

# Jo Co Community College Board of Trustees At-Large 2021

Response ID:9 Data

## 1. Candidate Information

### 1. Candidate Name

Dawn Rattan

### 2. Address

Street Address/Apt/Suite : 22825 W 47th St

City/State/Zip : Shawnee

### 3. Phone Number

9134613374

### 4. Email Address

rattanfortrustee@gmail.com

### 5. Campaign Website

rattanfortrustee.com

## 2. Candidate Background

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

Owner EverFit Fitness 2015 - present

Vice President Village West Discount Liquors (family business) 2009

### 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.

Shawnee Chamber of Commerce, member and Chamber Board member

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

Vice Chair of Johnson County Charter Commission

## 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)

1. Stewardship and sustainability of the institution
2. Accessibility to the college across the region via transportation, connectivity, and affordability to all populations.
3. Provide Support and Resources so that JCCC is a leader in meeting future needs of students and businesses, especially in STEM and trades.

### 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)

Currently, 67% of the budget is Ad Valorem Taxes and 18% is from student tuition. The mill levy was 9.46 in 2015 and has decreased steadily to 9.12 in 2020. Assessed values of homes continue to increase but that is outside of our control.

Tuition should be competitive but affordable not only for the region and compared to similar colleges offering the same quality of education.

Students attend JCCC is to have an affordable and debt-free education, so the decision to increase tuition is a serious one.

Decisions to increase tuition should be transparent, with purpose of the increase understood.

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**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)**

JCCC can be a leader in training qualified workers - we need to make sure the awareness and accessibility is there.

Admissions and the Career Center can partner up to address and eliminate obstacles from beginning to end.

Employers can provide details on needed skills and sponsor the development of the courses. Pair students with their future employer from day 1 of college entry to get additional coaching while they take courses. The pairing gives on-the-job skills plus sets expectations as they learn. This could help with attraction and retention.

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**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)**

Outreach and recruitment to increase awareness of programs avail at jccc

Dual enrollment

Early assessment

Career and Technical education

College now

Source: <https://www2.ed.gov/PDFDocs/college-completion/09-community-college-and-high-school-partnerships.pdf>

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

Our student population has grown steadily.

We are a STEM leader and feeder.

Our population is diverse, we and are a national competitor in attracting the best students!

We've figured out how to do shared governance at the college.

JCCC and its leaders are engaged in the local community.

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**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)**

I focused on STEM in college and I am a local business owner. My leadership style is to gather and analyze all the facts, and to weigh all the options, and engage stakeholders when important decisions must be made. I will bring a fresh perspective to the board and be committed to excellence. If elected, I'll represent the community, be an engaged leader, listen to all sides and be solution oriented.