



October 13, 2022

**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 2022-2023 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 - \$470,000; SDOC - \$252,500)

**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 \$722,500 in support of the College Transition personnel and programs at the high schools, as presented.

  
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President

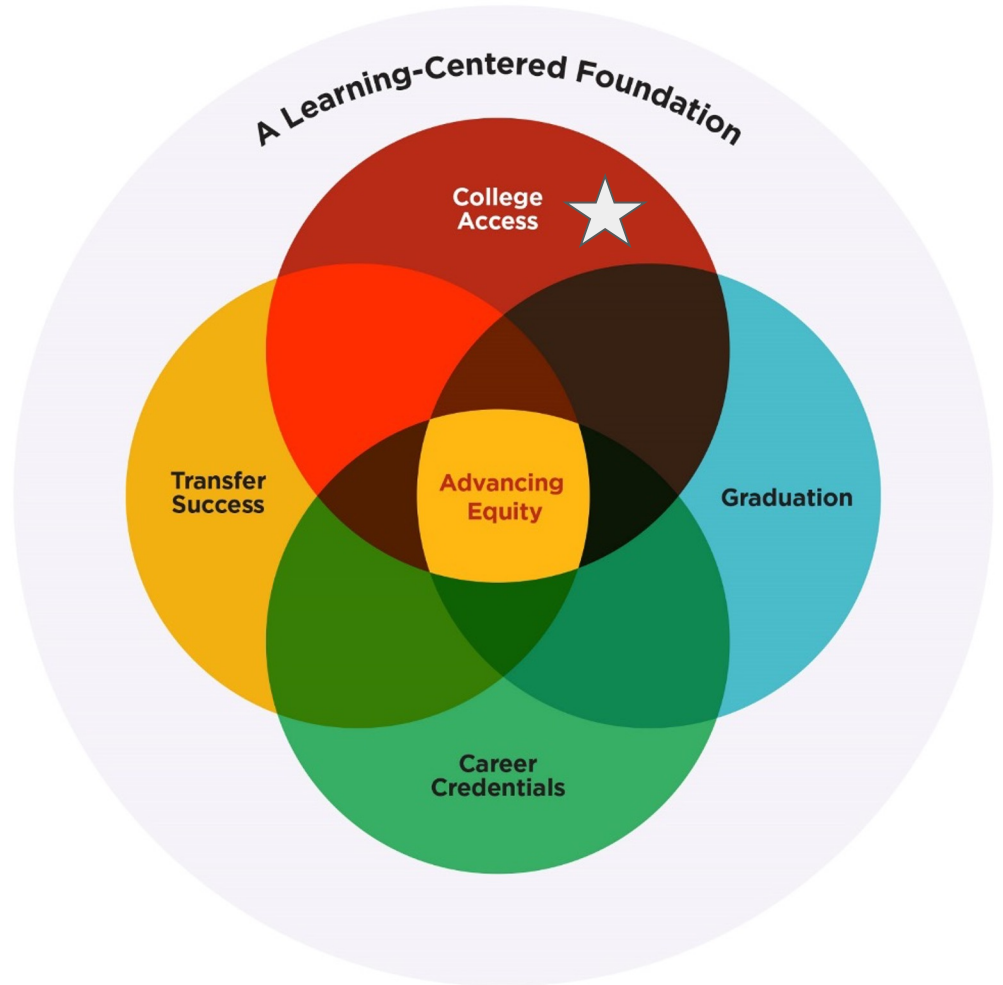
# Strategic Partnership with Local School Districts

DBOT - Thursday, October 13, 2022

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 Partnership Entailed To Date?

- 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?

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.

# Sample Coach Activities & Outcomes \* 2021-2022

## OCPS

- Dual enrollment:
  - Conducted 24 training sessions for school counselors
  - Participated in 21 DE Information Sessions, with more than 1,200 parents and students attending
- Summer programming: ~450 individual appointments with students, held in-person meetings and labs to work on VC Steps to Enrollment:
  - 61 sessions on Residency
  - 40 on Steps to Enrollment
  - 22 on DE to VC
  - 74 on FAFSA

## SDOC

- Dual enrollment:
  - Coaches made phone calls, Teams Calls, and/or emails to reach out to students in the Fall and Spring to encourage DE participation– resulting in an increase of 21% for Fall & 10% for Spring.
- Summer programming: With local College Access Network, UpliftEd, worked with students in summer school with no confirmed plan or completed FAFSA. Efforts included:
  - 1-1 support from a coach with the application
  - Incentive plan: entered students in a drawing to win an Amazon gift card, Chromebook, etc.

How Do the 2022-2023 Memoranda of Understanding Differ?

# 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.

# Updated, Mutually Determined Expectations

Together, as members of the College Readiness and Transition Advisory Council, we commit to:

- developing an annual report that summarizes activity, documents aggregate student outcomes, notes progress, and makes recommendations for continuous improvement.

*\*The report will be completed by the end of November and submitted to the Valencia College President and school district Superintendents.*