TOPIC ________ Inclusion of Additional Students to the College Equity Plan

Communication No.

SUPPORTS BOARD POLICY

Board Policy 5300 Student Equity – The Governing Board is committed to assuring student equity in educational programs and college services. The Superintendent/President shall establish and implement a student equity plan that meets the Title 5 standards for such a plan.

PROPOSAL

To change the methodology used to develop our current equity plan to make the plan more inclusive of the student populations Chaffey College currently serves.

BACKGROUND

In accordance with the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office Student Equity and Achievement (SEA) guidelines, local governing boards have the capacity and discretion to identify specific populations of students whose educational outcomes are disproportionately impacted (reference). In the past, Chaffey's Equity Plan has focused on a research methodology that highlighted lower achievement outcomes for the following communities:

- African-American students (7.48%)
- LGBTQ+ students (0.55%). This is a relative new data element that is just beginning to be captured as self-reported data by students and is likely underreported.
- Students utilizing Disabled Programs and Services (5.49%)

While the achievement of these students needs to continue to be addressed through programming and support through SEA, other students also require attention that the previous methodology did not address, and these populations make up a significant proportion of the Chaffey College population. These students are included in the following communities:

- First-generation college students (40.67%)
- Hispanic (LatinX) students (65.65%)
- Currently and formerly incarcerated students (0.69%). This figure is believed to be underreported based on statewide data that 25% of Californians are justice-involved

As the College continues to refine its efforts to amplify equitable outcomes, these student groups represent a significant ratio or growing segment of the overall student population. Incorporating these students into the Chaffey College Equity Plan will allow SEA resources to be dedicated to services and supports that impact a larger group of students who are also experiencing inequitable achievement outcomes.

This also aligns with the Educational Master Plan Chaffey Goals, which was adopted during the March 2020 meeting, in which equitable achievement is the very first goal. In addition, a webinar held by California Community College Chancellor Eloy Oakley included the need for equity plans to be more representative of the students served by an institution, especially due to the current pandemic’s impact on our student populations.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Funding Source – Student Equity Funding

Status of Funds – The 2020-2021 SEA categorical funding was not impacted by budget cuts and to date the College has not utilized all funding allocated for equity work and programming.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Governing Board approve to modify the Chaffey College Equity Plan to make it more inclusive by adding in the aforementioned student populations.
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