The Board 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. This policy shall not be interpreted to imply that there must be total agreement by all participants with majority rule. The ultimate responsibility for decisions rests with the Board of Trustees.

Each of the following shall participate as required by law in the decision-making processes of the district:

- **Academic Senate(s) (Title 5, Sections 53200-53206.)**
  The Board or its designees will consult collegially with the Academic Senate, as duly constituted with respect to academic and professional matters, as defined by law. Procedures to implement this section are developed collegially with the Academic Senate.

- **Staff (Title 5, Section 51023.5.)**
  Classified staff shall be provided with opportunities to participate in the formulation and development of district policies and procedures that have a significant effect on staff. The opinions and recommendations of the CSEA will be given every reasonable consideration.

- **Students (Title 5, Section 51023.7.)**
  The Associated Students 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 Associated Students 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 Associated Students.

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 have been provided the opportunity to participate.

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.*

Reference: Education Code Section 70902(b)(7); Title 5, Sections 53200 et seq., (Academic Senate), 51023.5 (staff), 51023.7 (students), Accreditation Standard IV: A.