

BP 2510 Participation in Local Decision-Making

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*

Napa Valley College and the Board of Trustees are committed to a participatory decision-making process characterized by open communication, collaboration, and a spirit of goodwill and mutual respect, which elevate the sense of community among campus constituencies.

The Board of Trustees is the ultimate decision-maker in those areas assigned to it by state and federal laws and regulations. In executing that responsibility, the Board of Trustees 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 procedures associated with this policy describe mechanisms for providing each constituent group with the opportunity to participate in the development of policies and procedures, including “the opportunity to express their opinions” and “ensure that these opinions are given every reasonable consideration.”

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

Academic Senate (Title 5, Sections 53200-53206)

The Board of Trustees or its designees will consult collegially with the Academic Senate, as duly constituted with respect to academic and professional matters, as defined by law.

- 1) Curriculum, including establishing 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 self-study 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 are mutually agreed upon between the District governing board and the Academic Senate.

The Board of Trustees will rely primarily on the advice of the Academic Senate for policies and procedures related to the first two academic and professional matters (items 1-2 on the list above).

The Board of Trustees will come to mutual agreement with the Academic Senate for policies and procedures related to the remaining academic and professional matters (items 3-11 on the list above).

The Board of Trustees will also rely primarily on the advice and judgment of the Academic Senate in establishing policies and procedures for Faculty Hiring Criteria (Education Code § 87360(b)), Equivalencies to Minimum Qualifications (Education Code § 87359(b)), and Administrative Retreat Rights (Education Code § 87458(a)).

Procedures to implement this section are developed collegially with the Academic Senate.

Staff (Title 5, Section 51023.5-)

Classified 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.

Administrative/Confidential 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 Administrative 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 or will have a significant effect on students, as defined by law.

- 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 District governing board determines will have a significant effect on students.

The recommendations and positions of the Associated Students will be given every reasonable consideration.

Except for unforeseeable emergency situations, the Board of Trustees 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.

New 03/04; See also D 1140: Shared Governance Policy