

FY2011 Strategic Planning Framework: Vision, Mission, Values and Strategic Goals

July 1, 2010



WAUBONSEE
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

OUR VISION

Waubonsee Community College opens the door of knowledge, sparks imaginations and enlightens lives through learning. We welcome the diverse abilities, goals and experiences of individuals standing on the threshold of discovery. Our success is defined by the dreams we help shape, the opportunities we help design and the futures we help create.

OUR MISSION

Waubonsee Community College is a public, comprehensive community college which was organized in 1966 as mandated by the Illinois Community College Act to provide education and training services for individuals in portions of Kane, Kendall, DeKalb, LaSalle and Will counties of District 516.

The philosophy of Waubonsee Community College is based on the premise that education is the cornerstone of a literate, democratic society; that learning is a lifelong process; and that the pursuit of knowledge must be supported by institutional policies that demonstrate the values of accessibility, service, value, quality and innovation.

Our Commitments

Provide quality educational programs and services which are academically, geographically, financially, technologically and physically accessible to meet the educational and training needs of a diverse, multicultural population and the organizations within our community.

Maintain institutional policies, programs, practices and efforts which provide an emphasis on a learning-centered college for students and the community.

Develop the intellectual, physical, social, cultural and career potential of the individual.

Promote diversity in faculty, staff and student recruitment; staff development; and cultural enrichment activities.

Contribute to the economic, workforce, social, recreational and cultural quality of life of the community.

Cooperate with other local, state and national organizations and provide leadership that will enhance educational services and avoid duplication of services.

Our Programs and Services

Transfer Programs: Associate degree education consisting of communications, social and behavioral sciences, physical and life sciences, mathematics, humanities and fine arts, education, engineering and other pre-professional fields designed to prepare students for transfer to baccalaureate degree granting institutions.

Occupational Programs: Business, health care, technical and professional education consisting of associate degrees, certificates, courses, workshops and seminars designed for career, entry level employment, transitioning, retraining and/or upgrading of skills to meet current and emerging employment needs and trends.

Developmental Education: Courses, programs and services designed to assist academically underprepared students to be successful in the next level of education, including reading, mathematics, writing, personal development, literacy, high school equivalency exam preparation (GED), Adult Basic Education (ABE) and English as a Second Language (ESL).

Workforce Development: Courses, programs and services designed to meet the workplace training needs of both individuals and organizations with an emphasis on skill building and improved productivity.

Community Education: Courses, trips, tours, special events and experiences designed for the personal enrichment of the lives of learners of all ages and to promote lifelong learning.

Student Services: Services designed to meet the needs of a diverse student population which include counseling and student support, admissions, registration and records, assessment, financial aid, career services, co-curricular activities, intercollegiate athletics and assistance for those students with physical and learning disabilities.

Our Program Support

Instructional Support: Services designed to facilitate and provide support to the instructional process, including alternative delivery systems such as telecourses, online courses, two-way interactive telecommunications, cable television and wireless communications; the use of computer technology; the library; the Center for Teaching, Learning and Technology; and media and learning laboratories.

Administrative Support: Organizational support that provides services for staff selection and development, financial services, facilities, operational management, technology advancements and training, research, planning, marketing and communications.

Community Support: Service to communities, organizations and businesses may be provided by the college to meet local needs. These combined efforts may include programming in the community, workforce development and partnership activities which will improve the quality of life.

OUR VALUES

Quality: We constantly redefine what it means to be “the best,” seeking to improve in every area and exceed the expectations of those we serve.

Value: We focus every resource directly on the search for learning, creating tangible benefits in everything we do.

Innovation: We are actively engaged on the frontiers of education, continuously improving the learning environment for our students and communities.

Service: We view the world from the perspective of those we serve, anticipating needs and striving to exceed expectations while demonstrating a caring, knowledgeable, consistent connection with each individual every time they meet us.

Accessibility: We remove barriers to learning formed by time, geography, education, culture, experience or beliefs to provide a full range of quality educational opportunities for all who can benefit.

OUR STRATEGIC GOALS

Goal 1: We Will Foster a Learning-Centered College.

We will foster a learning-centered college where all individuals, whether student, faculty, staff or trustee, understand their role in creating a high quality teaching and learning environment.

Goal 2: We Will Offer a Vibrant and Diverse Range of Programs and Services.

We will offer a vibrant and diverse range of programs and services that actively address the needs and challenges of learners in a changing local, national and global environment.

Goal 3: We Will Be Valued as a Community Leader.

We will be valued as a community leader, actively collaborating with community organizations and creating partnerships that enhance the district.

Goal 4: We Will Demonstrate Accountability and Agility.

We will demonstrate accountability and agility through the responsible stewardship of our resources.

Goal 5: We Will Attract, Develop and Retain High Quality Employees.

We will attract, develop and retain high quality employees by fostering a work environment that promotes community, collaboration and respect.

OUR STRATEGIC GOALS WITH OBJECTIVES

Goal 1: We Will Foster a Learning-Centered College.

We will foster a learning-centered college where all individuals, whether student, faculty, staff or trustee, understand their role in creating a high quality teaching and learning environment.

Objective 1.1: We will deliver empowering, learning-centered programs and services which provide access and foster student success.

Objective 1.2: We will continuously analyze our processes in the context of an integrated, quality system which encourages synergy and innovation.

Objective 1.3: We will foster a safe and secure learning environment through a systematic approach to emergency preparedness and safety which includes mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery strategies.

Objective 1.4: We will provide ongoing education and training to faculty, staff and students to build and reinforce their understanding and implementation of learning college concepts and core values.

Objective 1.5: We will ensure that our technology systems advance our learning-centered environment through the integration of our administrative, human resource, student service and other college systems.

Objective 1.6: We will systematically review Board of Trustee policies and college procedures to ensure they are consistent with an effectively and efficiently managed organization that is focused on learning.

Goal 2: We Will Offer a Vibrant and Diverse Range of Programs and Services.

We will offer a vibrant and diverse range of programs and services that actively address the needs and challenges of learners in a changing local, national and global environment.

Objective 2.1: We will continuously strengthen our credit and noncredit offerings to ensure quality, viability, responsiveness, and innovation in our programs and services in a manner that actively addresses the needs of learners in a changing local, national and global environment.

Objective 2.2: We will ensure the quality of educational and training offerings through a multi-faceted approach to needs assessment, outcomes and program review.

Objective 2.3: We will create learning opportunities that meet student needs in terms of time, place, pace, structure, technology and method of delivery.

Objective 2.4: We will be recognized as a leader in the creative use of technology systems to expand teaching and learning opportunities.

Objective 2.5: We will support our students with programs and services that nourish intellectual growth and foster campus community.

Goal 3: We Will Be Valued as a Community Leader.

We will be valued as a community leader, actively collaborating with community organizations and creating partnerships that enhance the district.

Objective 3.1: We will reach out to all of our constituencies by creating and strengthening community partnerships with diverse educational, governmental, social, cultural, civic, professional and business organizations.

Objective 3.2: We will create and continuously improve a communication plan that promotes understanding of the college's mission, programs and services, goals and challenges to internal and external audiences.

Objective 3.3: We will advance the development of the new Aurora Campus and the new Plano Campus, assessing and responding to the diverse needs of the community.

Objective 3.4: We will engage the community by developing targeted constituent organizations that will regularly advise senior college leaders on the needs of the community.

Goal 4: We Will Demonstrate Accountability and Agility.

We will demonstrate accountability and agility through the responsible stewardship of our resources.

Objective 4.1: We will set and adhere to realistic short- and long-term financial goals, maintaining affordability.

Objective 4.2: We will continuously improve the college's system of lifecycle acquisition, and property and resource management.

Objective 4.3: We will engage in environmental stewardship, acting as caretakers to our campuses' natural resources and providing leadership in advancing green practices and sustainability.

Objective 4.4: We will continuously improve institutional effectiveness, efficiency, transparency and agility through an integrated system of needs assessment, strategic and annual goal-setting, performance appraisal and budgeting.

Objective 4.5: We will fulfill our commitment to the 2020 College Master Plan, adapting to changing requirements while working within budget and time constraints.

Objective 4.6: We will create and strengthen the college's many connections to district residents, as well as corporate, philanthropic, nonprofit and government entities, for the purpose of maximizing the utility of shared resources.

Goal 5: We Will Attract, Develop and Retain High Quality Employees.

We will attract, develop and retain high quality employees by fostering a work environment that promotes community, collaboration and respect.

Objective 5.1: We will structure college human resource systems to support the hiring and retention of high-quality, learning-centered faculty and staff.

Objective 5.2: We will provide education, training and professional development activities that enhance employee job knowledge and skills and recognize employees who actively seek self-development.

Objective 5.3: We will support and recognize faculty members in their professional development efforts aimed at increasing both their knowledge in their disciplines and their excellence in creating learning experiences for students.

Objective 5.4: We will identify, measure and develop programming which supports employee satisfaction, health and wellness.

Objective 5.5: We will create, model and support an open and inclusive environment that celebrates the diversity, differences and experiences of our learning community.