



ROLE OF ACADEMIC SENATE IN DISTRICT GOVERNANCE

The Board, through the Superintendent/President, affirms the recognition of the Academic Senate under Title 5 of the California Administrative Code and as provided for in law (specifically AB 1725) to make recommendations to the Superintendent/President and to the Board of Trustees with respect to “academic and professional matters”.

According to the provisions of AB1725, the Board affirm appropriate delegation and responsibility to the Academic Senate and will consult collegially on academic and professional matters. Action with respect to academic and professional matters pursuant to these provisions may be initiated by the Academic Senate or by the Superintendent/President.

“Consult collegially” means that the district governing board shall develop policies on academic and professional matters through either or both of the following methods:

1. Rely Primarily Upon the Advice, Judgement and Recommendations of the Academic Senate.

Academic and professional matters for which the board will rely primarily upon the advice, judgement and recommendations of the Academic Senate are:

- Curriculum, including establishing prerequisites and placing courses within disciplines
- Degree and certificate requirements
- Grading policies

If any such recommendation is not accepted by the Board of Trustees, the Board of Trustees or its designee, upon request of the Senate, shall communicate its reasons in writing to the Academic Senate.

2. The Board, or designee, and the Academic Senate shall reach mutual agreement by written resolution, policy or procedure effectuating such recommendations:

Academic and professional matters for which the Board of Trustees will reach Mutual Agreement with the Academic Senate:

- Educational program development
- Standards or policies regarding student preparation and success
- District governance structures, as related to faculty roles
- Faculty roles and involvement in accreditation processes, including self-study and annual reports
- Policies for faculty professional development activities
- Processes for program review
- Process for institutional planning and budget development
- Other academic and professional matters as are mutually agreed upon between the Board of Trustees and the Academic Senate

The Superintendent/President and the President and Vice President of the Academic Senate will determine the process to seek mutual agreement. In instances where mutual agreement is not reached, existing policy shall remain in effect.

Reference: Education Code Sections 66450; 87360; 87663; 87610.1; 87743.2;
Title 5 Sections 53200 et seq., 51023.5 and 51023.7;
ACCJC Accreditation Standard IV.A and IV.D.7

Adopted: April 29, 2022