

March 23, 2026

Dr. Bruce Moses
Superintendent/President
Palo Verde College
1 College Dr.
Blythe, CA 92225

Dear Dr. Moses:

The Executive Committee of the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) has reviewed complaints regarding Palo Verde College received on January 11, January 25, and January 29, 2026. The Committee also reviewed the college's letters of response to these complaints dated February 19, 2026 and March 8, 2026.

The purpose of this review was to determine whether the College adequately addressed concerns raised regarding Palo Verde College's continued compliance with the following Accreditation Standards and Commission Policies:

Standard 4.3: The institution's decision-making structures are used consistently and effectively. Institutional decision-making practices support a climate of collaboration and innovation that advances the mission and promotes successful outcomes for all students.

Standard 4.5: The governing board selects and evaluates the institution's chief executive officer (CEO). The governing board gives the CEO full authority to implement board policies and ensure effective operations and fulfillment of the institutional mission.

Standard 4.6: The governing board functions effectively as a collective entity to promote the institution's values and mission and fulfill its fiduciary responsibilities. The governing board demonstrates an ability to self-govern in adherence to its bylaws and expectations for best practices in board governance. (ER 7)

Policy on Institutional Integrity and Ethics, Item 4: The institution has policies to ensure academic honesty, policies to assure integrity in the hiring processes, and policies and procedures to prevent conflict of interest throughout the organization, including governing board decision-making and contracting, and policies that provide due process

protections. Such policies are reviewed regularly and are widely available to institutional staff, students, governing board members and the public. The institution is able to provide evidence that it upholds its policies.

Policy on Institutional Integrity and Ethics, Item 7: The institution establishes a governance process and policies to receive and address complaints regarding questionable accounting practices, operational activity which is a violation of applicable law, rules, and regulations, or questionable activities which may indicate potential fraud, waste, and/or abuse. The process shall allow for the confidential and anonymous submission of complaints.

Upon consideration of the responses provided, the Executive Committee determined Palo Verde College did not supply sufficient evidence to determine compliance with the Accreditation Standards and Commission Policies noted above and acted to **Require a Special Report, due no later than August 1, 2026, to coincide with the submission of the College's Institutional Self-Evaluation Report.** The Commission further instructs the comprehensive peer review team, scheduled to convene Fall 2026, to focus attention on the following standards and corresponding focused questions:

Standard 4.3: Do Administrative and Board processes, deliberations, and decisions support a climate of collaboration and innovation that advances the mission and promotes successful outcomes for all students?

Standard 4.5: Does the board appropriately delegate authority to the College CEO to implement board policies and ensure effective operations and fulfillment of the institutional mission?

Standard 4.6: Does the Board follow its established Board Policies and Administrative Procedures in order to ethically function as a collective entity in the best interest of the institution and independent of undue influence? Does the Board follow documented procedures for self-governance, and does it appropriately address behavior that does not align with its policies?

***Policy on Institutional Integrity and Ethics, Item 4:* Do the institution's policies and procedures effectively prevent conflict of interest in governing-board decision making? Do the institution's policies and procedures effectively provide due process protection to employees, as appropriate?**

***Policy on Institutional Integrity and Ethics, Item 7:* Does the college effectively implement policies and procedures to address complaints regarding questionable accounting practices or activities to control potential fraud, waste, and/or abuse of fiscal resources?**

Information gathered from the special report and through the comprehensive peer review process will assist the Commission in determining continued compliance with the above noted Accreditation Standards and Commission Policies.

The Commission requires you disseminate this Action Letter to all campus constituencies and the public by placing copies on the College website within seven business days of your receipt. Please note that in response to public interest in accreditation, the Commission requires institutions to post current accreditation information on a web page located no more than one click from the institution's home page. In keeping with ACCJC policy, the Commission action will also be posted on the ACCJC website within 30 days of the date of the Commission's action.

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

Sincerely,



Mac Powell, MBA, Ph.D.
President



Kathleen F. Burke, Ed.D.
Chair

Cc: Ms. Sandra Robinson, Accreditation Liaison Officer