



President's Report

January 2025

Dr. Brian Knetl, President



Topping Off the TEC

December 9 marked a milestone in the construction of the Technical Education Center (TEC), with a “topping off” ceremony celebrating the placement of the last steel beam. Waubonsee trustees, administrators, faculty, employees, and students signed the beam, along with team members from DKA Architects and Pepper Construction. The building remains on schedule for its fall 2025 opening.



Employees “Channel Their Flannel” at Open House

This year’s holiday gathering featured food, music, inflatable axe throwing, raffle prizes, giveaways, and a relaxing time to connect with colleagues. My thanks to the organizing committee.



Change in Payment Process Removes Barriers for Students

Looking at policies from a student-centered perspective can lead to positive changes. Such is the case for the college’s drop for nonpayment policy. This spring semester, we transitioned from a rolling, weekly drop to a singular payment deadline/drop date of Jan. 6. So far, this has resulted in decreased drops — less than 250 students this semester, compared to as many as 1,900 in past spring semesters. The singular payment deadline allowed for clearer, more consistent communication while also giving students more time to plan for payment. Students registering after Jan. 6 will not be dropped from spring courses for nonpayment but will be restricted from registering for future terms if payment is not arranged by Feb. 15. Kudos to all staff who worked on this change!

Waubonsee Among The Top 5 Food Insecurity Fighters in the State

Since last month’s update on the Illinois Community College Board’s inaugural Feed the Need food drive, official results have come in, with Waubonsee placing fourth in the state! Thanks to the generosity of staff members and student organizations, the college collected 4,500 food items to fill the WCC Cares baskets across our campuses. Statewide, the drive collected 91,000 food items for community college students.



Setting the Stage for Strategy at the All-College Address

This semester’s All-College Address features a focus on the RISE 2030 Strategic Plan. While full details will be shared at the upcoming strategic plan launch party, my Jan. 15 presentation explains and emphasizes the foundational commitments of the college -- as reflected in the plan and as illustrated through data showcasing both progress and opportunity.

Coming Up

January 29-31

AGB Foundation Leadership Forum

February 3-4

ATD Coaches Visit