

**Lamesa Presidential Student Roundtable  
October 21, 2021**

*Dr. Sparks welcomed everyone, reviewed the ground rules, and Dr. Sparks reminded the students that the review of the Spring 2021 responses for the President's Student Round Table was sent through email. 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 Roundtable.*

<b>STUDENT CONCERNS</b>	<b>Assigned</b>
<b>Updates from Dr. Sparks</b>	
Dr. Sparks explained the process of this year's Lamesa Student Forum. First, Dr. Sparks asked the students to introduce themselves and told them there would be two sections we would talk about here today. The first section is about what we can do to improve your current experiences and get the student's perspective, and we want to hear from you. Next, Dr. Sparks went over some of the concerns students brought up in the last President's Roundtable and said how those concerns were resolved.	
<b>Student Concerns-Is there a problem with air conditioning and heating?</b>	
Monica stated that because of the winter storm we have had issues with one of our air conditioners in room 5. The county is working on trying to replace the unit.	
<b>Dr. Sparks commented:</b>	
Dr. Sparks stated that was a good question and explained the way community colleges are funded. That depending on the campus, there are different ways we handle brick and motor. For example, the Dawson County Judge and county provides the building for the Lamesa campus, and we are very fortunate to have the county's help. Also, the bathrooms were renovated by the Weaver Foundation. Also, we have been fortunate to get technology funds from the Permian Basin Workforce board. They have helped us with some upgrading in our distance learning classrooms and some Title V grant money that and initial donor Marie Hall. She provided a distance learning classroom on each of our campuses so we could connect all our campuses.	
<b>Question from Dr. Sparks to students:</b>	
How has the faculty response time improved? Is it better or do you feel like the faculty response time is better? Do we still need to work on that?	
<b>Student response:</b>	
Yes, personally for me it has gotten better.	
<b>Question from Dr. Sparks to students:</b>	
What about advertising? We did marketing back in the summer and we did a TV blitz. Did anyone see that?	
<b>Student's response:</b>	
Personally, we don't have cable so we can't comment on that.	
<b>Question from Dr. Sparks to students:</b>	
Please tell us how you get your information because a lot of people choose not to have cable. So how do you get your information.	

**Lamesa Presidential Student Roundtable  
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<b>Student's responses</b>	
We get our information on Facebook, email, or any social media websites.	
<b>Student's response:</b>	
We get the newspaper where I work and that is how I get my information and from Facebook and social media.	
<b>Student responses:</b>	
I get my information from social media platforms like Instagram.	
<b>Dr. Sparks comment:</b>	
Dr. Wayne Smith wanted people of the community to have an opportunity to take classes in higher education. He was always trying to find ways for the Lamesa campus to have access to higher education. Wayne worked for the school district and was temporarily our campus director.	
<b>Student response:</b>	
I think that it is awesome that he had an idea for students, and he didn't even know them. To create this campus for people of the community to have access to higher education.	
<b>Student Concerns:</b>	<b>Person Assigned to</b>
I had a suggestion about vending machines. There is a coke machine and is very useful for the students, but I feel maybe a vending machine with snacks or candy would be awesome.  <b>Response from Steve Smith: We will review the college's drink and snack vending contract for all campuses. The vending company has increased prices and some food items expire because they are not being purchased, so we will need to consider viable options.</b>	<b>Steve Smith Monica Castro</b>
<b>Student Concerns:</b>	
I agree, especially for students who are on campus all day for classes. For example, I am on campus on Wednesday, from 5:00 all the way to 9:00. So, a knowing I could get a snack between classes is helpful.	
<b>Dr. Sparks comment:</b>	
I am going to move us into the topic of safety and security. As Monica mentioned, we have addressed the lighting for the Lamesa campus. How do you feel about Lamesa campus lighting? Is it better? Do you feel like you are in a safe and secure environment?	
<b>Student responses:</b>	
Yes, I feel safe when I walk into class.	
<b>Dr. Sparks question:</b>	
If you came to class and saw someone strange around campus or could not leave campus because you felt uncomfortable. What would you do?	
<b>Student response:</b>	
The student stated that if I felt uncomfortable when I walked out of the building, I would walk back inside and tell someone in the office. Jessica, Monica, or Mary Ann is mainly in the office, so I would go and tell them about it.	

**Lamesa Presidential Student Roundtable  
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<b>Student response:</b>	
Yes, I agree I would go tell someone in the office that there was someone strange outside or I felt uncomfortable.	
<b>Dr. Sparks statement:</b>	
That is the answer I was hoping you would give. That you would know to go back into the building and that we have people there and they could help you.	
<b>Student response:</b>	
Yes, it personally feels very welcoming to be able to go on to the campus, and I personally feel very safe. The dynamic is great when you can communicate with people in the office freely, even if you have concerns. So yes, it feels very safe.	
<b>Dr. Sparks question:</b>	
Are there any other questions relative to safety and security?	
<b>Student Response:</b>	
Does the campus have security cameras in the front and back entrances?	
<b>Monica responded:</b>	
Yes, we have security cameras facing all entrances and exits. There are also security cameras in room five facing the door that leads outside.	
<b>Dr. Sparks question:</b>	
Do you all have access to the cameras from the office? Is that correct?	
<b>Monica's response:</b>	
Yes, we do all have access to the cameras.	
<b>Dr. Sparks response:</b>	
I would like to mention the way our system works across the district. Each campus has its own cameras; however, Big Spring campus could see all campuses on the camera. If there is a situation in Lamesa or San Angelo, it could be reported by security in Big Spring. We set it up so that each campus has security guards. The security people are working the cameras to monitor all campuses.	
<b>Dr. Sparks question:</b>	
Monica is there anything you would like to share with the students?	
<b>Monica's response:</b>	
We have a very active S.G.A., and they are doing a great job being involved in student activities. The S.G.A. has a pumpkin painting activity scheduled for this Sunday. The S.G.A. will be participating in the trunk or treat. They are doing a good job participating and getting more students involved. I am proud of that because that is going to give Howard College more visibility. Also, the ladies and I are working on recording for the local radio station. We will be doing some snippets of what is going on here on campus. Mary Ann will talk about the vaccine clinic here in November and applying for FAFSA for Fall of 2022. Jessica has a Fast-track C.N.A. class scheduled for December.	
<b>Dr. Sparks statement:</b>	
I would like to finish by talking about the work on the vision, mission, and values so you can all be updated. Every three years, we ask students to participate in a district survey. We received great feedback from our students from every campus last year about the vision, missions, and values:	

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<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. We want to be a model for success for enriching the lives and futures of those we serve in a rural community college.</li><li>2. We value our students, community, diversity, unity, excellence, and integrity.</li><li>3. Our goals and objectives are based on student success, community, workforce development, and performance excellence.</li></ol> <p>So, we gather information from our students because our students are a part of our vision, mission, and values. Finally, what is it about? It's about making dreams real for our students. You have dreams, and we want to help you achieve your dreams. We are going to do everything we can to take down barriers and help you achieve your dreams.</p>	
<b>Dr. Sparks question:</b>	
Does anyone have any last points?	
<b>Student's response:</b>	
I want to say this was a great experience. Other students agreed.	
<b>Closing statements from Dr. Sparks</b>	
Thank you so much and appreciate you all so much for participating. When I work on everything on my desk, I think of your faces in the zoom call, and you are all that drives me every day to do what we do. Thank you again.	