

Dr. Garstecki Monthly Board of Trustees Update

March 2025

- **I had a meeting this week with reps from the Center for Rural Innovation (CORI). This group provides selected rural communities with assessments and resources funding to assist with developing tech entrepreneurship training and education.**
- **I attended an Area Superintendent's meeting in Hoisington on March 5th. We discussed several topics including SB155 courses, and the First 15 proposal being developed by KBOR leadership.**
- **Several members from the college traveled to the Pratt CC Board meeting to discuss the Nursing Program MOU. The Pratt Board had several questions regarding the financial obligation and if they were going to continue with the agreement. Besides our team, numerous healthcare industry partners from the Pratt area, current students, and Pratt community members attended to show support for the continued partnership**
- **I spent a couple of days in Topeka meeting with legislators at the Capitol and sitting in on several committee hearings. There is a lot of uncertainty around the FY26 budget appropriations for community colleges in this legislative session.**
- **The community college presidents held a special meeting while in Topeka to discuss some of the FY26 budget appropriations and other Community college related bills that have been introduced during this legislative session.**
- **I attended the Music Department's Spring Orchestra and Jazz Concert. The faculty and students put on a great performance.**
- **I submitted Barton's report for KBOR Pillar II to the TEA for this month's upcoming TEA meeting. Pillar II covers Talent Pipeline and Innovation.**
- **I traveled with VP Simmons and Dean Kottas to meet with leadership at Larned State Hospital. We discussed several options for providing additional training and courses to LSH employees, including the possibility of micro credential options.**
- **I attended the Region VI basketball semi-finals and finals in Hays, as well as the National Tournament in Hutchinson.**