

Dr. Garstecki Monthly Board of Trustees Update

September 2025

- Barton submitted our Annual Report to KBOR this month. This is the most intensive of all the KBOR reports and directly tied to our funding for AY25. This report is led by our Institutional Research and Effectiveness Team but takes the efforts of many throughout the campus to complete.
- I attended a Federal Legislative Update hosted by AACC on Wednesday.
- I provided a presentation to the Great Bend Kiwanis group providing Barton highlights from this past year including academic achievements, athletic department successes, and achievements by some of our student clubs.
- I had a follow up call with Nick Poels from Center on Rural Innovation and Ryan Fairchild to discuss next steps to the assessment CORI conducted for Great Bend and Barton County.
- We continued our weekly walk-throughs with Mammoth in the Physical Education Building to go over final details for the Cougar Den. The framing is completed in that area and the glass has now been ordered, which will take 4-6 weeks for delivery.
- I attended the KBOR COPs meeting.
- This past week we hosted Dr. Rick Edgington, HLC Peer Reviewer, for our Pell Eligible Prison Education Program site visit. The first day Dr. Edgington was on the Barton Campus meeting with various employees related to the Prison Education Program, and our processes. The entire second day of the visit was spent traveling to Ellsworth and Larned to visit the correctional facilities. While on site, Dr. Edgington met with Barton Staff, as well as staff and students from both locations. The visit went very well. We will receive a full report from Dr. Edgington and HLC in the near future.
- Last week we received our Grant Award Notification letters for our EOC and Barton County Upward Bound programs. This is great news for Barton and our staff to be able to provide the services needed by so many students.