

December 1, 2022

TO: THE DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF VALENCIA COLLEGE

**FROM:** DR. KATHLEEN PLINSKE

President

**RE:** AWARD OF CA-2023-12, COLLEGEWIDE NETWORK HARDWARE REFRESH

The college-wide network is critical to academic and operational success, enabling the support of classroom technology, systems monitoring, and access to a range of applications needed for instruction. Valencia's core network infrastructure received its last major upgrade in 2010, with some components of the network currently over 15 years old. The age of these components causes network outages, reduces the effectiveness of our instructional and operation software, and creates limits on our ability to upgrade security software. This directly impacts the educational experience of students and working conditions for faculty and staff. The College is requesting funding to support a full refresh of the core network hardware and software. The following key benefits will be realized:

- Increased network reliability for students, faculty, and staff
- Lower failure rates of hardware equipment
- Better control of devices connecting to the college network
- Improved automation capabilities to reduce operational overhead
- Enhanced network access control for devices connected to the college network

Valencia leveraged Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.) 6A-14.0734 (2)(g), and E&I Cooperative Agreement (CNR01439) to obtain the best possible price with their contracted vendor, CDW-G. The quoted prices include network switches for the entire College totaling \$4,500,000 which is inclusive of a 2.5% contingency. The work is anticipated to take approximately 18 months to complete. This timeline is contingent on availability of equipment due to continued supply chain issues for technology items and installation support timelines.

## RECOMMENDED ACTION:

The President recommends that the District Board of Trustees of Valencia College authorize the College to enter a mutually agreeable contract for equipment purchases with CDW-G with a not-to-exceed budget of \$4,500,000 as presented.

Kattlen Plinsle President