ARTICLE 11. COLLEGE CALENDAR

A. The academic year shall consist of one-hundred-seventy-five (175) days for returning full-time faculty and one-hundred-seventy-six (176) days for new full-time faculty. One of the days will be an orientation day for new full-time faculty. One of the days will be an opening day for all full-time faculty. The District shall be responsible for orientation day and opening day activities to be held prior to either the fall or the spring semester. Orientation day, opening day and flex days shall not exceed six (6) hours of activities each.

B. It is understood that a change in the academic calendar is a negotiable issue.

C. Flex Days

1. Beginning in the 2010-2011 academic year, four of the remaining 174 days shall be flex days with activities in lieu of regular classroom instruction or student and/or library services. Flex day activities will be designed to improve the college’s staff, student, counseling, library and instructional programs.

2. One of the flex days shall be designated for activities for the whole institution developed jointly by the District and Staff Development Committee.

3. A second flex day will be designated for activities within each of the four instructional areas, student services and library services; all activities to be held on the same day. The activities shall be developed jointly by the area faculty and the administrator in charge of each of the instructional areas and services.

4. Cesar Chavez Day shall be a holiday.

5. The remaining two flex days will be developed by individual faculty members for their professional growth. With the written approval of the applicable Dean or Administrator by May 31 of the calendar year in which they will be undertaken, these flex activities may be undertaken during the summer prior to the full academic year in which they will be counted.

6. Flex day activities may be from among the following:
   a. course instruction and evaluation
   b. staff development, in-service training and instructional improvement
   c. program and course curriculum or learning resource development and evaluation
   d. student personnel services
   e. learning resource services
   f. related activities, such as student advising, guidance, orientation, matriculation services, and student, faculty and staff diversity
   g. departmental or division meetings, conferences and workshops, and institutional research

7. The activities will be carried out by means of the following modes of delivery:
   a. in-service training
   b. workshops
c. conferences

d. seminars

e. individual or small group planned projects

f. institutionally planned activities

g. course work