

**Lamesa Presidential Student Round Table  
March 6, 2023**

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*Dr. Sparks welcomed everyone, reviewed the ground rules. Dr. Sparks went over the Fall 2022 student review. Dr. Sparks encouraged all students to look over the review. The student concerns from today are sent to the appropriate areas to be addressed.*

*The President's Student Round Table has been implemented for over two decades now, and the purpose behind this is to discover how Howard College can serve our students better. To get specific input from our Lamesa students, we implemented an onsite Round Table.*

<b>STUDENT CONCERNS</b>		<b>Assigned</b>
<b>Updates from Dr. Sparks</b>		
Dr. Sparks explained the process of this year's President's Round Table. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Dr. Sparks asked the students to introduce themselves.</li> <li>2. Dr. Sparks reviewed some of the concerns students raised in the Fall of 2022 at the President's Round Table and explained how students' concerns are taken and looked to be resolved.</li> <li>3. Dr. Sparks encouraged all students to feel comfortable sharing constructive criticism or anything positive they have seen implemented.</li> </ol>		
<b>Dr. Sparks discussed</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Next Round Table will be Fall, 2023.</li> <li>• Reviewed Fall of 2022 and there were no concerns.</li> <li>• Trip to the SWCD campus on Friday, October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022.</li> <li>• There is a suggestion box that students can submit suggestions all year.</li> </ul>		
<b>Dr. Sparks opened the floor to the students</b>		
<b>Student concern:</b>		
Student voiced a concern about a man from community asking a work study for money.		Monica Castro Lee Bryant
<b>Response (Monica Castro and Lee Bryant):</b> Monica and Lee Bryant, Head of Security, discussed the situation and work study students were advised to keep office door closed and locked if alone in the building. The students were also asked to alert other staff members immediately if the same gentleman approached them again asking for money. An incident report of concern was filed on Maxient.		
<b>Dr. Sparks asked how the students liked Community College Day?</b>		
<b>Student response:</b>		
All students said it was awesome and they had a lot of fun.		
One student said it was a great experience to go to Austin.		
<b>Question from Dr. Sparks to students:</b>		
What did you get out of the SWCD campus tour?		
<b>Student's response:</b>		
One student said the tour of the SWCD campus showed us an extended part of other students at Howard. It surprised me that Howard College is the only community college that teaches sign language and students with hearing impairments.		
<b>Dr. Sparks asked, "Did you learn about deaf culture?"</b>		

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<b>Student's response</b>	
Yes, I didn't know that sign language was different. I thought it was universal. But I learned that there are different types of sign language.	
<b>Dr. Sparks asked:</b> What do you think about having 8-week courses? Have you been aware that Howard College has more 8-week course class options?	
<b>Student response:</b>	
There should have been 8-week courses sooner. It would have helped dual credit students.	
<b>Student response:</b>	
It will be a hit or miss, and the students will have to learn a 16-week class compared to an 8-week course.	
<b>Student response:</b>	
It can be a blessing and a curse because you are finishing the course faster but can fall behind more quickly too.	
<b>Student Response:</b>	
It will take us time to get used to the 8-week classes.	
<b>Dr. Sparks response to student's comments about 8-week classes</b>	
All your comments about eight-week course are the same, as other students on other campuses. They agree that the 8-week courses could be a blessing and a curse.	
<b>Monica response about 8-week</b>	
We have been having students taking 8-week courses, and we tell students you can't procrastinate.	
<b>Dr. Sparks asked is there was anything else students wanted to share?</b>	
<b>Students' response:</b>	
Multiple students said no there is not anything else they would like to share.	
<b>Dr. Sparks said she is proud of the students for participating in SGA.</b>	
<b>Students' response:</b>	
My experience at Howard College has been great.	
<b>Dr. Sparks asked; what are your plans for next year?</b>	
<b>All Student's responses:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I will continue my classes for Dental Hygiene, and I am taking a break this summer.</li> <li>I want to do shadowing hours with the police department this summer.</li> <li>I will be helping the family and working on getting the required college courses done. I will take some college courses and transfer to Texas Tech.</li> <li>I will be back in the Fall. I want to find a new job to take summer classes and, if not, spend my summer working and return in the Fall.</li> <li>I don't know what I want to do, but if I take a break, I won't return to class. I will be back in the Fall.</li> <li>I will be trying to take summer classes, and I want to be the first in my family to get my degree next May.</li> </ul>	
<b>Dr. Sparks asked if there is anything else anyone would like to share?</b>	
<b>Student's response:</b>	

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A student said she is working with a State Senator Perry to change the foster care system. The student stated she has been in the foster care system since October 15, 2017, at 12:42 pm.	
<b>Dr. Sparks said she appreciates that a student that is experienced in the foster care system is speaking up on the things that need to change.</b>	
<b>Student's response:</b>	
She said that the State needs to double-check every decision they make and be held accountable.	
<b>Closing statements from Dr. Sparks</b>	
Thank you so much, and I appreciate you all so much for participating. I enjoyed our time together, and we will take all the students' responses and information and review them. I am proud of all you.	