

PALM BEACH STATE COLLEGE LAUNCHES PBSC PANTHER PARTNER INITIATIVE

Palm Beach State College (PBSC) is launching the *PBSC Panther Partner* initiative to recognize Palm Beach County businesses for their commitment to advancing student success and empowering the next generation of professionals through internships, apprenticeships, career development, employment opportunities, student scholarships and investments in education.

Dycom Industries Inc., a national leader in digital infrastructure, is the first major corporation to be recognized as a *PBSC Panther Partner*. The company received the inaugural award during a ceremony and attended by representatives from both organizations at Dycom's headquarters in West Palm Beach.

The recognition honors Dycom's commitment to advancing education, workforce development and community engagement, as well as its impact on preparing students for future careers.

"Our partnership with Dycom is a great way for our students to stay in school; to have a job and learn something as they go through the process," said PBSC President **Ava L. Parker, J.D.** "One of my responsibilities is to graduate students who are ready to go right to work. We're just so happy to have partners who trust us and will understand that commitment that we have to our students."

PBSC maintains an exclusive partnership with Dycom through the *20/20 Program*, launched in 2018. The program allows PBSC technology students to work 20 hours per week while completing their degrees and gaining hands-on industry experience. Since its inception, more than 50 PBSC students have participated in the program, with over 30 graduates transitioning into full-time roles, in positions such as software engineers and developers at Dycom.



ABOVE: Jessica Padron, Dycom Associate IT Support Specialist; Stephen Joyner, Palm Beach State College Provost and Dean of the Palm Beach Gardens campus; Dan Peyovich, Dycom President and CEO; Curtis Chambers, Dycom Vice President and Chief Information Officer; Ava L. Parker, Palm Beach State College President; Matt Lenihan, Palm Beach State College Director of Academic and Business Partnerships; Alec Flood, Dycom Software Engineer; **LEFT:** Dycom Industries PBSC Panther Partner Award

"This program with Palm Beach State College gives us an opportunity to grow our talent," said Dycom President and CEO **Dan Peyovich**. "When education and industry work together like this, we're not just filling jobs, we're building futures and strengthening our community."

In addition to the *20/20 Program*, Dycom leaders serve on PBSC Business Partnership Councils, and participate as guest speakers. The company also offers internships outside the program and provides consistent support for PBSC initiatives.

Through the *Panther Partner* program Palm Beach State College recognizes Palm Beach County's top companies dedicated to student success and advancing workforce innovation and community impact.

For more information visit www.pbsc.edu.