

BOARD POLICY
San Mateo County Community College District

Subject: BP 1.01 District Mission
Revision Date: 5/12; 5/19
Policy Reference: ACCJC Accreditation Standard I.A

1. The mission of the San Mateo County Community College District is:

PREAMBLE

The Colleges of the San Mateo County Community College District, Cañada College, College of San Mateo, and Skyline College, recognizing each individual's right to education, provide the occasions and settings which enable students to develop their minds and their skills, engage their spirits, broaden their understanding of social responsibilities, increase their cultural awareness and realize their individual potential. The District actively participates in the economic, social, and cultural development of San Mateo County. In a richly diverse environment and with increasing awareness of its role in the global community, the District is dedicated to maintaining a climate of academic freedom in which a wide variety of viewpoints is cultivated and shared. The District actively participates in the continuing development of the California Community Colleges as an integral and effective component of the structure of public higher education in the State.

MISSION

In an atmosphere of collegiality and shared responsibility, and with the objective of fostering social justice and sustaining open access for students and being responsive to community needs, the Colleges of the San Mateo County Community College District will fulfill the following mission with excellence:

- Provide a breadth of educational opportunities and experiences which encourage students to develop their general understanding of human effort and achievement; and
- Provide lower division programs to enable students to transfer to baccalaureate institutions; and
- Provide career and technical education and training programs directed toward career development, in cooperation with business, industry, labor, and public service agencies; and
- Provide basic skills education in language and computational skills required for successful completion of educational goals; and
- Provide a range of student services to assist students in attaining their educational and career goals; and
- Provide self-supporting community education classes, contract education and training and related services tailored to the human and economic development of the community; and
- Provide leadership in aligning educational programs and services offered by all local educational institutions and community service organizations; and

BP 1.01 District Mission (continued)

- Celebrate the community's rich cultural diversity, reflect this diversity in student enrollment, promote it in its staff, and maintain a campus climate that supports student success.

To fulfill this educational mission, the District is committed to effective institutional research that supports the evaluation and improvement of programs, services, and student outcomes. Participatory governance is practiced through processes that are inclusive with regard to information sharing and decision making, and that are respectful of all participants. The District plans, organizes and develops its resources to achieve maximum effectiveness, efficiency, equity and accountability.

2. The Mission of the District shall be regularly reviewed each year through the participatory governance process and more thoroughly no less than every three years through the engagement of the Board of Trustees and the students, faculty, staff, administrators of the colleges and District.

CHAPTER 6: Educational Program
BOARD POLICY NO. 6.01 (BP 4040)

BOARD POLICY
San Mateo County Community College District

Subject: BP 6.01 Philosophy and Purpose
Revision Date: 3/13; 10/13
Policy References: Education Code Section 78100; Civil Code Section 1798.90; Accreditation Standard II.C

1. The San Mateo County Community College District has established its educational philosophy on three fundamental premises: that a society requires intelligent support; that the individual has worth and dignity; and that a college has obligations to both society and the individual.
2. As a corollary to these premises, the Board and administration realize that the District's Colleges must remain sensitive to changes in the needs of the community and, within available resources, evolve their educational offerings in response to those needs.
3. In general, the purpose of each College within the District is to provide education beyond the high school level for residents of the District who can benefit from it. This education is designed to help students become aware of their potentialities, stimulate their cultural interests, and develop their career/technical abilities. It prepares students to assume the responsibilities of citizenship in our free society. It offers them the opportunity to assimilate an organized body of knowledge, to employ critical thinking, and to construct an informed frame of reference.
4. To achieve their purposes, the Colleges within the San Mateo County Community College District offer the following kinds of education:
 - a. General education
 - b. Lower-division college education
 - c. Career/technical education
 - d. Developmental education
 - e. Special educational programs and services for the community
5. The Board shall develop and periodically review a "Core Values and Principles" statement that will help shape the educational mission of the District by determining program priorities within available resources.
6. The Colleges will help students discover their aptitudes, choose their life work, and plan an educational program which will prepare them for that work. The Colleges offer this assistance through a formal program of advising and counseling, and through informal student-teacher relationships, which are distinct and valuable services. The Colleges recognize the educational value of organized student activities and encourage student and faculty participation in these activities.