
DISTRICT OVERVIEW AND HISTORY

A STORY OF CHANGE

Over the past few years, Gavilan College has undergone an enormous amount of organizational change. In 2016 the Superintendent / President of 13 years retired, and the new President, Dr. Kathleen Rose took the helm, ushering a new era for the District. Over this time period the college has seen a change throughout leadership, as long-time employees retired. A comprehensive classification and compensation study was completed, and the management structure was reorganized, adding two Associate Vice Presidents and discontinuing several Director Positions. Multiple business processes were updated, from purchasing to printing.

These three years can be thought of as:

- 2016-2017: Year of Renaissance
- 2017-2018: Year of Practice
- 2018-2019: Year of Service

The College has become more visible in the community, with the implementation of Fall Coffee and Conversations, Spring High School Education Forums, a monthly newsletter from the President, and regular Presidential Podcasts.

Some changes had begun earlier, but came to fruition during this period: for example, the transition to a Sheriff's Deputy on campus rather than only in-house security, and the completion of Phase I construction and the subsequent start of classes at the Coyote Valley Center. Facilities improvements paid for by the 2004 Measure E facilities bond were completed in 2018, as was the habitat work needed to develop a new instructional site in San Benito County, with land also paid for by Measure E.

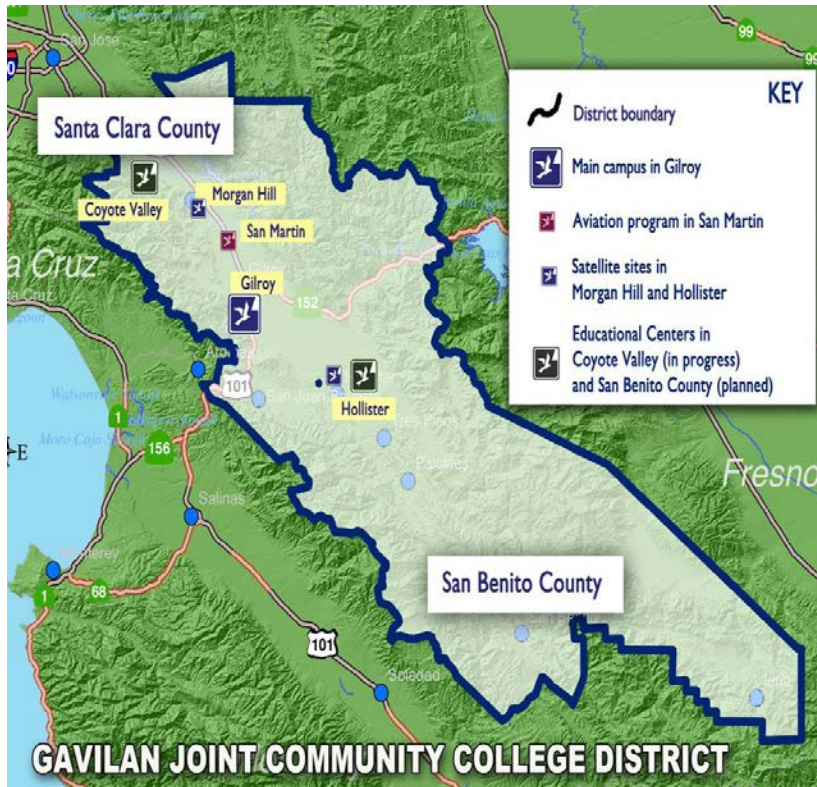
In 2016-2017, the Year of Renaissance, Gavilan produced a new Educational Master Plan and then in 2017-2018, the Year of Practice, a new Facilities Master Plan and Gavilan College Organization and Governance Handbook. The Strategic Plan was revised and refined to six goals and the focus turned to integrated planning efforts across the College.

In 2018-2019, the Year of Service, Gavilan is taking a hard look at Policies and Procedures, and those planning items that flow from the Educational and Facilities Master Plans. Conversations to update the Mission Statement, and the Technology Master Plans, as well as rebuilding the program review, are in process.

At the completion of this ISER, Gavilan is in the midst, rather than at the end, of several change processes. By the time the team visits in the Spring, some of these will be complete, and others be starting again. It is a reminder of the ongoing nature of the work: the interrelated cycles of planning, implementation, and review, and improvement that characterize the life of Gavilan College.

Gavilan College was originally established in 1919 as San Benito County Junior College, with instruction offered at Hollister High School. It operated under this title until 1963, when a new community college district was drawn that included both San Benito and southern Santa Clara Counties. Three high school districts- San Benito, Gilroy Unified, and Morgan Hill Unified districts came together to create the Gavilan Joint Community College District.

FIGURE 1: DISTRICT BOUNDARIES



Successful passage of a local bond in 1966 provided the needed funds to construct the present, more centrally located campus at Santa Teresa Boulevard in Gilroy. College classes were offered in a temporary location at the Hollister Airport while the first facilities on the 170-acre parcel were being constructed. The Gilroy campus added buildings over time through state funding, with the final new building constructed in 2003.

In 1997 and 1998, satellite sites were established in Hollister and Morgan Hill to augment the offerings at the main campus location in Gilroy. With the 2004 passage of the Measure E facilities bond, Gavilan College had funds to upgrade the existing campus and secure permanent

locations in Coyote Valley and San Benito County. These land purchases were completed in 2008. Measure E Bond funds also were used to make improvements in institutional and classroom technology, expanded online services, and improvements in safety, accessibility, and lighting.

Gavilan College currently provides instruction at five locations, they are (alphabetically):

1. Coyote Valley Center - 530 Bailey Avenue, San Jose, CA 95141
2. Gilroy Main Campus - 5055 Santa Teresa Blvd, Gilroy, CA 95020
3. Hollister Satellite Site - Briggs Building, 365 4th Street, Hollister, CA 95023
4. Morgan Hill Satellite Site - Morgan Hill Community and Cultural Center, 17060 Monterey Road, Morgan Hill, CA 95037
5. San Martin Aviation Site - San Martin Airport, 13030 Murphy Avenue, San Martin, CA 95046

The official Gavilan Community College District boundaries cover 2,700 square miles of land located in the southern portion of Santa Clara County and most of San Benito County. The main campus of the College is in the City of Gilroy, along highway US 101, approximately 86 miles from downtown San Francisco and 37 miles from downtown San Jose. The western border of the official Gavilan College District area is the Santa Cruz and Monterey County lines. The Merced and Fresno County lines in the east are the ends of the District area and Monterey and Fresno County lines define the southern border. The three principal cities of the official District service area where most population resides are Gilroy, Morgan Hill, and Hollister.

Based upon an analysis of residential zip codes reported by enrolled students over the last five fall terms (2011 to 2015), the effective service area for Gavilan College encompasses 11 cities. Seventy-five percent of the student headcount comes from zip codes that are inside the official District area.