

2022

Report to the Community of Taft

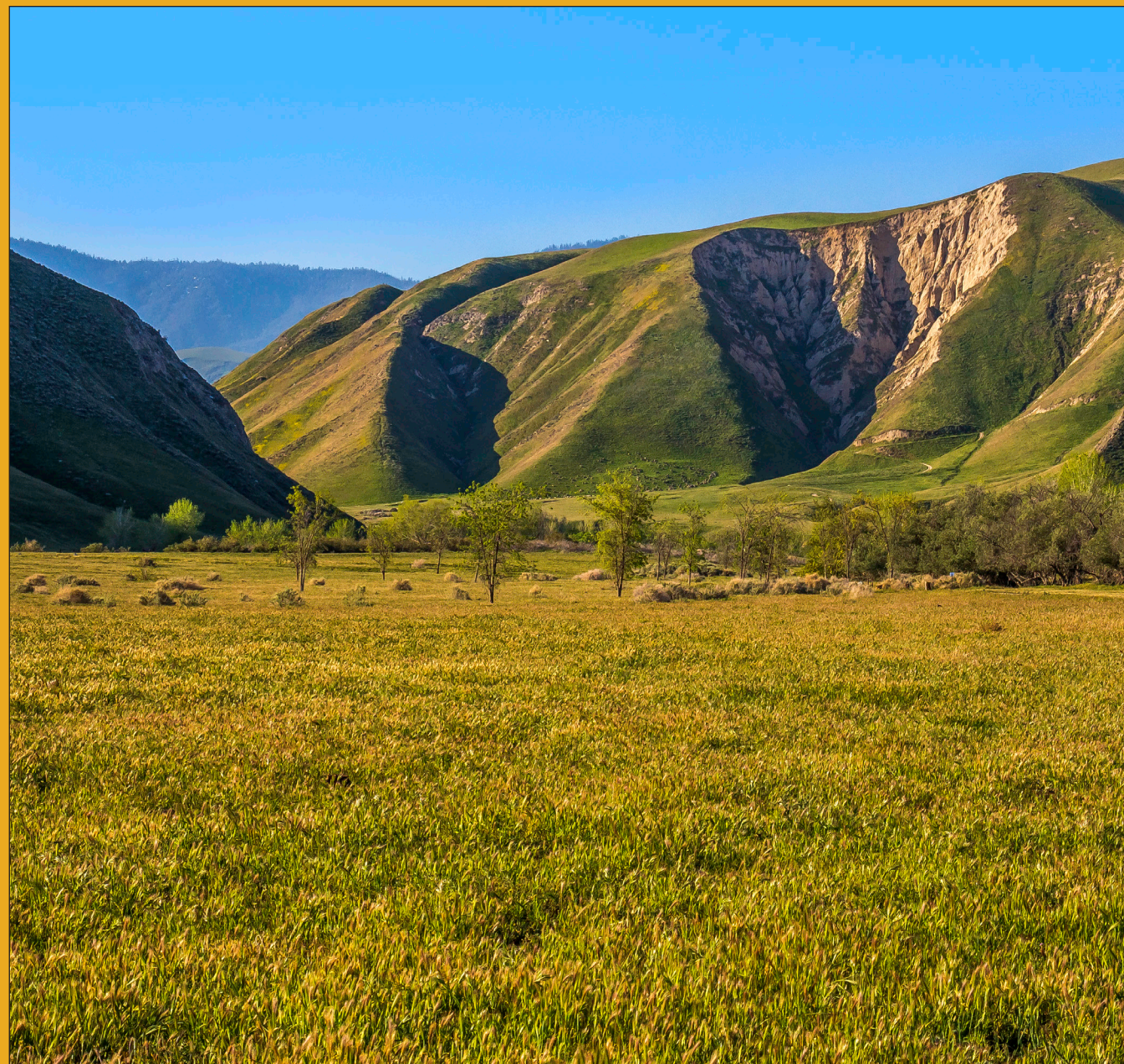


Making lives better for 100 years!

Education transforms students' lives.

"Many of you were forced to put your education on hold during the pandemic. I commend you for stepping up to meet the urgent needs of your family during this ongoing uncertainty. Now, it is your turn to transform your life for good! On page 18, see the data that clearly shows community college students earn more over their lifetimes than those who graduate high school and choose not to continue their education."

Dr. Debra S. Daniels
Superintendent/President,
Taft College



Dr. Debra S. Daniels
Superintendent/President,
Taft College

Dear Community Members of Taft,

2022 marks our 100th year of transforming students' lives for good!

As we diligently prepare to celebrate Taft College having educated **over a million students over these historic 100 years**, we have thoroughly enjoyed revisiting many wonderful memories. Our students are and have been amazing contributors in the workplace, on the athletic field, and to society as a whole. *I am immensely proud of them all.*

We are still maneuvering through the global pandemic, but thankful that COVID-19 vaccines are now widely available. Adjusting to a different kind of normal presents challenges to students, staff, and faculty, as well as dictates our current models of instruction, including in person, online, and hybrid.

Despite the increasing odds against them, our students succeed because faculty and staff continuously deliver their very best, every single day. The City of Taft and local businesses welcome and employ Taft College students. Our Community Partners and Contributors provide support and funding to help meet the urgent and academic needs of our students. *Beginning on page seven of this report*, you'll enjoy reading some truly inspiring stories!

Please join us for our Centennial Celebration events throughout 2022! *On the inside back cover of this report*, you'll find a list of these events, current at press time. We all look forward to celebrating with you!

Yours in partnership,
Dr. Debra S. Daniels, Taft College Superintendent/President

Letter from the Superintendent/President

*"Never lose hope.
Storms make
people stronger
and never
last forever."*

Martin Luther King, Jr.



Taft College Mission, Vision, and Values

Mission

Taft College is committed to creating a community of learners by enriching the lives of all students we serve through career technical education, transfer programs, foundational programs, and student support services. Taft College provides an equitable learning environment defined by applied knowledge leading to students' achievement of their educational goals.

Vision

Taft College instills a passion for learning, leading to success for all.

Values

- Students and their success
- A learning community with teaching excellence
- An environment conducive to learning, fairness, dialogue, and continuous improvement
- A communicative, collaborative, collegial, and respectful culture
- A partnership of students, faculty, support services, and community
- Innovation, diversity, creativity, and critical thinking
- Academic, financial, personal, and professional integrity
- A transparent, accessible, participative governance structure

Never lose hope.

Taft College Board of Trustees



Dawn Cole
President



Michael Long
Secretary



Carlos Chavira
Trustee



Billy White
Trustee



Dr. Kathy Orrin
Trustee

*"Regardless of the
obstacles they face,
Taft College students
succeed with the help
of reputable faculty
and committed staff.
We have 100 years of
evidence to prove it."*

Dawn Cole
President, Board of Trustees,
Taft College

2021-22 Associated Student Organization



Faith Angeles
2021-22 ASO President



Angelissa Garza
2021-22 ASO
Vice President,
Region 6 Vice Chair



Zachery Carter
2021-22 ASO
Secretary/Treasurer



Waleed Harb
2021-22 ASO
Social Media and
Publicity Officer



Miles Bassett-Graves
2021-22 ASO
Interclub Commissioner



Priscilla Pyun
2021-22 ASO
Director



Marco Martinez
2021-22 ASO
Regional Affairs Director,
Region 6



Desirae Salas
2021-22 ASO
Student Trustee



Faith Angeles
2021-22 ASO President

Stories of Student Equity and Success

“Your circumstances don’t define you. Make a change and stand up.”

Desirae Salas characterizes her childhood as one of survival. Raised by a single mother since Desirae was a year old, she recalls only eating peanut butter often. When her mother’s employment stabilized, and their lives had improved, Desirae’s 16-year-old sister died in a car crash. The trauma of this loss caused Desirae and her mother to spiral backwards. Pregnant at 24, Desirae became a single mother to her son. Now married with two children, she and her husband provide a stable life for their family. At Taft College, Desirae serves as 2021-22 ASO Student Trustee and is grateful to have the right mentors guiding her to where she needs to be.

“I am so glad to have leadership skills that I would not otherwise have.”

Faith Angeles is lucky to be alive. Faith did not plan to attend college, but after recovering from a bad accident and being denied entry into the U.S. Navy due to physical concerns, she enrolled at Taft College. In her first year, the pandemic hit and forced all classes online. But, she stuck with her studies. In her second year, her outlook improved when instruction shifted to a hybrid model of in person and online. She decided to run for ASO President and was surprised by her win! She credits ASO for providing her with a family and home away from home. Energized by a purpose, she and the other ASO Board Officers work together to make transparent decisions that directly impact fellow students. She tells others to find people who feel like family for support. Faith has proudly earned her confidence and found her voice.

Find the right mentor.

Stories of Student Equity and Success

continued



Waleed Harb
2021-22 ASO
Social Media and Publicity Officer

“A shot in the dark, my becoming a Cougar was ultimately a bulls-eye.”

Waleed Harb bears a lot of responsibility as head of household. Not able to go too far away, he found Taft College to be both close and far enough to allow him to complete his credits. At Taft College, students work together because the success of one student means the success of all students. He finds it comforting here, has never had to wait for any services, calls it close knit, and is treated like an adult, not just a number. He is grateful for all the additional resources! Waleed is certain that Taft College has changed his life for the better. On his way to becoming a pediatric oncologist, he is highly determined to profoundly impact the health and lives of people around the globe.



Marco Martinez
2021-22 ASO
Regional Affairs Director,
Region 6

“I started over at Taft College. I proudly represent 250,000 students.”

Marco Martinez never intended to go to a community college. He applied to all UC schools and got rejected from every one of them. Feeling not good enough, Marco immediately wanted to turn this adverse situation into a positive one. He came to Taft College, a decision he calls the best choice he could have ever made. Taft College will help him transfer to the UC school of his choice. In addition, he got more involved with ASO, added many résumé boosting experiences, and looks to contribute something bigger than himself. As a Regional Affairs Director in the California Community Colleges system, Marco represents 250,000 students from nine community colleges, the first-ever student to represent Taft College statewide. This spring, he will serve as President in the National Society of Leadership and Success (NSLS).

Don't ever give up the fight.

Stories of Community Connections



Jamie Swetalla
External Affairs Specialist,
Aera Energy LLC

“Aera Energy is committed to help Taft College students reach their goals.”

“For over 10 years, Aera Energy has been proud to partner with Taft College. Aera is committed to building stronger communities where it operates and supports the education of future generations through donations, scholarships, and internships. My job is to help Aera build crucial community partnerships, but my connection to Taft College is personal. If it were not for Taft College, I would not have my bachelor’s degree, nor would I be in a master’s degree program at Arizona State University. I’ve enjoyed seeing Taft College grow and witnessing other students change their lives. I chose to serve on the Taft College Foundation Board to give back to the college that has given me so much.”



Max Goossen
Vice President and Chief Operating Officer,
Westside Waste Management Company, Inc.

“I want to help Taft College students find a successful way forward.”

“Westside Waste Management has a long history of supporting the Taft community, including Taft College. My Granddad, Bob Hampton, taught me that education is a vital component to this community’s development and success, and that we are lucky to have such a high-quality learning center here in Taft. As a Taft College Alumnus, I am following in my Granddad’s footsteps on the Taft College Board. Westside Waste Management takes great pride in partnering with Taft College to promote a clean, green, and safe community through continuous innovation, hard work, and community involvement.”

“Through the Taft College Foundation, Aera Energy and Westside Waste Management provide generous funds to better impact our students’ lives. We cannot thank them enough.”

Dr. Debra S. Daniels,
Superintendent/President, Taft College

Stories of Community Connections

continued



TIL Program student, Whitten (right) and Taft District Chamber of Commerce Coordinator, Chelsi Perry (left)



Jason M. Hodgson, Ed.D.
Superintendent,
Taft Union High School District



"Heartfelt thanks to the Taft District Chamber of Commerce for hiring students from our Transition to Independent Living (TIL) Program. Employment is key to their learning how to live independently."

Taft Union High School District Superintendent, Dr. Jason Hodgson works tirelessly to ready local high school students for dual enrollment coursework at Taft College."

Dr. Debra S. Daniels
Superintendent/President,
Taft College

Distinguished Contributor and Alumnus



Stanley and Madalyn Hutchison
Distinguished Contributors

Distinguished Contributors: Stanley and Madalyn Hutchison

At Taft College in 2018, Madalyn Hutchison established the Stanley and Madalyn Hutchison Engineering Promise in memory of Stanley Hutchison, her husband of 38 years. Created to honor Stanley's dedicated work ethic, the scholarship is meant to help students, especially veterans, in the Taft College Engineering Program, designed to be equivalent to the first two years of a baccalaureate degree in engineering. Each scholarship is a renewable award, created to fill students' funding gaps. These funds allow students to transfer out debt-free into an Engineering Discipline in the CSU, UC, or other system where they can fulfill all requirements to earn their desired B.S. degree.

Distinguished Alumnus: Don Zumbro

Inducted into the first Taft College Hall of Fame Class in 2015, Don Zumbro had served as Taft College Dean of Student Services for 20 years, been a member of the Rotary Club of Taft for 35 years, and joined the Taft College Foundation Board where he became its Vice President. Don excelled in both academics and athletics at Taft College, graduating in 1954. After graduation, he transferred to the University of the Pacific. He began his teaching career in Taft at Roosevelt School in 1956. He moved to Lincoln Junior High School where he ultimately held the position of Principal for 10 years. Don made an indelible mark as Taft College Dean of Student Services, leading with fairness, compassion, toughness, and integrity. He always expected best efforts from students, faculty, and staff. He still does!



Don Zumbro
Distinguished Alumnus

Hard work pays off.

"In August of 2021, the doors to our brand new Student Center opened to warmly welcome our students safely back to campus. This new facility is nothing short of a game-changer for our students and this community. It was well worth the wait!"

Dawn Cole
President, Board of Trustees,
Taft College

New Student Center Gets Rave Reviews



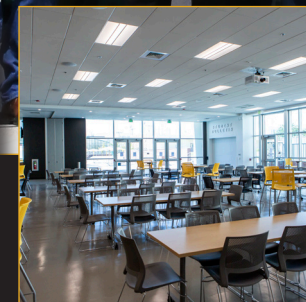
South Patio



Wildcat Way Entrance



ASO Meeting Area



Dining Hall



Taft College Bookstore

New Student Center Gets Rave Reviews

continued



South Facade Opens to Quad



East Facade on Wildcat Way



"With the completion of our new Student Center, we have significantly upgraded the Taft College student experience. In addition, all community members are welcome to stop by for a visit, grab a delicious bite to eat in the Cougar Café, and shop in our beautiful Taft College Bookstore. This extra large facility opened right on time for our Centennial Celebration in 2022!"

Dr. Debra S. Daniels
Superintendent/President,
Taft College



Celebrating Students' Accomplishments

"We were quite thrilled to safely welcome our graduates and their families back for an in-person commencement ceremony in 2021. We honored 615 graduates who completed their educational goals despite the ongoing challenges created by the global pandemic."

Dr. Debra S. Daniels
Superintendent/President,
Taft College



Celebrating Students' Accomplishments

continued

Phi Theta Kappa

Established nationally in 1918, Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) serves to recognize and encourage the achievement of two-year college students. In Summer 2020, Fall 2020, and Spring 2021, Taft College recognized 41 PTK Graduates:

Stephanie Aldrete
Krystal Aparicio
Fabiola Bermudez
Malissa Cartwright
Edgar Ceja Aguirre
Silverio Cerda
Maria Cervantes Becerra
Alondra Cisneros
Charmaine De Castro
Lindsay Duarte
Kayla England
Alexis Flores
Jessica Ghata
Dorah Herrera
Maria Jackson

Tara L. James
Mason Jones
Madison Jordan
Lyndsey Kallenberger
Jennifer L. Kinsella
Arthur Lehman
Rebecca Long
Miralda Marsh
Natalie Martin
Amber Mears
Isaias Mireles
Alexandra Moscott Ruiz
Isabelle Olejnik
Daisy Ortega
Lauren Pau-De Santos

Aaron Peltier
Briana Ramirez Araunjo
Madison Rascoe
Alan Rodriguez
Shannon Scott
Sarah Skeels
Cherise Strong
Joshua Vazquez
Hector Velez
Athanasios Vlahos
Mckenlee Wescott

We live for this moment!

“Paving the path forward for our students in need, the Taft College Foundation awarded \$41,750 in scholarships to 38 students for the 2020-21 academic year.”

Dr. Debra S. Daniels
Superintendent/President,
Taft College

Taft College Foundation



Taft College Foundation Governing Board

Kirk Hessler, President
Robert Duchow, Vice President
Brock McMurray, Chief Financial Officer
Cathy Bennett, Secretary

Taft College Foundation Board of Directors

Janice Ashley, Nurse Practitioner
Jasmeet Bains, M.D., Physician, Bakersfield Recovery Center
Cathy Bennett, Attorney, Klein DeNatale Goldner
Patty Canessa, Public Affairs Manager, Chevron
Richard Chapman, President, KEDC
Don Clark, Retired News Anchor
Les Clark Jr., Owner, Independent Oil Production Alliance
Carole Cohen, Retired Educator
Dr. Deb Daniels, Superintendent/President, Taft College
Robert Duchow, Public Affairs Manager, SoCalGas
Jim Fiscus, Retired Auto Sales Manager
Penelope Fulton, Retired Financial Manager
Gabriela Gonzales, External Affairs, California Resources Corporation
Max Goossen, Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, Westside Waste Management
Kirk Hessler, Retired Vice President, Citizens Business Bank
Dr. Sheri Horn-Bunk, Executive Director, Foundation and Institutional Advancement, Taft College Foundation

Taft College Foundation Staff

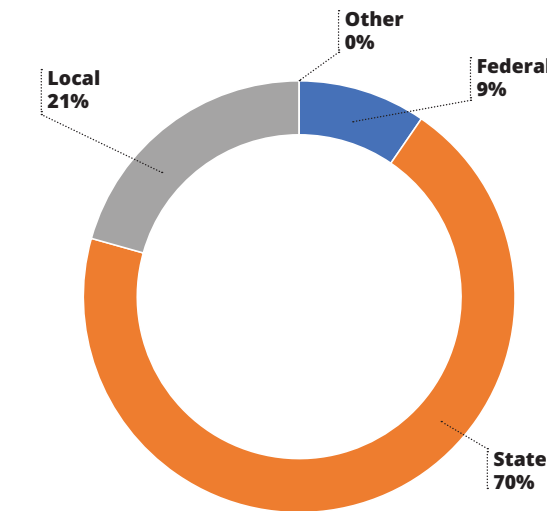
Dr. Sheri Horn-Bunk, Executive Director, Foundation and Institutional Advancement
Mahea Maui, Development Associate

Elizabeth Howard, Co-Owner, Howard Financial and Wealth Management
Nate Jones, Operations Manager, Baker Hughes, a GE Company
Dr. Loretta Lipscomb, Retired Vice President of Instruction, Taft College
Jamie Little, Community Relations Specialist, Synagro
Roland Maier, Executive Director, First 5 Kern
Jason Marshall, Director of Strategic Partnerships and Alliances, Berry Corporation
Brock McMurray, Executive Vice President, Administrative Services, Taft College
Suzanne Noble, Vice President, Production Regions and Sacramento Affairs, WSPA
Bill Phillimore, Phillimore Consulting
Rusty Risi, President, General Production Service, Inc.
Ray Scott, Administrator, Price Disposal
Jamie Swetalla, External Affairs Specialist-South Kern, Aera Energy LLC
Kal Vaughn, Owner, West Coast Construction and Mechanical

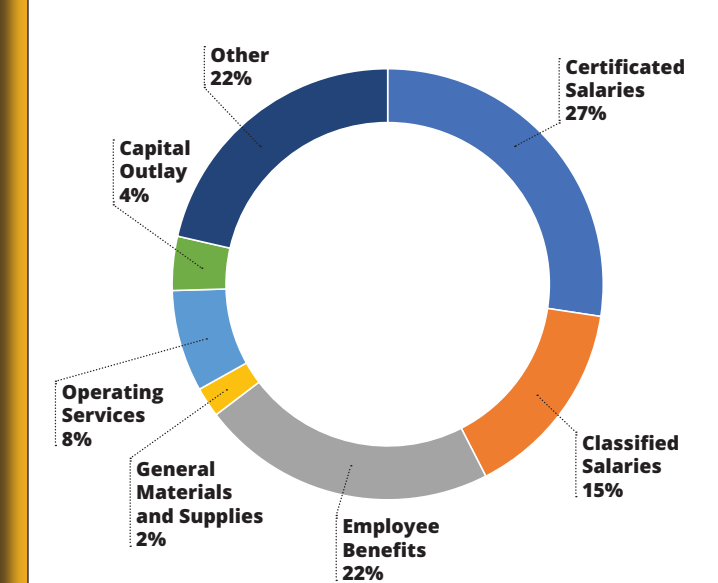
West Kern Community College District operates under a conservative budgeting model that supports fiscal responsibility while providing a strong financial commitment to the college's teaching and learning foci. For fiscal year 2021, the college again received an unmodified audit opinion from its external auditing firm. This confirms the accuracy, professional competence, and transparency exhibited by the college's financial reporting. The college's financial position continues to remain strong. The charts on this page reflect the actual results of the college for the general operating funds, which consist of the Unrestricted General Fund and the Restricted General Fund.

Fiscal Year 2021 Financials

Fiscal Year 2021 Operating Revenues By Source



Fiscal Year 2021 Operating Expenses By Source



Operating Revenues for the years ended June 30 (in millions)

Operating Revenues	2019	2020	2021
Federal	\$ 6.56	\$ 0.47	\$ 4.14
State	27.34	27.91	30.18
Local	8.46	8.83	8.93
Other	0.41	-	-
	\$ 42.77	\$ 37.21	\$ 43.25

Operating Expenses for the years ended June 30 (in millions)

Operating Expenses	2019	2020	2021
Certificated Salaries	\$ 10.45	\$ 11.07	\$ 10.87
Classified Salaries	5.59	6.54	5.99
Employee Benefits	9.07	9.06	8.80
General Material and Supplies	0.53	0.49	0.90
Operating Services	4.10	3.79	3.03
Capital Outlay	0.73	0.62	1.61
Other	11.41	2.12	8.50
	\$ 41.88	\$ 33.69	\$ 39.69

Transforming the Community of Taft by the Numbers*

In 2017-18, Taft College contributed
\$42.9 million
to Western Kern County's Economy.

Taft College will
celebrate
100 years
of student
success in 2022.

As a result of their Taft College education,
2018 graduates will receive
\$114 million
in higher earnings over their working lives.

Award-winning
Dental Hygiene
Program

Taft College
supports
**one out of
every 28**
Regional Jobs.

In 2019, we paid
over \$500,000
to local businesses
for their services.

In 2018, Taft College
contributed
the equivalent of
2.4%
of the Gross Regional
Product (GRP).

Our Taft College Promise Program
offers all Taft Union High School
and Maricopa High School students
two years free.

For every \$1.00 that students
invest in Taft College, they
will receive \$5.10 in higher
future earnings, generating a
17.3% rate of return.

Taft College generates
more tax revenue
for state and local government
than it takes.

*Emsi Impact Report on the Economic Value of Taft College, 2017-18

Come Celebrate Our Centennial with Us!



TAFT COLLEGE HAS AN IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT!

Former offensive line coach for the New England Patriots and Taft College alumnus,
**Dante Scarnecchia is our Special Guest at the
Taft College Centennial Celebration Gala on March 26, 2022!**

Taft Oildorado 2021
Grand Parade
on October 16—
First Place
Walking Group WINNER!

Taft Christmas
Parade 2021 on
December 13—
Second Place
Group WINNER!

Taft College
Centennial
Coffee Table Book
Presentation

Taft College
Centennial
Community Service
Partnership
Opportunities

**Taft College Centennial
Community Breakfast on
January 27, 2022**

**Coach and Taft College Alumnus
Dante Scarnecchia
Headlines Taft College
Centennial Celebration Gala on
March 26, 2022!**

**Taft College Centennial
Birthday Party
and Family BBQ
on August 19, 2022***

NOTE: All photos of Dante Scarnecchia appear courtesy of the New England Patriots. *These dates are still tentative at press time.

For more information about these events, please call (661) 763-7711.

It's Your Turn Now. You Belong Here!



***Building resilience
to adversity happens
one day at a time.***

Apply online today.

***Call us at (661) 763-7748 or
visit us at www.taftcollege.edu***

***In partnership with the Community of Taft,
Taft College celebrates 100 years of student
success in 2022!***

**Taft College
29 Cougar Court
Taft, California 93268**

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We are your community college.

