

SEPTEMBER 2019 | FALL EDITION

COUNSELOR'S CHRONICLE



Shadow, Gateway's Mascot

Panthers

- R**ISE TO THE CHALLENGE
- O**WN YOUR ACTIONS
- A**RRIVE ON TIME
- R**ESPECT YOURSELF AND OTHERS

In this first edition of the Counselor's Corner for 2019-2020

- Meet Gateway's team of Guidance Counselors and College and Career Specialists
- See upcoming events related to College and Career

Dr. Donna Williams

Guidance Counselor for All IB and student last names A-B

Dr. Donna Williams is one of our new Counselors at Gateway High School. She has over sixteen years of instructing and advising undergraduate/graduate students majoring in the field of education, psychology, sociology, social psychology, and psychogenic. She also has over ten years of providing inpatient/outpatient trauma-informed care, mental health counseling, and services to diverse population of both children and adults experiencing an array of clinical impairment, including learning, emotional, and social disabilities. She is an active member of The American Counseling Association, American Psychology and Neurological Association, and Florida Educators' Association. She is also United States Armed Forces Veteran.

*To book an appointment with Dr. Williams, click on her name above.



Ms. Egnis Ortiz

Guidance Counselor for students last names C-He

*Ms. Egnis Ortiz is one of our new Counselors at Gateway High School. She attended elementary, middle and high school locally. After graduating High School in 2002, she obtained a Bachelors in Criminal Justice and pursued a career with the Department of Juvenile Justice. She worked with at risk teens for 12 years and realized she would like to help them aspire to be greater and prepare for life after high school. This fueled her decision to become a School Counselor. She recently obtained her Master's in Education from Turabo University through Ana G. Mendez University Systems and she is excited to inspire students to achieve greatness.

*To book an appointment with Ms. Ortiz, click on her name above.



Have you heard the college fight songs between classes?
What's your favorite?

Mrs. Christine Melendez

Guidance Counselor for students last names Hi-Ra

Mrs. Christine Melendez is one of our new Counselors this year at Gateway High School. She is a UCF alumni and she completed her graduate degree at NYU. She was born and raised on Long Island, NY, but says that her heart was always in Florida. Mrs. Melendez is so excited to be back in Florida for good and loves to spend her free time with her husband, two daughters and her dog at the beach. She looks forward to meeting each one of you this year!

*To book an appointment with Mrs. Melendez, click on her name above.



Mr. Omar Phillip

Guidance Counselor for students last names Re-Z

*Mr. Omar Phillip is a veteran Counselor at Gateway High School. He originally from Brooklyn, NY, but moved to Poinciana, Florida in 1989. His Mom is from Barbados and Dad was from Trinidad (so he is of Caribbean decent). He graduated from Poinciana HS c/o 2000; graduated Western Maryland College c/o 2004 with a Major in Sociology and a Minor in Business Administration. He is a sports fanatic/coach and Dad to one beautiful princess, Olivia, who is 5 yrs old.

*To book an appointment with Mr. Phillip, click on his name above.

Looking to meet new people? Join a club or sports team on campus.

Dr. Dana Jacobson

College and Career Counselor

*Dr. Dana Jacobson is the College and Career Counselor at Gateway High School. She is a native Floridian, born in Orlando. She is also a graduate of Gateway High School c/o 1991. She has a Bachelor's of Arts in the History of Art, with a minor in Anthropology from the University of Florida; a Master of Arts in Educational Leadership from Stetson University, and a doctorate in Educational Leadership from the University of Central Florida. She has served Osceola County Schools for over 15 year as a teacher in reading and art; Dean of Students; Literacy Coach; and College and Career Counselor. The College and Career Office is located in 5-105.

*To book an appointment with Dr. Jacobson, click on her name above.

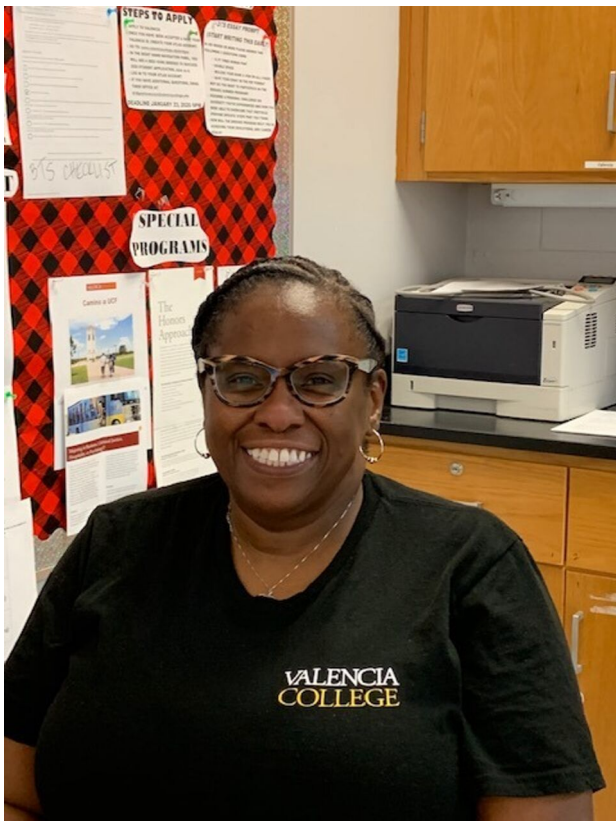


Ms. Andrea Richard

Valencia Coach

Ms. Andrea Richard is a Valencia Coach for the Osceola School District. She is a third generation Kissimmeean and has been an educator for over 20 years. She was a proud counselor at Gateway for more than 10 years, and is ecstatic to be back working with the seniors on their post secondary plans. Education is her second career. Her first was in the hospitality field where she traveled and worked in Spain, England, California, and Las Vegas. She left that career because she wanted to have an impact and make a difference. Teaching was always her childhood goal and dream career. She attended the University of Florida, then transferred to UCF to pursue her Bachelor's Degree in Hospitality Management. She also has a Masters Degree in Psychology and Counseling from Troy University and a Specialist Degree in Educational Leadership from National Louis University.

*To book an appointment with Ms. Richard, click on her name above.



Have you taken the Panther Pledge to have a plan after high school?
Go to Naviance in ClassLink to get started!

Upcoming Counseling Events

September

- 9/25 Nova Southeastern University Visit @ 10am in 5-105
- 9/26 Senior Credit Checks through English
- 9/27 Junior Naviance Lesson 1 through US History
- 9/30 University of Florida Visit @ 10:30am in 5-105

October

- 10/1 FAFSA Opens
- 10/2 University of Miami Visit @ 10am Location TBD
- 10/3 Top 20 Junior Breakfast @ 7:30am in Media Center
- 10/3 Rollins University @ 10:45am in 5-105
- 10/4 University of Connecticut Visit @ 10:45am in 5-105
- 10/8 College Fair in Gymnasium @ 9am
- 10/10 Osceola Scholars with Dr. Jacobson (9,10,11 grade)
- 10/11 Fieldtrip to Walmart Distribution Center (engineering students) All Day
- 10/15 College applications submitted to colleges (review by Guidance)
- 10/16 SAT, SAT/NMSQT, PSAT 8/9 All Day (ALL Students testing)
- 10/17 Fieldtrip for ELL students to Valencia @ 10am-12:30pm
- 10/31 Fieldtrip to oTECH for students interested in tech programs @ 10am-12:30pm

November

- 11/1 College Application Deadlines for Scholarships
- 11/6 University of Alabama Visit @10am Location TBD
- 11/12 Fieldtrip to Valencia Jr. Day @10am-12:30pm
- 11/13 Lynn University Visit @10am Location TBD
- 11/14 Osceola Scholars with Dr. Jacobson (9,10,11 grade)
- 11/19 ASVAB Testing in Media Center
- 11/19 Fieldtrip to Valencia Undecided Students @10am-12:30pm
- 11/21 Junior Naviance Lesson 2 through US History

December

- 12/1 Bright Futures Application Opens
- 12/12 Osceola Scholars with Dr. Jacobson (9,10,11 grade)
- 12/17 Sophomore Naviance Lesson 1 through English
- 12/19 Freshmen Naviance Lesson 1 through English

