

Dr. Garstecki Monthly Board of Trustees Update

December 2024

- This month we held our last President Meet and Greet sessions with a stop in Lyons. I want to Thank Maggie Harris, Lindsey Bogner, and Amye Schneider for their assistance in organizing each of these events. We had some very good conversations with local stakeholders during these events.
- The Barton team met with USD 355 leadership. Our team included VP Simmons, Dean Kottas, Karly Little and myself. We had a great discussion and continue to find our K-12 partners open to more collaboration, particularly with CTE dual credit options.
- Trustee Burke and I visited the Progress Club on Monday. I presented on enrollments, a few of our technical education programs, and general discussion about the college.
- Barton hosted several Title IX Coordinators from the other community colleges for a professional development session. I met with the group and gave a welcome at the start of their meeting. A huge shout out to Cheryl Brown for setting this important meeting up with her colleagues.
- Barton hosted the Chamber Coffee event on Thursday. Along with the coffee, we had a ribbon cutting and tours of the new ambulance simulator and APEX Officer VR simulator. Chris Baker, Nick Larmer, and Christian Rivas did an outstanding job showing the facilities and demonstrating to the attendees.
- I attended the Holiday Concert and Fine and Performing Arts Inaugural Hall of Fame Induction. This was a fantastic evening and a great start to what certainly will become an annual tradition with the Hall of Fame inductions. Thank you to the entire Fine and Performing Arts Department for their work on this event.
- I traveled to Labette CC for the quarterly KACC meeting on Friday and Saturday. Chairman Johnson and Trustee Burke joined me at the meeting. Much of the meeting centered around the upcoming legislative session, community college funding, and the “First Fifteen”.