



June 11, 2026

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

**FROM:** DR. KATHLEEN PLINSKE, PRESIDENT

**RE:** RECOMMENDATION TO TERMINATE CONTINUING CONTRACT

At its March 26, 2026, meeting, the Florida Board of Governors removed lower-division sociology courses as an approved option within institutional general education offerings for the State University System. Subsequently, at its April 17, 2026, meeting, the State Board of Education (SBOE) rejected previously approved general education course lists submitted by 23 Florida College System institutions, including Valencia College, due to the inclusion of sociology courses, which were no longer an approved option at that time. Subsequent to Board approval at its May 2026 Regular Meeting, Valencia submitted a revised list of general education courses, excluding sociology courses, to the SBOE for approval.

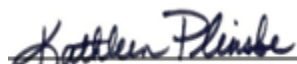
The removal of sociology from the College's general education curriculum necessitates a reduction in force affecting four full-time continuing contract sociology faculty members, due to the anticipated decline in student enrollment resulting from this mandated change. Each affected faculty member was offered the opportunity to teach in a different discipline.

Three faculty members have accepted this option. One faculty member, Professor Mark Guillette, has declined this option and has chosen not to retire or resign from his position.

Consequently, in accordance with State Board of Education Rule 6A-14.0411, College Policy/Procedure 6Hx28:3F-04, and the terms and conditions of Professor Guillette's continuing contract of employment with the College, the following recommendation is presented for Board consideration and approval.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

The President recommends that the District Board of Trustees of Valencia College approve the necessary reduction in force and the termination of Professor Mark Guillette's continuing contract of employment with the College, effective August 3, 2026, as presented.

  
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President