

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

RESOLUTION

Resolution No.: 24-353

Adopt a resolution celebrating Hartnell College on earning)
Excelencia in Education's prestigious Seal of Excelencia.)

WHEREAS, Focusing on the education and workforce development needs of communities in the Salinas Valley, Hartnell College strengthens communities by providing opportunities for students to reach career and academic goals (associate degrees, bachelor's degrees, certificates of achievement, transfer to four-year institutions) in an environment committed to student learning, achievement, and success; and

WHEREAS, Excelencia in Education, the nation's premier authority on efforts to accelerate Latinx student success in higher education, announced on October 1, 2024 that Hartnell College earned the prestigious Seal of Excelencia; and

WHEREAS, The Seal of Excelencia is a national certification for institutions that strive to go beyond enrollment and more intentionally serve Latinx students; and

WHEREAS, The Seal of Excelencia framework represents a rigorous assessment of certified institutions' intentionality and impact in improving outcomes such as retention, financial support, and degree completion for Latinx students by aligning efforts across data, practice, and leadership; and

WHEREAS, The Seal of Excelencia certification remains valid for three years, after which institutions have the opportunity to recertify; and

WHEREAS, Hartnell College is one of only 17 colleges and universities nationwide to earn the Seal of Excelencia in 2024; and

WHEREAS, In the academic year 2023-24, Hartnell College served 12,000 students, with 83% identifying as Latinx; and

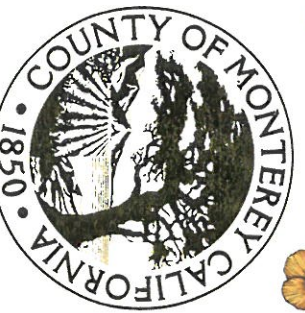
WHEREAS, Hartnell College's submitted application for the Seal of Excelencia highlighted their robust programs and services including; bilingual services in both English and Spanish; Mi Casa Program for undocumented students; High School Equivalency Program; Cohort-mentorship programs; Math Academy; Connecting students with internships and careers in STEM; Creating of a Basic Needs Office; Dual enrollment opportunities for high school students; Rising Scholars program for incarcerated students; and

WHEREAS, Hartnell College's application for the Seal of Excelencia also highlighted their strategic placement of education centers in Castroville, East Salinas, King City, and Soledad aimed to provide access to education in areas with low education attainment and in low-income, predominantly Spanish-speaking communities; and

WHEREAS, The impact of Hartnell College's efforts is evident in the course success rates for Latinx students: 72.8% in 2018-2019, 69.6% during the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020-2021, and 74.1% in 2022-2023.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Monterey County Board of Supervisors, on behalf of the County and all residents thereof, congratulates Hartnell College on earning the Seal of Excelencia.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on this 15th day of October 2024



Chair Supervisor Glenn Church

Vice Chair Supervisor Chris Lopez

Supervisor Wendy Root Askew

Supervisor Luis Aljio

Supervisor Mary L. Adams