

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

1171 Fulton • Fresno, California 93721 • (559) 243-7100 • 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



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.

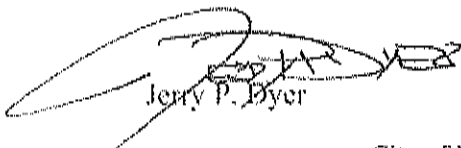
It is my understanding the Center will offer 60 units of transitional living near the Fresno State campus for foster youth ages 18 to 24. As you are already aware, foster youth face disproportionate challenges in accessing higher education, maintaining stable housing, and achieving financial independence. 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

Item 23

9/23/2025 BUS Meeting

From: Martinez, Luis <Luis.Martinez@sen.ca.gov>
Sent: Monday, September 22, 2025 4:17 PM
To: District 4; Clerk/BOS
Cc: Velazquez, Anna
Subject: Letter of Support for the Foster Youth DREAM Center
Attachments: 9.19.2025Foster Youth DREAM Center - Letter of Support.pdf

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Good Afternoon Chairman of the Board Mendes,

Attached you will find Senator Caballero's letter of Support for the Foster Youth DREAM Center to be located at Campus Pointe on the campus of Fresno State. Senator Caballero has been a big supporter of Foster Youth initiatives, and this year she authored SB- 624, the FOSTER Act that is at the governor's desk awaiting signature. Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Luis Martinez, District Representative

Office of Senator Anna Caballero

14th Senate District

(559)264-3070

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Fresno CA, 93721

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California State Senate

SENATOR
ANNA M. CABALLERO
FOURTEENTH SENATE DISTRICT



CHAIR
APPROPRIATIONS

MEMBER
ENERGY, UTILITIES
& COMMUNICATIONS

HOUSING

INSURANCE

JUDICIARY

JOINT COMMITTEE ON
FAIRS ALLOCATION
& CLASSIFICATION

JOINT COMMITTEE ON RULES

LEGISLATIVE ETHICS

PUBLIC SAFETY

September 19, 2025

Dear Fresno County Board Chair Mendes,

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.

To further support these efforts, I authored **Senate Bill 624 – the FOSTER Act (Foster Outreach and Support for Tax Education Readiness)**. This bill aims to increase awareness and utilization of the California Earned Income Tax Credit (CalEITC) among foster youth by establishing standardized outreach efforts. By connecting more eligible young people to the financial resources they deserve, SB 624 helps empower foster youth to break the cycle of poverty and move toward long-term economic stability. The bill is currently awaiting the Governor's signature.

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

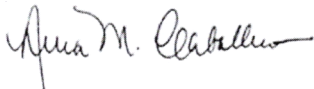
community, ensuring that foster youth have the tools and encouragement to graduate, build meaningful careers, and contribute back to society.

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.

I respectfully ask for your 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. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact my Fresno District Office at (559) 264-3070.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anna M. Caballero". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

ANNA M. CABALLERO

Senator, 14th District

CC: Members, Fresno County Board of Supervisors

District 1, Supervisor Brian Pacheco
District 2, Supervisor Garry Bredefeld
District 3, Supervisor Luis Chavez
District 5, Supervisor Nathan Magsig