RESOLUTION 2024-05 RECOGNIZING THE MONTH OF APRIL AS VENTURA COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE MONTH

WHEREAS, the more than thirteen hundred community and technical colleges, public and private, in the United States have contributed enormously to the richness and accessibility of American higher education, nearly half of all undergraduate college students in the Nation today are enrolled in community colleges; and

WHEREAS, the Aspen Institute has again named Moorpark, Oxnard, and Ventura Colleges among the 150 institutions eligible to compete for the esteemed 2025 Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence, the nation's signature recognition of high achievement and performance for two-year colleges; and

WHEREAS, Moorpark College has been named a 2023 Champion of Higher Education for Excellence in Transfer by The Campaign for College Opportunity; and

WHEREAS, Oxnard College has been recognized by Metallica's foundation, *All Within My Hands*, and the American Association of Community Colleges, being awarded a \$100,000 grant to help provide technical instruments, tools, and safety gear to over 100 students from the College's Culinary Arts, Dental Hygiene, and Fire Academy programs; and

WHEREAS, Ventura College has been acknowledged as a Top 10 Bellwether Award College in both 2022 and 2024, demonstrating excellence in areas such as ESL programs and support for the Colleges Basic Needs Center; and

WHEREAS, the Community Colleges of Ventura County are now launching applied baccalaureate degree programs, meeting the specific workforce needs of the Ventura County community; and

WHEREAS, the Community Colleges of Ventura County create hope and opportunity for over 40,000 students each year, significantly impacting the futures of our students and their families.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved we, the Board of Trustees of the Ventura County Community College, hereby recognizes the month of April as Ventura County Community College Month. In doing so, we honor and commend the significance of Moorpark, Oxnard, and Ventura Colleges in enriching and empowering our local community.

Adopted this 16 th day of April 2024.	
Bernardo M. Perez, Board Chair	Rick MacLennan, Ed.D., Chancellor