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## District Goal 2 - High Quality Practice/Excellence

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VVC will continue to develop and implement high-impact, student-centered practices, showcasing VVC's dynamic, diverse, and highly trained workforce, to promote equitable, innovative, and evidence-based best practices across all campus operations. VVC will continuously demonstrate the quality of its programs by conducting ongoing and systematic improvements using research, assessment, and the professional expertise of its workforce members.

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## District Goal 3 - Institutional Learning

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VVC will transform its environment through its investments in a culture of inquiry that emphasizes engaged and collaborative learning through action research. Such powerful scholarship across campus will inspire meaningful contributions to the workforce and local community to create world class innovative teaching and student service practices. In turn, VVC will empower a new generation of lifelong learners with multi-cultural and global competencies.

# Unprecedented Times, Unlimited Possibilities

During the development of this plan, the college faced unprecedented conditions and challenges. First, the global COVID-19 pandemic resulted in the closure of college campuses throughout the U.S. and the conversion to remote teaching, learning, support services, and employee work arrangements. In addition to the accelerated shift to online teaching and operations, the pandemic shined a light on substantial structural and societal inequities limiting student success such as access to technology, high-speed Internet service, and a quiet place to study. The pandemic also had swift and significant impacts on industries, businesses, and occupations, many that VVC programs educate and train individuals for.

Simultaneously during this time, the U.S. was experiencing a significant equity and social justice awakening in response to several tragic incidents that fueled nationwide protests lasting months on end. Therefore, now more than ever, higher education—an essential vehicle for social and economic mobility—will be at the center of transformative and lasting change to promote equity.

Changes, resulting from these two significant situations, will occur and have a lasting impact and, as a result, a “new normal” is beginning to emerge. While it is too soon and too much is still unknown to be able to adequately address the new normal in this plan, some implications have been included herein.

Moreover, even prior to these unprecedented times, higher education was facing an impending era of fundamental change (refer to environmental scan findings) due to exponential growth of new technologies, increasing postsecondary education alternatives and competition, the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Industrial Revolutions, and demographic and societal changes.

At this moment of unprecedented times, VVC recognizes unlimited possibilities and through this plan seeks to become an adaptive, exceptional institution that can respond to any situation to achieve the best possible and equitable outcomes.

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