New legislation, programs and funding provide an opportunity to help students excel in the classroom and reach their academic goals. There are five themes across our plans:

- Rethink developmental education
- Close achievement gaps for student populations
- Develop clear pathways for students
- Help students acclimate to college processes and responsibilities
- Build a culture of inquiry and evidence-based decision-making

Other Statewide Initiatives

- Common Assessment Initiative (CAI): provides a statewide platform for student assessment
- Education Planning Initiative (EPI): will provide a student portal for education planning and meaningful student engagement.
- Online Education Initiative (OEI): will provide a statewide online course management system.
- Institutional Effectiveness Partnership Initiative (IEPI): will engage colleges in IE goals and monitoring, and provide professional development.

Each of these initiatives and programs require building our institutional capacities for understanding data and evidence-based decision-making. In 2015, MJC joined Achieving the Dream, a national reform network of community colleges focused on closing student achievement gaps. MJC has also partnered with the Center of Urban Center (CUE) at USC to learn more about best practices on Student Success and Equity.
MJC Student Success Initiatives 2015-2016

Student Equity Plan identifies and addresses disproportionate impact for student populations (foster youth, veterans, students with disabilities, low-income students, and ethnicity) in five key areas: access, course completion, ESL/Basic Skills completion, degree/certificate completion, and transfer.

Student Success and Support Program (SSSP) credit and noncredit plans provide specific core services: orientation, assessment, counseling/educational planning, and follow-up services. The aim is to ensure all students complete their courses, persist to the next academic term, and achieve their educational objectives through effective and meaningful engagement with the college.

Basic Skills Initiative (BSI) plan focuses on improving basic skills student success. It includes goal-setting in basic skills/ESL, encourages professional development for pedagogical and curricular development, and increases student support in tutoring and SI.

US Department of Education Title V Grant is designed to remove academic, procedural, and physical barriers for students. The college will: address academic policies, course sequencing, and supplementary learning; coordinate and improve support services; and establish one-stop services on both campuses.

AB86 Initiative - The AB86 Stanislaus Mother Lode Consortium is a network of school districts, adult education centers, and the YCDD working to strengthen the spectrum of education services for adult learners in the region.

US Department of Education Veterans’ Center Grant will establish central services for Veteran students and provide training for all MJC personnel in the unique needs of Veterans.

MJC will improve student success and close achievement gaps for emerging scholars and working professionals, from the moment of arrival to the completion of their educational goals.

Growth Mindset is . . . Believing the mind is malleable, not fixed; a feeling that one belongs; and believing what one does is connected to one’s long-term goal.

Growth Mindset Theory, Yeager and Walton (2011)

All of MJC’s plans intersect to improve student success and address equity by:

- Offering interdisciplinary First-Time-In-College (FTIC) Course for incoming students
- Building alternative basic skills curriculum and pathways
- Convening a faculty retreat focused on equity-minded and success-driven practices
- Developing guided pathways
- Launching student success centers for drop-in SSSP services
- Supporting faculty learning communities
- Utilizing multiple measures assessment
- Understanding and leveraging Growth Mindset for success
- Conducting research with student focus groups to learn about institutional barriers for students
- Improving student learning resources, including tutoring, SI, and supplementary modules
- Examining coursework alignment with K-12 and adult education partners
- Increasing student engagement and connection through direct contact via student specialists
- Providing professional development for faculty and staff