

## **Board of Trustees Agenda Item**

**Board Meeting Date: 2/7/11**

**Title of Item:** BP 4195 Political Activity (Rev.) (1<sup>st</sup> Reading)

### **Background and Analysis:**

The district currently has policies that address campaign assistance to Board members and political campaigning by faculty members. However, the district does not have a policy that addresses political activities of employees. The current policy on faculty campaigning has been expanded to include political activities by all employees.

The Chancellor's Advisory Council has reviewed and approved the attached policy as revised.

**Recommendation:** Information only

Submitted by:	Linda Thor, x6104
Additional contact names:	
Is backup provided?	Yes

## **Political Campaigning by Faculty Members Activity**

**4195**

No restriction shall be placed on the political activities of any employee of the District except as provided in Board policy and procedures.

No district funds, services, supplies or equipment may be used to urge the support of or defeat of any ballot measure or candidate including but not limited to any candidate for election to the Governing Board. District resources may be used to provide information to the public about the possible effects of a bond issue or other ballot measure if both the following conditions are met:

- The information activities are otherwise authorized by the Constitution or laws of the State of California; and
- The information provided constitutes a fair and impartial presentation of relevant facts to aid the electorate in reaching an informed judgment regarding the bond issue or ballot measure.

An officer or employee of the District may solicit or receive political funds or contributions to promote the support or defeat of a ballot measure that would affect the rate of pay, hours of work, retirement, or other working conditions of officers or employees of the District. However, such activities are prohibited during working hours, and entry into buildings and grounds of the District during working hours is prohibited. Such activities are permitted during nonworking time. "Nonworking time" means time outside an employee's working hours, whether before or after the workday or during the employee's lunch period or other breaks during the day.

~~Because faculty members influence the thinking and conclusions of students and because De Anza and Foothill Colleges are institutions founded and supported by the total public of the District, it is the belief of the Board that the responsibility of the Colleges in supporting the democratic processes of our society can be best furthered if faculty members avoid active campaigning in their classrooms for candidates, partisan issues and ballot propositions.~~

This policy is not intended to limit free and objective discussion in the classroom of all ballot issues where appropriate, nor is it intended to limit the right of faculty members to align themselves actively in any political campaign outside the classroom nor is it intended to limit the right of faculty members to serve as advisors of a properly constituted student political club.

*See: Board Policy 9550—Campaign Assistance to Board Members; NEA Code of Ethics*

Education Code 7054

Approved 1/7/63

Amended 10/2/68, 2/3/71, 11/18/96; \_\_\_\_\_

Reviewed/Approved by CAC 1/28/11