



WHC Coalinga Vision Statement

West Hills College Coalinga is committed to the relentless pursuit of student success.

Happy New Year! Here's hoping your new year is happy, healthy, and prosperous.

The holiday break was timely for the college community. The fall semester was filled with an extraordinary amount of integrated planning across all constituent groups in preparation for the Accrediting team site visit in March 2017. Various constituency groups, including faculty, students, staff and administration worked collaboratively and our Accreditation documents have been shipped to the Accreditation Commission!

The New Year brings new beginnings. The selection process of a new college president and vice president has been completed and there is a growing sense of stabilization across the college community. The Accreditation self-study included our 'academic game plan' known as the Quality Focused Essay (QFE) that will influence the new leaders in their deployment of campus action and strategies and I know they are anxious to get to campus and begin their tenure in their leadership roles.

We are excited to welcome back faculty tomorrow for our spring 2017 semester professional development and FLEX activities. The professional development sessions begin on Wednesday and the topics defined and agreed upon by members of the District Leadership Council and were selected to maximize opportunities for 'hands on' work by faculty.

Key sessions include curriculum clean-up, creation of guided pathways, success & retention, and student learning outcome assessment. On Friday afternoon, the college will host faculty and staff for an Accreditation 'what you need to know' session and distribute a 'talking points' document to ensure everyone has an opportunity to increase their knowledge and intent of the Accreditation process. Additional sessions will likely occur in February 2017.

On a personal note, I want to convey my appreciation to Board members for the opportunity to serve as the interim President at West Hills College Coalinga. The six-month stint was a privilege and I enjoyed my tenure back in college life. The college is truly a special place filled with doers and high achievers. While the leadership skills required to effectively lead a college are often different than key skills required of a district administrator, I believe the college, and me, are better off as a result of the experience. We worked very hard but we also had some fun along the way. I look forward to the next chapter in the journey. I deepened many existing relationships with faculty and staff and enjoyed the opportunity to engage students to remain steadfast in reaching their educational attainment goal. Again, happy New Year!

Go Falcons!



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WEST HILLS COLLEGE STUDENT ENGAGEMENT



December 1, Dr. Van Horn and wife Sandy and Board Trustee Jack Minnite joined the 2016 NDC-Firebaugh Tree Trimming.

December 3, WHC-NDC Firebaugh/CDC in the annual City of Firebaugh Christmas Parade. The volunteers were treated to hot chocolate and Christmas treat.





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November 21, DSPS Lab Assistant Tiffany Hernandez hosted a Thanksgiving luncheon.

FARM OF THE FUTURE

Social Media out at the Farm of the Future

Do you want to know what is going on out at the Farm? Check out our social media sites to stay up-to-date with the latest news from the Farm of the Future. Keep your eye out for weekly videos, pictures and updates.



facebook.com/farmofthefuture



[@farmofthefuture](https://snapchat.com/@farmofthefuture)



[@WHCCFarm](https://twitter.com/WHCCFarm)



farmofthefuture.tumblr.com



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bit.do/FOFyoutube

WHCCD FOUNDATION

Many thanks to all of you who have donated to the WHCC Foundation this past year. Your contributions came in many forms -- Employee Philanthropy, support for a sports team, contributing to a scholarship fund or helping a program with your personal dollars, helping our students through Lights of Love or gifts for foster youth. These all make a difference in the lives of our students and the communities we serve. Thank you.

If you are contributing to individual funds, you might want to consider switching to Employee Philanthropy as an easier way of tracking your donations.

If you would like to sign up, please visit: <http://westhillscollge.com/district/foundation/donations.asp>

If you need a letter for tax purposes outlining your donations, please email francesquire@whccd.edu and we'll get one off to you right away. Happy 2017!



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MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

WHCC Athletics

Want to watch your Falcons and cheer for them? Visit our WHCC Falcon Athletics webpage for schedules:

<http://www.westhillsfalcons.com/landing/index>