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**Board Policy**  
Chapter 2 – Board of Trustees

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**BP 2200 BOARD DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Board of Trustees of the Santa Monica Community College District derives its powers from the Constitution of the State of California (Article IX; Section 14), and laws enacted by the Legislature of the State of California (Education Code).

The Board of Trustees has the Power(s) and Responsibility to:

1. determine the educational program of the Santa Monica Community College District and to ensure the quality, integrity, improvement of student learning programs and services and the resources necessary to support them.
2. hire, evaluate and terminate the Superintendent/President.
3. make rules and regulations for the operation of the District; generally it delegates that authority to the Superintendent/President, retaining the right to review rules and regulations for harmony with Board of Trustees policies.
4. call or cause to call the elections for certain purposes among the voters of the District.
5. hold and convey property for the use and benefit of the District.
6. impose the authorization of eminent domain.
7. contract for goods and services necessary for the operation of the District.
8. be fiscally independent from the County Department of Education for the purpose of processing payroll, retirement and payment of expenditures, or of causing special assessments to be levied on property within the District.
9. fix and prescribe duties to be performed by employees of the District.
10. establish its own procedures.

11. sue and be sued.

12. appraise and review its actions and policies.

The Board of Trustees governs on behalf of the citizens of the District in accordance with the authority granted and duties defined in Education Code Section 70902.

The Board is committed to fulfilling its responsibilities to:

- Represent the public interest;
- Establish policies that define the institutional mission and set prudent, ethical, and legal standards for college operations;
- Assure the Board operate in an open, accessible, welcoming spirit, and maintains an inclusive and anti-racist culture;
- Establish policies that ensure the District operates in an inclusive and anti-racist manner;
- Hire and evaluate the Superintendent/President;
- Delegate power and authority to the chief executive to effectively lead the District;
- Assure fiscal health and stability;
- Monitor institutional performance and educational quality; and
- Advocate and protect the District.

Also see BP 2715 Code of Ethics/Standards of Practice.

**References:**

Education Code Sections 5304, 70902, 72000, and 72400;  
ACCJC Accreditation Standard 4

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Revised: July 5, 2016; June 6, 2017; June 4, 2024 (references only)

*(Replaces former SMC BP 1210)*