EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY

Adoption of a realistic philosophical position and a set of basic objectives is fundamental to the founding of Ohlone College and to its pursuit of excellence. The Board of Trustees have, therefore, adopted the following statements of “Goals and Objectives” and “Guiding Principles”.

Goals and Objectives

The Fremont—Newark Community College District has been established to provide opportunities for educational experiences beyond high school to all youth and adults of the area. It is committed to excellence in programs which:

1. Emphasize the dignity and worth of the individual
2. Provide content and analytical methodology by which to examine the disciplines, which have occupied the minds of men
3. Ensure occupational competence for entry into appropriate vocational fields
4. Magnify the language of words and numbers
5. Extend the ability to appreciate the creative arts
6. Foster keener understanding of political principles and development
7. Nurture ethical intuition for greater awareness of justice among men

Guiding Principles

1. Ohlone College shall serve the total community. It will provide educational opportunities for all people of post high school age, regardless of socio-economic class, level of aspiration or previous performance. Thus, this college shall adhere strictly to the open door policy.

2. Each student is a separate and unique individual who shall be accepted as such. It shall be the responsibility of each staff member to focus on the work and dignity of each student.

3. Ohlone College shall provide a focus on learning as an individual process that can best be accomplished through active involvement in a setting of reality. It shall be recognized that learning is a logical outgrowth of experience that are meaningful to each student and not the rote acquisition of a specific body of knowledge.

4. Ohlone College shall be characterized by its flexibility in meeting student needs. Every facet of the institution shall promote this quality.

5. Ohlone College shall combine the strengths of the various disciplines, so that each will contribute to and support the bases used by students to reach their goals.

6. Ohlone College shall perceive achievement as a function of individual growth and not of time alone. Progress will not terminate at an artificial barrier, but continue on through the student’s goal.

7. Ohlone College shall focus on student success by preserving an environment where each individual will have maximum freedom of choice. It will afford each student an opportunity to profit from education to the fullest extent of his capabilities.
8. Ohlone College shall be responsive to the needs and desires of the total community by meeting the occupational intellectual, sociological, and cultural needs of the community.

9. The personnel, functions and services provided at Ohlone College shall be distinguished by their specific ability to meet the needs of students in reaching their particular goals. None shall base their existence upon the sole fact that they are a usual occurrence at a community college.

10. Ohlone College shall enable each student to acquire the trait of learning as a lifelong pattern. Learning will be considered a continuous process and not an isolated incident occurring in a given time or place.

11. Ohlone College shall require that each member of the staff contribute to the process of guidance and counseling. This responsibility shall be apparent in student—staff relationships and will not be the responsibility of specified persons alone.

12. Ohlone College shall be committed to continuous planning, development and evaluation. It shall seek and expect constant re—examination as a natural process for making appropriate modifications in every phase of its activities.

13. There shall be change with a purpose. Toward this end Ohlone College shall seek innovation, support creativity and imagination, while conformity for its own sake will be ignored. It shall take advantage of every technological and methodological advance, which appears to have promise.

14. The material and human resources adjacent to and beyond the campus shall be an integral part of the educational program.

15. Ohlone College shall promote and entrust each student with the democratic ideals that produce responsible citizenship in the American society.