

ALL FACULTY SANTA ROSA JUNIOR COLLEGE ASSOCIATION

AFA Report to the Board of Trustees, January 14, 2025

Anne Donegan, AFA President

Happy New Year, President Chabon, Trustees, President Garcia, and the college community:

AFA looks forward to working with you all in this coming year.

The current political climate has become increasingly stressful, with tensions rising and uncertainty permeating across Sonoma County. Because of this, there is a pressing need for effective communication and active engagement from leaders, especially those in positions of influence, such as you the board members. It is crucial that the board take on the responsibility of lobbying in Sacramento, Washington, and Silicon Valley, advocating for policies that prioritize the well-being of the most vulnerable members of society. Please help our undocumented students and students and employees from mixed families. They are counting on you.

I have been talking about safety since the October Board meeting, when I stated that it is the District's responsibility to make sure SRJC is a safe place to work. Earlier, President Garcia told us that 911 calls were routed illegally to SRJC PD for 9 months, but she has yet to tell the District why this occurred? I may be Pollyanna, but I expect government agencies, like schools, to follow the law.

I am also concerned after reading the article in the Oak Leaf magazine that came out in December about many safety concerns about our new student housing, Polly Hall. Like employees, students should expect a level of safety where they live and where they go to school. We all need to know how the District keeps us safe. Being transparent leads to trust.

I wanted to end today, by remembering Ed Buckley who was the VPAA at SRJC from 1992-2005 and passed away late last year. Before his time as VPAA, he was an English professor and dean and always made great teaching at SRJC for all students a priority. When Ed was VPAA, SRJC had over 22,000 FT students and only 2 vice-presidents and very few deans.