

JOHNSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE 2015 CANDIDATE PROFILE

Name: Patricia Lightner

Address: 11728 West 146th Street, Olathe, KS 66062

Daytime Phone: 913-486-4082

Evening Phone: 913-897-2244

Number of years you have resided in Johnson County: 40

Occupation / Place of Employment: Compliance Auditor/Policy Specialist-KS Securities
Commissioner Office
Attorney-Self

Campaign Committee Name: Lightner for JCCC

Campaign Chair(s):NONE **Phone:** None

Campaign Treasurer: Patricia Lightner **Phone:** 913 486-4086

Committee Mailing Address: P.O. Box 3966, Olathe, KS 66063

Campaign Email: patricia@patricialightner.org

Note: Please limit each response to 100 words or less.

1. Why are you uniquely qualified to serve on the JCCC Board of Trustees and why are you seeking this office at this time?

I have always believed that a good education is one of the greatest opportunities one can create for oneself, and as such feel that I would like to contribute my time to my local college by serving in a Trustee position to help students achieve that goal.

My service as a State Representative for 6 years has given me the background and prepared me in issues, large budgets and the concerns of maintaining a large institution.

As a Johnson County resident for 40 years - I too have a stake in the excellence of the college and its success and am willing to serve in a capacity that helps guide the college into the future.

2. If elected, what would be your top three agenda items as a trustee that you would work towards for the betterment of the College and the education it provides?

1. Expand online education in order to compete with other community colleges and higher institutions of learning.

2. Step up advertisement campaign about JCCC and its programs, degrees and certificates offered.

3. Grow the resources of providing academic and other counseling to students to ensure their needs are being met.

3. 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?

The Board should always work to keep the cost of attending the college as low as possible for the students without slamming property owners.

Expansion of the online course offerings is one way that will help keep the costs of the brick and mortar part of JCCC affordable.

4. What role could Johnson County Community College play with regard to workforce readiness?

JCCC's part in regards to the workforce should be central and focused to offer programs and degrees to students that will prepare them for the current job market.

Johnson County and the surrounding area being the Midwest offices for so many national and smaller companies is uniquely positioned to capitalize on the ever changing and evolving needs for businesses seeking the right, educated talent. JCCC needs to continue to partner with business to learn how business is changing and what is developing in their future needs for workforce talent .

5. What do you see as the role of JCCC with respect to supporting / partnering with our Universities?

Where there is mutual benefit with saving on costs in particular as well as being able to provide the educated workforce needed in the community and beyond, I think JCCC should be very supportive in working with Universities and this should be part of JCCC's efforts in growing the college.

6. What is your vision for the college ten years from now?

My vision is that the excellence of an education at JCCC has been maintained, the college has continued to change and grow with the needs of the economy and jobs, and through the expanded on-line presence JCCC is recognized nationally (and internationally) as an affordable and reputable college to get your college degree, certificate or the basis in education needed to go on to a four year university.