

Dr. Garstecki Monthly Board of Trustees Update

June 2025

- VP Simmons, Dean Kottas and I met with reps from the Ellinwood Hospital to discuss some of their workforce needs and how we can address some of the regional healthcare workforce shortage.
- I attended the KACC meeting May 29-31 in Atchinson along with Trustee Johnson. This was a heavy agenda with everything going on at the state and federal levels. Some of the highlights included:
 - We know there is going to be an overhaul to the K-12 funding formula over the course of the next year. We anticipate there will be a reduction in state aid to the community colleges for CEP courses and SB155 classes that are taught in the high schools.
 - The Reconciliation Bill, specifically Pell Grant program changes, was discussed extensively. The proposal to eliminate Pell for students who are less than ½ time would have consequences to CC students.
 - KACC has submitted the FY27 budget to KBOR. The budget will ask for the CCs to be fully funded for tiered and non-tiered classes, SB155, and have Student Success dollars and capital outlay reinstated. It is estimated that if we receive these funds, and with the loss from CEP and SB155 taught in the high schools, there would be about a \$5 million reduction to the community colleges in state aid.
- I participated in a webinar hosted by the Council on Education who oversees the TRIO programs. The updates on TRIO continue to change frequently, but this was the most positive update we have had in months with COE.
- I attended the Chamber After Hours hosted by Wheatland Electric at Dry Lake Brewing.
- The Barton team met with a team from Golden Key Group. GKG is a professional human resources service firm that has federal agency clients all over the nation. They are interested in Barton developing training courses through Barton Online for their new clients.
- I participated in a webinar hosted by Gonser Gerber related to institutional fund raising. Gonser Gerber is one of the most respected institutional advancement consultant groups.
- I attended the System Council of Presidents call and the KBOR meeting this month.
- I attended the Barton Foundation Board meeting on Wednesday afternoon.
- I played as part of the Barton team in the Clara Barton Foundation golf tournament.

- I attended the Clara Barton Foundation annual fund-raising event. It was great for Barton to have a full table for the event.
- On Tuesday, the KSN Summer Road Trip Series was in Great Bend. I attended the event and did an interview during one of the spots. This was a great opportunity to discuss our enrollment growth for FY25, the summer Cybersecurity camp we held for middle school students, the computer classes we are hosting through the DOCK Grant this summer, and upcoming Enrollment Days for Fall 2025.
- Tuesday afternoon I attended the Cybersecurity camp. This was a free camp for middle school students hosted in collaboration with Software and EnterpriseKC. We had 20 students register, with an additional 14 students added to the waitlist if we can add another camp later this summer. The camp was a huge hit as the students were totally engaged for two full days of learning and hands-on activities. A huge shoutout to Dean Kottas for her leadership on launching this camp.