



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

Minutes

December 2, 2021

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

Members Present

Ms. Daisy Lopez-Cid, Chair
Ms. Beth Smith, Vice Chair
Mr. John Davis
Mr. Angel de la Portilla
Mr. Guillermo Hansen
Mr. John Martinez
Ms. Tracey Stockwell

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

Members Absent

Mr. Michael Sasso

Call to Order

Chair Lopez-Cid called the Regular Meeting of the District Board of Trustees of Valencia College to order at 9:39 a.m. A quorum was present.

**Approval of Minutes
October 28, 2021
Regular Meeting**

Ms. Stockwell moved to approve the meeting minutes of the October 28, 2021 Regular Meeting, as presented. Mr. de la Portilla seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously.

President's Report

Dr. Plinske thanked Valencia College student musicians Evan Anderson

and Santiago Parra Romero for their talented performance before the meeting.

Dr. Plinske recognized Universal Orlando executives Ms. Stockwell and Diane O'Dell, Vice President, Community and Diversity Relations, Universal Orlando Resort, for their leadership and contributions in service to the District Board of Trustees and the Valencia College Foundation Board.

Dr. Plinske shared that Universal Orlando also collaborated with the College to design the Spring 2021 Grad Finale drive-thru graduation celebration for more than 1,800 graduates and 10,000 family members. This effort included designing, creating, and building the photo sets for the event. Universal Orlando is also supporting the College for the Fall 2021 Grad Finale, the College's first December graduation celebration, for which more than 1,300 graduates have registered to participate to date.

Dr. Plinske stated that six years ago, Universal Orlando and the Universal Orlando Foundation created the Art of Tomorrow program, which introduces Orange County Public Schools students to arts careers and helps them develop their skills in this direction. Dr. Plinske indicated that more than 170 students have participated in the program since its launch. Dr. Plinske then presented a video which highlighted the great impact of the College's partnership with Universal Orlando.

Dr. Plinske thanked special guests Ms. O'Dell and TJ Mannarino, Vice President of Art and Design, Entertainment Division, Universal Orlando, for their great partnership with Valencia College.

Ms. O'Dell thanked Ms. Stockwell for her great leadership and for representing Universal Orlando so well throughout the community.

Dr. Plinske provided an update on the progress of the College's Provosts search. Dr. Plinske reported that the Search Committee invited seventy-one candidates to participate in asynchronous digital interviews. The Search Committee identified fifteen finalists who participated in a set of virtual interviews during the week of November 29, 2021, and three days of activities at Valencia campus locations during the week of December 6, 2021.

Dr. Plinske reported that the College is preparing to deliver emergency grant aid to students who applied through the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF). Dr. Plinske stated that more than 25,000 students have received such aid, totaling approximately \$41 million. The College will present its plan for the expenditure of this aid for

the Spring semester in the spring.

Dr. Plinske stated that the College is preparing for the legislative session, which will begin in early January 2022. She reported that the College has been engaged with our local House representative and Chair of the House Higher Education Appropriations Committee regarding the College's recurring operational budget needs. She stated that the College has been working with House Representative Mr. Fred Hawkins, Jr., Senator Victor Torres, and others who are working to secure initial funding for Lake Nona Campus, Building 2.

Dr. Plinske introduced Florida College System (FCS) Chancellor Kathy Hebda. Chancellor Hebda shared her appreciation for all that Florida's Colleges have accomplished during the COVID-19 pandemic. This includes maintaining productive working relationships with local communities, as well as reaching and teaching students in a variety of modalities, resulting in more than 60,000 students earning Associate in Arts (A.A.) degrees and approximately 70,000 students completing workforce credentials in the Florida College System.

Chancellor Hebda stated that while enrollment in workforce programs in the system is bouncing back after the pandemic, not all A.A. programs are returning to their previous enrollment levels, and the Florida College System must address this challenge to continue making the A.A. a viable and relevant educational opportunity for prospective students.

Faculty Association Report

Mr. Michael Robbins, President, Faculty Association, described Valencia faculty members' role in creating an equity-minded learning experience and how faculty members need to be strong advocates for the equity-minded work that is being developed. Mr. Robbins expressed his appreciation for the attention paid to Valencia faculty interests as the College hires new academic leaders and faculty.

Student Government Association Report

Ms. Olivia Assing-Nunes, East Campus SGA President, Mr. Jordan Ramos, East Campus SGA Public Relations Officer, and Ms. Erika Beckard, East Campus SGA Administrative Officer, presented the report, which was distributed to the Board. The SGA team provided an update on the East Campus SGA activities, including the Club Rush and Resource Fair, Veterans' Day activities, efforts supporting students who receive their first unsuccessful grade, and an East Campus initiative to gain a better understanding of the international and undocumented student experience. The students also discussed the student campaign to submit ideas for a new College mascot.

The Board thanked the East Campus SGA team for their great work.

Public Comments

No public comments were offered.

New Business

1. **Sale of McCoy Property to Pinecrest Academy, Inc.:** Dr. Plinske made a recommendation to table the Sale of McCoy Property to Pinecrest Academy, Inc., for consideration at a future Board meeting. Without objection, the item was tabled.
2. **Valencia Foundation Annual Audit Review:** Dr. Plinske presented the report, which was distributed to the Board. Dr. Plinske stated that the Annual Certification of the Valencia College Foundation will be presented to the Board for approval in Spring 2022, pending the finalization of a joint certification agreement to be developed and mutually agreed upon.

Following discussion, Mr. Martinez moved to accept the Valencia Foundation's Internal Revenue Service Application for Recognition of Exemption Form (Form 1023), 2021 Internal Revenue Service Return of Organization Exempt from Income Tax (Form 990), and the 2021 Audit report, as presented and reviewed. Ms. Stockwell seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously.

3. **Policy Adoptions and Repeal:** Dr. Plinske presented the report, which was distributed to the Board. Dr. Plinske explained the purpose of the proposed amendments and the policy repeal.
 - Adopt College Policy 6Hx28: 3C-01.5 – Work Assignments and Compensation during Emergencies, Disasters, and Other Extraordinary and Adverse Work Conditions
 - Adopt College Policy 6Hx28: 8-03 – Student Code of Conduct
 - Adopt College Policy 6Hx28: 10-08 – Drug-Free Campuses and Workplace (Formerly 6Hx28: 10-08.1)
 - Repeal College Policy 6Hx28: 10-08.2 – Drug-Free Workplace (language is being consolidated with 10-08 Drug-Free Campuses and Workplace)

Following discussion, Ms. Stockwell moved to adopt amended Policies 6Hx28: 3C-01.5 Work Assignments and Compensation During Emergencies, Disasters, and Other Extraordinary and Adverse Work Conditions; 6Hx28: 08-03 Student Code of Conduct; and 6Hx28: 10-08 Drug-Free Campuses and Workplace; and repeal Policy 6Hx28: 10-08.02 Drug-Free Workplace, as presented. Mr. de la Portilla seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. de la Portilla and seconded by Mr. Martinez to consider, accept, and approve items 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:

- 4. Continuing Education Programs and Courses**
- 5. Additions, Deletions or Modifications of Courses and Programs**
- 6. Submission of Grant Proposals**
- 7. Property Deletions**

Reports

- A. Audit Plan Update:** Ms. Cynthia Santiago-Guzmán, Director, Compliance and Audit, presented the report, which was distributed to the Board. Ms. Santiago-Guzmán presented an overview of the 2021-2022 Audit Plan, including a HEERF II Process and Disbursement review, a Valencia College Foundation Business Operations Audit review, and a State Operational Audit overview.

Ms. Santiago-Guzmán thanked Mr. Loren Bender, Vice President, Business Operations, and Chief Financial Officer, and Ms. Jackie Lasch, Assistant Vice President, Financial Services, and their teams, for their support.

- B. Financial Report:** Mr. Bender presented the report, which was distributed to the Board. Mr. Bender reported that Valencia College has dispersed 35.2% of HEERF dollars received, totaling more than \$71 million, and all funds must be distributed by June 2022. Currently, the College is working on more than 60 projects funded by HEERF dollars. Mr. Bender indicated that the College's financial positions are positive and on target.

Chair Lopez-Cid stated that the following report items are detailed in the written materials, which have been distributed to the Board:

- C. East Campus Report**
- D. Construction Report**
- E. Valencia Foundation Report**

Strategic Discussion

Dr. Plinske provided an overview of Valencia's 2030 Strategic Impact Plan graduation goals, which was distributed to the Board. Dr. Plinske highlighted goals regarding the five-year graduation rates for degree-seeking students of each race and ethnicity, and student success indicators that directly correlate to overall success in college.

Board Comments

The Board thanked Chancellor Hebda for attending the Board meeting and for her support of the College. The Board commended the SGA's hard work and dedication to Valencia's students, and also lauded the East Campus faculty and staff for their great work.

Adjourn

Chair Lopez-Cid adjourned the Regular Meeting at 11:36 a.m.

Secretary

Chair