



WAUBONSEE
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

President's Report

January 2024 Updated

Dr. Brian Knetl, President



EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT

I held my start of the semester All-College Address for all employees last Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. In keeping with our One College, Four Campuses philosophy, our Aurora Fox Valley and Plano Campuses opened at 11:00 a.m. that day to allow for more in-person attendance while maintaining service levels at the Sugar Grove and Aurora Downtown Campuses during a time when many students are finalizing enrollment details.

During my remarks, I highlighted some of our achievements of the past year, provided a few updates on continuing projects, and asked employees to join me in making five resolutions for the coming year, our work with ATD, and as we begin to build our Strategic Plan.

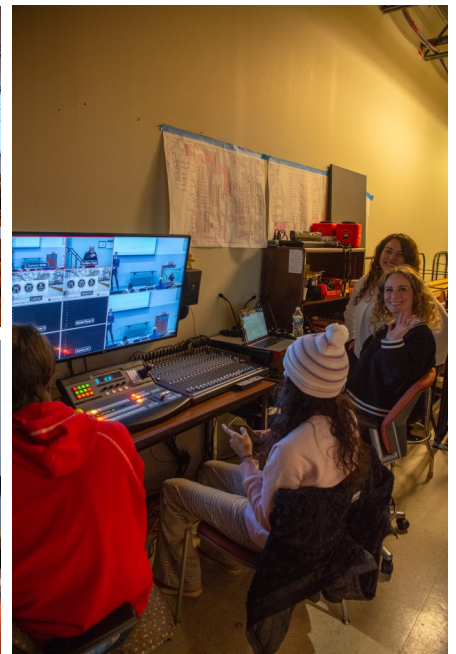
Our Resolutions

- Participate
- Courageous
- Intelligent Failure
- Persist
- Civility

In addition, as part of the three-day Faculty Development Days conference, Dr. Diane Nyhammer, Dr. Stacey Randall, and I facilitated a session on data with faculty utilizing information from our Achieving the Dream Institutional Capacity Assessment Tool (ICAT) Report.

Due to our Winter Break, there isn't much activity to share since our December board meeting. We are making up for that with a busy January and February! In addition to my All-College Address, I participated in the Spring Coaches meeting and attended "Celebrating the Life and Legacy of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr." along with many students and employees. It was a wonderful event on what turned out to be the first day of the spring semester.

In addition to my usual board meetings throughout the community, I have a busy travel schedule lined up for January and February. As we think about what launching a capital campaign at Waubonsee might look like, Ed Keating, Foundation Board President, Dr. Melinda Tejada and I are scheduled to attend the AGB Foundation Leadership Forum in California later this month. Right after our Special Meeting, Trustees Pat Kelsey and Tina Willson and Student Trustee Jack McGreevy and I head to Washington, DC for the AACCC/ACCT National Legislative Summit and are looking forward to connecting with our Senators and Representatives. Two weeks later, I will host a team for our first participation in the Achieving the Dream (ATD) DREAM Conference in Florida. Participation in the DREAM Conference supports our commitment to our work with ATD on our greater integration of data in our work as well as in closing equity gaps for all students.





What I'm Reading

- *America's Hidden Economic Engines: How Community Colleges Can Drive Shared Prosperity* edited by Robert B. Schwartz and Rachel Lipson



What I'm Following

- @waubonsee social media channels
- Follow me on Twitter at @WCCPresident

AROUND THE COLLEGE

Former Waubonsee women's soccer and basketball athlete, Maxzine (Rossler) Vrbenec has been selected for the Region 4 Hall of Fame Class of 2024. Maxzine is also a member of the Waubonsee Hall of Fame (2020) and the Illinois Skyway Hall of Fame (2022).

For the 13th consecutive year, Waubonsee has achieved national recognition as a Tree Campus Higher Education institution, a program established in 2008 by the Arbor Day Foundation. To obtain this distinction, Waubonsee met the five core standards for effective campus forest management, including the establishment of a tree advisory committee, evidence of a campus tree care plan, dedicated annual expenditures for its campus tree program, an Arbor Day observance, and the sponsorship of student service-learning projects.

Coming Up

January 18

Michael Cassa, Economic Development Director, Village of Sugar Grove

January 19

Matt Brolley, President, Village of Montgomery
Boys and Girls Club New Board Member Orientation

January 28-30

AGB Foundation Leadership Forum

February 1

Illinois Council of Community College Presidents, Virtual

February 4-7

ACCT/AACC National Legislative Summit

February 16

U. S. Hispanic Leadership Institute Conference—HSI Convening

February 19-21

DREAM Conference