2437 – Retirement Recognition

To recognize its retirees, the College has the "Cougar Commemorative Circle" for qualifying retirees. The circle includes brick pavers with the retiree's name and years of service inscribed. Each retiree receives a memento of this recognition. To qualify, the employee must have at least ten (10) consecutive years of service (full-time, regular part-time, or a combination of both), qualified for KPERS retirement, and left the College in good-standing.

The Office of Human Resources coordinates this program and the eligibility requirements.

Eligibility Requirements

At the time of his/her departure from the College, the employee must first have at least ten (10) consecutive years of Barton County Community College service (full-time, regular part-time, or a combination of both), and be qualified for KPERS retirement, meeting one of the following criteria:

- At age 55 with at least ten (10) years of KPERS service, retiring with reduced benefits; or
- At age 62 with at least ten (10) years of KPERS service; or
- At age 65 or older with at least two (2) quarters of KPERS service; or
- At any age when the combination of age and years of KPERS service equal 85.

Departmental Retirement Parties or Receptions

It should be noted that retirement parties or receptions will be the responsibility of the retiree's department. The decision whether to open the reception up to all employees and Board members will lie within the department. If Board members are to be invited, it will be the responsibility of the individual department to extend invitations to them. Additionally, if the department chooses, it may solicit voluntary donations from employee's college-wide for a joint gift. However, College funds are not to be used for this purpose, so donations should be collected prior to purchasing a gift, in order to assure that the cost of the gift will be covered through such voluntary donations.

(Based on policy 1420; revised and approved by President on 1/14/08)