

Hello. I'm Brenda Hellyer and I am honored to be the Chancellor of San Jacinto College. **It is a great job and a wonderful institution!!**

Thank you for lending your expertise to instruct our students and welcome to the San Jacinto College community!

Your role as a part-time faculty member is **crucial** to us in accomplishing our College mission. Through our mission, we are focused on ensuring student success, creating seamless transitions, and enriching the quality of life in the communities we serve.

As a member of our faculty team, we value the **excellence** you bring from your professional, educational, and life experiences. Our students need you. They are anxious to learn. Be sure to connect with them. Learn their names, challenge them, and encourage them.

San Jacinto College was created in 1960 and we have a reputation of excellence and a rich history of serving our community. We continue to build on our **fundamental strengths** with the vision of being the leader in educational excellence and in the achievement of equity among diverse populations. We will empower students to achieve their goals, redefine their expectations, and encourage their exploration of new opportunities. Our passions are people, learning, innovation, and continuous improvement.

Let me highlight our four College goals, which helps us stay attentive on achieving our vision:

1. First, Student Success: We are **focused on student success** and we have the **capacity to respond to the multiple needs of our students and create an environment where they can be successful**. Student success starts with students completing what they started whether that is a class or a semester. Ultimately, students need to complete a credential in the form of certificates or degrees.
2. Second is our P-16 Pipeline: We are **committed to access by developing a strong Pre K –Grade 16 pipeline**. We know that San Jacinto College is the **point of entry for a large portion of the population in this region**. We are

committed to developing relationships with our school district partners to create seamless transitions for students from secondary education to associate degrees, and to bachelor and master degrees.

3. Our third goal is workforce and economic development. We are focused on the **community we serve through providing strong workforce and economic development programs**. We play an incredibly important role in the **social and economic health** of the greater Houston region. This is reflected in our academic and technical programs and through our workforce development activities and industry partnerships. These programs and partnerships require that we listen and be responsive to changing needs and requirements.
4. Our fourth goal is our people. We care about **our people**. We know the excellence of this college begins and ends with excellence in our people. We are committed to recruiting, developing, and retaining quality and diverse employees who are passionate about our educational mission.

As I reflect on the changes taking place in education, across Texas and the nation, we are focusing our efforts as never before on the completion agenda and student success. The challenge before us is ...

to take all the good things that have happened in our past,

know our capabilities,

recognize our limitations,

understand the parts that may have outlived their utility,

identify opportunities,

and find ways to overcome, excel, and then put it all together in order to **continue to be the LEADER, the pacesetter**.

At San Jacinto College, **we** are a college that has **never settled for mediocrity**; rather we have **focused on excellence**.

Not only must we attract more students to dream of a postsecondary education, but we must focus as never before-on students achieving that dream.

I encourage you to take advantage of the **many resources** that are available to you at the college including: other faculty members in your field and outside of your field, our Educational Technology department, and our Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning. This Center offers a full array of professional development to help you grow as a faculty member.

In closing, I would like to leave you with this quote from the former UK Prime Minister -- Benjamin Disraeli

“The greatest good you can do for another is not just to share your riches but to reveal to him his own.”

As part of the faculty at San Jacinto College, I encourage you to **share your life experiences in the classroom** and to **empower your students to discover the power of education in reaching their goals.**

Our employees are the heartbeat of this college. You – as a faculty member -- are part of the human capital of San Jacinto College and the **future of education.**

Thank you for joining our faculty team and offering your talent to provide a quality education in today’s rapidly changing society.

Have a **great semester** and I look forward to hearing about the **difference you are making in the lives in of our students.**