

Jo Co Community College Board of Trustees At-Large 2021

Response ID:3 Data

1. Candidate Information

1. Candidate Name

Dr. Joy Koesten

2. Address

Street Address/Apt/Suite : 3310 W 137th Street

City/State/Zip : Leawood KS 66224

3. Phone Number

9139727883

4. Email Address

jkoesten@gmail.com

5. Campaign Website

<https://www.joykoesten.com/>

2. Candidate Background

6. Occupation/Work History (last 5 years - 25 words or less)

Doctorate in Communication Studies

Adjunct professor, JCCC

Lecturer, KU Edwards

Faculty member KU Lawrence, Edwards and Med Center

Kansas State Representative

Business Owner & Consultant

7. If you are or have been affiliated with a chamber of commerce or other business organization, please list which organization(s) and any leadership positions you have held.

Member of OP Chamber in 2016-2018

Member of Leawood Chamber 2016-2020

8. Other recent political/community experience (50 words or less)

Appointed Member:

Johnson County Charter Commission

Candidate:

Kansas House race 2018

Kansas Senate race 2020

Board Member:

The Temple, B'nai Jehudah Congregation Sisterhood

Jewish Community Relations Bureau/American Jewish Committee

National Council of Jewish Women

Advocate:

3. Issues and Policy

9. What would be your top three agenda priorities as a Trustee you would work toward for the betterment of the College and the education it provides? (100 words or less)

Recruit, recognize and retain the best teachers in the region.

Connect with our business community to provide cutting-edge vocational training.

Provide world-class education to build a world-class JOCO workforce.

Maintain accessible and affordable college for every student across their lifespan.

10. With respect to paying for the cost of educating the College's students, where do you stand regarding tuition increases vs. mill levy increases and what is the appropriate way to balance those interests? (100 words or less)

Maintaining accessible and affordable college admissions for every student ensures the best and brightest in our community stay in our community, and that they are prepared to thrive in our fast-changing economy. Finding the right funding formula so that one element (tuition) doesn't over burden the other (mill levy), is key to making sure our students, faculty, and business community have the resources they need to be successful.

11. Kansas is experiencing low unemployment rates and employers are struggling to find qualified workers, especially in technical and skilled trades. What role should Johnson County Community College play with regard to workforce development, locally and statewide? (100 words or less)

It is incumbent on the stakeholders at the College and in the business community to collaborate across the spectrum so that we can ensure students are ready to succeed in good paying jobs, so they can afford to live in Johnson County. I will work to build bridges with teachers, students and our regional business community to create those synergies.

12. What do you see as key aspects of JCCC's coordination with high schools, universities, and other post-secondary educational institutions? (100 words or less)

It's imperative that stakeholders at JCCC build collaborative relationships with high schools, universities and post-secondary institutions to help students understand the options for various career paths, whether that's learning a trade or going to a four-year institution for a professional degree. At the same time, we must understand what our business community needs so we can direct students into the most promising jobs across the spectrum.

13. What is your vision for the College ten years from now? (100 words or less)

Over the next 10 years over 120 million global workers will need to be re-trained in order to remain employed; 11.5 million in the US alone (Bloomberg). My vision for the College is to make sure we are ready for that shift, operating in a way in which faculty and students have the resources they need to be successful in meeting the challenges of the future. If we do that, then I'm confident our business community will be well situated to also meet the challenges of the future.

14. Why do you believe you are uniquely qualified to serve on the JCCC Board of Trustees and why are you seeking this office? (100 words or less)

Higher education has been my life for over 25 years. I will bring my life-long commitment to learning, teaching, and the mission of higher education to the JCCC Board of Trustees. I will build bridges with teachers, students, and our regional business community, to ensure that our teachers and students have the resources they need to thrive in our fast-changing economy. And, I will use my experience in higher education to hold JCCC to the highest possible standards of excellence. I know I can make a difference to teachers, students, and our community as a Trustee.