



# Davidson-Davie Community College 2022 Democratic Engagement Action Plan

Developed by: Lynne Watts

## **Executive Summary:**

This nonpartisan democratic engagement action plan was developed by Davidson-Davie Community College in North Carolina for the 2022 election. The purpose of this action plan is to increase nonpartisan democratic engagement and student voter registration, education, and turnout in the 2022 midterm election.

## **The goals for Davidson-Davie Community College for the 2022 election are:**

- To increase midterm early voting participation
- To reduce mid-term apathy among student voters
- To increase year-round civic engagement so that students become stronger agents of democracy

## **Leadership:**

### **Our leadership team includes the following:**

- Lynne Watts - Director, Student Life
- Brandon Watts- Coordinator, Student Life

### **Our campus works with these following nonprofit partners:**

#### **Internal:**

- Student Government Association

#### **External:**

- National Voter Registration Day
- You Can Vote
- Vote Early Day
- Nonprofit Vote
- NC Campus Engagement
- National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement (NSLVE)

## **Commitment:**

DDCC celebrates the work of civic learning and democratic engagement through co-curricular programming and activities as well as through integration in certain academic courses. One of

the areas we have to work on is interweaving civic engagement into the culture of the institution rather than it just existing in silos.

One step toward this goal is our partnership and commitment to the National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement (NSLVE) which will help us to learn about our students' voting habits. Examining the voting rates within different programs of study offers additional areas of improvement in terms of incorporating civic engagement in the classroom. Comparing the voting rates of male and female students, students of different races/ethnicities as well as students of different ages will be very helpful information as we plan future voter and civic engagement efforts.

Since 2005, as part of the college's commitment to civic engagement DDCC has been a member of NC Campus Engagement (formerly Campus Compact), which helps colleges to facilitate civic and community engagement programs and initiatives. DDCC hosted the Engaged Faculty Institute on campus in 2018, participated in the Pathways to Achieving Civic Engagement (PACE) conference, Community Engagement Administrators Conference, MLK Day of Service, Pizza to the Polls, NC College Voter Summit, and the NC Collegiate Hunger Challenge.

DDCC hosts an annual Day of Service in November that creates opportunities for faculty, staff and students to feel a sense of responsibility for their communities. This year students are helping to feed the homeless at the local Salvation Army Soup kitchen.

Davidson-Davie Community College

### **Landscape:**

Davidson-Davie Community College is a public community college and joined the ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge in 2020.

### **Our campus demographic and voting data:**

Davidson-Davie Community College is a medium size public institution in Thomasville and a satellite campus in Mocksville, North Carolina. We have an approximate enrollment of 3,765. With regard to age, 54 percent of students are 18-24, and 36 percent are 25-64. White students comprise about 76 percent of the study body, with black students about 14 percent and Hispanic students at 8 percent. Regarding gender, 65 percent of the student body is female; 35 percent male. As noted on our website, "DDCC offers 45 curriculum programs that have evolved to ensure that students enter the workforce with 21st-century knowledge. In addition to a robust transfer program, DDCC has programs in such fields as advanced manufacturing and allied health. DDCC also is one of the few community colleges nationally to have a zoo and aquarium science program. The Dental Assisting program began this fall. Both the Davidson and Davie campuses are home to a successful Early College high school program; DDCC also partners with the Yadkin Valley Career Academy. Student clubs and an athletic program of basketball, volleyball and golf, contribute to a vibrant campus life, while a successful international education program gives students the opportunity to both travel abroad and meet international visitors who come to DDCC."

Davidson-Davie Community College has authorized NSLVE.

Our institution had a 2020 campus voting rate of 65.7%.  
Our institution had a 2020 voter registration rate of 87.3%.

Our institution had a 2018 voter turnout rate of 34%.  
Our institution had a 2018 voter registration rate of 76.5%.

Our institution has been recognized in the past by ALL IN for these awards: 2020 Overall Highest Registration Rate at Community College Award / NC Campus Voting Challenge Best Action Plan - Community College

Our institution has been recognized by ALL IN with the following seals: 2020 Silver

### **Goals:**

#### **Our campus democratic engagement goals are:**

Increase campus voting rate to 70% in 2022 and 75% in 2024

Increase student voter registration rate to 90% in 2022 and 95% in 2024.

### **Strategy:**

Davidson-Davie Community College will implement these strategies to increase nonpartisan democratic engagement and student voter participation.

- Participate in National Voter Registration Day, Vote Early Day, NC College Voter Summit
- Campus Voter registration drives
- Pizza to the Polls events
- Lunch Time voter registration tabling
- Provide nonpartisan candidate information to students.
- Centralized campus website for election information
- Yard signs around campus reminding students of voter registration drives and deadlines, as well as the date for the upcoming election.
- Social Media and emails reminding students when and where they can vote and provide information for students on where they can find their local polling location.
- Lunch and Learns-to highlight some of the major issues that are prevalent locally and nationally.
- A Student Vote Coalition where students are trained to register, educate and help lead voter engagement efforts on campus. We plan to offer these students a small stipend.
- Class raps: A short (10 -15 minute) presentation by members of the Student Vote Coalition given in front of a classroom with express permission from the instructor. They will talk about why voting is important, how it works, and get students in the class registered to vote.

### **Evaluation:**

#### **We will evaluate our action plan in the following ways:**

Registration numbers for each event/activity  
Survey

## Evaluations

### **Reporting:**

Our campus action plan will be posted on our campus page on ALL IN's website  
<https://allinchallenge.org/campuses/davidson-county-community-college/>.

Our institution has given ALL IN permission to publish our NSLVE reports which are posted on our campus page on ALL IN's website.

Our NSLVE report will be posted on our campus website landing page titled "Storm to the Polls."

The report will be shared with

Lynne Watts, Director, Student Life

Dr. Susan D. Burlison  
Executive Vice President, Academic & Student Affairs