ANTELOPE VALLEY COLLEGE
Looking Forward
90th ANNUIVERSARY
1929 • 2019
For 90 years of support to Antelope Valley College

From its humble beginnings in a classroom at Antelope Valley Joint Union High School District in 1929, with an enrollment of 20 students, Antelope Valley College (AVC) has grown to include a main campus and extended learning facilities serving an annual enrollment of more than 18,000 students. Today, the college offers transfer degree, associate degree and certificate programs, training opportunities for career enhancement, basic skills instruction and lifelong learning opportunities. AVC is one of just 15 of the 114 community colleges in California to offer a bachelor’s degree in Airframe Manufacturing Technology.

Throughout its history, the college has maintained strong partnerships with Antelope Valley business and industry, developing programs of study to ensure entry into professional careers in fields including public safety, health sciences, aviation, business, and engineering. These strong ties to local industry also ensure workplace opportunities for graduates in the technical trades, among them, aviation, automotive, manufacturing and fabrication, electronics and welding.

The ongoing development of college programs and offerings positions the college well to serve the community’s commitment to Measure AV. We are forever grateful to the community for its overwhelming support, approving the bond measure by a margin of 70.2 percent. In 2019, construction with funds the bond provides moves into a more active and visible phase across campus as we begin replacing original buildings with state-of-the-art educational facilities.

Antelope Valley College is a very special place that prides itself on the professionalism and expertise of its administration, faculty and staff. Through all of the growth the college has experienced, there has been one consistent factor, a commitment to a quality, comprehensive education in service to the greater Antelope Valley community. The college boasts an annual local economic impact of more than $265 million and employs more than 1,000 employees. Our employees are integral in delivering an exceptional education to our students and making a difference in their futures.

As we celebrate our 90th anniversary, I hope you join us in the excitement of the years to come, of future students and alumni who will make their mark in business and industry, and the continued advancement of the Antelope Valley.
Antelope Valley College held its first classes on September 10, 1929, as an extension of Antelope Valley Joint Union High School District in Lancaster. Then known as Antelope Valley Junior College, high school officials established the college as a way to provide local residents with access to the first two years of a college education in what was then a remote, rural area. The college shared classrooms on the high school campus where the existing Antelope Valley High School stands. In June 1931, Aubrey Byron Chase became the first graduate of the college. He went on to become a military chaplain and a Baptist minister.

Average daily attendance (ADA) at the college reached 100 by 1939. However, with the outbreak of World War II, attendance plummeted to the same level as the first year of the college. There were pressures to close the college, yet trustees and staff held out through the war years. Enrollment began to grow steadily after the end of the war, partly due to the GI Bill of Rights that provided higher education opportunities to veterans, and because Antelope Valley began developing an aircraft industry. The college had launched its first vocational programs as it moved toward becoming the comprehensive community college it is today.

Another milestone in the development came in 1957 when Dr. Lowell F. Barker was hired as the college’s first president—a break from directors who oversaw the college before that time. Groundbreaking was held in September 1959 for a new 110-acre college campus at Avenue K and 30th Street West in Lancaster. The new campus was designed to accommodate 1,500 students and opened two years later.
Officials realized it was time to pull away from the high school governance structure. In December 1961, local voters approved the creation of a separate community college district. In another election in spring 1962, voters elected the first board of trustees to govern the college district: Ross Amspoker, Louis Massari, Charlotte R. Rupner, Glen Settle and Chester Wolowicz. July 1, 1962 marked the official start of the new college district.

The college continued to grow, as did the surrounding community. In the 1970s, the campus added a black box theater, music building, consumer education building and arts building surrounding what is known as the Fine Arts Quad. Other buildings were added on the north side of the campus to accommodate technical programs such as automotive technology, welding, and electronics.

As student enrollment grew at the college during the 1980s, officials secured state money in the early 1990s for construction of a new library in the heart of the campus, along with an administration building. More construction followed including a Child Development Center, two-story Applied Arts Building, three-story Business Education Building, and Technical Education Building. Additionally, the college expanded its size to approximately 135 acres through land purchases.

Since its early days, Antelope Valley College has been committed to the needs of the local community. AVC continues to honor that commitment as officials remain steadfast in addressing the educational and cultural needs of the Antelope Valley.
Antelope Valley College has grown to a student population of over 18,000 and is currently the largest and primary source of higher education in the region. With the help of Measure R (a Proposition 39 local bond measure approved by 69.9 percent of local voters in 2004), AVC increased campus building space by 63 percent. Critical infrastructure has been replaced and expanded to meet forecasted campus growth for the next 20 years. Accessibility and safety for the campus have been significantly improved, and most importantly, programs and services for students have been increased to meet growing demands.

AVC now hosts upper division and graduate level programs offered by California State University, Bakersfield. California State University, Bakersfield-Antelope Valley now has a satellite location at AVC’s Lancaster campus.

In response to the needs of south valley residents, AVC established a site in the city of Palmdale. The Palmdale Center currently serves approximately 3,000 students. The location has 17 modern classrooms including state-of-the-art science and computer labs, a library and resource center, bookstore and student lounge.

The Lancaster campus is home to SOAR High School (Students On the Academic Rise), which serves approximately 400 ninth through twelfth-grade students. Immersed in the college culture, SOAR integrates college courses into the high school curriculum. With an emphasis in mathematics, science, and engineering, students receive both a high school diploma and an associate’s college degree within five years.
Officials continue to expand and update labs and classrooms to serve students. The Performing Arts Theatre building was constructed in 2009, and the Health and Science Building (now dedicated as Uhazy Hall) was completed in 2012.

In 2012, Antelope Valley College partnered with California State University, Long Beach (CSULB) to offer a bachelor’s degree pathway in electrical and mechanical engineering. The CSULB cohort-based engineering program streamlines progress toward graduation and offers unprecedented access to the local aerospace industry.

In 2015, Antelope Valley College was one of only 15 colleges selected by the California Community Colleges Board of Governors to develop a pilot bachelor’s degree program. In 2019, AVC awarded Bachelor of Science Degrees in Airframe Manufacturing Technology, specifically designed for the needs of local aerospace industry employees.
Antelope Valley College is dedicated to meeting the dynamic needs of a changing community. Citing the outdated classroom and student services areas, the Antelope Valley Community College District Board of Trustees voted unanimously to put a $350 million bond measure on the November 8, 2016 general election ballot.

Voters of the Antelope Valley Community College District (AVCCD) approved Measure AV by a margin of 70.2 percent. The approval of Measure AV is instrumental in helping AVC address the educational needs of a diverse and evolving population. The local bond qualifies the district for millions in state matching funds that otherwise would have been lost to other communities in the state.

"Measure AV will fund college infrastructure essential to the 21st-century learning required for jobs in aerospace, engineering, manufacturing, health, and other critical local industries," Superintendent/President Ed Knudson said. "These funds will ensure the college can meet the educational and workforce development needs of the Antelope Valley for the next 50 years."

As a part of its mission, Antelope Valley College is committed to student success by offering value and opportunity in service to the community. Thanks to strong community support through Measure AV, the college now has a creative and leading-edge plan to continue fulfilling that mission in the future.
The district plans for the Lancaster campus include updates to campus infrastructure, construction of new academic commons, career and technical education facilities, a student services building, gymnasium renovations, a Marauder Athletics complex, three instructional buildings, and a fine arts complex.

On June 4, 2019, AVC broke ground on Sage Hall, the first major building to be constructed utilizing Measure AV bond funds. The 34,295-square-foot building will serve as the new home for the Learning Center and also includes classroom space. With a 10-year plan in place, Antelope Valley College has laid a foundation for its vision to provide quality education that transforms lives in the AV community for years to come.
Where we started...

1929: Aubrey Byron Chase became the first graduate of the college.

1931: Antelope Valley Junior College held its first class on the Antelope Valley Joint Union High School District campus.

1957: Groundbreaking was held for a new college campus on 90 acres at Avenue K and 30th Street West.

1959: Dr. Lowell F. Barker was hired as the first president of the college.

1961: First core of the campus was built.

1962: Antelope Valley Community College District was established. The district now covers over 1,945 miles.
California State University, Bakersfield opens a satellite location on AVC’s Lancaster campus.

College purchases remaining 45 acres.

Voters approve Measure R resulting in $139 million for campus expansion and upgrades including infrastructure, Facilities/Warehouse, Horticulture, Health & Sciences buildings, Performing Arts Theatre, North & South Athletic Fields, Marauder stadium and more.

1969

Antelope Valley College Foundation is established. 1991–AVC Foundation is established.

1969–1990s

1990s

2005

Palmdale Center opens.

Campus added the Fine Arts Quad along with a black box theater, music building, and other structures to the north for technical training.
Where we’re going...

- **2007**: SOAR High School opens.
- **2009**: Facilities/Warehouse, Horticulture, and Brent Carder Marauder Stadium open.
- **2012**: 412-seat Performing Arts Theatre opens.
- **2016**: Measure AV passes.
- **2017**: Palmdale Center opens at new location.
- **2019**: AVC awarded a record-setting number of degrees and certificates.

SOAR High School opens. 412-seat Performing Arts Theatre opens. Palmdale Center opens at new location. AVC awarded a record-setting number of degrees and certificates.
The 2016 Facilities Master Plan (FMP) for Antelope Valley College presents an overall picture of the future developed campus and includes recommendations for new construction, building renovations, change of use and site development projects. While drawings appear specific, the forms are conceptual sketches that highlight the location and purpose for the proposed improvements.

The FMP recommends the demolition and replacement of a number of the oldest buildings on the campus. Functions currently housed in these facilities will be relocated to new or existing facilities, and will be designed to support the new campus zoning diagram and address projected instructional program needs. A complete list of all program moves is included in the complete FMP. To view the AVC FMP in its entirety, please visit: https://www.avc.edu/administration/facilities/fsmasterplan

The project list below summarizes the key FMP projects that are illustrated on the campus plan and described further within the document.

**PROJECT LIST**

**NEW CONSTRUCTION**

- Academic Commons
- Arts Complex
- Campus Security
- Community Center
- CSUB + University Center
- CTE Instruction
- Field House
- Instructional Building 1 (IB1)
- Instructional Building 2 (IB2)
- Instructional Building 3 (IB3)
- SOAR High School
- Student Center
- Student Services

**RENOVATIONS | CHANGE OF USE**

- Applied Arts
- Business Education
- Gymnasium
- Field House
Antelope Valley College prohibits discrimination and harassment based on sex, gender, race, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, age, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, cancer-related medical condition, or genetic predisposition. Upon request, we will consider reasonable accommodation to permit individuals with protected disabilities to (a) complete the employment or admission process, (b) perform essential job functions, (c) enjoy benefits and privileges of similarly-situated individuals without disabilities, and (d) participate in instruction, programs, services, activities, or events.