

**Remarks at the March 25, 2011 Construction Celebration
for the Science Building Addition
and the Student Services/Administration Building Groundbreaking**

Sharon VanNoy Gach

Greetings everyone!

I am here today as the classified senate president and wish to say congratulations !! ... to the district board and staff,

The college administrators and planners,

The architects, construction managers, sub-contractors, and I'm sorry if i have forgotten anyone from my ignorance of how one builds buildings ...

I'd also like to offer kudos also to the voters of our measure b funds -- including myself and many of you here!!

Since i have no clever thoughts of my own to share, i decided to string together a few lighthearted quotes that seem apropos upon the occasion of celebrating needed additions to our educational facilities....

Some folks not so connected to colleges might ask:

why all the bother with these new buildings?

We might want to reply to them as Anatole France wrote:

“an education isn't how much you have committed to memory, or even how much you know. It's being able to differentiate between what you do know and what you don't.”

But that would be a rather backhanded insult... therefore we might consider

Laurence J. Peter's words:

“education is a method whereby one acquires a higher grade of prejudices.”

(okay, guilty here).

Well, maybe not that one either, perhaps we could be a *little* more p.c. -- as

Malcolm Forbes was -- and reply that

An “education's purpose is to replace an empty mind with an open one.”

However if we state *any* of the above rather *haughty*, replies, we risk the old favorite retort that ---

“I have never let my schooling interfere with my education...” Spoken by none other than..... who?

Yes, --- Mark Twain .

And for the maintenance & operations staff, we could reflect on Havelock Ellis's thoughts from the 1930's --

“let us hope that what we call 'progress' is not just the exchange of one nuisance for another nuisance.”

Well, i'm sure that will not be the case,

And again thank you to the voters of our communities for the measure b funds to rejuvenate this college and many of public schools in our area!

Voters: this is your college!

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