



October 17, 2024

**TO:** THE DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF VALENCIA COLLEGE

**FROM:** DR. KATHLEEN PLINSKE  
President

**RE:** ORANGE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS (OCPS)/ SCHOOL DISTRICT OF OSCEOLA COUNTY (SDOC) MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING

Valencia College has established collaborative partnerships with both of its service area school districts, OCPS and SDOC, to increase the college readiness and college transition of high school graduates in Orange and Osceola counties. Historically, these partnerships have supported thousands of students with everything from enrolling in dual enrollment courses to completing the FAFSA and Valencia application, and have provided support to the Valencia Outreach and Recruitment team in facilitating events both in high schools and at Valencia campuses. Sample outcomes include remarkable gains in the college-going rates: from 41.3% (among the lowest in the state) in 2011 to 56% in 2019 in SDOC, as well as a 100% increase (or doubling) of student participation in Valencia dual enrollment over the last decade across both school districts.

In support of these ongoing efforts, Valencia seeks to renew the Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) for 2024-2025 to continue to supplement and enhance the effectiveness of the Dual Enrollment Articulation Agreement (Articulation Agreement), as entered into between the College and the school districts. The MOUs contain the following key provisions:

- The school districts employ and assume responsibility for individuals who serve as Valencia Transition Coaches, providing targeted, individualized support to students and families and partnering closely with both high school-based counselors and the Valencia Outreach & Recruitment team. The school districts also provide Valencia with program support, student data, reports, and other information related to program operations on a regular basis.
- Valencia provides collaboration and training opportunities to the Coaches, offers college transition programming at each high school, supplies data and reports, and provides funding in support of the personnel and programs (OCPS - \$413,034; SDOC - \$355,686).

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

The President recommends that the District Board of Trustees of Valencia College authorize the College to enter into Memoranda of Understanding with both of the school districts in the College's two county service areas, OCPS and SDOC, in support of College access goals and to improve high school graduation, college readiness, and successful college enrollment for students, and further authorizes the expenditure of up to \$768,720 in support of the College Transition personnel and programs at the high schools, as presented.

President