

San Jose/Evergreen Community College District
Resolution No. 112911-3

DISTRICT RESPONSE TO THE TASK FORCE ON STUDENT SUCCESS DRAFT
RECOMMENDATIONS

WHEREAS, California Senate Bill 1143 (Chapter 409, Statutes of 2010) required the California Community Colleges Board of Governors to establish a panel to examine best practices for promoting student success and then to adopt a plan for improving degree and completion rates within the California community colleges; and

WHEREAS, a Task Force was named by the Board of Governors to fulfill these responsibilities and has published a set of recommendations known as the California Community Colleges' Task Force on Student Success Report [September 30, 2011] for consideration by the Board of Governors; and

WHEREAS, the Task Force has provided a limited period of six weeks for the college constituencies to provide feedback on the recommendations; and

WHEREAS, the Task Force is scheduled to present its final recommendations to the Board of Governors on January 9-10, 2012 for the first time and is scheduled for action; and

WHEREAS, the draft recommendations have the potential of substantially changing the mission and scope of California Community Colleges, including assessment standards for community college courses, the funding model, resulting in a significant impact on individual colleges, their students, and the communities they serve; and

WHEREAS, the SJECCD Board of Trustees is currently working on the adoption of our own Student Success Policy based on the Association of Community College (ACCT) Congress Student Success Policy Framework; and

WHEREAS, the SJECCD Academic Senates and the Faculty Association, AFT 6157 have formally filed their concerns with this board regarding the California Community Colleges Task Force on Student Success Report; and

WHEREAS, the students, faculty, staff and Governing Board members are unanimous in supporting and recognizing the need for continuous improvement in support of student success in community colleges;

WHEREAS, these recommendations lock first year community college students into a major and prevents them from exploring other options. California residents would be required to pay out of state tuition for courses not listed in their education plan. This idea would be devastating because community college is often where students discover in what areas they excel through exploratory coursework.

WHEREAS, these proposals drastically reduce local control of community colleges, creating a larger bureaucracy at the state level. Community colleges throughout the state serve vastly different student populations with different issues; urban and rural, middle- and low-income students. Priorities for admission and for class offerings at local colleges would be set at the state level, not at the local level based on local needs. A one-size-fits-all approach does not serve local communities nor is it accountable to local communities.

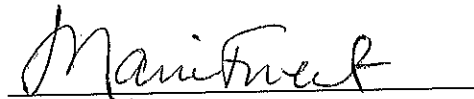
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the San Jose/Evergreen Community College District Governing Board of Trustees strongly urges the California Community Colleges Board of Governors to withhold its adoption of and defer any implementation of recommendations from the California Community Colleges' Task Force on Student Success Report until further dialogue, research, and evidence is completed to substantiate the draft recommendations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the San Jose/Evergreen Community College District Governing Board of Trustees recommends that these analyses be conducted within six months and include involvement of California community college professionals and representatives of the communities they serve to ensure a comprehensive, inclusive result that is in the best interests of the California community colleges and California residents, and will include, prior to implementation studies, an analysis of the financial impact of the recommendations on students and colleges.

Adopted by the Governing Board of Trustees of the San Jose/Evergreen Community College District, this 29th day of November 2011.



Dr. Rita Cepeda
Board Secretary



Mr. Ron Lind
Board President