SHARED PLANNING & DECISION MAKING

References: *Education Code Sections 70902(b)(7); AB 1725*
Title 5, Sections 53200 et seq., 51023.5, and 51023.7;
Accreditation Standard IV.A.2 and IV. A.5

Southwestern Community College District believes that the high quality of decision-making, and planning and the resulting programs and services offered by the College are dependent upon a collaborative process in which creative thinking, ideas and perspectives contribute to the well being of the entire College community. The Governing Board of Southwestern Community College District adopts the following principles and policies when receiving, adopting and acting upon recommendations from the Academic Senate in areas of academic and professional matters as specified in Title 5, Section 53200, of the California State Code of Regulations, and AB 1725 (1988) and in respect to the concept and need for shared planning and decision-making in all areas defined by State laws and regulations. In executing that responsibility, the Governing 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.

Except for unforeseeable emergency situations, the Governing Board or its sole designee 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 Sections 3540 et seq., or any collectively bargained agreements.

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

1. Faculty (Title 5 Sections 53200-53206 & AB 1725)

Faculty shall be provided with opportunities for participatory decision making and have a substantial voice in decision-making. The Governing Board or its designees will consult with the Academic Senate, as duly constituted with respect to academic and professional matters, as defined by law, District Policy and Procedure No. 2510, “Shared Planning & Decision Making,” and District Policy and Procedure No. 2515, “Role & Scope of the Academic Senate: 10 + 1 Agreement”.

The Governing Board recognizes Southwestern College Educator’s Association (SCEA) as the exclusive bargaining unit for faculty.

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2. Staff (Title 5 Section 51023.5 & Education Code Section 70901.2)

Staff shall be provided with opportunities for participatory decision making and have a substantial voice in decision making. "Staff" means all employees in the Classified Service, including Classified Administrators, Classified Confidentials and Classified Bargaining Unit members.

The Governing Board recognizes California School Employees' Association (CSEA) Chapter 524 as the exclusive bargaining agent for all members of the classified bargaining unit. The Governing Board or its designee will work jointly with CSEA Chapter 524 to ensure the District's compliance with California Education Code Section 70901.2 and any other legislation, legal decisions, or administrative determinations affecting shared governance issues.

3. Students (Title 5 Section 51023.7)

The Associated Student~~s~~ Organization (ASO) shall be provided with opportunities to participate for participatory decision making and have a substantial voice in decision-making. The recommendations and positions of the ASO will be given equal value and every reasonable consideration.

The Governing Board recognizes the ASO as the official voice for all Southwestern College students in the areas 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
10. any other District or College policy, procedure or related matter that the District Governing Board determines will have a significant effect on students.
11. policies and procedures pertaining to the hiring and evaluation of faculty, administration and staff.

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4. Administrators

Administrators shall be provided with opportunities for participatory decision making and have a substantial voice in decision making.

The Governing Board recognizes Southwestern Community College District Administrator's Association (SCCDAA) as the sole and official representation of administrators promoting the interest of administrators of the District