



HLC Accreditation Evidence

Title: Strategic Planning

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BARTON PLANNING

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Barton planning at Barton County Community College is an ongoing effort to anticipate, predict and align future activities and provide a framework to advance the College's vision, mission and goals. It must be clear to the entire organization where we are going, why we are going there, and how we will get there.

Planning always starts with the Vision, Mission, Core Priorities and Board ENDS. As priorities move through the two-year academic planning process columns on the spreadsheet denote connectivity to the above guiding statements. Employees at all levels are given opportunity to impact their departmental plans in support of the two-year academic plan which feeds strategic planning.

Barton also has a rotating maturity scale calendar. The rotation is between Board ENDS and Higher Learning Commission Core Criteria. Face to Face meetings are scheduled at Barton County Campus, Fort Riley Campus and Fort Leavenworth Campus with first an explanation of how the scale works, then employees are given time to either work in groups or individually to pass feed back to college leaders. From these maturity scales themes are extracted and provide to Board of Trustees at Retreats and college leaders at regular scheduled meetings.

The College's new Planning Model is in place click on the Strategic Planning Documents link of the left to review.



History

Beginning in the Fall of 2014 the College Administration began discussions about how to make Strategic Planning more of a regular part of the normal college activities.

- 1) A redesigned, streamlined planning model for Barton Community College that defines a data-informed, strategic approach to creating focus and purpose across the college, aligning long-range plans to the critical daily work of teaching and learning, managing limited resources and making decisions every day that move the college toward achieving its mission, purpose and strategic goals.
- 2) A planning guide that describes the scope and purpose of the strategic planning model, the function of its parts and their interrelationships, and the steps to be taken for the model's implementation.
- 3) An engagement with Barton faculty, staff, Board of Trustees and other stakeholders as defined by the institution that leads to the creation of the college's plan for 2016-2021 using the new model. This engagement will entail several face-to-face meetings as detailed below.

As we move deeper into the 21st Century, however, planning must be understood in a fundamentally new light – because in this new century the role of the community college and of community college leadership has changed dramatically. Presidents and top-level administrators have to be adaptable, willing to shape their institutions in new ways and make decisions quickly using the best available data. Planning at a

community college is now a vital tool leaders employ in strategic ways to ensure their institutions' ongoing sustainability, fiscal viability – even survival.

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