

### **Participation in Local Decision-making**

The Board is the ultimate decision-maker in those areas assigned to it by state and federal laws and regulations. In executing that responsibility, the Board is committed to its obligation to ensure that appropriate members of the District participate in developing recommended policies for board action and administrative regulations for Chancellor action under which the District is governed and administered.

Each of the following shall participate as required by law in the decision-making processes of the district:

- Academic Senate(s) (Title 5, sections 53200-53206.)  
The Board or its designees will consult collegially with the Academic Senate, as duly constituted with respect to academic and professional matters, as defined by law. Procedures to implement this section are developed collegially with the Academic Senate.
- Staff (Title 5, section 51023.5.)  
Staff shall be provided with opportunities to participate in the formulation and development of district policies and procedures that have a significant effect on staff. The opinions and recommendations of the Classified Senate will be given every reasonable consideration.
- Students (Title 5, section 51023.7.)  
The Associated Students shall be given an opportunity to participate effectively in the formulation and development of district policies and procedures that have a significant effect on students, as defined by law. The recommendations and positions of the Associated Students will be given every reasonable consideration. The selection of student representatives to serve on district committees or task forces shall be made after consultation with the Associated Students.

Except for unforeseeable emergency situations, the Board shall not take any action on matters subject to this policy until the appropriate constituent group or groups have been provided the opportunity to participate.

Nothing in this policy will be construed to interfere with the formation or administration of employee organizations or with the exercise of rights guaranteed under the Educational Employment Relations Act, Government Code section 3540, et seq.

See Administrative Regulation 2510

Reference: Education Code Section 70902(b) (7); Title 5 Sections 53200, et seq., (Academic Senate), 51023.5 (staff), 51023.7 (students); Accreditation Standard IV.A

Adopted by the Governing Board: June 2, 1992; November 4, 2003

### **Participation in Local Decision-making**

The Communications Council was formed to provide a venue for college/district constituency groups to participate in local decision-making.

The Communications Council meets one week prior to each regular governing board meeting. The Council reviews the Board agenda and discusses items on the agenda as well as other topics regarding shared governance (see Administrative Regulation 2410).

The Communications Council consists of:

- the president of each college's Academic Senate or his/her designee;
- the president of each college's Classified Senate or his/her designee;
- the president of the faculty exclusive representative or his/her designee;
- the president of the classified employee's exclusive representative or his/her designee;
- one additional representative from the exclusive representative of the classified employees;
- a student representative from each college;
- the College Presidents;
- the Vice Chancellor, North Centers; and
- the Chancellor.

### **Shared Governance**

In order that the faculty may have a formal and effective procedure for participating in the

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formation and implementation of District regulations on academic and professional matters, the following process shall apply:

"Consult collegially," wherein the governing board will develop regulations relying primarily on the advice and judgment of the Academic Senates shall pertain to:

- Curriculum matters consisting of the following:
  - Curriculum development;
  - Establishing prerequisites and placement of courses within disciplines;
  - Grading policies;
  - Standards or policies regarding student preparation and success; and
  - Degree and certificate requirements
- And shall mean:
  - Such processes are subject to 53203(d)(1) of the Board of Governors' regulations;
  - The Senate, upon consideration of the regulation, may ask for, and receive comment from, the Chancellor/designee, which shall be considered by the Senate prior to final approval.
  - Once approved by the Academic Senates, the regulation shall be placed on the next meeting agenda of the Chancellor's Cabinet.
  - In those instances where the administration plans to propose recommendations to the Board different from those proposed by the Academic Senates, the administration shall communicate, in writing, to the Senate the reason for such different recommendations and shall provide the Senates the opportunity to respond in writing prior to taking the recommendation to the Board for final action.

"Consult collegially" for all other "academic and professional matters" wherein the governing board will develop regulations after the Chancellor/designee and the Academic Senates/designees have reached mutual written agreement regarding the regulations shall pertain to:

- All other academic and professional matters consisting of the following:
  - Educational program development;

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- Faculty roles and involvement in accreditation processes including self-study and annual reports;
  - Establishing a process for faculty professional development activities;
  - Process for program review;
  - Processes for institutional planning and budget development;
  - District and college governance structures as related to faculty roles; and
  - Other academic and professional matters as mutually agreed upon between the governing board and the Academic Senates.
- And shall mean:
    - Such processes are subject to 53203(d)(2) of title 5 regulations;
    - When either the governing board (or designee), or the Academic Senates (designees) seek to consult collegially regarding "other academic and professional matters" (other than curriculum), the party seeking consultation shall request the consultation in writing. The parties shall then collegially consult and strive to develop mutually agreed upon written recommendations to the governing board. After reasonable collegial consultation, in the event the parties cannot reach mutual agreement on an academic and professional matter (other than curriculum), the parties shall submit separate written recommendations to the governing board.
    - In cases where there is no existing policy, or in cases where exposure to legal liability or substantial fiscal hardship requires existing policy to be changed the governing board may act, after a good faith effort to reach agreement, only for compelling legal, fiscal, or organizational reasons.

References: Education Code Section 70902(b) (7); Title 5 Sections 53200 et seq.; 51023.5; 51023.7; Accreditation Standard - IV.A.2, IV.A.5

Adopted by Chancellor's Cabinet: August 18, 2008