



POST-PANDEMIC VISIONING 2021

COLLEGE OF

MARIN

2021 VISIONING SESSIONS

- April and October COMmunity Hours
- August Flex session
- August MCCD Board Meeting
- November Chairs/Coordinators Meeting

Over the course of 2021, the College of Marin community came together in a series of discussions to identify the key lessons learned from our adaptations to the pandemic and the opportunities that lie ahead for the College.

This presentation summarizes these key wins, challenges, and lessons learned from the pandemic and highlights future stories of success, connecting this visioning to our strategic planning in the six focus areas of the *Educational Master Plan 2019–2025*: Student Access and Success, Equity, Instruction, Indian Valley Campus, Community Engagement and Responsiveness, and College Systems.

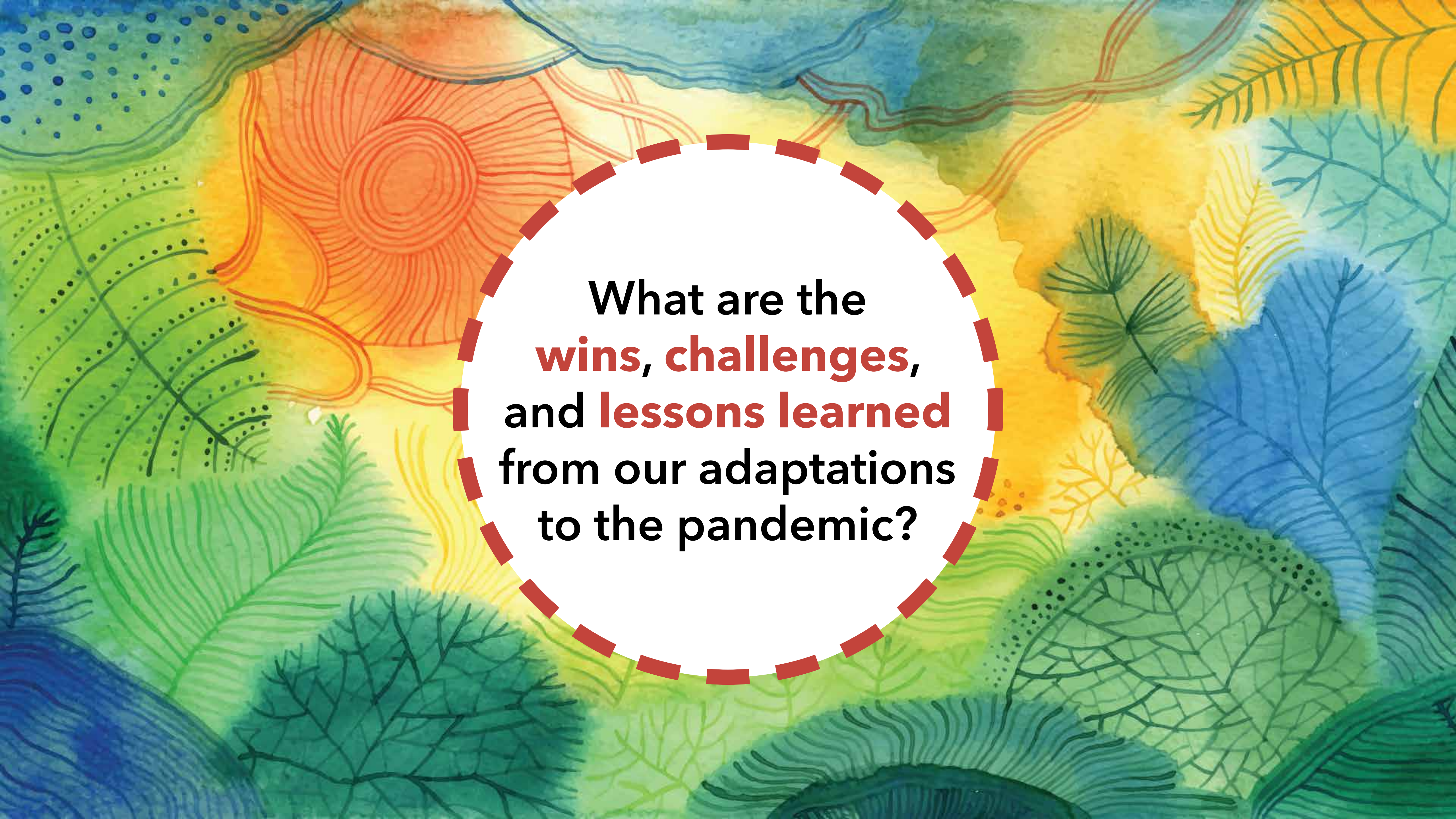
FACILITATORS

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What are the
wins, challenges,
and **lessons learned**
from our adaptations
to the pandemic?

STUDENT ACCESS

Virtual Options and Online Resources Improve Student Access



ONLINE RESOURCES

Improve student access to information during the enrollment process and to student support services for current students.



REMOTE APPOINTMENTS

Increase ability to connect services and academic support to students.



STREAMLINING PROCESSES


Improves student experience.



VIRTUAL EVENTS

Increase access for students and community members.

BUT...



RECONNECTION

We need to reconnect with students who stopped attending or did not start during the pandemic



EQUITABLE ACCESS

Virtual services can present challenges to access

INSTRUCTION

Online Tools and Modes of Instruction Improve Access and Flexibility



CANVAS

Increases student access to course content and enables online content for in-person courses.



SYNCHRONOUS ZOOM

Can be effective, increases student access, allows flexibility, and encourages innovation in teaching practices.



VIRTUAL OFFICE HOURS AND ONLINE COMMUNICATION

Improve student access, provide flexibility, and use time more effectively.

BUT...



**EQUITABLE
ACCESS**

The most vulnerable students are most impacted by remote instruction

Huge gaps in access and success

Access to technology is a barrier



**COURSE
DESIGN**

Online learning requires changes in course design and assessment

Needs support and training



ENGAGEMENT

Harder to build community and engagement remotely

WORKING REMOTELY

Improves Flexibility, Efficiency, and Structured Connections



INCREASES FLEXIBILITY

It is a plus for efficiency, environment, and well-being to work from home when in-person isn't necessary.



STREAMLINES OPERATIONS

Automating and streamlining systems and moving from paper to digital for business processes improves efficiency.



INCREASES ACCESS TO MEETINGS

Technology has increased the opportunity to participate and connect, both within the College and with school/ community partners.

BUT...



COMMUNITY

Loses essential and unscheduled connections that come about in an organic way



BOUNDARIES

Needs more intentional separation of work and home life, generates privacy concerns with Zoom, and may require more self-care




ACCESS


Requires access, technology training, and continued support

Zoom fatigue

Ask ourselves as we make decisions going forward...



How best to serve our students?



Will it stimulate engagement, passion, and inspiration among students?

CRITICAL QUESTIONS

for Strategic Planning

1

Student Access and Success

How do we reconnect with students who dropped or did not enroll because of the pandemic?

2

Equity

How can we best utilize new instructional and student service capacities in order to support underserved communities – West Marin, Marin City and the Canal areas?

3

Instructional Programs

What will student preferences be for modes of instructional delivery post-pandemic?

4

Indian Valley Campus

How can we best leverage new virtual technology capabilities to connect Indian Valley Campus and Kentfield Campus?

5

Community Engagement and Responsiveness

How can we assess and respond to the changing needs of students post-pandemic in a timely manner? How will the pandemic impact longer-term trends in Marin County?

VISIONING WITH THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

“We must focus on disparities in student access and success; and how to eliminate them.”

“We are now at an inflection point – moving from reacting to the pandemic to making intentional choices with our new capacities.”

“Students are our reason for being. We have learned our capacity for flexibility in supporting them.”

“Technology is no longer ancillary; it is central, regardless of the modality.”

“Engagement and human connection are a key part to education, and technology can augment this.”



Three years
from now, what
would be our
stories of success
if we integrate
these lessons
learned?

What would be
required in our
strategic planning
to make these
stories of success
happen?

A hand is holding a white card in the foreground. The card has a soft, glowing light effect. The background is a vibrant, multi-colored pattern with various textures, including wavy lines, dots, and leaf-like shapes in shades of blue, green, yellow, and orange. The overall composition is artistic and celebratory.

3-YEAR STORIES OF SUCCESS

2024

STUDENT ACCESS AND SUPPORT

**State of the Art Learning Resource Center,
New Options for Student Support Services
Advance Access and Equity Goals
at College of Marin**

STUDENT ACCESS AND SUPPORT

EQUITY GAPS GREATLY REDUCED

**Due to Anti-Racist Teaching Practices
and Greater Access and Opportunities at
COM for Students of Color**

HEADLINES 2024

**Open Educational Resource Use
Skyrockets, Relieving Student
Financial Strain**



**State Of The Art Learning Resource
Center Offers On-campus and
Take-home Technology Support**



**Students Create Virtual Live Streaming
Support Space to Much Fanfare**



**COM at 100: Transforming
Lives and Communities**



HOW WE MIGHT ACHIEVE THIS

Student Access and Success

Goals 1 to 5

- Online student support resources (enrollment, orientation, early support)
- Flexible appointment options for students:
In-person and virtual appointments student support services (counseling, tutoring), including outside 9 to 5, Monday through Friday
- Offer on-campus and take-home technology support
- Outreach to reconnect to students who have dropped or did not enroll at COM because of the pandemic

Community Engagement and Responsiveness

Goals 3 to 5

- Virtual options for student events
- Utilize new technology capacities in order to improve access for underserved communities: West Marin, Marin City, and the Canal areas

Indian Valley Campus

Goals 3

- Utilize new technology for Indian Valley Campus student support services

INSTRUCTION

**COM Redefines Classroom Experience,
Expands Educational Success via
Technology and Instruction;
Innovative Scheduling Meets
Students' Needs**

INSTRUCTION

BEST OF BOTH WORLDS

Online Strategies Boost
Community Learning Environment
for All College of Marin Students

HEADLINES 2024

Pandemic Prompts Reimagined
Learning Experience at COM



COM Unveils Innovative Schedule
that Showcases Virtual, Hybrid,
HyFlex and In-person Learning
to Meet Students' Needs



Virtual Reality Provides
Immersive Experiences and Training
for Students in COM Classrooms



COM Leads the Way for
Educational Innovation:
Newfound Possibilities and
Approaches to Expand
Access and Equity



HOW WE MIGHT ACHIEVE THIS

Instructional Programs

Goals 1, 3, 4, 5

- Offer classes in a variety of formats:
 - face-to-face
 - asynchronous
 - hybrid (asynchronous and in-person)
 - synchronous Zoom
 - HyFlex (simultaneous in-person and synchronous)
- Increased, consistent Canvas use:
 - front load instructional content online in Canvas
 - provide hands-on experience face-to-face in a classroom
- Offer online office hours
- Consider paths for professional development and training for faculty to effectively offer new instructional formats

ENGAGEMENT AND CONNECTION

**Technology Augments Engagement and
Connection to/within College of Marin,
and Improves Employee
Work-Life Balance.**

ENGAGEMENT AND CONNECTION

HUMAN CONNECTION IS A KEY PART TO EDUCATION

Technology Augments This at COM

HEADLINES

2024

**COM Communities Embrace Passion,
Joy, and Well-balanced Life**



**College of Marin Puts
the COM in COMMunity**



**Best College to Work At?
College of Marin Employees
Rave About the Combination of
On-campus and Remote work**



HOW WE MIGHT ACHIEVE THIS

Community Engagement and Responsiveness

Goals 1, 2, 5

- Offer online/Zoom options for community and career partners to increase active participation
- Provide virtual options to increase participation in committees, events, and programs at COM for faculty, students, and staff

College Systems

- Continue remote work capacity to leverage the efficiency, flexibility and work-life balance it provides, which may require new policies and procedures

Indian Valley Campus

Goals 1 to 3

- Leverage new virtual technology capabilities to connect Indian Valley Campus and Kentfield Campus (student services, instruction, staffing)

KEYS FOR SUCCESS

These keys for success cut across all three stories of success and all focus areas of the *Educational Master Plan (EMP) 2019–2025*.



1 FREQUENT ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT NEEDS

Student voices should continually inform post-pandemic offerings once students return to campus; assessment should be accessible and meaningful.

2 EQUITABLE ACCESS TO TECHNOLOGY

Students and employees need equitable access to the necessary technology and ongoing tech support. Virtual instruction and services may increase equitable access but at the same time can create new barriers to access. Students need Wi-Fi hot-spots and laptops, pre-semester training in how to use technology, and ongoing tech support. Consider students who use mobile devices as only access point.

3 MAINTAIN INSTRUCTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS

Online and face to face need to be similar in value and rigor; focus on clarity and consistency with new technology.

4 ROBUST IT SUPPORT

Offering student support services and instruction in new formats will require robust IT support.

5 VALUE HUMAN CONNECTION

Interpersonal connection can be augmented by technology, but technology cannot replace the value of human interaction. Engagement and human connection are key to education; technology can augment but not replace skills gained by hands-on practice and project-based learning; in-person instruction fosters interpersonal and workforce skills development.

WHAT'S NEXT?

**COM is
convening a task
force in spring 2022
to develop the
next 3-year
strategic plan.**