



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

Minutes

March 2, 2023

Valencia College – West Campus
Building 8, Room 111
and
Zoom Meeting

Members Present

Mr. Guillermo Hansen, Chair Pro-Tempore
Ms. Beth Smith, Vice Chair (via Zoom)
Mr. John Davis
Mr. Angel de la Portilla
Mr. John Martinez
Mr. Michael Sasso
Ms. Tracey Stockwell

Members Absent

Ms. Daisy Lopez-Cid, Chair

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

Call to Order

Chair Hansen called the Regular Meeting of the District Board of Trustees of Valencia College to order at 9:31 a.m. A quorum was present.

**Approval of Minutes
January 19, 2023
Regular Meeting**

Ms. Stockwell moved to approve the meeting minutes of the January 19, 2023, Regular Meeting, as presented. Mr. Martinez seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously.

President's Report

Dr. Plinske provided an overview of her visit to Tallahassee on Feb 20-21, 2023, where she and Mr. Jay Galbraith, Vice President, Public Affairs and Advancement, met with Ms. Kathleen Passidomo, President of the Florida Senate, and key leaders of the House to discuss funding formula related matters.

Dr. Plinske reported that Valencia has begun registration for Summer and Fall semesters. Dr. Plinske thanked the College's Student Affairs, the Office of Information Technology, and Valencia deans and faculty for their great work.

Dr. Plinske thanked the members of the Board who provided input related to the selection of the College's Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) topic. Based on the feedback received, Valencia has decided to move forward with "Starting Right in Gateway Courses" as the focus of the College's QEP. Dr. Plinske noted that the College will continue striving to improve student learning and success in a set of courses that, based on Valencia's analyses, have the strongest connection to students' persistence and graduation. Since gateway courses teach foundational knowledge and abilities, this topic also honors the College's commitment to learning-centeredness.

Dr. Plinske shared that the Aspen Institute has invited Valencia to participate in the Unlocking Opportunity initiative. This initiative focuses on ensuring that colleges are positioned to prepare students for post-graduation success and for careers that are in high demand. Through its participation in the program, the College will have access to research and coaching from the Aspen Institute and the Community College Research site, with a focus on delivering high quality career and technical education, leading to the expansion of credentials that closely align with the expectations of employers in the region. The first in-person meeting will be held in May 2023.

Faculty Association Report

Dr. Doreen Watson, President, Faculty Association, provided an overview of the College's Learning Day. Valencia's Learning Day provides a variety of learning and camaraderie opportunities. It features a welcome and keynote presentation, and a special lineup of learning sessions focused on personal and professional development workshops.

Student Government Association Report

Ms. Olivia Assing-Nunes and Ms. Nicole Santos, Downtown Campus SGA Director and Programming Coordinator, respectively, presented the report, which was distributed to the Board. Ms. Assing-Nunes and Ms. Santos shared an overview of the Downtown Student Life Board (DSL), which is a programming board comprised of both UCF and Valencia College students. The SGA team shared a recap of the Downtown Campus's fall 2022 activities, current initiatives, and the SGA's future plans.

The Board thanked the SGA team members for their thoughtful contributions and leadership.

Public Comments

No public comments were offered.

New Business

- 1. Replacement of Word “Equity” in Strategic Impact Plan:** Dr. Plinske shared the report, which was distributed to the Board. Dr. Plinske noted that the District Board of Trustees of Valencia College approved the College’s 2030 Strategic Impact Plan at its December 16, 2020, Regular Meeting. The four major goal areas in the plan are related to College Access, Graduation, Transfer Success, and Career Credentials. The plan was described as a way for the College to “hold itself accountable for achieving equity at a level not yet reached by other open access institutions.” Further, Valencia indicated that it would measure its success in meeting the goals through an additional cross-cutting lens of “Advancing Equity.”

Dr. Plinske reported that, in recent months, “equity” has become a charged term. It has been suggested that “equity” may signal efforts to lower standards and limit academic freedom and free expression. To more clearly and precisely express Valencia’s work related to improving all students’ learning and outcomes, it is advisable to update the language used in the College’s 2030 Strategic Impact Plan to replace the term “equity.”

Following discussion, Mr. de la Portilla moved to approve the replacement of “Advancing Equity” with “Creating the Right Conditions” and the edit to the Career Credential goal in Valencia College’s 2030 Strategic Impact Plan as presented. Further, the President recommends the explicit inclusion of our long-standing commitment to holding all of our students to the same high standards of excellence in our 2030 Strategic Impact Plan materials. Ms. Stockwell seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously.

- 2. 2022-2023 Revised Board Meeting Locations:** Following discussion, Mr. Martinez moved to approve the proposed revised schedule of meeting locations for the 2022-2023 Board meetings, as presented. Mr. Davis seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously.
- 3. Adjustment to Full-Time Faculty Overload Rate:** Dr. Plinske presented the report, which was distributed to the Board. Dr. Plinske reported that upon certification of the SEIU as the exclusive bargaining representative for Valencia’s part-time teaching faculty and part-time instructors on July 2, 2021, Valencia and the SEIU commenced the collective bargaining process. In 2021, all employees received an average

2.5% salary increase, except for part-time faculty and instructors who were being represented by SEIU in active collective bargaining negotiations at the time. In 2022, all employees received an average 4% salary increase, except for part-time faculty and instructors who were being represented by SEIU and remained in active collective bargaining negotiations at the time.

On January 18, 2023, the SEIU bargaining unit members ratified a contract that included a 4% base salary increase, which was approved and ratified by the Valencia College District Board of Trustees on January 19, 2023. The 4% base salary increase was effective for payrolls on January 19, 2023, and did not include provisions for retroactive pay.

When full-time faculty teach courses beyond their contracted credit load, these extra courses are compensated at an overload rate. Historically, the full-time faculty overload rate tracked the part-time faculty pay rate, with few exceptions. In compliance with applicable law requiring the preservation of the status quo during collective bargaining, the full-time faculty overload rate could not be adjusted to reflect the 2.5% salary increase in 2021, nor the 4% salary increase in 2022. Accordingly, full-time faculty were negatively impacted by the protracted collective bargaining process with the SEIU. Full-time faculty therefore did not receive the benefit of what would have been a 6.6% (compounded) increase to the full-time faculty overload rate.

Following discussion, Mr. Sasso moved to approve an 8% increase to the full-time faculty overload rate, effective in the Summer 2023 semester. Ms. Stockwell seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Sasso and seconded by Mr. de la Portilla to consider, accept, and approve items 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10 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. ITN 2023-09 Advertising and Marketing Consulting Services**
- 5. Award of Real Estate Brokers/Agents – Potential Sale of District Office and/or Adjacent Undeveloped Parcel**
- 6. Health Insurance Liability Funding**
- 7. Approval of Course Laboratory Fees for New Courses for Academic Year 2023-2024**
- 8. Continuing Education Programs and Courses**
- 9. Additions, Deletions, or Modifications of Courses and Programs**
- 10. Property Deletion**

Reports

A. Audit Update Report: Ms. Cynthia Santiago-Guzmán, Director, Compliance and Audit, presented the report, which was distributed to the Board. Ms. Santiago-Guzmán provided an overview of the 2022-2023 Audit Plan, which includes Internal Control and Data Security, Perkins Grant, Administration of the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program and Student Assistance Grant Programs – Operational Audit, an operational audit of the College, and a financial audit.

Dr. Plinske stated that the following report items are detailed in the written materials, which have been distributed to the Board:

B. Financial Report

C. Valencia Foundation Report

Strategic Discussion

Dr. Brandon McKelvey, Vice President, Technology, Research, and Analytics, and Dr. Isis Artze-Vega, Vice President, Academic Affairs and Provost, presented the report, which was distributed to the Board. The presentation included an overview of the Central Florida Education Ecosystem Database (CFEED), an innovative program designed to support student success all along the pre-kindergarten to postsecondary continuum. The program brings together four large-scale public education institutions under one collaborative initiative to share and analyze information, identify opportunities to enhance learning, and propel the educational attainment of all Central Florida students.

Board Comments

The Board congratulated Mr. Sasso for his recent appointment to the Central Florida Tourism Oversight District. The Board thanked the College for its great work in implementing the CFEED program and for the extensive work related to the Florida College System (FCS) funding formula discussions. The Board also offered congratulations to the College for being selected by the Aspen Institute to participate in the Unlocking Opportunity initiative.

Adjourn

Chair Hansen adjourned the Regular Meeting at 11:07 a.m.

Secretary

Chair