

Peer Review Team Ventura CCD Report

Ventura Community College District
761 E. Daly Drive
Camarillo, CA 93010

This report represents the findings of the Peer Review Team that conducted a Follow-Up visit to Ventura Community College District April 4, 2025. The Commission acted on the accredited status of the institution during its June 2025 meeting and this team report must be reviewed in conjunction with the Commission's Action letter.

Brian King
Team Chair

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Ventura Community College District

Peer Review Team Roster

Brian King, Team Chair
Los Rios CCD
Chancellor

ACADEMIC MEMBERS

Eve Castellanos
Reedley College
Faculty Coordinator

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEMBERS

William McGinnis
Butte College
Trustee

ACCJC STAFF LIAISON

Kevin Bontenbal
Vice President

Purpose of Follow-Up Visit

INSTITUTION: Ventura Community College District

DATES OF VISIT: April 4, 2025

TEAM CHAIR: Brian King

Purpose of Site Visit

The peer review team conducted its follow-up peer review of the Ventura Community College District on April 4, 2025. At its meeting on January 10-11, 2024, the Commission determined noncompliance with Standard IV.C.12, and acted to require a Follow-Up Report due no later than March 1, 2025, followed by a visit from a peer review team. Members of the peer review team conducted and concluded its follow-up site visit to the Ventura Community College District on April 4, 2025.

The purpose of the visit was to verify that the Follow-Up Report prepared by the Institution was accurate, through examination of evidence, and interviews with Institution representatives, to determine if the Institution now meets the Standards noted in the following compliance requirement:

Standard IV.C.12: In order to meet the Standard, the Commission requires that the governing board delegates full responsibility and authority to the CEO to implement board policies without interference.

During the follow-up visit, team members met with approximately three faculty senate presidents/representatives, the Chancellor, classified senate representatives, college presidents, and four of the five members of the Board of Trustees. The team thanks the District staff for hosting the site visit, coordinating meetings, providing additional documentation, and ensuring a smooth and collegial process. Before the visit, the team also had an opportunity to review recordings of Board of Trustees meetings and documents reflecting the District's work since the finding of the Commission.

Team Analysis of Institution Responses to Compliance Requirement

Standard IV.C.12: In order to meet the Standard, the Commission requires that the governing board delegates full responsibility and authority to the CEO to implement board policies without interference.

Findings and Evidence:

The District has committed substantial time and resources to address the finding of non-compliance with Standard IV.C.12. Though the ultimate responsibility for compliance rests with each individual board member, the District has provided extensive outside resources and training for the Board and encouraged Board participation in retreats as well as at state and national meetings.

The District has secured expert facilitators to conduct retreats. It is important to note that the Board has made important commitments to address Standard IV.C.12 and is attempting to incorporate best practice in Board policy as well as in the regular process of conducting professional, productive Board meetings. Members of the Board noted in meetings with the Team that they now better understand their role and the importance of partnership and collaboration with the Chancellor and support of the Chancellor and his leadership team. The Board also conveyed a willingness to continue to participate in trainings and professional development opportunities that could enhance their efforts to support the Chancellor in implementing board policies without interference.

The team noted that the November, 2025, election, resulted in a new board member joining the Ventura College Board of Trustees. As is the case with any change to Board membership, transitions provide both an opportunity for fresh perspectives and continued success and the possibility that a new voice can have an impact on work underway before the transition. The District has worked hard to provide training and orientation for the newest member of the Board, who expressed an openness to continuing the commitments and work started by the Board since the finding by the Commission.

The Team left the visit hopeful that the successful efforts completed have now become a part of the fabric of Ventura Community College District, while also recognizing that ongoing compliance remains dependent on how the Board continues to operate and support the accomplishments made to this point.

Conclusion:

The institution has addressed the requirement and meets Standard IV.C.12.