

San José–Evergreen Community College District

DISTRICT ACADEMIC SENATE MEETING

Minutes • Tuesday September 8 2026

Attendance: The chair reported seven of eight voting members present and a quorum. Full attendance roster, meeting location, and call-to-order time require verification against the official attendance record.

Identifiable participants included Mark Branom, David Hendricks, John Banks, and Cristina Leal. Eric Narveson joined remotely in a nonvoting capacity. Audrey Blumeneau participated remotely and departed during the meeting.

I. Call to Order

President Mark Branom opened the first DAS meeting of the academic year, welcomed members, and conducted introductions. A quorum was established.

II. Approval of Agenda

An item concerning compensation for associate faculty Senate participation was added at Cristina Leal's request. The agenda, as amended, was adopted without objection.

III. Approval of Previous Minutes

The March, April, and May meeting minutes were approved without correction or objection following a motion to approve. The transcript does not reliably identify the mover and seconder.

IV. Public Comments

No public comments were received during the public-comment period.

V. Information and Discussion Items

1. Constitution and Bylaws Review

Members discussed leadership continuity, a two-year presidency, minimum one-year terms for other positions, staggered terms, and eligibility when college Senate membership or associate faculty assignments change. President Branom will prepare draft amendments for the next DAS meeting. Proposed changes would be submitted to the college senates through the amendment process. No final amendments were adopted.

2. Districtwide Screening Committee Appointments

Members considered a process under which the DAS President announces districtwide opportunities to all faculty and DAS votes on appointments, with a provision for online or email voting or another method in an emergency between meetings. The motion was made and seconded and adopted without objection. The transcript does not reliably identify the mover or seconder. This records the adopted proposal and does not establish the legal validity of the between-meeting provision.

2. Districtwide Screening Committee Appointments continued

Human Resources requested replacing Avid Farhoodfar with Fabio Gonzalez on the Human Resources Generalist screening committee, position S2639, because HR would not approve the proposed all-female committee. Members discussed committee diversity and expressed concerns about using gender in committee selection and the clarity of HR's criteria.

A motion to direct the DAS President to make the substitution was made and seconded and adopted without objection. President Branom will notify Avid Farhoodfar, Fabio Gonzalez, and Samantha Vo. A separate districtwide opportunity will be distributed to faculty for consideration at the next DAS meeting.

3. Districtwide Faculty Teaching Academy

President Branom summarized Fabio Gonzalez's earlier proposal for a Faculty Teaching Academy. Members discussed teaching practices, assessment, classroom management, accessibility and Universal Design for Learning, support for new and experienced faculty, and professional-growth credit. Eric Narveson offered to contribute as an instructor.

A motion concerning exploration of District financial and academic support for the Academy was made and seconded by Cristina Leal. Further discussion addressed resource requirements and an earlier budget estimate of approximately \$50,000. President Branom agreed to incorporate supporting material into a proposal. The transcript does not capture a final vote or declaration of disposition; this must be verified before approval of the minutes.

4. Board Policies and Administrative Procedures

Members were asked to review Chapters 4 and 5, with particular attention to AP 4020 and AP 4021. Audrey Blumeneau recommended reviewing AP 4105 for regular and substantive interaction, accessibility, Universal Design for Learning, and related course-outline provisions. President Branom will distribute District review materials when received. Recommendations may be routed through the BP/AP task force for Senate consideration.

5. Artificial Intelligence Resource Hub

President Branom presented the draft District AI Resource Hub, including responsible use, resources for each constituency, professional development, courses and career pathways, and assistance. The site remains a draft pending District review and development of AI guidance. Librarian feedback will be incorporated. Members also discussed agentic AI and assessment practices. President Branom announced his selection as a Chancellor's Office AI Fellow.

6. Strategic Enrollment Management

SJCC reported work on enrollment data, schedules that support degree completion, curriculum currency, and faculty participation in the SEM process. A site visit was reported for October 15. EVC reported development of community service officer and personal care aide certificate pathways and its logic model, with a site visit reported for October 12. Recurring SEM updates were requested for future DAS agendas.

7. Associate Faculty Senate Compensation

Cristina Leal presented a proposed resolution supporting compensation for associate faculty serving in Senate positions. Discussion addressed equity, institutional-service expectations, participation, potential funding, and coordination with the union. An EVC participant described existing meeting stipends. SJCC's preliminary estimate for compensating five associate faculty at-large positions was approximately \$20,000 annually. The proposal will return for further consideration; no adoption of a compensation resolution was recorded.

VI. Action and Consent Items

No separate action or consent items were taken up. Motions made during the information and discussion portion are recorded above.

VII. College Reports

EVC reported on Collegiality in Action, professional-development resources, accessibility, and remote access to Senate and committee meetings. SJCC reported a successful Senate retreat addressing the Brown Act and shared governance, discussion with college administrators, and plans for a spring retreat. Shared-governance concerns included dual enrollment.

VIII. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded. Without objection, the meeting adjourned at 5:14 p.m.