Subject: Wolverine Weekly October 20, 2026
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Greetings, Wolverines!

Happy Filipino American History Month! And thanks to everyone who made the concluding event for Hispanic Heritage Month so memorable. Last Friday was action-packed at Valley College. In the morning, I joined **Vice Chancellor Jose Torres** and the facilities team as we provided the **San Bernardino County CEO, Luther Snoke**, and his team with a tour of the future site of Legacy Village. We also hosted the President's Luncheon, presented by the SBVC Foundation, and featured a surprise announcement from **San Bernardino County Supervisor Joe Baca, Jr.** Finally, our team hosted a Dual Enrollment Summit with our partners from Rialto USD, San Bernardino City USD. The summit featured a student panel that highlighted the benefits of starting college while still in high school.

Here are some highlights for this week:

VALLEY COLLEGE IS GROWING

Institutional milestones, programs, enrollment, and strategic progress

1. PROFESSOR TO GIVE PRESENTATION ON ESL AT CONFERENCE IN SEATTLE

Joanna Clevenger, assistant professor of English and English as a Second Language, will present at the Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association conference next month in Seattle. Her paper is titled, “Navigating Power Dynamic in the ESL Composition Classroom.” The Arts and Humanities Division and Valley College are proud to be represented by Professor Clevenger at the conference.

▶ **SBCCD Goals:** 1, 2 | **SBVC Priorities:** Boldly Student Centered, Opportunities for All | *Guiding Principle: Advancing Community*

2. HR DEI ADVISORY COMMITTEE — OCTOBER 13, 2026

On Tuesday, October 13, 2026, I joined the HR DEIA Committee, led by **Vice Chancellor Kristina Hannon**. The committee engaged in robust discussion about the committee's composition and charge, as well as renaming the committee.

▶ **SBCCD Goals:** 1, 2 | **SBVC Priorities:** Opportunities for All | *Guiding Principle: Advancing Community*

3. PRESIDENT’S EXECUTIVE CABINET GETS STAT CARD UPDATE

Last week, **Gabriel Martinez-Lazaro** updated the President’s Executive Cabinet on the first round of stat cards. This round focuses on Student Services departments to support the resource allocation process for non-academic service areas, which is still in development. If you recall, the stat cards will be very important in decision-making, planning, and resource allocation. In short: the stat cards provide a cost-benefit analysis of college priorities. "How much are we spending on X? And what outcomes is X producing?" Thanks to the research team for the update!

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4. MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETING — OCTOBER 15, 2026

Last Thursday, October 15, 2026, our management team gathered for an engaging discussion about important campus priorities and upcoming initiatives. Topics included required NeoEd trainings, support for our undocumented community, accreditation, campus safety, emergency preparedness, professional development, and expectations for college events. We also discussed exciting opportunities for community engagement, including Blue’s Coloring Competition, our November 7, 2026 final home football game (before playoffs) and cheer competition. Thank you to our management team for your continued leadership, collaboration, and commitment to advancing student success as we Valley Up together!

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OUR STUDENTS ARE SUCCEEDING

Programs removing barriers, measurable outcomes, and high-impact student stories

5. VALLEY COLLEGE WELCOMES NEW PUENTE SCHOLARS

The Puente Project welcomed 23 new students for this academic year! Puente includes counseling, mentoring, and writing. The program helps students build confidence in their writing skills and prepare for transfer to a four-year university. Thank you to **Alma Lopez** and **Elizabeth Banuelos** for your ongoing leadership in this model statewide program. Go Bears!

▶ **SBCCD Goals:** 1, 2 | **SBVC Priorities:** Career & Transfer, Boldly Student Centered, Opportunities for All | *Guiding Principle: Advancing Community*

6. MEN’S SOCCER, WOMEN’S VOLLEYBALL LOOK TO CONTINUE WINNING STREAKS — TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 20-21, 2026

The men’s soccer team starts the week having won four in a row and sitting atop the Inland Empire Athletic Conference standings. They face their toughest conference test yet at 4:00 PM Tuesday, October 20, 2026 against Norco at home. They are ranked No. 5 in the state in the newest California sports information professionals poll!

The women's volleyball team has won 11 in a row, and have won 22 sets in a row. They have a rare three-game week this week, with back-to-back days at home. They finish their first round of conference play Tuesday against Cerro Coso, in a make-up game, then take on Chaffey on Wednesday at home. Both games start at 5:00 PM in the auxiliary gym. Freshman middle blocker **Kaliyah Combs** was voted as one of three State Players of the Week by the state coaches' association. Combs recorded 11 kills and five blocks in the Wolverines' two victories last week, helping them to move up to No. 8 in the state rankings!

A last note: the men's basketball team is ranked No. 3 in the preseason poll of the state men's basketball coaches' association. Their home opener is at 5:00 PM Friday, November 6, 2026 in the main gym against Pasadena City.

Go Wolverines!

▶ **SBCCD Goals:** 1, 3 | **SBVC Priorities:** Boldly Student Centered, Opportunities for All | *Guiding Principle: Advancing Community*

🤝 BUILDING COMMUNITY TOGETHER

Partnerships, K-12 pipeline, and civic leadership in the region

7. GOING FOR GOLD IN THE SBCCD OLYMPICS — FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2026 | GYM | 12:00-3:00 PM

Come enjoy lunch and then cheer on your colleagues in their quest for gold at the SBCCD Olympics! We won gold in kickball and bronze in the raft race at Crafton earlier this month.

Competing for Valley on Friday are:

Nine-legged race: **Carolyn Spaulding**, **Oscar Rodriguez**, **April Dale**, **Mike Cordero**, **Haly Mattson**, **Rawlston Charles**, **Amber Martin** and **Eric Babino**.

Big blind bowling: **Yolanda Martinez**, **Antonio Monroy**, **Marie Maghuyop**, **Korey Lawson**, **Susan Mattson**, **Keenan Giles**, **Rocio Cortez** and **Mike Layne**.

Let's pack the sidelines, show our Wolverine pride and keep the gold at Valley!

▶ **SBCCD Goals:** 1 | **SBVC Priorities:** Opportunities for All | *Guiding Principle: Advancing Community*

8. VALLEY COUNSELOR COORDINATOR ATTENDS BSU COMMUNITY GATHERING, BLACK PARENT SUMMIT — OCTOBER 15 & 17, 2026

Transfer & Career Services Counselor Coordinator **Keynasia Buffong** attended two events last week hosted by Clay Counseling Foundation -- the BSU Community Gathering October 15, 2026 at UC Riverside and the Black Parent Summit October 17, 2026 at Cal State San Bernardino. The BSU gathering brought together student leaders, educators, and community partners to amplify Black student voices, strengthen connections across educational institutions, and foster a greater sense of belonging. The summit gathered families, educators, and community leaders for conversations about educational equity, mental health, parent advocacy, and college and career readiness. Participating in these events helps Valley College put servingness into action and continue to build pathways that support college access, successful transfer, degree completion, and career advancement.

▶ **SBCCD Goals:** 1, 2, 3 | **SBVC Priorities:** Career & Transfer, Boldly Student Centered, Opportunities for All | *Guiding Principle: Advancing Community*

9. MAGICAL MUSIC OF MOTOWN BENEFITS BLUE'S PANTRY — SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2026

Last Saturday, Arrowhead United Way held their third annual Magical Music of Motown event at the Auditorium to benefit local hunger relief efforts and Blue's Pantry. Thanks to AUW for bringing support of a great cause and great music to our campus! Thanks to their partnership, our students can get their basic needs met while receiving a top-notch education. I want to thank our academic senate, classified senate, student senate and management team for supporting this worthy cause.

▶ **SBCCD Goals:** 1, 2 | **SBVC Priorities:** Health & Safety, Boldly Student Centered, Opportunities for All | *Guiding Principle: Advancing Community*

10. HIGHLANDERS BOXING CLUB

Last week, **Tony Collins Cifuentes** joined President's Executive Cabinet to share information about the Highlander Boxing Club. The cabinet learned a great deal about the nonprofit's work serving justice-impacted youth. We also explored potential collaboration opportunities to advance our identity as a Hispanic-Serving Institution.

▶ **SBCCD Goals:** 1, 2 | **SBVC Priorities:** Opportunities for All | *Guiding Principle: Advancing Community*

17 ON CAMPUS

Events, performances, and announcements from across the college

11. DIA DE LOS MUERTOS COMMUNITY CELEBRATION — THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2026 | 701 S. MT. VERNON AVE. | 5:00-7:00 PM

KVCR is hosting a community Día De Los Muertos celebration 5:00-7:00 PM Thursday, October 22, 2026. There will be a community altar, refreshments, face painting and more. Attendees can bring a memento or ofrenda for the altar and are welcome to dress up. Thanks to the team at KVCR for hosting this cultural event each year. I want to especially thank welding faculty **Bryce Cacho**, **Joshua Milligan**, **Alexander Plank**, lab tech **Jacob Aldana**, and our students for building the special Valley College firepit that will be used to make smores at the event.

▶ **SBCCD Goals:** 1, 2 | **SBVC Priorities:** Boldly Student Centered, Opportunities for All | *Guiding Principle: Advancing Community*

12. SPORTS USER GROUP MEETINGS — OCTOBER 12 & 19, 2026

Last week, the soccer and baseball user groups met with the district facilities team. This week, the track and football field user groups will meet. The groups are identifying safety concerns, needs, and expectations and developing tentative timelines for the baseball, soccer, and track projects. The current expectation is that the track project will come first, followed by baseball and then soccer. The goal is to improve our facilities and provide safe playing conditions for student-athletes. Thanks to **Dean Mike Cordero**, **Erika Menge**, coaches, athletic trainers, and everyone involved in this important work.

▶ **SBCCD Goals:** 1 | **SBVC Priorities:** Health & Safety, Boldly Student Centered, Opportunities for All | *Guiding Principle: Advancing Community*

13. HORROR FILM FESTIVAL SCREENING 'CASPER' — WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2026 | LIBRARY VIEWING ROOM | 3:45 PM

"Casper" will be screened at 3:45 PM Wednesday, October 28, 2026 in the Library Viewing Room – the final movie in the 10th annual Horror Film Festival. Thanks to **Professor Daihim Fozouni** for sponsoring the festival.

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14. THIRD ANNUAL BARRIO FIESTA — THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2026 | B-100 | 6:00-8:00 PM

The third annual Barrio Fiesta will wrap up Filipino American History Month festivities at Valley College. Come to B-100 between 6:00 and 8:00 PM Thursday, October 29, 2026 for traditional food, music and more. Thanks to **Dr. Rangel Zarate**, **Marie Maghuyop** and everyone involved for their hard work planning this important cultural and community event!

▶ **SBCCD Goals:** 1, 2 | **SBVC Priorities:** Boldly Student Centered, Opportunities for All | *Guiding Principle: Advancing Community*

15. PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE NIGHT AND HIGH SCHOOL SPIRIT CHALLENGE AT FOOTBALL GAME — SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2026 | STADIUM | 6:00 PM

Let's close out the football season with a spectacular celebration of Wolverine pride, community, and culture on Saturday, November 7, 2026.

Our final home game will feature Pacific Islander Heritage Night and a special High School Spirit Challenge, inviting local high schools to compete to bring the most students and show off their school spirit. The high school bringing the most students will win a $1,000 check for their cheer squad, with a minimum of 50 students required to qualify ($100 for every school that brings at least 50 guests). If you have a high school student in the San Bernardino City, Colton Joint Unified, or Rialto Unified school districts, encourage them to come out, represent their school, and cheer on the Wolverines.

Employees are also invited to the President's Pregame at 5:00 PM. Come enjoy sliders and ribs on the field. RSVP here or by scanning the QR code in the invitation emailed to campus. Valley Up!

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16. PRESIDENT'S LUNCHEON — OCTOBER 16, 2026

Kudos to the SBVC Foundation team for an incredibly meaningful President's Luncheon on Friday, October 16, 2026. The annual event celebrates and recognizes the generosity of donors whose continued commitment makes a lasting impact on our students' success. The event featured special milestone recognition for longtime President's Circle supporters, honoring their years of dedicated giving. A highlight was a $10,500 check presentation from Valley College alumna **Tashana Sybliss** on behalf of the Tashyglam Foundation to establish an endowed scholarship in honor of her mother and grandmother, creating a lasting legacy of support for future generations of Valley

students. Thank you to Executive Director **Mike Layne** and Assistant Director **Eve Mulhall** for an epic luncheon. Valley Up!

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17. GREAT CALIFORNIA SHAKEOUT — OCTOBER 15, 2026

Thanks to all who participated in the Great California ShakeOut drill at 10:15 AM Thursday, October 15, 2026. We take earthquake safety seriously and make it a priority to participate in this important drill each year. It was nice to see our college community in the Business Quad during the drill. Thank you to **Timothy Hosford** for communicating the "all clear" on your megaphone.

▶ **SBCCD Goals:** 1 | **SBVC Priorities:** Health & Safety | *Guiding Principle: Advancing Community*

18. LIBRARY CELEBRATES BANNED BOOKS WEEK — OCTOBER 5-9, 2026

Earlier this month the library celebrated the national Banned Books Week initiative, supported by the American Library Association. This year's theme, "Let Books Be," highlighted the importance of intellectual freedom, censorship awareness, and the freedom to read. Throughout the week, students were invited to participate in activities including a digital scavenger hunt, a screening of "The Librarians," a silent reading sit-in, and an interactive community bookshelf display where they could share what the freedom to read means to them. Five students won the scavenger hunt and received SBVC Library swag bags. These activities provided opportunities for students to explore library resources, engage in conversations about censorship, and reflect on the importance of access to diverse ideas and perspectives.

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19. REMINDER TO KEEP WINDOWS UNCOVERED BY OCTOBER 23, 2026

Effective Friday, October 23, 2026, all employee interior office windows must be uncovered. All curtains, blinds, films, and any other interior office window coverings will be prohibited unless installed by the San Bernardino Community College District. Employees who have any such coverings on their interior office window(s) must ensure they are removed no later than October 23. Employees are expected to work with their respective managers to ensure compliance with this requirement. This is to promote visibility and appropriate supervision, maintain consistent professional boundaries, and support safer emergency response. Thank you for your cooperation!

▶ **SBCCD Goals:** 1 | **SBVC Priorities:** Health & Safety | *Guiding Principle: Advancing Community*

20. NEW CENTENNIAL PODCAST EPISODE

The new episode in our centennial podcast series features **Denise Berver**, one of several generations of Valley College alumni and co-owner and publisher of the Inland Empire Community News.

The podcast shares stories behind our 100 years of impact, featuring conversations with those who helped shape Valley College and those leading us into the next century. Watch and listen to the podcast on YouTube and Spotify. And don't miss the weekly centennial highlights on our YouTube page.

▶ **SBCCD Goals:** 1, 3 | **SBVC Priorities:** Career & Transfer, Opportunities for All | *Guiding Principle: Advancing Community*

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