



Santa Fe College Rules Manual

Title: **Board of Trustees: Appointment, Dismissal, Membership and Organization** **Rule 1.3**

General Authority: FS 1001.61
Law Implemented: FS 1001.61; Florida Constitution

Effective Date: September 21, 2022

Purpose: To state appointment, dismissal, and membership requirements for trustees and the manner of annual organization of The District Board of Trustees of Santa Fe College, Florida.

Appointment and Dismissal of Trustees:

Trustees shall be appointed by the Governor to staggered 4-year terms, subject to confirmation by the Florida Senate in regular session.

In accordance with the Constitution of the State of Florida, Article IV, Section 7, a member of the District Board of Trustees may be suspended by the Governor and/or removed by the Florida Senate.¹ Furthermore, Trustees are provided the right to due process of law under the Florida Constitution, Article I, Section 9.

Grounds for dismissal may include malfeasance, misfeasance, neglect of duty, drunkenness, incompetence, permanent inability to perform official duties, commission of a felony, or failure to attend three consecutive meetings in a fiscal year.

¹ Florida Constitution, Article IV, Section 7(a) and (b): "(a) By executive order stating the grounds and filed with the custodian of state records, the governor may suspend from office any state officer not subject to impeachment, . . . for malfeasance, misfeasance, neglect of duty, drunkenness, incompetence, permanent inability to perform official duties, or commission of a felony, and may fill the office by appointment for the period of suspension. The suspended officer may at any time before removal be reinstated by the governor.

(b) The senate may, in proceedings prescribed by law, remove from office or reinstate the suspended official and for such purpose the senate may be convened in special session by its president or by a majority of its membership."

Membership:

The District Board of Trustees shall consist of no less than five and no more than nine members from Alachua County and/or Bradford County.

Annual Organization:

Organization of the District Board of Trustees shall be in accordance with Florida law. The following provisions shall supplement existing law:

- The District Board of Trustees shall organize annually by electing a chair and vice chair for a term of one year. A trustee may serve up to one additional consecutive year as chair or vice chair if elected by the District Board of Trustees. Should a vacancy occur of the chair at any time during his/her term, the vice chair shall immediately become the chair for the remainder of the prior Chair's term, and the District Board shall elect a Vice Chair at the next regular or special meeting.
- A nominating committee consisting of one trustee is the District Board's preferred method of nomination.
- After election of the new District Board chair, the College shall be permitted to use the current facsimile signature of the former District Board chair for all legal purposes, including but not limited to checks and certificates, until a new facsimile signature with the name of the newly elected District Board chair is available.
- The College President shall act as chair at the organizational meeting during the election of officers until the organization is completed. The College shall annually report the composition of the District Board in accordance with Florida law and regulations.

Rule History: September 2022 (410.611), September 2016 (410.526), June 2010 (410.447), July 2002 (410.336), February 1982 (410.95), June 1969 (410.10)