Dear Friend:

I am writing about something that is critically important to us all – the future of our local economy.

Victor Valley College is the primary source for training local firefighters, police officers, nurses and emergency response personnel who care for our families and so many other workers and professionals in local industries, business and public agencies.

To properly train students for jobs today and in the future, our Board of Trustees unanimously placed Measure JJ, the Victor Valley College Public Safety & Healthcare Job Training Measure, on the November 4, 2008 ballot.

To learn more about our upcoming efforts, please take a moment to review the following information. Don’t hesitate to contact me at (760) 245-4271 ext. 2701 with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,
Robert M. Silverman
Superintendent / President

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Excerpted from August 1, 2008 District Division Chief Art Bishop said he expects to be the biggest emergency services training center in Southern California. "This has been my dream and our need here in Victor Valley to open a regional training center. This is going to be a training center like none in Southern California," said Apple Valley Fire District Division Chief Art Bishop. "It's so critical to get this issue on the ballot in November."...

President Robert Silverman said the bond is crucial to the future success of not only the college, but also the economic welfare of the High Desert community.

"This is a college that is over 40 years old, and we have not had the proper amount of maintenance money and expansion money to keep up with our growth," Silverman said. "We have to do everything we can to train a workforce to support the future of our community, and that's why we're here to do our part with our community. We want to do our best to make sure that we have enough money and expansion money to keep up with the demand."...

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Among the new facilities the bond would support is a new workforce center in Hesperia. This is expected to decrease traffic congestion on Bear Valley Road and train more students in healthcare and hospitality.

The bond would also fund a public safety training facility in Apple Valley, which Apple Valley Fire District Division Chief Art Bishop said he expects to be the biggest emergency services training center in Southern California. "This has been my dream and our need here in Victor Valley to open a regional training center. This is going to be a training center like none in Southern California," said Apple Valley Fire District Division Chief Art Bishop. "It's so critical to get this issue on the ballot in November."

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By NATASHA LINDSTROM

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Information About Victor Valley College’s Public Safety & Healthcare Job Training Measure

Victor Valley College’s Public Safety & Healthcare Job Training Measure js the establishment of a Workforce Development Center on the District’s west side that will:

• Bring education closer to students in Adelanto, Hesperia, Phelan and Victorville.
• Expand training for healthcare professionals such as registered nurses, certified nursing assistants, respiratory therapists, lab technicians, medical transcriptionists and pharmacy technicians.
• Support new training programs for jobs with logistics, transportation and warehousing businesses.
• Enhance training for careers in the growing business, hospitality, hotel management, food service, and tourism industries.
• Offer more general education classes in math, science, English and technology for high demand university transfer programs.

Victor Valley College Campus Upgrades

Measure JJ upgrades the aging Victor Valley College campus, maximizing job training and general education programs for the growing student population.

• Expands and equips science buildings for more classes in high demand science programs.
• Replaces the oldest most-outdated buildings with modern classroom facilities.
• Improves energy efficiency in older campus buildings with new green technologies.
• Improves and enhances science programs by more course in high demand science programs.
• Provides students with access to dual-enrollment and general education programs.
• Measured improvements the in the Victor Valley College campus.

Workforce Development Job Training Center

Public Safety Job Training Center

Victor Valley College’s Public Safety Job Training Center on donated land in Apple Valley will:

• Train new firefighters, police officers, paramedics and emergency medical technicians.
• Expand opportunities to upgrade skills for existing public safety professionals.
• Hold live drills in firefighting, police pursuits and disaster response.
• Support new training programs for jobs with logistics, transportation, and warehousing businesses.

Your college has been listening to you and planning for the future based on your input. If voters approve Measure JJ, the Victor Valley College Public Safety, Healthcare and Job Training Measure on November 4, 2008, the college will:

1. Build a Workforce Development Campus on the Westside of the Valley
2. Create a Public Safety Training Center in Apple Valley.
3. Repair & enhance the aging Victor Valley College campus in Victorville.
4. Retire loans for previous campus improvements, making more money available for instruction of today’s students.

Campus Improvements that Serve Students Today

• Releases at least $3 million annually from the general fund to support current job training, general education programs, and on-going campus maintenance.
• More than 20 campus buildings used by Victor Valley College student today have been added, expanded, improved or maintained with these funds.
• No local general obligation bonds have been available for more than 40 years to help Victor Valley College grow with our community.

As is common practice for colleges across the state, Measure JJ also repays loans for previous campus improvements.

3. Apple Valley’s new Public Safety Training Center.
2. Create a Public Safety Training Center in Apple Valley.
1. Build a Workforce Development Campus on the Westside of the Valley.

Today’s students are the future leaders of our community. Measure JJ is a long-term, forward-thinking plan to improve Victor Valley College’s campus facilities, enhance student learning opportunities, and ensure Victor Valley College will be able to meet the needs of today’s students and tomorrow’s leaders.

Victor Valley College is proud to partner with the Victor Valley Community College District to bring Measure JJ to the voters. Together, we believe this is the best way to ensure that Victor Valley College will be able to provide the high-quality education and training that our community needs today and for generations to come.

Today, Victor Valley College is working to ensure that our students have access to the education and training they need to succeed in today’s competitive job market. Measure JJ is a critical investment in our future, and we ask you to join us in supporting this important initiative.

Vote Yes on Measure JJ – Victor Valley College’s Public Safety, Healthcare and Job Training Measure – to ensure that our students have the education and training they need to succeed in today’s competitive job market.

Learn more about Measure JJ at victorvalleycollege.edu/measure jj.