



CONTACT:

**Martha Parham
District Director, Public Affairs
(714) 438-4605**

June 19, 2012

Opinion Editorial

Coast Colleges Report Card

Opinion Editorial by Trustee Jim Moreno, Board President

As elected Trustees we are committed to ensuring that sound policies and fiscally responsible practices continue at our three colleges. During this time of statewide fiscal uncertainty this has been a daunting challenge. Despite these challenges, our colleges continue to provide educational opportunities to the communities we are privileged to serve. At this time of year we are fortunate to harvest the Fruits of our Labor—Graduation.

For our students, graduation marks the end of their studies at Coastline, Golden West and Orange Coast College. It also marks the beginning of their university studies or the start of their career. For us, it is a time to reflect upon our contributions to their accomplishments. This year, as President of the Board of Trustees, I was proud to accept three graduating classes in traditional ceremonies recognizing the completion of career programs such as Nursing and programs at the Criminal Justice Training Academy. All of these ceremonies happened here, at our community colleges.

In fact, since 2006 our three colleges have awarded over 23,000 degrees and over 5,900 certificates to students. We have done this despite crippling budget cuts and the state's disinvestment in higher education. The dedication of our Board, Faculty, Staff and Administrators has made it possible in providing quality education and a fresh start for in excess of 30,000 community members. Whether they are continuing their studies or have entered the workforce, at Coast Colleges we are proud of their accomplishments. Our report card is measured in the number of successful graduates we send forth.

Together, we will continue to move forward. I am proud to present our report card—our Graduates.

As always, I value your input and welcome your feedback to jmoreno@mail.cccd.edu.

###

The Coast Community College District is comprised of Coastline Community College headquartered in Fountain Valley, Golden West College in Huntington Beach and Orange Coast College in Costa Mesa.