

**PARTICIPATION IN LOCAL DECISION MAKING**

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| <b>BP No.<br/>2510</b> |
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Board Adopted: 11/12/03; 1/15/14; 1/13/16; 7/12/17

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- I. The Rio Hondo College Board of Trustees 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 Superintendent/President action under which the District is governed and administered.
  - A. Participatory/Shared governance furthers the Vision, Mission, and Values of the District. In keeping with the spirit and intent of Assembly Bill 1725, the Board recognizes the unique role of the faculty, acting through the Academic Senate, in participatory/shared governance at Rio Hondo College. The Board affirms the District's commitment to maintaining and following the agreements developed with the Academic Senate to achieve the implementation of Title V, Section 53200. In addition, the Board encourages and recognizes the active participation of other District constituencies in those participatory/shared governance activities most appropriate to their interests and expertise.
  - B. Definition of Participatory/Shared Governance

Participating effectively in District and College governance is shared involvement in the decision-making process. It does not imply total agreement; the same level of involvement by all is not required; and final decisions rest with the Board or designee.
- II. Each of the following shall participate as required by law in the decision making processes of the District, as stated in AB1725 (commonly known as the "10+1" legislation):
  - A. Academic Senate (Title 5, Sections 53200-53206)
    1. The Board and its designees will consult collegially with the Academic Senate with respect to academic and professional matters. Academic and professional matters include the following:
      - a) Curriculum, including the establishment of prerequisites and placing courses within disciplines;
      - b) Degree and certificate requirements;
      - c) Grading policies;
      - d) Educational program development;
      - e) Standards regarding student preparation and success;
      - f) Governance structures as related to faculty roles;
      - g) Faculty involvement in accreditation;
      - h) Policies for faculty professional development activities;
      - i) Policies for program review;
      - j) Processes for institutional planning and budget development, and;
      - k) Other academic and professional matters as mutually agreed upon between the Academic Senate and the Board.

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**B. Staff (Title 5, Section 51023.5)**

1. Classified staff shall be provided with the opportunity to participate effectively in the formulation and development of District policies and procedures that have a significant effect on staff. The opinions and recommendations of the California School Employees Association (CSEA) will be given every reasonable consideration.
2. Management/Confidential staff shall be provided with the opportunity to participate effectively in the formulation and development of District policies and procedures that have a significant effect on staff. The opinions and recommendations of the Management/Confidential Council (MCC) will be given every reasonable consideration.

**C. Students (Title 5, Section 51023.7)**

1. The Associated Students of Rio Hondo College (ASRHC) 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 ASRHC will be given every reasonable consideration. The selection of student representatives to serve on District committees or task forces shall be made after consultation with the ASRHC.

III. Except for unforeseeable emergency situations, the Board shall not take any action on matters subject to this policy until the appropriate constituent group or groups (administrators, faculty, staff, and students) have been provided the opportunity to participate as referenced in BP 2410 (Board Policy and Administrative Procedure).

IV. 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.)

**V. Sources /References:**

Education Code Section 70902 (b)(7)  
Government Code Sections 3540, et seq  
Title 5 Sections 53200 et seq. (Academic Senate); 51023.5 (Staff) and 51023.7 (Students)  
ACCJC Accreditation Standards IV.A., and IV.D.7