

# **SOUTH ARKANSAS COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD POLICY NO. 12**

## **POLICY TYPE: GOVERNANCE PROCESS**

### **POLICY TITLE: *GOVERNING STYLE***

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The Board will govern with an emphasis on (a) outward vision rather than an internal preoccupation, (b) encouragement of diversity in viewpoints, (c) strategic leadership more than administrative detail, (d) clear distinction of Board and chief executive roles, (e) collective rather than individual decisions, (f) future rather than past or present, and (g) proactivity rather than reactivity.

Accordingly:

1. The Board will maintain a sense of group responsibility. The Board, not the staff, will be responsible for excellence in governing. The Board may use the expertise of individual members to enhance the ability of the Board as a body, rather than to substitute the individual judgments for the Board's values.
2. The Board will direct, control and inspire the organization through the careful establishment of broad written policies reflecting the Board's values and perspectives. The Board's major policy focus will be on the intended long term impacts outside the organization, not on the administrative or programmatic means of attaining those effects.
3. The Board will enforce upon itself whatever discipline is needed to govern with excellence. Discipline will apply to matters such as attendance, preparation for meetings, policymaking principles, respect of roles, and ensuring the continuance of governance capability. Although the Board can change its governance process policies at any time, it will observe them scrupulously while in force.
  - a. Board absenteeism will be dealt with according to state statutes and governor's directives.
4. Continual Board development will include orientation of new Board members in the Board's governance process and periodic Board discussion of process improvement.
5. The Board will allow no officer, individual or committee of the Board to hinder or be an excuse for not fulfilling its commitments.
6. The Board will monitor and discuss the Board's process and performance at each meeting. Self-monitoring will include comparison of Board activity and discipline to policies in the Governance Process and Board-President Linkage policies (#18, #19, #20, #21, #22).