Cerritos College and Community Celebrate Groundbreaking of Child Development Center

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NORWALK, Calif. – May 2, 2014 - Cerritos College officials, Board of Trustees and community members attended a groundbreaking for the new Child Development Center on Wednesday, April 30.

Cerritos College President Dr. Linda Lacy thanked the community for supporting the bond measure. “You’ve helped us realize a vision for the future of Cerritos College.”

The $6.1 million project includes approximately one acre site with 9,000 square feet of child care space. The facility, which will serve 125 children from ages 2 to 5, consists of a playground, two classrooms and support facilities such as parking, drop-off areas, administrative office and kitchen/staff room.

“The innovative outdoor education spaces include California landscape themes such as the mountains and the beach, urban and agricultural areas, climbing areas, underground tunnels, and an art studio,” said Debra Ward, director of the Child Development Center.

Security enhancements such as closed circuit television cameras and electronic gates will be in place. The center will also serve as a training laboratory for future teachers in the college’s child development/early childhood programs.

“We are proud to offer a premiere Child Development Center for children, who are the future of the community” said Cerritos College Board of Trustees President Carmen Avalos.

The complex will replace the original Child Development Center, which was housed in the Technology Building, a 1960’s structure that is going to be demolished to create space for the new Computer Information Systems/Math Building.

Anticipated opening of the center is December 2014.

About Cerritos College: Cerritos College serves as a comprehensive community college for southeastern Los Angeles County. Communities within the college’s district include Artesia, Bellflower, Cerritos, Downey, Hawaiian Gardens, La
Mirada, Norwalk, and portions of Bell Gardens, Lakewood, Long Beach, Santa Fe Springs and South Gate. Cerritos College offers degrees and certificates in more than 180 areas of study in nine divisions. Annually, more than 1,200 students successfully complete their course of studies, and enrollment currently averages 23,000 students. Visit Cerritos College online at http://www.cerritos.edu/.

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