

ITEM #23  
09/23/2025

**From:** Melissa Ferry <melissa.ferry@scccd.edu>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 11, 2025 8:05 AM  
**To:** Clerk/BOS  
**Cc:** Carole Goldsmith; Lauren Lowe; Melissa Ferry  
**Subject:** Foster Youth DREAM Center  
**Attachments:** Foster Youth DREAM Center 09-11-25.pdf

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Report Suspicious

Good morning,

Please see the attached letter from Chancellor Goldsmith.

Thank you,

*Melissa Ferry*

Executive Assistant to the Chancellor

STATE CENTER COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

Direct Line: (559) 243-7102 | District Line: (559) 243-7100

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## State Center Community College District

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1171 Fulton • Fresno, California 93721 • (559) 243-7100 • [www.scccd.edu](http://www.scccd.edu)

September 11, 2025

Dear Fresno County Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to express my strong support for the establishment of the Foster Youth DREAM Center to be located at Campus Pointe on the campus of Fresno State. This Center will serve as a vital resource for foster youth in our region, providing a safe, supportive, and empowering environment where foster youth can pursue their educational and personal goals.

As you know, foster youth face disproportionate challenges in accessing higher education, maintaining stable housing, and achieving financial independence. The Center will help bridge these gaps by offering comprehensive services such as academic advising, mental health support, career readiness, mentoring, life skills, and access to basic needs like food and housing assistance. By locating the center at Campus Pointe, we will ensure it is highly visible, accessible, and integrated with the broader university and community resources.

By offering academic advising, mental health services, career mentoring, and basic-needs support (including housing assistance and resource kits), the DREAM Center will directly address the persistent and documented gaps that hinder foster youth from succeeding in education and life.

The Foster Youth DREAM Center is not only about providing services—it is about creating opportunities. It represents a promise that every young person, regardless of background, has the support necessary to thrive. Investing in this Center is an investment in the future of our community, ensuring that foster youth have the tools and encouragement to graduate, build meaningful careers, and contribute back to society.

The establishment of this Foster Youth DREAM Center is an equity imperative for the Central Valley region. I urge you to champion legislative efforts to secure resources and infrastructure for this essential regional resource center as there is no comparable center in the entire United States.

We respectfully ask for your leadership and support to make this vision a reality. With your support, we can ensure that foster youth in our community receive the support and resources they deserve.

Thank you for your steadfast commitment to ensuring that foster youth have every opportunity to thrive and succeed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Carole Goldsmith".

Dr. Carole Goldsmith  
Chancellor

State Center Community College District

ITEM #23  
09/23/2025

**From:** John Ellis <John.Ellis@fresno.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 11, 2025 1:40 PM  
**To:** Clerk/BOS  
**Subject:** Support Letter from Mayor Dyer on the Foster Youth Dream Center proposal  
**Attachments:** 09-11-2025 Foster Youth DREAM Center at Campus Pointe Support Letter (DYER).pdf

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Report Suspicious

Hi Bernice,

It's John Ellis. Hope you're well. Not sure we've talked much since I left the Bee, which is now almost 9 years ago. How time flies!

Could you please see that each of the Supervisors gets a copy of this letter from Mayor Dyer on the Foster Youth Dream Center and then include it in any board materials when this comes up on the agenda.

Let me know if you need anything else from me.

John

John Ellis  
Government Affairs Manager  
Office of Mayor Jerry Dyer  
  
O: 559.621.7902  
C: 559.392.0604  
[John.Ellis@fresno.gov](mailto:John.Ellis@fresno.gov)



**JERRY P. DYER**  
MAYOR

September 11, 2025

Buddy Mendes  
Chairman  
Fresno County Board of Supervisors  
2281 Tulare, Room #301  
Fresno, CA 93721

**Re: Foster Youth DREAM Center @ Campus Pointe**

Dear Chairman Mendes and Fresno County Board of Supervisors:

As the City of Fresno's (City) Mayor, I am writing in support of the Foster Youth DREAM Center @ Campus Pointe (Center), a proposed 40,000-square-foot, three-story facility that would integrate academic, emotional, housing, legal, and health services under one roof, creating a unique, comprehensive program that will help young people as they transition into independence.

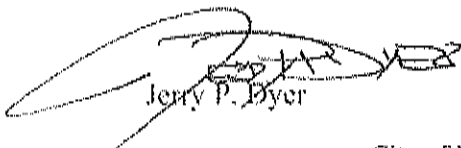
It is my understanding the Center will offer 60 units of transitional living near the Fresno State campus for foster youth ages 18 to 24. As you are already aware, foster youth face disproportionate challenges in accessing higher education, maintaining stable housing, and achieving financial independence. I am informed that the Center will help bridge these gaps by offering comprehensive services such as academic advising, mental health support, career readiness, mentoring, life skills, and access to basic needs like food and housing assistance.

Having recently supported Sierra Crossing, a modular housing development serving youth leaving the foster system, I am pleased to see additional facilities such as the Center being proposed. The plans to serve this population fit perfectly with my One Fresno vision, which calls for an inclusive city where people take pride in their community.

By offering academic advising, mental health services, career mentoring, and basic-needs support including housing assistance and resource kits, the Center will directly address the persistent and documented gaps that hinder foster youth from succeeding.

I am hopeful the community and your Board will also support innovative concepts like the Foster Youth DREAM Center, which addresses the need for both services and housing. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Jerry P. Dyer