

General Institution

BP 3260 PARTICIPATION IN 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 Standard IV.A

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 the Superintendent/President's 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.

In accordance with the provisions of Title 5 of the California Education Code, the Board of Trustees of the Marin Community College District shall rely primarily on the advice and recommendations of the Academic Senate in the following matters:

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 and college 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. process for program review
10. process for institutional planning and budget development

In instances where the governing board elects to rely primarily upon the advice of the Academic Senate, the recommendations of the Senate will normally be accepted, and only in exceptional circumstances and for compelling reasons, will the recommendations not be accepted. If a recommendation is not accepted, the governing Board or its designee, upon request of the Academic Senate, shall communicate its reasons in writing.

Additionally, in accordance with the provisions of Title 5 of the California Education Code, the Board of Trustees of the Marin Community College District will mutually agree with the advice and recommendations of the Academic Senate on item 11:

11. other academic and professional matters as are mutually agreed upon between the governing board and the academic senate.

In instances where the governing board elects to provide for mutual agreement and agreement has not been reached, existing policy will remain in effect unless continuing with such a policy exposes the District to legal liability or causes substantial fiscal hardship. 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 for compelling, legal, fiscal or organizational reasons.

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 staff will be given every reasonable consideration.

Students (Title 5, Section 51023.7.)

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 Student Senate will be given every reasonable consideration. The selection of student representatives to serve on district committees or task forces shall be made by the Student Senate.

Except for unforeseeable circumstances and for compelling reasons, 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 Sections 3540, et seq.

Date Adopted: May 10, 2005

(Renumbered College of Marin Policy 7.0007 to new COM/CCLC numbering system)