
San Bernardino Community College District
Board Policy
Chapter 2 – Board of Trustees

BP 2410 BOARD POLICIES AND ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

(Replaces SBCCD BP 2045)

The Board may adopt such policies as are authorized by law or determined by the Board to be necessary for the efficient operation of the District. Board policies are intended to be statements of intent by the Board on a specific issue within its subject matter jurisdiction.

The policies have been written to be consistent with provisions of law, but do not encompass all laws relating to District activities. All District employees are expected to know of and observe all provisions of law pertinent to their job responsibilities.

Policies of the Board may be adopted, revised, added to or amended at any regular Board meeting by a majority vote. Proposed changes or additions shall be introduced not less than one regular meeting prior to the meeting at which action is recommended.

Administrative procedures are to be issued by the Chancellor as statements of method to be used in implementing Board Policy. Such administrative procedures shall be consistent with the intent of Board Policy. Administrative procedures may be revised as deemed necessary by the Chancellor through regular consultation processes and/or as required by revisions to laws and regulations.

At the July Regular Board of Trustees Meeting, the Chancellor shall present each member of the Board with copies of any revisions of administrative procedures since the last time they were provided. The Board reserves the right to direct revisions of the administrative procedures should they, in the Board's judgment, be inconsistent with the Board's own policies.

Board policies and administrative procedures shall be readily available on the District's website.

Reference: Education Code Section 70902;
WASC/ACCJC Accreditation Standard IV.B.1.b & e

Adopted: 10/14/10
Revised: 7/10/14

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4 **ACADEMIC FREEDOM**
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6 **A. Introduction**
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8 The San Bernardino Community College District is committed to the principle that the free
9 expression of ideas is essential to the education of its students and to the effective
10 governance of its colleges. The District recognizes that academic and intellectual freedom is
11 best protected by a system of tenure, academic due process, and policies and procedures
12 that provide faculty, students, and classified employees with the opportunity to freely express
13 themselves in any campus venue, from the classroom to the board room. The District
14 further subscribes to the principle that the free expression of ideas should be limited only by
15 the responsibility to express ideas with fairness, and in a manner that respects the differing
16 ideas of others and distinguishes between established fact and theories and one's own
17 opinion.
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19 **B. Rights of Academic Employees**
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21 Academic freedom shall be guaranteed to all academic employees. No special limitations
22 shall be placed upon study, investigation, presentation, and interpretation of facts and ideas
23 concerning human society, the physical and biological world, and other branches of learning,
24 subject to accepted standards of professional responsibility. The right to academic freedom
25 herein established shall include the right to support or oppose political causes, issues, and
26 parties outside of normal classroom activities.
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28 Academic employees are citizens, members of learned professions, and members of the
29 institution. When academic employees speak or write as citizens, they should be free from
30 institutional censorship or discipline, provided they clearly indicate they are not representing
31 the institution.
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33 Academic freedom allows academic employees to seek and present the truth as they know
34 it on problems and issues, subject to the accepted standards of professional responsibility,
35 without fear of interference from administrators, the District Board of Trustees, governmental
36 authorities, or pressure groups.
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38 Although academic employees have the obligation to ensure that their classroom material
39 meets the valid educational objectives of the course as stated in the approved Course
40 Outline of Record, they are entitled to freedom in the classroom in presenting the subjects
41 they teach and shall be free to select and use textbooks and materials that they deem
42 appropriate to meet the stated learning outcomes for the course.
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44 Academic employees are entitled to full freedom in their use of books, online sources, and
45 internet sites and in the publication of the results of any research that may result from the
46 use of these resources.
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48 Academic employees may arrange for classroom lecturers or speakers to make
49 presentations in regularly scheduled classes or groups of classes. The academic
50 employees shall be responsible for the relevance of the lecturer or speaker's subject matter
51 to the course.
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53 **C. Obligations of Academic Employees**
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55 Academic freedom requires that all academic employees establish and preserve an open
56 learning environment at the college. No special limitations shall be placed upon students in

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57 their study, investigation, presentation, and interpretation of facts and ideas concerning
58 human society, the physical and biological world, and other branches of learning, subject to
59 accepted standards of academic responsibility. Students shall have the opportunity to study
60 controversial issues and divergent views and to arrive at their own conclusions. Academic
61 employees have an obligation to protect the student's right to freedom of inquiry even when
62 the student's conclusions differ from those of the academic employees.

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64 While students may represent without penalty any opinion in or out of class, they may be
65 required to demonstrate knowledge of views contrary to their own in order to fulfill course
66 requirements.

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68 **D. Libraries and Learning Resource Centers**

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70 Books and other library and learning resources materials selected and databases provided
71 should be chosen for values of interest, information, and enlightenment of all the people of
72 the community. In no case should library materials be excluded because of the race,
73 nationality, social, political, or religious views of the authors. Libraries should provide
74 materials and information presenting diverse points of view on current and historical issues.
75 Materials should not be proscribed or removed because of partisan or doctrinal disapproval.
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95 Reference:
96 Title 5, Section 51023;
97 Accreditation Standard II.A.7.

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100 ADOPTED: 7/12/01
101 AMENDED: 4/8/04
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