



Presidential Search 2025

DATE: August 14, 2025
TO: Río Hondo College
FROM: Oscar Valladares, President, Board of Trustees
RE: **PROGRESS REPORT #2 - SUPERINTENDENT/PRESIDENT SEARCH UPDATE**

The Board of Trustees is pleased to share Progress Report #2, to update the College community on the search process for the next Superintendent/President of Rio Hondo College (RHC).

The Superintendent/President Search Committee

The Superintendent/President Search Committee will review the confidential applications, interview semifinalist candidates, and identify the final candidates to be forwarded to the Board of Trustees for consideration. The Search Committee is comprised of the following members, which were nominated by constituency groups and approved by the Board of Trustees at its August 13, 2025 meeting.

Appointment of five (5) Community Members to Serve on the Presidential Search Committee one per Trustee Area

1. Dr. Jorge Morales - Representing Trustee Area 1 (Medina-Diaz)
2. Dr. Monica Sanchez - Representing Trustee Area 2 (Rocha)
3. Dr. How Alpert - Representing Trustee Area 3 (Lomeli)
4. Josefina Canchola - Representing Trustee Area 4 (Orozco)
5. Refugio Lopez - Representing Trustee Area 5 (Valladares)

Appointment of five (5) Faculty from the Academic Senate - Gerson Montiel, Academic Senate President

1. Gerson Montiel, Mathematics Instructor/Academic Senate President
2. Farrah Nakatani, Associate Professor of Drafting & Design
3. Angelica Martinez, Associate Professor and Counselor
4. Dorali Pichardo-Diaz, Professor and Counselor
5. Melissa Rifino-Juarez, Professor of Sociology

Appointment of three (3) Classified staff from CSEA - Sandra Hernandez, CSEA President

1. Sandra Hernandez, Library Media Technician and CSEA President
2. Kathy Gomez, Senior Instructional Assistant
3. Rosalva Garcia, Information Systems Specialist

Appointment of two (2) students - Matthew Avalos, ASRHC President

1. Matthew Avalos, President ASRHC
2. Huy Tran, Secretary, ASRHC

Appointment of two (2) Managers - Alicia Kruizenga, MCC President for one MCC Member and President Dreyfuss recommends one Vice President

1. Dr. Stephen Kibui, Vice President of Finance & Business
2. Dr. Caroline Durdella, Executive Dean, Academic Affairs/Institutional Effectiveness & Instructional Operations

Virtual Public Forums and Survey to inform the Profile Development

An important step in the search process is the development of the Superintendent/President Profile. On **September 4, 2025**, we will host three (3) virtual Public Forums to listen to your input, which will assist with the development of the Profile. The entire RHC community is invited and encouraged to participate in a discussion about the qualities, characteristics, and qualifications we are seeking in the next Superintendent/President of Río Hondo College, and the opportunities and challenges facing the College in the years to come. Additionally, you will have the opportunity to ask questions about the Presidential search process. The discussions will be facilitated by Dr. Cecilia Cervantes, ACCT Search Consultant.

We invite everyone to attend the one-hour Public Forums on September 4, 2025:

- **9:00 a.m. (PT)** <https://gorio.page/presidential-forums>
- **12:00 p.m. (PT)** <https://gorio.page/presidential-forums>
- **4:00 p.m. (PT)** <https://gorio.page/presidential-forums>

Please share the forum information with all who have an interest in Río Hondo College and wish to attend. No RSVP is needed.

In addition to the Public Forums, we have developed a brief electronic survey that we hope you will complete. The anonymous responses to the survey will also be used to inform the development of the draft Superintendent/President Profile. The survey is available here:

Survey Link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ZNYP3JZ>

Please submit your survey feedback no later than Noon (Pacific Time) on September 5, 2025.

College input received during the Public Forums and through the electronic survey will be utilized in the development of the Presidential Profile. The Superintendent/President Search Committee members will meet on September 9, 2025, for orientation, training, and to update the draft Presidential Profile. Members of the Board of Trustees will further review, edit, refine, and approve the final version of the Presidential Profile. It will be included in the Rio Hondo College Superintendent/President Search Webpage and will serve as an important element in the candidate recruitment process. Additional key information (Timeline, Progress Reports, Profile, Search Committee, and directions for applying) regarding the Superintendent/President search will be included in the search webpage.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please reach out to our ACCT Search Consultant, Dr. Cecilia Cervantes, at ceciliayl@outlook.com or (651) 795-1992.

We appreciate your interest and support in our search for Rio Hondo College's Superintendent/President. Thank you.