

Former San José Planning Commissioner Rolando Bonilla Elected Chair of the San José Evergreen Community College District Foundation Board

The East San José resident and Chief Strategist at Voler Strategic Advisors plans to boost fundraising and scholarships to benefit college students' achievement.

Media Contact: Alexandra Cespedes Kent, Voler Strategic Advisors, 415-710-4277.

San José, Calif. (July 1, 2024) – The San José Evergreen Community College District Foundation (SJECCD Foundation) is pleased to announce the election of Rolando Bonilla as Chair of its Board. Bonilla plans to boost philanthropy and investment to area colleges that are under the Foundation's purview, including San José City College (SJCC), Evergreen Valley College (EVC), and the San José – Evergreen Community College Extension at Milpitas.

Bonilla said, "The 20,000 students who come to our community colleges each year deserve the best instructors, quality mentorship, and top-notch student services as they aim for economic mobility, a career boost, and affordable access to higher education. I look forward to engaging businesses and donors from across Silicon Valley in my new role. The commitment is clear: we will increase investment in the next generation of scholars, leaders, and dreamers."

As an award-winning communicator at San José public relations firm Voler Strategic Advisors, Bonilla plans to work with his SJECCD Foundation board colleagues to add new board members and promote outreach to the local business community.

His recent role as Chairman of the San José Planning Commission demonstrated his commitment to economic development in the city's East San José neighborhood. Under his leadership, the Commission expanded from seven members to eleven, fostering a more inclusive and impactful planning process.

Bonilla holds a BA in Politics from the University of San Francisco and a JD from San Francisco Law School.

About the SJECCD Foundation

The SJECCD Foundation, established in 1982, plays a crucial role in advancing higher education opportunities within the San José Evergreen Community College District. As a 501c(3) nonprofit organization, the Foundation collaborates with community partners

to encourage philanthropic giving. It serves as an advisory and advocacy board to the Chancellor of SJECCD, overseeing donations for the development of San José City College (SJCC) and Evergreen Valley College (EVC).

Mission: The Foundation's mission is to cultivate and steward resources, ensuring equitable access to higher education for the San José community.

Vision: The Foundation aims to lead in supporting student success through sustainable partnerships, community engagement, and philanthropy.

For more information about the SJECCD Foundation, visit <https://sjeccd.edu/san-jose-evergreen-community-college-district-foundation>.