

Dr. Garstecki Monthly Report

January 2026

- VP Simmons, Dean Kottas, Karly Little and I traveled to Lyons to meet with their new Superintendent, HS Principal, and HS Counselor. We were able to identify a couple of new opportunities, both online and face-to-face classes, which will be a good fit for their students.
- I met with the ILS leadership team in Great Bend to discuss potential workforce development opportunities they are seeking.
- I was selected to serve on the Great Bend Economic Development Board.
- Barton hosted the quarterly KJCCC and Region meetings on campus. We were able to tour attendees from the other institutions through the new Cougar Den, locker rooms, and concession area. That day Barton was voted to host the Region Men's and Women's basketball Final Four in March of the five schools were bidding for the event. This will bring 8 teams to our campus and our community for the tournament.
- Chair Johnson, Trustees Burke and Becker, and myself attended Donuts with the Legislators. We met with several legislators throughout the day and had great conversations.
- VP Simmons and I attended a meeting at Butler CC that included Senator Marshall, the Presidents from Butler, Hutch, Cowley, and Cloud, and representatives from the 184th Wing to discuss the need to enhance the number of cybersecurity professionals, specifically in the Air National Guard unit at McConnell AFB.
- This month I hosted the quarterly President's Forum. The Barton leadership team provided start of the semester updates to the campus community.
- The Barton team met with Mammoth to go through the final punch list of items they need to complete for the athletics renovation.
- The Executive Leadership Team met this week for our quarterly strategic planning update. From the twenty-one strategic planning initiatives included in the plan, nine of them have been started.
- I was in Topeka for the legislative session on Monday, January 26th. I attended Heather Morgan's testimony for the community college's budget proposal for the Senate Ways and Means Committee and Senate Higher Education Committee. We also had discussions with several legislators regarding our budget proposal.