

Barnhouse named new WCTC president

PEWAUKEE — The Waukesha County Technical College District Board of Trustees has approved the hiring of the school's next president.

Beginning Jan. 5, Richard Barnhouse will succeed outgoing WCTC President Kaylen Betzig, who is retiring at the end of the year.

"The WCTC District Board recognized, in this state of constant change, it was very important to search for a leader who brought with them multiple experiences and an eclectic background, and that's something Rich possesses," said WCTC Board Chair David Lancaster said, in a statement. "We are very



Barnhouse

pleased and highly confident in his ability to provide dynamic leadership to WCTC, collaborate with the business community, meet

the needs of students and move the College forward."

Barnhouse is currently the vice president of Student Services and Enrollment Management at State College of Florida, Manatee-Sarasota, and brings with him nearly 20 years of higher education experience.

See **WCTC**, PAGE 8A

WCTC

From Page 1A

During his first year at WCTC, Barnhouse plans to meet with leaders from business and industry as well as K-12 school districts. He also wants to gain a first-hand look at what is happening inside local companies to ensure students are learning relevant skills for today's jobs — but also for the ones that are yet to be developed.

“I think the board thought I was joking in my interview when I said I'd carry a pair of steel-toe boots in my trunk so that I can get on the plant floor — and find out what the needs are, what we can do better and what's coming up next — but I was serious about that,” he said. “You've got to get under the machine, with the folks who are running the machine, to figure out how to make it better.”

Barnhouse and his wife, Tiffany, will be moving to Wisconsin later next month. Originally from Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, Barnhouse said Wisconsin feels like home. He spent a dozen years in the state from the early 2000s to the late 2010s. For Tiffany, it is a true homecoming as she grew up in Pewaukee.