

## **Board of Trustees Agenda Item**

**Board Meeting Date:** 7/2/12

**Title of Item:** 2011-12 Board Self-Evaluation

### **Background and Analysis:**

This item provides an opportunity for the Board of Trustees to engage in its annual self-examination of its effectiveness and functionality. A self-evaluation instrument was created based on the Board's Philosophy and Mission and the Board's Code of Ethics. A summary of the trustees' responses is attached.

**Recommendation:** Information only

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



## BOARD OF TRUSTEES SELF-EVALUATION 2012

**Please return to Donna Toyohara no later than June 25**  
(fax: 650-941-6289)

This instrument is for use in the Board's annual evaluation of its effectiveness. The following questions and your responses to them are for your use only. Your responses will be summarized and you will be asked to share your general conclusions with the other members of the Board at an open meeting. No one else will be shown this information unless you choose to share your responses, which will remain anonymous.

### Section I: BOARD PHILOSOPHY

*Please indicate to what degree the Board of Trustees adheres to its philosophy statement, using the following scale:*

Scoring System				
4	3	2	1	No Opinion
Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Blank

#### Philosophy of the Board of Trustees

We, the trustees of the Foothill-De Anza Community College District, commit ourselves individually and collectively to the highest standards of conduct. We acknowledge that each of us shares a profound obligation to exercise our best possible judgment as we face the matters affecting the health and vitality of this institution which we hold in trust for current and future generations. We pledge to work together on behalf of our community in a spirit of cooperation and collaboration.

  4   As an individual Board Member, I've done a good job at this.

  4   As a whole Board, we've done a good job at this.

### Section II: BOARD MISSION

*Please indicate to what degree you adhere to the Board's mission statement, using the above rating scale:*

#### Mission of the Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees carries out the philosophy, mission and priorities of the Foothill-De Anza Community College District through the execution of the following responsibilities:

3.75 • Determines policy and direction of the institution, and evaluates the implementation of policy recognizing the philosophy of participatory governance that exists in the district;

4 • Establishes and protects district-wide a climate in which teaching and learning are deeply valued, where the worth and dignity of each individual is respected, and where cultural diversity is celebrated;

3.75 • Acknowledges students, their opportunities, and their progress as the central purpose of our colleges and supports their academic pursuit through careful program review;

4 • Ensures the fiscal health and stability of the Colleges and Central Services by having close working relationships with the Chancellor, financial staff, and auditors, and assures that proper procedures are in place to monitor this fiscal stability;

4 • Appoints, supports and assesses the performance of the Chancellor, and assures integrity and oversight of the evaluation processes for all district employees and the Board itself;

3.5 • Ensures quality teaching through its oversight of policies and procedures for hiring, tenure review, and professional growth of faculty and administrative staff, and clearly recognizes the contribution of classified staff in enabling teaching and learning to take place;

4 • Acts as a community bridge, recognizing that community priorities are to be addressed through program offerings, types of facilities, and neighborly cooperation;

4 • Serves as a positive agent of change, recognizing that it holds the Colleges in trust for future generations of students;

3.75 • Serves as a court of appeal; and

3.75 • Works constantly to improve the Board's quality of trusteeship through orientation, education and assessment of its own performance.

#### OVERALL RATING ON SECTION II:

4 As an individual Board Member, I've done a good job at this.

4 As a whole Board, we've done a good job at this.

#### Section III: BOARD ETHICS

*Please review the Board's Code of Ethics and determine whether you, as an individual Board Member, have adhered to the following ethical duties and responsibilities. Please use the following scale:*

Scoring System				
4	3	2	1	No Opinion
Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Blank

As a Trustee of the Foothill-De Anza Community College District:

- 4 1. I devote the necessary time, thought and study to the duties and responsibilities of a Trustee to render effective and credible service.
- 4 2. I work with fellow Board members in a spirit of harmony, respect, and cooperation, acknowledging that differences of opinion will arise.
- 4 3. I base personal decisions upon all available facts in each situation, vote my honest conviction in every case, and abide by and support the final majority decision of the Board.
- 4 4. I deal openly with issues while maintaining strict confidentiality when appropriate or required.
- 4 5. I remember at all times that an individual Board Member has no legal authority outside the meetings of the Board and conduct all relationships with the college staff, students, local citizenry, and media on the basis of that fact.
- 4 6. I avoid any situations where conflict of interest is real or apparent, do not use my position as a Trustee for personal benefit or gain, and promptly and honestly file all conflict of interest statements as required by law.
- 4 7. I welcome and encourage input and active cooperation by citizens of the college community and the community at large.
- 4 8. I would only consider any opportunity for employment by the District (other than as a Trustee) after one year upon leaving office.

OVERALL RATING ON SECTION III:

4 Yes, I've done a good job at this.

#### **Section IV: BOARD STRENGTHS, WEAKNESSES AND AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT**

What do you think are the Board's greatest strengths?

*Independent; no personal agendas; well informed; collegial. We understand the policy making role of a trustee.*

*Board members work well together and with staff in a collegial manner. They are prepared at meetings, asking questions, always keeping in mind the trustees' fiduciary and community responsibilities.*

*Very professional and committed group of individuals. Passionate about the mission of student support and student success. Understands the policy-making role. Works as a team with the Chancellor and ensures good governance practices.*

*Collegiality - commitment to best interests of District - diligence in preparing for and attending meetings - courteous treatment of staff.*

What do you think are the Board's greatest weaknesses?

*Perhaps could be more visible on campuses and in the community.*

*Board should ask more questions - need to better coordinate attendance at year end events.*

Given these strengths and weaknesses, in what ways could the Board improve its effectiveness?

*Board should continue community outreach efforts. At board meetings, we could go back to having an occasional presentation, but one where we have the opportunity for questioning and potential policy implications. The agendas for the last year have been budget, facilities and routine items.*

Additional Comments:

*During these times of difficult budgets, analyze budgetary impacts of all decisions and long-term impacts. Also during these challenging times, continue to ensure quality programs and staff, ensure student achievement, support innovation, and keep an eye on a strong and sustained future.*

*Because our administration and staff are very competent, mission driven, and student centered, our policy making role is easy to maintain. We can provide oversight without drifting into management.*