The new San Diego State University Outreach Center at Imperial Valley College is expected to serve as a “model” on how to leverage local educational resources in a collaborative way, education officials said.

The center’s opening further streamlines efforts between IVC, San Diego State University-Imperial Valley campus and the Imperial County Office of Education and is hoped will eventually boost college attendance and course offerings, officials said. Citing the Valley’s high unemployment rate and the relatively low percentage of residents that have baccalaureate degrees or higher, officials said collaboration is key to educational progress.

“This is a clear sign that we are creating a new kind of college experience,” David Pearson, dean of SDSU-IV, said.

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