	Fall 2015	Fall 2016	Fall 2017	Fall 2018	Fall 2019	Fall 2020	Fall 2021
VC	194	189	174	141	150	178	171	160	149	142
OC	52	54	58	48	52	60	108	108	62	100
MC	46	28	20	18	24	19	12	11	24	22

All Credit VCCCD Students from Rio Mesa High School

	Fall 2012	Fall 2013	Fall 2014	Fall 2015	Fall 2016	Fall 2017	Fall 2018	Fall 2019	Fall 2020	Fall 2021
VC	726	747	748	730	693	743	755	744	669	573
OC	377	362	360	333	338	363	378	435	372	376
MC	151	143	134	110	129	136	132	107	154	139

Data Notes

- Students = unduplicated count of students who took at least one credit class at a given campus in fall 2021. Students may have taken classes at more than one campus. Thus, the total of the college values will be higher than the unduplicated number of VCCCD students in the graphs and tables on pages 5-6.

- High school is reported by students on their CCC Apply Application.
- Data were pulled on 9/16/2021 and will likely vary slightly from final semester-end numbers.

First-Time Credit VCCCD Students from 93036 Zip Code

	Fall 2012	Fall 2013	Fall 2014	Fall 2015	Fall 2016	Fall 2017	Fall 2018	Fall 2019	Fall 2020	Fall 2021
VC	266	279	254	201	242	254	236	253	209	228
OC	121	115	89	80	101	131	148	148	112	132
MC	16	20	12	13	11	22	13	12	28	30

All Credit VCCCD Students from 93036 Zip Code

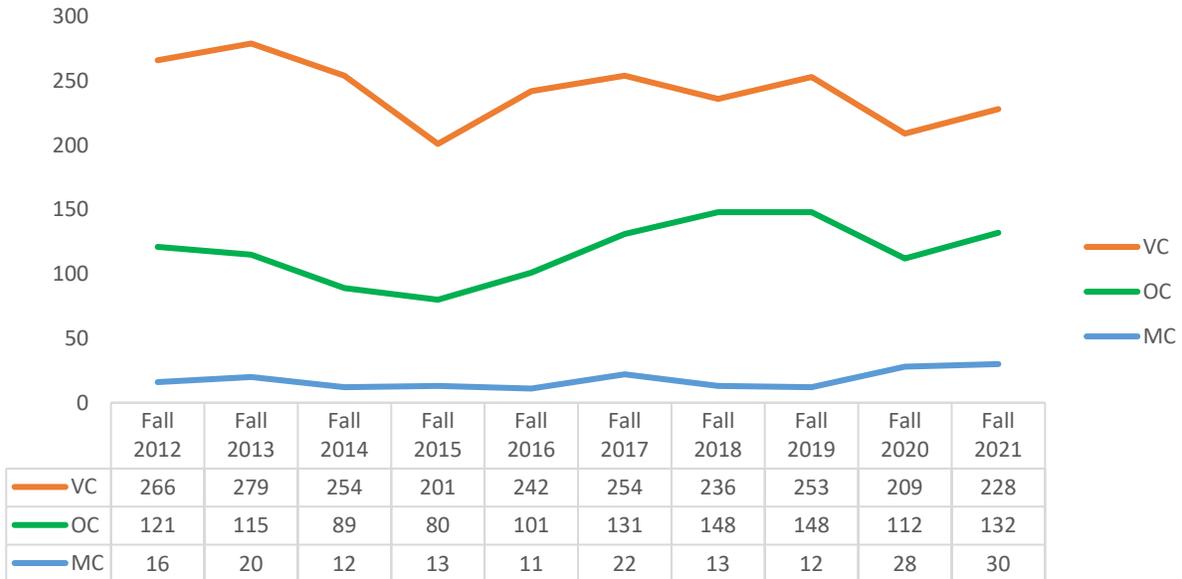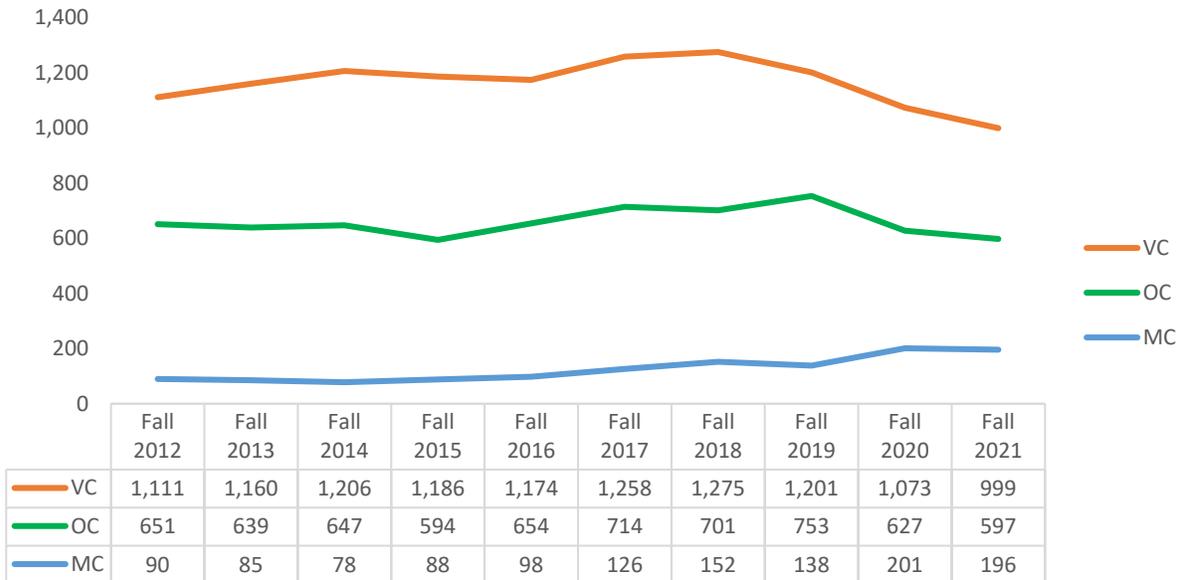|	Fall 2012	Fall 2013	Fall 2014	Fall 2015	Fall 2016	Fall 2017	Fall 2018	Fall 2019	Fall 2020	Fall 2021
VC	1,111	1,160	1,206	1,186	1,174	1,258	1,275	1,201	1,073	999
OC	651	639	647	594	654	714	701	753	627	597
MC	90	85	78	88	98	126	152	138	201	196

Data Notes
- Students = unduplicated count of students who took at least one credit class at a given campus in fall 2021. Students may have taken classes at more than one campus. Thus, the total of the college values will be higher than the unduplicated number of VCCCD students in the graphs and tables on pages 5-6.
- Student zip code is based on the Banner hierarchical zip code.
- Data were pulled on 9/16/2021 and will likely vary slightly from final semester-end numbers.

The Covid-19 pandemic has resulted in an enrollment decline at all three district colleges. However, this decline has been the most pronounced at Oxnard College and Ventura College. Given the data above, it seems likely that shifting enrollments from Ventura College to Oxnard College would not be a productive use of district reserve funds.

Credit Student Headcount

	Fall 2019	Fall 2020	Fall 2021	Fall 19 to Fall 21 % Change
Moorpark College	14,460	14,443	13,101	-9.4%
Oxnard College	7,641	7,022	6,538	-14.4%
Ventura College	12,897	11,950	11,051	-14.3%

Student Demand for In-Person Classes

The Covid-19 pandemic required the VCCCD to dramatically change how it offered classes. Over the last year and a half, the vast majority of courses have been offered online. In fall 2021, the district increased the number of in-person class offerings. However, fill rates in in-person classes were far lower than those in online and hybrid classes.

Fall 2021 Course Fill Rates by Method of Instruction

	In-Person	Hybrid	Online
Moorpark College	63.8%	72.5%	83.4%
Oxnard College	76.5%	80.9%	83.5%
Ventura College	65.5%	76.7%	84.1%
VCCCD	66.4%	76.6%	83.6%

Fill Rate = Census Enrollment / Maximum Enrollment

A recent survey found that student preferences have shifted towards online courses. Even when the pandemic is over, less than 40% of students believe they will take a fully in-person schedule.

Before the Covid-19 pandemic, I preferred:

	In-Person Classes	Online Classes	Mix
Moorpark	57%	17%	26%
Oxnard	50%	22%	28%
Ventura	60%	16%	24%
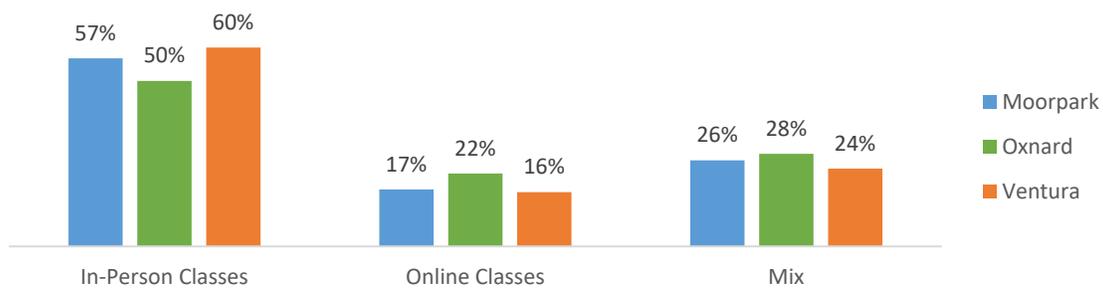
When we get back to normal after the pandemic, I think I will prefer:

	In-Person Classes	Online Classes	Mix
Moorpark	35%	22%	43%
Oxnard	31%	29%	40%
Ventura	40%	22%	37%
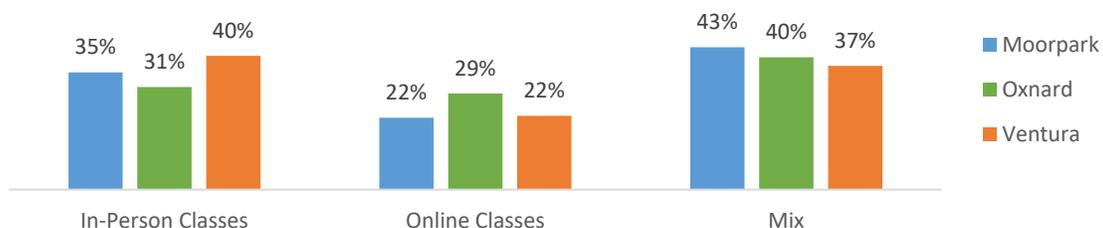
Thus, the pandemic has led to a decreased demand for in-person classes, and an increased demand for online classes. Given the student survey results above, we can expect this trend to continue even after the pandemic is over. Thus, opening a new satellite location to offer more in-person classes would not be a productive use of district funds.

Student Demand for Courses in Oxnard Proposal

The "high-demand, transfer-track" classes that Oxnard College proposes to expand are in high demand at all three colleges. In many cases, student demand for these classes is lower at Oxnard College than it is at Moorpark College or Ventura College. Thus, the data do not justify a need for the district to provide a special dispensation of funds solely to Oxnard College. The specific courses identified in the Oxnard College proposal are below.

General Human Anatomy	College Composition
General Human Physiology	Critical Thinking & Composition
Elementary Chemistry	Public Speaking
General Biology + Lab	Intro to Psychology
Introductory Statistics	Intro to Business
College Algebra	Microbiology + Lab

Fill rates in the above courses were analyzed across the three colleges in the district. In a few cases, these courses are offered differently at each college. For example, General Biology Lecture and General Biology Lab are offered as two separate courses at OC and VC, but as a single combined course at MC.

Course	OC	MC	VC
General Human Anatomy	ANAT R101	ANAT M01	ANAT V01
General Human Physiology	PHSO R101	PHSO M01	PHSO V01
Elementary Chemistry	CHEM R110	CHEM M01A	CHEM V20 + CHEM V20L
General Biology + Lab	BIOL R101 + BIOL R101L	BIOL M01	BIOL V01 + BIOL V01L
Introductory Statistics	MATH R105	MATH M5	MATH V44
College Algebra	MATH R115	MATH M05	MATH V04
College Composition	ENGL R101	ENGL M01A	ENGL V01A
Critical Thinking & Composition	ENGL R102	ENGL M01C	ENGL V01B
Public Speaking	COMM R101	COMM M01	COMM V01
Intro to Psychology	PSY R101	PSY M01	PSY V01
Intro to Business	BUS R120	BUS M30	BUS V30
Microbiology + Lab	MICR R100 + MICR R100L	MICR M01	MICR V01

Proposed High-Demand Transfer-Track Course Fill Rate by College

College	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021
Moorpark	97.7%	96.4%	95.5%	94.3%	92.2%
Oxnard	94.9%	93.8%	95.7%	93.5%	90.1%
Ventura	97.6%	98.3%	97.1%	93.5%	92.8%
VCCCD	97.2%	96.6%	96.1%	93.8%	92.0%

Overall Course Fill Rate by College

College	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021
Moorpark	85.5%	84.1%	84.3%	82.9%	82.8%
Oxnard	83.5%	82.7%	83.0%	84.6%	81.5%
Ventura	86.5%	85.6%	84.6%	83.7%	80.9%
VCCCD	85.5%	84.4%	84.2%	83.5%	81.8%

Data Notes
- Fill Rate = census enrollment / maximum enrollment.

- Year = Annual fiscal year (Leading summer session that ends after June 30, Fall, Spring, Lagging summer session that ends before June 30)

General Human Anatomy Fill Rate by College

College	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021
Moorpark	106.9%	106.5%	102.0%	99.6%	96.2%
Oxnard	95.1%	104.0%	110.3%	110.3%	104.4%
Ventura	102.1%	107.5%	101.0%	105.4%	96.4%
VCCCD	103.5%	106.6%	102.5%	103.4%	97.1%

General Human Physiology Fill Rate by College

College	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021
Moorpark	111.6%	108.3%	103.1%	105.8%	93.5%
Oxnard	108.1%	103.1%	121.3%	115.0%	109.6%
Ventura	102.3%	112.0%	115.0%	111.9%	97.3%
VCCCD	107.7%	109.0%	110.0%	109.3%	97.6%

Elementary Chemistry Fill Rate by College

College	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021
Moorpark	112.3%	105.8%	102.2%	101.5%	94.5%
Oxnard	101.6%	106.1%	101.9%	102.3%	94.8%
Ventura	92.4%	102.2%	102.4%	100.2%	96.1%
VCCCD	102.4%	104.6%	102.2%	101.3%	95.1%

General Biology Fill Rate by College

College	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021
Moorpark	94.6%	92.8%	91.8%	94.2%	95.1%
Oxnard	93.8%	83.6%	95.9%	93.4%	79.1%
Ventura	94.5%	98.3%	95.1%	86.7%	97.2%
VCCCD	94.4%	92.9%	94.1%	90.8%	91.8%

General Biology Lab Fill Rate by College

College	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021
Oxnard	108.2%	108.8%	100.2%	104.1%	92.4%
Ventura	95.3%	93.7%	96.7%	95.3%	96.0%
VCCCD	100.4%	99.0%	98.0%	99.0%	94.4%

Introductory Statistics Fill Rate by College

College	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021
Moorpark	106.1%	103.7%	97.8%	95.4%	89.5%
Oxnard	95.8%	90.9%	94.3%	89.9%	87.0%
Ventura	103.2%	102.6%	99.6%	92.6%	91.5%
VCCCD	103.3%	100.6%	97.6%	93.1%	89.5%

College Algebra Fill Rate by College

College	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021
Moorpark	94.4%	92.7%	92.7%	84.9%	78.8%
Oxnard	88.4%	88.2%	94.0%	71.1%	77.7%
Ventura	93.0%	95.1%	89.5%	78.8%	79.3%
VCCCD	93.0%	92.7%	92.1%	80.6%	78.8%

College Composition Fill Rate by College

College	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021
Moorpark	101.4%	101.2%	100.4%	96.6%	96.2%
Oxnard	105.1%	104.6%	99.8%	100.9%	93.4%
Ventura	103.7%	102.5%	101.3%	96.1%	93.5%
VCCCD	102.8%	102.3%	100.6%	97.3%	94.7%

Critical Thinking & Composition Fill Rate by College

College	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021
Moorpark	98.1%	92.3%	98.7%	94.8%	94.8%
Oxnard	102.9%	103.5%	105.9%	96.5%	94.4%
Ventura	102.4%	100.9%	99.3%	95.6%	96.7%
VCCCD	101.5%	99.7%	100.9%	95.7%	95.6%

Public Speaking Fill Rate by College

College	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021
Moorpark	94.6%	95.7%	92.5%	93.7%	93.6%
Oxnard	92.5%	95.0%	95.7%	92.8%	92.2%
Ventura	91.4%	93.9%	92.4%	91.0%	89.7%
VCCCD	93.2%	95.0%	93.1%	92.7%	92.3%

Intro to Psychology Fill Rate by College

College	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021
Moorpark	86.7%	86.4%	89.3%	92.8%	92.3%
Oxnard	73.2%	73.9%	75.8%	91.5%	81.0%
Ventura	95.5%	91.4%	93.1%	93.5%	91.4%
VCCCD	88.6%	87.0%	89.2%	92.9%	90.3%

Intro to Business Fill Rate by College

College	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021
Moorpark	93.5%	87.3%	89.4%	90.4%	92.3%
Oxnard	80.7%	74.6%	77.6%	77.4%	84.4%
Ventura	83.5%	86.6%	81.8%	88.6%	85.8%
VCCCD	88.8%	85.8%	86.0%	88.5%	89.6%

Microbiology Fill Rate by College

College	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021
Moorpark	105.2%	108.3%	106.8%	105.6%	96.7%
Oxnard	61.5%	52.0%	53.5%	71.5%	88.1%
Ventura	100.0%	95.5%	100.8%	92.4%	98.7%
VCCCD	92.0%	89.4%	91.3%	92.0%	95.2%

Microbiology Lab Fill Rate by College

College	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021
Oxnard	83.3%	83.3%	95.8%	96.5%	124.2%
VCCCD	83.3%	83.3%	95.8%	96.5%	124.2%

Data Notes
- Fill Rate = census enrollment / maximum enrollment.
- Year = Annual fiscal year (Leading summer session that ends after June 30, Fall, Spring, Lagging summer session that ends before June 30)

Conclusion

In sum, it is the view of Ventura College that this proposal should not be funded. It was based predominantly on anecdotal information. When a systematic data analysis was applied, its claims and assertions were not supported. Further, it appears likely that this proposal will significantly impact Ventura college negatively by reducing student enrollment. It circumvented the district's established budget allocation model and participatory governance processes and places the colleges at a risk of violating a number of ACCJC Accreditation Standards.