

## Valencia College District Board of Trustees – Student Report – May 27 2020

### Winter Park Student Development (Wellness Ambassadors, Campus Activities Board, & SGA)

The Winter Park SD team hosts a variety of events on campus that: provide opportunities for connection with and between students, faculty and staff; provide information and resources; and regularly conduct new student campus tours to foster a sense of welcome and provide our incoming students with an orientation to the campus and its resources from a current student's perspective.

**Fall Term Events** - 2 weeks with SD Meet & Greet and Week of Welcome; Spiritual Dimension – Pathways; Constitution Day; Spirit Day including Intellectual Dimension; Latin Fiesta (Hispanic Heritage Month); Well-own Resource Fair & “A Stranger Halloween” Halloween Costume Contest; Career Dimension – Dress for Success; Gratitude Graffiti; Veterans Day; Multicultural Day of Thanks – donated dishes & fundraised for campus food pantry; Stress Free (Finals) Five – based on the 5 Senses; Fuel for Finals

**Spring Term Prior to Spring Break**, we hosted the following events for **Spring** - 2 weeks with SD Meet & Greet and Week of Welcome; Physical Dimension - Empowering Your Body; Emotional Dimension - Bagels and Boundaries and Random Acts of Kindness Week; Black History Month Celebration – “Where does Your History Begin?”; Social Dimension – Safe Spring Break “Beach Party”. And we worked on putting together our 2<sup>nd</sup> largest event of the year - Environmental Dimension - Earth Day

### Online Shift

The shift for our students has been difficult, as we navigate an unknown and unanticipated world. Some students I have communicated with, as well as myself, have felt that struggle even more harshly. Prominent topics include:

- Personal medical concerns (managing ongoing & new ones)
- Students with disabilities
- Students with mental health issues
- Students who don't have job security at this moment

Valencia as a college, Student Services, and Student Development have all been there to help create a smoother transition for students through a variety of resources, direct outreach, multiple avenues of communication and providing opportunities for engagement and interaction to let the students know they are not alone and someone cares. And like on campus, everyone helps to direct them to many of the amazing tools Valencia has for success, from BayCare and tutoring to the online library system.

### COVID-19 & Student Development

Our campus has faced challenges before, such as with Hurricane Dorian. We adapted then, and we are adapting now. We are learning how to connect with the students in an impactful, meaningful way to them. We transitioned our activities after Spring Break from face-to-face to online formatting. We have now run 3 virtual events. Our Earth day event that transitioned from on campus to online, including community partners and still giving students an opportunity to learn, get involved, and interact with us through a week of social media content including mini polls, quizzes, and challenges; an Online Dance Party via zoom; and our annual Excellence in Learning Awards celebration with a video that was posted to our Instagram, Facebook, and Collegewide YouTube, with a collaborative with East Campus live trivia and dance party after the release of our video. We have increased our following on both platforms through our relevant postings.

### Future of Student Development

We will continue to find meaningful and relevant resources, programs, events, and activities to inform and engage with the students and provide opportunities online, and on campus when possible, for connections, enrichment, stress management and fun. We will consider smaller, specific niche events to compete with other priorities (work, school, family, friends) and distractions (mental states, gaming, other social media).

Follow us on Instagram & Facebook - @valenciawpc

You may see the Awards celebration video at - <https://youtu.be/lQcT7Rodc3c>