



**THE DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
OF VALENCIA COLLEGE  
REGULAR MEETING**

**Minutes**

**January 19, 2023**

Valencia College – East Campus, Room 8-101  
and  
Zoom Meeting

Members Present

Ms. Daisy Lopez-Cid, Chair  
Mr. John Davis  
Mr. Guillermo Hansen  
Mr. John Martinez  
Mr. Michael Sasso  
Ms. Tracey Stockwell

Members Absent

Mr. Angel de la Portilla  
Ms. Beth Smith, Vice Chair

Dr. Kathleen Plinske, Secretary of the Board and President of the College

**Call to Order**

Chair Lopez-Cid called the Regular Meeting of the District Board of Trustees of Valencia College to order at 9:31 a.m. A quorum was present.

**Approval of Minutes  
December 1, 2022  
Regular Meeting**

Ms. Stockwell moved to approve the meeting minutes of the December 1, 2022, Regular Meeting, as presented. Mr. Martinez seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously.

**President's Report**

Dr. Plinske thanked the Board members who attended Valencia's first Fall Commencement Ceremony, held on December 13, 2022, 2pm, at the UCF Addition Financial Arena. Dr. Plinske stated that a total of 1,543 students participated in the ceremony.

Dr. Plinske reported that the State has awarded Valencia nearly \$1.5M in PIPELINE-grant funding, and nearly \$700,000 in grant LINE grant funding, in support of faculty salaries and equipment for Valencia's nursing program. The PIPELINE funding was granted based on Valencia's nursing students' performance, including the number of graduates from the program, as well as their pass rates on their licensure examinations. Dr. Plinske thanked Orlando Health, and AdventHealth for investing matching funds for the LINE funding, which required such matching funds. Dr. Plinske thanked the Governor's office and the Legislature for recognizing the importance of Valencia's programs in meeting the community's healthcare needs.

**Faculty Association Report**

Ms. Jennifer Lawhon, President Elect, Faculty Association, reported that the College celebrated its Welcome Back week, and that Valencia will be hosting an Evening of Distinction on January 26, 2023. This event will recognize faculty achievements, and awards. Ms. Lawhon expressed her excitement about the College's Educator Preparation Institute (EPI), a program designed for individuals who want to teach, but hold a bachelor's degree in an area other than education. This alternative certification program fulfills the Professional Education Competence Program and Professional Preparation Coursework requirements listed on the Florida Department of Education (FLDOE) Official Statement of Status of Eligibility, which is necessary for earning a Florida Professional Educator's Certificate.

**Student Government Association Report**

Ms. Andy Silva, and Mr. Michael Pugh, East Campus Student Government Association President, and Vice President, respectively, presented the report, which was distributed to the Board. Ms. Silva and Mr. Pugh stated that the Student Government Association's goal is to promote involvement with fellow students, and provide educational opportunities, both in and out of the classroom setting. The SGA members shared a recap of fall 2022 activities, the President Student Advisory Board (PSAB) spring focus, current initiatives, and the SGA future plans.

The Board thanked the SGA team members for their great contributions and leadership.

**Public Comments**

No public comments were offered.

**New Business**

- 1. Authorization to Submit a Letter of Intent – Bachelor of Applied Science in Public Safety Administration:** Mr. Joe Battista, Vice President, Global, Professional, and Continuing Education, presented the

report, which was distributed to the Board. Mr. Battista reported that Valencia currently has two Associate of Science Programs in Public Safety & Security with over 1,200 student majors, many of whom wish to continue their career path and seek higher employment opportunities in Public Safety Administration. He described current labor market conditions in this area as highly favorable in terms of demand for this proposed degree. The College has identified both substantial student interest and industry support for offering a Bachelor of Applied Science in Public Safety Administration. In addition, the College received support from our Florida higher education partner and peer institutions, with no expressions of concern following their receipt of formal notification of Valencia's interest in offering this program of study.

Following discussion, Mr. Martinez moved to approve the College's intent to develop curriculum, submit to the State Board of Education for approval, submit to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges for approval, and offer the Bachelor of Science in Public Safety Administration. Mr. Sasso seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Battista thanked Dr. Jeff Goltz, Executive Dean, School of Public Safety, and Dr. Nasser Hedayat, Assistant Vice President, Career and Workforce Education, for their work.

2. **Approval of Collective Bargaining Agreement:** The agreement was distributed to the Board. Dr. Plinske reported that, following seventeen months of good faith negotiations, Valencia College, and the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) – Florida Public Services Union, have reached a Tentative Agreement on the terms and conditions of the proposed Collective Bargaining Agreement. Dr. Plinske indicated that this Tentative Agreement, as presented, is consistent with prior Board direction on this subject.

Following discussion, Mr. Sasso moved to ratify and approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement as negotiated between Valencia College and the Service Employees International Union – Florida Public Services Union, as presented. Mr. Davis seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Ms. Stockwell and seconded by Mr. Martinez, to consider, accept, and approve items 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 under New Business in the manner of a consent agenda. The Board unanimously approved the following items under New Business in the consent agenda, as recommended:

3. **Continuing Education Programs and Courses**
4. **Award of RFP 2023-11, Call Center Services**
5. **Award of RFP 2023-07, Electrical Services, Continuing Services Contract**
6. **Additions, Deletions, or Modifications of Courses and Programs**
7. **Property Deletion**

**Reports**

- A. **Spring Enrollment Report:** Dr. Lesley Frederick, Vice President, Student Affairs, presented the report, which was distributed to the Board. Dr. Frederick stated that Valencia’s enrollment is up 4.7% over last spring, reflecting both an increase in new students and an increase of more than 1,000 returning students who have successfully persisted in their paths to a degree. Dr. Frederick reported that more than 7,000 students are choosing to take all their courses onsite, and nearly 60% of all students are taking at least one class onsite.
- B. **Financial Report:** Mr. Loren Bender, Vice President, Business Operations and Chief Financial Officer, presented the report, which was distributed to the Board. Mr. Bender indicated that the College’s financial positions are positive and on target.
- C. **Valencia Foundation Report:** The report was distributed to the Board. Dr. Plinske stated that to better serve the College’s students, the Valencia College Foundation and the Student Affairs department launched a new scholarship platform, Scholarship Universe, in academic year 2022-23.

**Strategic Discussion**

Dr. Plinske provided an update on Valencia’s progress on topic selection for its Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP), as required for the College’s decennial reaffirmation of accreditation. The report included a description of Valencia’s accreditation process and timeline, and proposed QEP topics. A full discussion ensued. Future strategic discussions in which the Board would like to engage were also suggested.

**Board Comments**

The Board members thanked the East Campus team for providing Board members with a hands-on experience with the theater program.

**Adjourn**

Chair Lopez-Cid adjourned the Regular Meeting at 10:49 a.m.

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Secretary

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Chair