

List of Advisory Committees

The following advisory committees help the Superintendent/President to work and communicate effectively with the communities served by Rio Hondo College:

Superintendent Meetings: The Superintendent/President meets with kindergarten through high school area superintendents each semester, providing updates on initiatives, exploring how school districts and the College can collaborate more effectively, and listening to the superintendents' ideas and concerns about how the College can assist them in helping students succeed. For example, at the most recent Superintendents Meeting on 17 March 2014, the Superintendent/President met with superintendents or assistant superintendents from ten local school districts to discuss how they can further collaboration in the Adult Education Consortium, partner in upcoming grant proposal opportunities, and share information about courses offered at both El Monte Educational Center (EMEC) and South Whittier Educational Center (SWEC). The Superintendent/President also took the opportunity to ask questions about programs available to elementary, middle, and high school districts, including career and technical education programs and cultural arts programs.

President's Advisory Committee: At least twice per year, the Superintendent/President meets with members of the President's Advisory Committee, which is comprised of local school board members, nonprofit leaders, college professors, field representatives of local elected officials, and law enforcement representatives. Meetings focus on sharing information regarding College programs, state and federal guidelines and challenges, and upcoming College events. This is an opportunity for constructive dialogue among participants to collaborate on ways the College can address community needs. For example, at the September 2013 President's Advisory Committee, the Superintendent/President solicited members of the Advisory Committee for their feedback on the revised College Mission Statement. The comments provided to the Superintendent/President were helpful in validating concerns previously expressed by campus leaders and/or identifying original ideas not previously considered.

Off-Site Educational Center Advisory Committees: The South Whittier Educational Center (SWEC) and El Monte Educational Center (EMEC) have community advisory committees authorized by the Board in 2006; they meet twice yearly to discuss the selection of courses and student services to be available at these centers. The committees are comprised of civil leaders, school district representatives, parents, nonprofit and community-based organization leaders, business leaders, and church leaders who live or work in the communities. Due primarily to input received from advisory committee members, campus leaders have strategically implemented a curriculum that is responsive to this feedback, while addressing needs in the community. This curriculum includes transfer-level courses, career-technical education courses, continuing education courses, and basic skills courses. This curriculum has been implemented at both educational centers and has been further tailored to meet individual community needs, in part, based on advisory committee

input. Curricular offerings at SWEC and EMEC have been well received by students in the communities they serve.

Citizen's Oversight Committee: Education Code 15278 mandates community colleges appoint a committee of overseers from the community to ensure accountability for bond fund expenditures. The Superintendent/President meets quarterly with the College Citizen's Oversight Committee to provide progress reports on construction, bond audits, and expenditures. Question-and-answer sessions enable all committee members to ask clarifying questions that maximize understanding and ensure transparency.