

**Agenda Item Details**

Meeting	Jun 24, 2020 - Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees
Category	12. ACTION ITEMS
Subject	12.12 Resolution 19-29 - Affirming Our Commitment to Student Success for Black and African American Students
Type	Action

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BACKGROUND

California Community Colleges represent and serve one of the most diverse populations in the world in terms of race, ethnicity, language, culture, nationality, socio-economic class, age, physical ability; sexual orientation, and religious beliefs. The California Community Colleges' unwavering commitment to diversity and inclusion requires that we advocate and employ our collective voice to identify and eliminate barriers to equity and equality, and that we act deliberately to create a safe and inclusive environment where individual and group differences are valued and leveraged for our growth and understanding as an educational community.

On April 22, 2020, the African American Student Success Virtual Town Hall was convened with over 1,000 California community college practitioners, policymakers, and national scholars to discuss financial aid reform, housing, food, technology and transportation insecurities, impacts of COVID-19 on African American students, and policy recommendations to support this student population.

April 27, 2020, through May 1, 2020, African American Success Week was held, with an average of 300 participants participating in daily webinars covering recommendations for Black student success, housing insecurity, COVID-19, and listening to Black student voices.

On May 25, 2020, Mr. George Floyd, a Black man in Minnesota, died, face down, under the knee of a White police officer. Reactions to the unjust death of Mr. Floyd have varied, and the nation continues to witness the Black community pushed to the edge by systemic racism.

On June 3, 2020, a united message from the Mt. SAC Board of Trustees, administration, faculty, staff, and students was issued to denounce acts of racism and discrimination, and, further, to renew the commitment to reflect, progress, and change with intentionality.

Juneteenth marks an important day in history as the day that word of the Emancipation Proclamation finally reached Galveston, Texas on June 19, 1865, and officially abolished slavery everywhere in the United States.

ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT

Mt. San Antonio College reaffirms our commitment to foster a culture in which all members of the Black and African American community, (1) feel safe, respected, and valued; (2) are invited to participate fully and share their unique gifts, talents, and backgrounds; (3) increasingly recognize the value of perspectives that differ from our own; and (4) understand that diversity and inclusion are key priorities of Mt. San Antonio College. Mt. San Antonio College supports the following recommendations be implemented to support Black and African American students at Mt. San Antonio College:

- The recommendations developed by the California Community Colleges Black and African American Advisory Panel; and
- Equitize funding across public postsecondary education for lower-division courses; and

- Increase the Cal Grant to cover the Total Cost of Attendance; and
- Update Cal Grant eligibility requirements to meet the needs of Black community college students (e.g., adult learners who attend part-time); and
- Explore options to allow students to use the Cal Grant to attend out-of-state institutions[i]; and
- Reinvest in California Community Colleges Student Equity and Achievement Program; and
- Allocate COVID-19 stimulus funding with a race-conscious perspective.

Funding Source

Not applicable.

[ATTACHMENT-Resolution 19-29-Affirming Our Commitment to Black and African American Students.pdf \(164 KB\)](#)

[ATTACHMENT-Resolution 19-29-Affirming Our Commitment to Black and African American Students-Corrected Copy.pdf \(169 KB\)](#)