

RESOLUTION NO. 12-1

**BY THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE
SAN MATEO COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

WHEREAS, on January 9, 2012, the California Community Colleges Board of Governors approved the Student Success Task Force recommendations; and

WHEREAS, in a letter November 30, 2011 and addressed to State Chancellor Jack Scott, the Board of Trustees of the San Mateo County Community College District ("District"), through Chancellor Ron Galatolo, urged the Board of Governors to withhold adoption of and defer any implementation of the recommendations until further dialogue, research and evidence could be completed to substantiate the proposed actions; and

WHEREAS, while the Board of Trustees of the District commends the Board of Governors and members of the Task Force for their commitment to student success, the Board continues to have serious concerns about many of the recommendations, including:

- Student success is measured through the lens of only one type of student:
 - a. many of the District's students come from academically and/or economically challenging circumstances and their needs differ from the type of student to which the recommendations are geared; the implementation of the recommendations, including uniform placement testing (which data suggests is not a true indicator of success), could result in unequal access to education for these students.
 - b. many of the District's students have achieved success outside of the narrow parameters of the recommendations, e.g. choosing a major early on or achieving their goals within a specified period of time.
- Implementing mandatory, early educational plans that are difficult to update will eliminate students' ability to explore, forcing them into programs of study before they know what they want to do.
- Amid ongoing budget reductions, there is a lack of funding to implement the recommendations.
- The recommendations represent a fundamental change to the mission of community colleges.
- The recommendations deprive local Boards of Trustees of the right to make decisions that balance the individual needs of their students, resulting in a disconnection from the community; the San Mateo County Community College Board of Trustees has developed a "Statement of Core Values and Principles" which outlines priorities based on the needs of its students and the community.
- The lack of a strong Career/Technical Education component in the recommendations could have a negative economic impact on the State of California as training of a skilled workforce is neglected.
- Only one student member was appointed to the Task Force; no Chief Business Officers, who could have addressed the potential economic burdens associated with the recommendations, were appointed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the San Mateo County Community College District recommends that the concerns listed above, along with the concerns of other interested parties, be considered before implementing any of the recommendations of the California Community Colleges Student Success Task Force.

REGULARLY PASSED AND ADOPTED this 25th day of January, 2012.

Ayes: Richard Holober, Dave Mandelkern, Patricia Miljanich, Karen Schwarz

Noes: 0

Abstentions: 0

Attest:



Dave Mandelkern, President
Board of Trustees