

# Monterey Peninsula Community College District

## Governing Board Agenda

February 22, 2010

New Business Agenda Item No. 1

Superintendent/President's  
Office

### **Proposal:**

That the Governing Board approve the Resolution in Support of California Community Colleges Budget Priorities and Principles.

### **Background:**

California is facing extraordinary fiscal pressures due to an extended national recession and the reluctance to address a structural funding problem over several years. Governor Brown is faced with a two-year \$25 billion budget deficit representing over 25% of the entire California state annual budget. The state legislature and the Governor are committed to developing a budget for 2011-2012 that addresses this situation from a structural perspective, not relying on accounting gimmicks. The Governor's resulting budget proposal was published in January indicating potential budget reduction to the Monterey Peninsula College District ranging from \$1.9 million to \$5.4 million. The lower end of the range represents a plan to address roughly half of the total state budget deficit, discounted by applying potential 2011-2012 growth revenue to the California Community College's share of the budget response, \$400 million. The low end of the range assumes that the legislature agrees to a special election in June and the voters of California support the extension of prior tax and fees increases. The higher end of the range represents a plan to address the entire \$25 billion deficit and assumes that current temporary taxes are not extended. Between these extremes are other scenarios that involve interpretations of Proposition 98 and/or political agreements that might involve a multi-year approach to addressing the state's budget deficit.

The Community College League of California has developed the following resolution concerning this budget proposal and urges Governing Boards to consider endorsement as a part of the overall legislative advocacy program on behalf of the California Community College System.

Deleted from their original proposed resolution are references to support for passage of local parcel taxes with 55% voter approval and for the recommendations for an incentive funding program to encourage student success as proposed in the report "A 20/20 Vision for Student Success." This Board has not had discussion on these two issues which is necessary prior to any expression of support.

### **Budgetary Implications:**

None.

**RESOLUTION:** WHEREAS, California's higher education system is in a crisis situation with insufficient resources at a time of record demand due to high school graduates and unemployed residents seeking retraining; and

WHEREAS, the Governor's Proposed Budget seeks a balanced approach of making \$12.5 billion in spending cuts and asking the voters to extend temporary tax increases totaling \$12 billion for five years; and

**WHEREAS**, under the Governor's Proposed Budget, California community colleges would face \$400 million in state general fund cuts; and

**WHEREAS**, without an extension of temporary tax increases, California community colleges could face \$900 million in state general fund cuts; and

**WHEREAS**, Monterey Peninsula Community College District faces cuts of at least \$1.9 million under the Governor's Proposed Budget and \$5.4 million if an all-cuts budget were to be adopted instead; and

**WHEREAS**, California's locally elected community college trustees, together with their faculty, staff and students, are best able to decide where budget reductions can be absorbed while minimizing the impact on their communities; and

**WHEREAS**, "targeted" cuts at specific curriculum that cost colleges the least to offer will, in addition to injuring students in transfer and career preparation programs, require districts to reduce enrollment in higher-cost programs such as advanced technology and nursing; and

**WHEREAS**, fee increases charged to community college students should protect the quality of instruction and student services; and


**WHEREAS**, policy and practice reforms to improve student success and motivate student behavior should be based on sound research implemented in a manner to allow students and institutions to adjust; now, therefore, be it

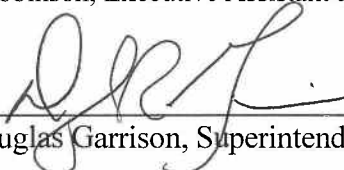
**RESOLVED** that the Monterey Peninsula Community College District supports a balanced approach to budgeting, including the extension of temporary tax revenues to protect vital state programs along with budgetary cuts to bring California's state budget into balance; and be it further

**RESOLVED** that the Monterey Peninsula Community College District supports redirecting any amount of student fee revenue increase to reduce the proposed apportionment cut to protect the quality of student instruction and services; and be it further

**RESOLVED** that the Board of Trustees of the Monterey Peninsula Community College District, by passage of this resolution, expresses its full support for the above principles and positions on the Governor's Proposed Budget for the 2011-2012 fiscal year.

**Recommended By:** Dr. Douglas Garrison, Superintendent/President

**Prepared By:**   
Carla Robinson, Executive Assistant to Superintendent/President and Governing Board

**Agenda Approval:**   
Dr. Douglas Garrison, Superintendent/President