

BP2320 **VOCATIONAL/TECHNICAL PROGRAM ADVISORY COMMITTEES**

2320.1 Today's rapidly changing society and workplace requires that vocational/technical programs within our schools work closely with the communities they serve to provide high quality, state-of-the-art training. Advisory committees are critical for several reasons:

1. They are the most efficient and effective way for public vocational education programs to meet the economic needs of the community. Lacking such committees, schools would operate without critical business, industry, and labor input.
2. Schools are public property and committees comprise one of the productive ways in which the public can influence the educational process.
3. Advisory committees offer one of the best tools for ensuring the vocational education programs reflect the knowledge, attitudes, and skills needed by employees in their respective occupations.

The primary purpose for advisory committees is to promote greater cooperation between vocational/technical education and the private sector in preparing individuals for employment, promoting quality vocational/technical education, and making the vocational/technical education delivery system more responsive to the labor market. Vocational/technical advisory committees have three major roles. They are to advise, assist, and provide support and advocacy for quality vocational/technical education.

Advisory committees are recommending bodies and do not have any administrative authority. They are not intended to usurp the prerogatives of the Board of Trustees or to interfere with management of vocational programs by the administration of the college. The Board of Trustees will make annual appointments of committee members to all advisory committees, based on the recommendation of the President.