

Dr. Garstecki Monthly Board of Trustees Update

July 2026

- This month, the Barton team of VP Simmons, Dean Kottas, Dean Joiner, Krystall Barnes, and myself, met regularly with Jason Kuilan and Nicci Henderson of GBED, and Charell Owings of United Way to develop our grant proposal to the Kansas Health Foundation. The grant application is for \$500k over two years.
- I attended the monthly GBED meeting, where we met with representatives from the Main Street USA group.
- I attended the Golden Belt Community Foundation 30-year celebration at Dry Lake Brewery.
- I attended the Great Bend Chamber Coffee hosted by the Kansas Oil & Gas Museum.
- The Barton Foundation hosted Chamber After Hours at the Duck Blind in Hoisington.
- Mark Dean, Chris Case, and I attended a meeting hosted by Lightcast. This was a kickoff call to discuss the process and required data needed from each of the community colleges to complete the economic impact study being conducted this year.
- We held our annual President's Staff retreat where we discuss strategic planning updates. We also covered accreditation updates as Barton will host HLC in November for our mid-cycle visit and we have work ahead of us to prepare for that site visit.
- VP Simmons, Dean Hall, Lindsay Holmes, Laura Pratt, and I met with representatives from National PETE at Grandview Plaza.