



November 2, 2023

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 2023-2024 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 - \$392,334; SDOC - \$355,723)

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 \$748,057 in support of the College Transition personnel and programs at the high schools, as presented.



President

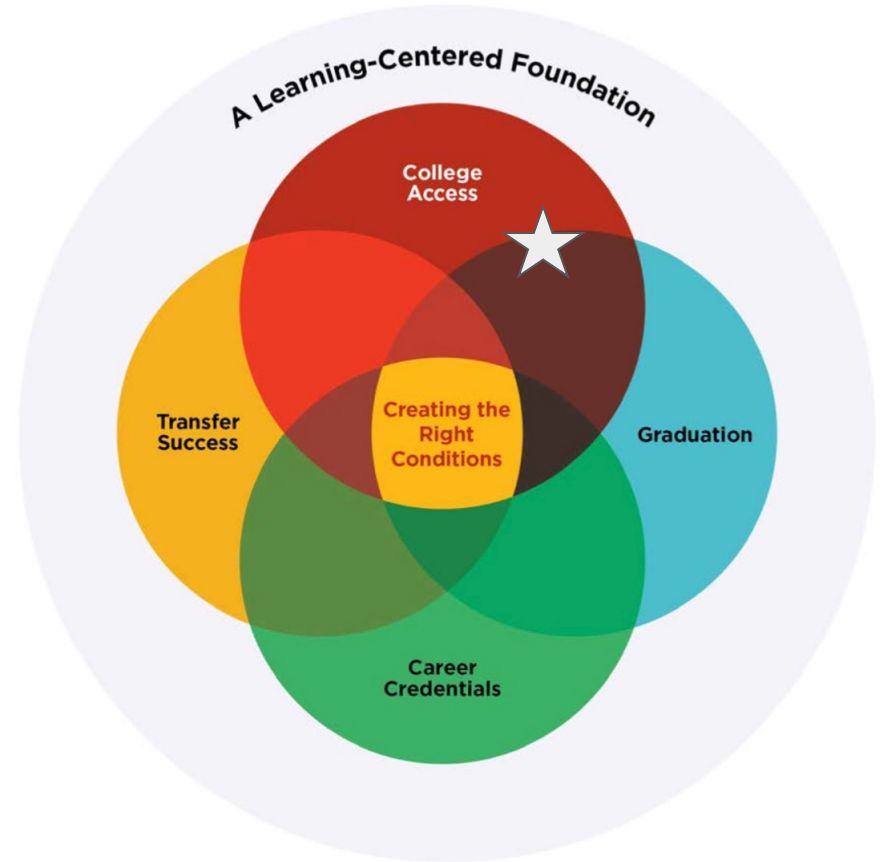
Strategic Partnership with Local School Districts

DBOT - Thursday, November 2, 2023

VALENCIA COLLEGE

College Access

Valencia College will work with community partners to ensure that, by 2030, 80% of Orange and Osceola County high school graduates of each race and ethnicity will attend a postsecondary institution – including vocational or technical school, college or university – in the year following high school graduation.



What Has the (Decade-long+) Partnership Entailed?

- A formalized collaboration via a **Memorandum of Understanding** to increase high school student graduation, college readiness, and successful transition to post-secondary education, with a focus on entry into Valencia College.
- The establishment of a **College Readiness and Transition Advisory Council** to develop strategies, oversee implementation, and evaluate partnership results.
- Targeted, individualized support for students through **Valencia Transition Coaches**— hired, trained, and supervised by each school district and who have worked closely with Valencia College staff, especially the Outreach and Recruitment team.

What Has the Partnership Accomplished Over Time?

Sample high-level outcomes:

- Remarkable gains in the college-going rates: from 41.3% (among the lowest in the state) in 2011 to 56% in 2019 in SDOC.
- A 100% increase (or doubling) of student participation in Valencia dual enrollment over the last decade across both school districts.
 - In OCPS, Lake Nona and Timber Creek have seen growth in DE headcount of 454% and 869%, respectively, since Fall 2010.

Reminder: Enhanced Strategy
Introduced Last Year (2022-2023)

Enhanced Strategy & Evaluation

Sample Inputs



Sample Outputs



Sample Outcomes

What We Invest

-time (Ex: quarterly meetings of the advisory council, tactical coach meetings)

-Transition Coach salaries

-funding for programming

-data

What We Do

Coaches

-meet 1-1 with students

-design and facilitate programs (like FAFSA Frenzies)

-train & support high school college counselors

VC Outreach & Recruitment Team

-hosts events at high schools

Intended Results

Short Term: Participation in FAFSA programming

Medium Term: 100% of eligible students complete FAFSA applications

Long Term: By high school graduation, 100% of aspiring Pumas complete their Valencia application, file their FAFSA, and verify residency

Updated, Mutually Determined Expectations

Valencia College commits to:

- working collaboratively with school district leaders and coaches to develop tactics and programming, in alignment with the updated outcomes and goals;
- providing training opportunities, up-to-date information, and timely responses to questions;
- regularly seeking input and feedback from school district leaders and coaches; and
- engaging in regular data conversations with to ensure the availability and reporting of data that correspond to the new strategic indicators.

Updated, Mutually Determined Expectations

School district leaders and coaches commit to:

- working collaboratively with Valencia's Outreach & Recruitment team to develop strategies and programming;
- participating in training opportunities provided by Valencia;
- following up with students who participate in Valencia recruitment events and serving as a resource to track their progress towards college enrollment;
- ensuring that graduating seniors who have indicated Valencia as their goal are supported to complete the Steps to Enrollment and maintain momentum during the summer through course registration and attendance;
- providing Valencia leadership and the Outreach and Recruitment team with candid input and feedback on students' experiences; and
- supplying data that correspond to the new strategic indicators.

Impact of Enhanced Strategy

How Has Each School District Updated Activities?



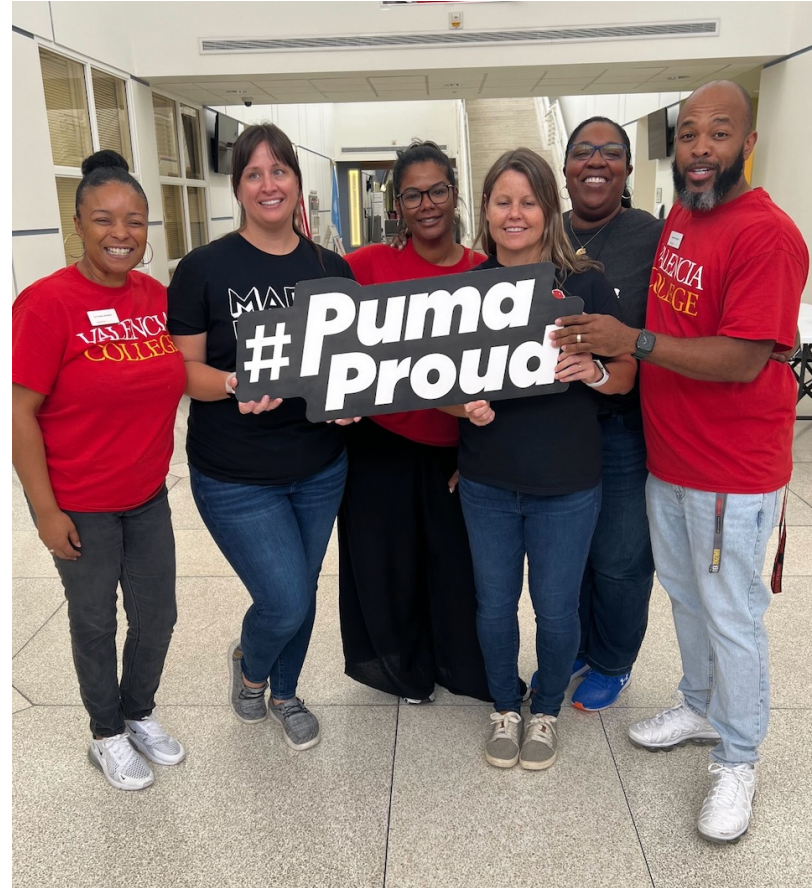
OCPS

- Increased collaboration with Valencia's Outreach & Recruitment and Dual Enrollment teams
- Created a new senior administrative position to support the work
- Changed the coaches' support model – devoting more time to high schools based on data
- Began meeting monthly with representatives from the high schools to highlight progress and opportunities
- Expanded coaches' availability in summer

How Has Each School District Updated Activities?

SDOC

- Established practice of diving into student data to guide their conversations and activities with students
- Participated in more training sessions about postsecondary programs unique to Osceola to enhance their capacity
- Hosted their own application workshops when members of the Outreach and Recruitment Team could not be present



Evidence that the Enhanced Strategy is Working

OCPS

- Student **enrollment** into a post-secondary institution for the Fall immediately following HS graduation nearly reaching pre pandemic levels
- 5% increase in the number of seniors submitting the **FAFSA** -- ~60%
- 100% of Seniors indicated they had a **post high-school plan**
 - About 60% indicated a plan to attend a 4-year or 2-year postsecondary institution

SDOC

- Since Fall 2022, ~25% increase in fall applications for **dual enrollment**
- Increase in the number of seniors submitting the **FAFSA** -- 64%.
- In SDOC, 90% of eligible graduates had a final, confirmed **post high-school plan**.
 - 83% of graduates with confirmed plans stated an intent to enroll in postsecondary education

Opportunities for Year 2 of Enhanced Strategy



- Sustain momentum in coaches' data usage & in dual enrollment awareness and participation
- Increase student and family engagement in college planning conversations and events
- Finalize evaluation plan
 - Using a standard reporting template
 - Detailing a data collection timeline aligned with current reporting structures and functional deadlines