



SAN MATEO COUNTY
COMMUNITY
COLLEGE DISTRICT

Statement Reinforcing Civility, Tolerance and Acceptance

Adopted by the Board of Trustees on April 22, 2020

In August 2017, the Board of Trustees affirmed in an official statement its admonition against racism, xenophobia and all other forms of discrimination, hate and intolerance. Sadly, due to recent actions and comments from national officials and individuals in various locations across the state and country, the Board and the broader District community find it necessary to again revisit this statement and reaffirm its ardent position on anti-discrimination, tolerance and acceptance.

The COVID-19 pandemic has forced our global society to adjust how we work, learn, interact and live. This wholesale transformation of our daily lives has left many coping with how to adjust and many more struggling with the inability to do so. With this societal recalibration, fear often takes hold and leads to irrational behaviors that are not acceptable under any circumstances. Looking for individuals, groups, cultures or races of people to blame for our current condition is not appropriate, legitimate or tolerable. In fact, rhetoric of discrimination, hate or bigotry is never and will never be acceptable, and the Board and the District community continues to fight such behaviors in our classrooms, on our campuses, in our District, in our community and in our broader society. We should not and will not stay silent on actions and words that are laced with tones and intentions that are hateful and discriminatory and are designed to malign, isolate, and instill fear and incite behaviors that cause any form harm to others.

More simply put: On behalf of the District, the Board of Trustees rejects any rhetoric or actions that look to place blame or discriminate against Asians or those of Asian descent and we reject those who exploit new social avenues to communicate to spew hate and incite actions that cause crimes of hate. This will not be tolerated in the District and we reject it in our community and society. We stand in solidarity with those who resist this hate and we stand against those who perpetuate this hate