



PRESS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release
July 20, 2009**

**Contact: Frances Squire
Phone: (559) 934-2134**

West Hills recognized as “Great College to Work For”

West Hills Community College District has once again been highlighted at the national level, according to Chancellor Frank Gornick.

Previously recognized by the MetLife Foundation and Jobs for the Future as the small community college nationwide that best serves the needs of a diverse student population, the district has now been highlighted by the Chronicle of Higher Education in its “Great Colleges to Work For” publication.

The program recognizes community colleges based on enrollment size in 15 categories. West Hills was recognized in four of those categories including overall satisfaction with benefits, compensation and benefits, health insurance and vacation/paid time off.

“This recognition is especially important,” Gornick said, “as we fulfill our vision of being ‘the employer of choice for faculty and staff.’”

The Chronicle of Higher Education is the number one source of news, information and jobs for college and university faculty members and administrators, according to a release issued by Jeffrey J. Selingo, its editor. They publish a daily Web site, a weekly newspaper, a weekly magazine of ideas plus newsletters and events. The newspaper has a weekly print readership of 350,000 and Web traffic of more than 14 million pages a month at chronicle.com.

The results were based on a survey conducted by ModernThink LLC, which Selingo said is a team of organizational development experts dedicated to helping colleges follow through and capitalize on feedback from employees and benchmark data from peers to drive meaningful change at their intuitions.

“This recognition will allow us to continue to attract highly qualified faculty and staff members,” Gornick said. “In our mission statement, we strive to provide our students with a ‘world class learning environment.’ The Chronicle of Higher Education is greatly respected and their recognition will serve us well.”

###

West Hills Community College District serves the west side of the San Joaquin Valley and is part of the California Community College System. Its two colleges, West Hills College Coalinga, which includes North District Center, Firebaugh, and West Hills College Lemoore, serve more than 7,000 students on campus and online each semester.