



## **BP 2510 PARTICIPATION IN GOVERNANCE AND LOCAL DECISION-MAKING**

### **References:**

Education Code Section 70902(b)(7);  
Title 5 Sections 53200 et seq. (Academic Senate), 51023.5 (staff), and 51023.7 (students);  
ACCJC Accreditation Standards IV.A and IV.D.7

The District's approach to governance and decision-making is based upon a partnership among the Board of Trustees, employees, and students. The constituent groups participate in governance and decision-making appropriate in scope to their roles within the District and are united by a collective, shared vision that advances the mission of the institution.

The role of the Board in governance and decision-making is to function as an independent policy-making body responsible for legal and fiduciary oversight and for ensuring that the mission of the District is fulfilled. 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 procedures for Superintendent/President action under which the District is governed and administered. The Board delegates its authority to the Superintendent/President and such representative(s) as he/she may designate, to implement its policies.

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 in the process.

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 (EERA), Government Code Sections 3540 et seq.

Each of the following shall participate in the governance and decision-making processes of the District as delineated in law:

### **Academic Senate**

The Board recognizes the authority of the Santa Barbara City College Academic Senate as representing the position of the faculty regarding academic and professional matters in accordance with applicable state laws and regulations. The Board or its designee(s) will consult collegially with the Academic Senate, as duly constituted, with respect to the following academic and professional matters as defined by law.



1. curriculum, including the establishment of prerequisites and placing courses within disciplines;
2. degree and certificate requirements;
3. grading policies;
4. educational program development;
5. standards or policies regarding student preparation and success;
6. district governance structures as related to faculty roles;
7. faculty roles and involvement in accreditation processes, including the Institutional Self Evaluation and annual reports;
8. policies for faculty professional development activities;
9. processes for program review;
10. processes for institutional planning and budget development; and
11. other academic and professional matters as mutually agreed upon between the Board of Trustees and the Academic Senate which includes, but is not limited to, faculty hiring processes.

The Board will consult collegially with the Academic Senate on academic and professional matters by either or both of the following methods according to its own discretion:

- A. Relying primarily upon the advice and judgment of the Academic Senate; or
- B. Relying upon mutual agreement reached between the Superintendent/President or his/her designee and the Academic Senate by written resolution, regulation, or District policy.

In instances in which the advice and judgment of the Academic Senate is relied upon primarily, recommendations will normally be accepted. If a recommendation is not accepted, the Board or its designee shall communicate its reasons in writing to the Academic Senate.

In matters where policy is established through mutual agreement and agreement cannot be reached, existing policy shall remain in effect. In cases where there is no existing policy, or in cases where continuing with an existing policy exposes the District to significant, legal, fiscal, or organizational problems, the Board may, after a good faith effort to reach agreement, take necessary actions to remove such problems or establish a policy it deems appropriate.

### **Classified Staff and Confidential Employees**

The Board recognizes the technical, professional, and skilled expertise of the classified staff and confidential employees and their contributions to governance and decision-making. Classified staff and confidential employees shall be provided with opportunities to participate effectively in the formulation and development of policies and procedures that have a significant effect on them. The opinions and recommendations of the California School Employees Association (CSEA), Chapter 289, and its Classified Consultation Group, and confidential employees will be given every reasonable consideration.



The appointment of classified staff representatives to serve on District governance groups and committees shall be made by the CSEA, Chapter 289.

### **Administration**

The role of administrators in District governance and decision-making is determined by the scope of responsibility and authority provided to the administrative position as delineated in the applicable job descriptions and as delegated to the position by the Superintendent/President.

Organizationally, the Advancing Leadership Committee is the governance and consultative body for District administrators. The District recognizes that one of the purposes of the body is to represent its members in governance matters.

### **Students**

The Associated Student Government of Santa Barbara City College 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 and listed below:

1. grading policies;
2. codes of student conduct;
3. academic disciplinary policies;
4. curriculum development;
5. courses or programs which should be initiated or discontinued;
6. processes for institutional planning and budget development;
7. standards and policies regarding student preparation and success;
8. student services planning and development;
9. student fees within the authority of the district to adopt; and
10. any other District policy, procedure, or related matter that the Board determines will have a significant effect on students.

The recommendations and positions of the Associated Student Government 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 Student Government.

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**Adopted:** October 22, 2015

*(Replaces former SBCC Policy 2510)*

**Legal Reference Update #25:** November 2014

**Reviewed/Readopted:** May 12, 2016