Sierra College
BOARD POLICY

Board of Trustees: “Vision 2025”

Date Adopted: 12/9/1997
Date Revised: 6/14/2016
Date Reviewed: 6/14/2016
References: Education Code Section 72231

Sierra College is committed to ensuring that the ultimate focus of all its activities is a rich, diverse, and accessible education as described in the Mission Statement.

MISSION STATEMENT
Sierra College provides an academic environment that is challenging and supportive for students of diverse backgrounds, needs, abilities, and goals with a focus on access, equity, student-centered learning, and achievement. The college is committed to practicing diversity and inclusion, and recognizes that a diverse and inclusive curriculum and workforce promotes its educational goals and values. Institutional learning outcomes guide the college’s programs and services, encouraging students to identify and expand their potential by developing knowledge, skills, and values to be fully engaged and contributing members of the global community. Sierra prepares students by offering Associate’s and transfer degrees, certificates, career and technical education, foundational skills, as well as lifelong learning and enrichment.

VISION STATEMENT
We will challenge ourselves and our community to become fulfilled citizens in a global environment by contributing to and engaging in the thoughtful application of knowledge guided by respect for others and the world in which we live.

Further, to maintain this vision throughout all the communities served by Sierra College, the Board of Trustees reaffirms as its philosophy that Sierra College should remain one college, with multiple campuses (or centers), distributed throughout the District. Every effort will be made to carry out this philosophy.

To promote the mission of the College and its philosophy, the Board of Trustees adopts its vision, “Sierra College 2020” embodied in the following philosophy and goals.

DISTRICT GOALS
The Sierra College Strategic Plan identifies six overarching District goals.
• Goal 1: Achieve equitable access and increase student success, retention and persistence in order to increase the number of students who complete certificates and degrees or transfer to four year colleges and universities while maintaining high levels of academic integrity.
• Goal 2: Identify and close success and equity gaps amongst underserved and/or underrepresented student populations.
• Goal 3: Provide professional growth and develop a climate of inclusion in order to support highly effective and innovative teaching and learning, support services, operations, and collaboration.
• Goal 4: Meet and exceed external standards through an outcomes based framework for continuous quality improvement.
• Goal 5: Modernize, revitalize and develop new facilities and infrastructure based on the current Facilities and Technology Master Plans.
• Goal 6: Expand community partnerships and funding opportunities to support strategic goals and leverage resources.

CORE VALUES
The following core values will establish our ethical principles and will guide our institutional decision-making. Sierra College will:
1. Support and model excellence in teaching, learning, scholarship, and creativity.
2. Provide the tools for continuing success in an ever-changing world.
3. Provide and demonstrate the value of an inclusive and equitable community.
4. Demonstrate collaboration in decision making.
5. Foster active citizenship in our community, our nation, and our world.
6. Create and nurture meaningful connections to our community.
7. Recognize that students are active participants in their education.
8. Support and demonstrate the sustainable use of all resources.

BOARD PHILOSOPHY: The Board of Trustees will:
• Support the efforts of all staff in focusing on the goals and mission of the District.
• Focus on institutional goals in the work of planning and governance.
• Promote and develop partnerships among schools, business, local governments, and diverse cultural interests to benefit our educational programs.
• Work collaboratively with all major community interest groups and agencies.
• Promote development that preserves environmental balance; model and foster environmental responsibility.
• Actively support legislation that increases funding for the Community Colleges.