February 1, 2021

Dr. Frank Chong Superintendent/President Santa Rosa Junior College 1501 Mendocino Avenue Santa Rosa, CA 95401

Dear Dr. Chong:

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges, at its meeting January 13 - 15, 2021, considered the written information provided by Santa Rosa Junior College on its plan to address its financial conditions. This information was provided in response to the ACCJC September 2020 letter notifying the College of its placement on enhanced fiscal monitoring for a third year. The college was first placed on enhanced monitoring in November 2018. In addition to the information the College submitted, the Commission also reviewed data from the College's 2020 Annual Fiscal Report.

After deliberation, and in keeping with the Commission's <u>Policy on Monitoring Institutional</u> <u>Performance</u>, the Commission acted to **Require a Fiscal Monitoring Special Report** addressing the ongoing fiscal conditions signaling financial instability. The special report is due by **March 15, 2021**, and will be reviewed by the Commission during its meeting scheduled June 9 - 11, 2021. This requirement does not affect the College's current accredited status.

In order to verify sustained compliance with the Commission's Standards and Policies¹, the Fiscal Monitoring Special Report and supporting evidence must provide an update on Santa Rosa Junior College's integrated financial plan and describe the steps taken or those planned to resolve the following deficiencies:

- Ongoing declining enrollment
- Low fund balance reserves, excluding other financing sources
- Operating Deficit, excluding other financing sources
- Negative operating revenue ratio, excluding other financing sources
- Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) 0% funded

¹ In accordance with federal regulations, compliance requirements must be addressed and the institution must demonstrate that it aligns with Standards within two years. For more information, refer to the Commission policy on "The Two-Year Rule and Extension for Good Cause" on the ACCJC website at https://accjc.org/eligibility-requirements-standards-policies/.

The resulting plan should include timelines and milestones capable of being addressed in subsequent reports as may be required by the Commission. ACCJC will continue to monitor the fiscal health of the institution as a function of its role to ensure that accredited institutions are able to continue to meet their missions and ensure ongoing viability for the students they serve.

If you have any questions about this letter or the Commission's action, please feel free to contact Dr. Stephanie Droker or the vice president that has been assigned as liaison to your institution.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Droker, Ed.D.

Stephanie Droker

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cc: Dr. L. Jane Saldana-Talley, Accreditation Liaison Officer