For Immediate Release
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EDsmart recently released rankings of California community colleges according to three categories: large, medium, and small schools. Feather River College was ranked as the top small school in California. The main factors considered were graduation and transfer rates, first year retention rate, cost of attendance, and number of students on campus.

EDsmart looked at community colleges as a way to save money before attending a four-year university and lessen the student loan burden as students are choosing a college. According to EDsmart, “Thus if your goal is to attend a four-year university, the name of the game is to pay attention to the graduation and transfer rate of the community college. These two rates are representative of how well a student does in school and their chances of transferring into the schools of their choice.” Feather River College had both the highest graduation and transfer rate, as well as the highest first year retention rate of all small colleges in California. “We are proud of our academic accomplishments at FRC,” stated Superintendent/President Dr. Kevin Trutna. “One of our strengths is our small size where faculty and staff get to know students and become personally vested in their success.” Other colleges ranked in the top five and below FRC in the small school category were College of the Siskiyous, Lake Tahoe Community College, West Hills College-Coalinga, and Palo Verde College. Dr. Trutna further commented, “As an open access institution, we accept any student who can benefit from higher education. FRC provides high quality teaching and academic support services, so each student has the opportunity to obtain his or her own educational goal.” EDsmart states, “FRC offers students an opportunity for study, relaxation, and self-discovery, while maintaining high levels of academic rigor. With strong relationships with universities in the state and a high transfer rate, FRC is a special education experience that students are unlikely to find anywhere else.”

The full text of the article can be found at http://www.edsmart.org/top-community-colleges-california/.

Feather River Community College District, located in Quincy, California, is a small, rural public community college offering courses in transfer programs, career and technical training, basic skills education and was recently approved to offer the state’s first community college bachelor degree in Equine and Ranch Management. FRC offers small classes where students receive individual attention from faculty and staff in its location known as “the million acre classroom.” Unique programs in equine studies, outdoor recreation leadership, fish and wildlife hatchery, and environmental studies enhance traditional transfer programs and technical training. On-campus dormitory housing is available. FRC boasts an accomplished athletic program with several men’s and women’s championship sports supported by the local community. The Board of Trustees recently adopted an ambitious plan ensuring that FRC is a leader in environmentally sustainable practices. Academically, FRC ranks at the top for transfer and retention rates amongst small California community colleges. For further information, contact (530) 283-0202 or visit www.frc.edu.