

Dear System Office Friends and Colleagues:

Veterans Day is an opportunity for all of us to remember, recognize, and thank all those who have served in our military forces, whether in times of conflict or peace, overseas or within our borders, and in countless roles and capacities.

We know that our nation is better, safer, and stronger because of the sacrifice and service of our veterans, and I hope all of you will join me today in honoring our nation's veterans and, particularly, the thousands of students and the hundreds of CCCS employees who have served or are currently serving. We owe them a debt of gratitude.

Through challenging times, those in uniform have always done all that was asked of them to keep us safe. They have endured extended periods away from their families and the comforts of home that the rest of us take for granted. They have done so without complaint, and without wavering from their mission. And, when they returned home, they did so with no expectation of praise or reward. They simply returned to their communities, their families, and their jobs, and they brought their spirit of commitment and dedication with them. For that we are grateful, and our communities, our students, and our faculty and staff are better off.

Many of you know that I was raised in a military family. My father served over 25 years in the US Army and my three brothers also served, one each in the Navy, the Air Force, and the Army. I suspect many of you also have a friend or family member who served, and many of you work alongside a veteran here in our System office. All of them make our system and our country stronger. That's why I am so proud that we are leaders in enrolling veterans and active-duty service members, providing college credit for military training, and employing veterans across our System Office. Today and every day, take the time to thank a veteran for their service. They have earned our gratitude.

Happy Veterans Day.



Joe Garcia
Chancellor

