



PRESS RELEASE

May 20, 2016

South Bay Workforce Investment Board
11539 Hawthorne Blvd., Suite 500
Hawthorne, CA 90250
Contact: 310-970-7700

Local students commit to higher education as part of “South Bay Promise”

TORRANCE – Sixty high school seniors have committed to attending El Camino College for the 2016-2017 academic year as part of the ‘South Bay Promise’. El Camino College held an orientation session yesterday to welcome these students.

The South Bay Promise was developed by leaders from California State University, Dominguez Hills (CSUDH), El Camino College (ECC), Inglewood Unified School District (IUSD), Centinela Valley Union High School District (CVUHSD) and the South Bay Workforce Investment Board (SBWIB). South Bay Promise is an initiative which is designed to strengthen and create a seamless transition from IUSD’s Inglewood, Morningside, City Honors College Preparatory high schools and CVUHSD’s Hawthorne, Lawndale and Leuzinger high schools to college.

Through the program, Inglewood Unified and Centinela Valley Union High School District students can qualify for guaranteed admission to El Camino College and/or California State University, Dominguez Hills. Upon completion of 60 semester credits, the El Camino College students are guaranteed transfer acceptance to CSUDH.

Last year saw 31 students enroll at ECC. This year 60 students will attend ECC (37 from CVUHSD, 23 IUSD), while Dominguez Hills anticipates about 60 students as well (though final numbers have not been finalized yet).

At the ceremony were Dr. Jeanie Nishime, Vice President, Student and Community Advancement, ECC; Pilar Simi, Outreach and School Relations, CSUDH; Dr. Gregory O’Brien, Superintendent, CVUHSD; and Jan Vogel, Executive Director, SBWIB.

“This program underscores the need and desire for area youth to continue their post-secondary education,” said Vogel. “We are encouraged by the continual rise in participants each year and expect those numbers to keep growing as they already have.”

Students signed a pledge stating their commitment to the program that stresses college preparation, access and success. Students were also given access to support services including summer school classes, tutoring, transfer assistance, career counseling and peer-to-peer mentoring. Students enrolling through the program at ECC, have their first year of books and tuition paid for.



www.sbwib.org

SOUTH BAY WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD
SBWIB



Jan Vogel, Executive Director, SBWIB, speaks at the “South Bay Promise” reception held at El Camino College, Thursday, May 19, 2016