CITRUS COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
BOARD

BP 2715   CODE OF ETHICS/STANDARDS OF PRACTICE

References:  Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC)
Accreditation Standards IV.C.II

Board members are responsible to:
    • hold the educational welfare of all students of the District as a primary concern;
    • ensure open, mutually supportive and accountable participation of students,
      faculty and staff in the governing process;
    • devote time, thought, and study to the duties and responsibilities of a
      community college Board so that they may render effective and creditable
      service;
    • work with fellow Board members in a spirit of harmony and cooperation in spite
      of differences of opinion that arise during vigorous debates of points of issue;
    • base decisions upon all available facts in each situation; vote by honest
      conviction in every case, unswayed by partisan bias of any kind; and abide by
      and uphold the final majority decision of the Board;
    • remember at all times that an individual Board member has no legal authority
      outside the meetings of the Board and conduct relationships with the
      community college staff, the local citizenry, and all media of the community on
      the basis of this fact;
    • resist every temptation and outside pressure to use their position as a
      community college Board member to personally benefit or benefit any other
      individual or agency apart from the total interest of the community college
      district;
    • prevent conflicts of interest;
    • recognize that it is as important for the Board to understand and evaluate the
      educational program of the community college as it is to plan for the business
      of college operation;
    • bear in mind under all circumstances that the primary function of the Board is to
      establish the policies by which the community college is to be administered;
    • welcome and encourage active cooperation by citizens, organizations, and the
      media with respect to establishing policy on current college operations and
      proposed future developments;
    • support state and national community college trustees associations;
    • act as advocate on behalf of the entire community to which it is accountable;
    • clearly define and articulate its role as a Governing Board;
    • use appropriate channels of communication;
    • create and maintain a spirit of true cooperation and a mutually supportive
      relationship with its Superintendent/President;
• strive to differentiate between external and internal processes in the exercise of its authority;
• engage in a regular and ongoing process of in-service training and continuous improvement;
• debate issues fully and openly and vote their conscience to support the decision or policy made;
• exemplify ethical behavior and conduct that is above reproach;
• maintain the confidentiality of closed sessions;
• ensure public input regarding matters that come before the Board while adhering to the law and spirit of the open meeting laws and regulations; and
• strive, step-by-step, toward ideal conditions for the most effective community college board service to the community, in the spirit of teamwork and devotion to public education as the greatest instrument for the preservation and the perpetuation of our representative democracy.

(Violations of BP 2715 are addressed under AP 2715)

Board Approved 04/07/09
Desk Review 01/18/12
Desk Review 03/19/13
Board Review 12/03/13
Board Review 09/09/14
Board Review 12/08/15
Board Review 12/06/16
Board Review 12/05/17
Board Review 12/04/18