

President's Report to the **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**



SOUTHERN STATE
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

MARCH 2021 | DR. NICOLE ROADES, VP OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS | INTERIM PRESIDENT DURING DR. BOYS' SABBATICAL

Invitation to Join Ohio Code Scholars Pilot Proposal

On behalf of the College, a letter of support was extended to a regional coalition of educators who have been shaping a proposal to launch the Ohio Code Scholars Pilot. In addition, Ms. Amy McClellan, Director of Workforce Development and Interim Brown County Campus Director and I were invited to join Representative Shane Wilkin (91st District), Dr. Shane Shope, Associate Professor Morehead University, Dr. Todd Burkitt, Superintendent of the Ross-Pike Education Service District, and Westat researcher, Dr. John Hitchcock, at the Riffe Center in Columbus to present this proposal to the Honorable Speaker of the Ohio House, Representative Robert Cupp.

The Ohio Code Scholars Program emphasizes training young people with coding and other technology skills in demand among some of the world's premier data and technology providers. The pilot is designed to be introduced in the secondary education environment and build skills and credentialing through post-secondary levels and prepare young people for high-demand, high-wage occupations that can be attainable within all parts of Ohio, rural and suburban areas alike. Southern State's commitment to this proposal includes professional development for instructors and support of seamless pathways from K-12 and Career Technical Centers to associate level and beyond. Dr. Shope is incorporating feedback from the presentation to shape a final request for funding consideration.

Shout Out to Southern State in Local Media for Helping with Vaccine Clinics

The leadership of COVID-19 Coordinator, Ms. Susan Morris, and Director of Nursing, Dr. Julie Krebs, and many nursing students, faculty, and support staff, in supporting regional efforts to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 through vaccination clinics has reigned widespread accolades among our county's health department officials. Additionally, such leaders have acknowledged the invaluable experience that such service represents to students. After a recent vaccination clinic in Clinton County CCHD Women, Infants & Children (WIC) Director Renee



Quallen, commented, “A lot of times it’s [public health field] not something you get a good exposure to in nursing school,” and continued by describing presence of students in this vaccination process as, “a once-in-a-lifetime education for them.” The full article is included in your packet.

Please join me in extending appreciation for the leadership and service of Southern State’s staff, faculty, and students. This collaboration and service spirit speaks to the commitment among so many to the community in which we serve.

Dr. Boys’ Selection for Phi Theta Kappa’s *Shirley B. Gordon Award of Distinction*

President and CEO of the Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) Honor Society, Dr. Lynn Tinchler-Ladner, recently notified Dr. Boys of his selection for PTK’s most prestigious awards for community college presidents, the Shirley B. Gordon Award for Distinction. This award, honoring Dr. Gordon, is extended to presidents based on their outstanding support of student success. Dr. Boys will be recognized April 9, 2021 during the virtual convention, PTK Catalyst 2021 Live, where over 10,000 national and international guests will be attending. Congratulations to Dr. Boys for this well-deserved honor!

Southern State Team Participates in OACC’s Winter Student Success Leadership Institute

A team of individuals representing Student Success, Advising, Student Services, Academics, and Data Coordination participated in the OACC Spring institute February 11-12. This two-day virtual conference represented the opportunity to hear from nationally known speakers emphasizing teaching and learning within guided pathways, explore national, state, and local trends in student success measures, and unite as a team to take a critical dive into local data and discuss key topics in the context of our own institution. Appreciation is extended to OACC for providing this invaluable team experience guided by expert researchers and data analysts. Equally, thank you to the Southern State team for your persistence in this work and your participation in these semi-annual institutes.

President’s Activities and Involvement

Since his last report, President Boys has been involved in the following meetings, calls and

virtual events:

- Hillsboro Rotary Club Meetings
- Rural Community College Alliance (RCCA) Strategic Planning Conference Call
- Community Colleges of Appalachia (CCA) Special Meeting
- U.S. Department of Education Call on CRSSA
- Conference Call re: Tri-State STEM School
- AACC's Virtual Listening Tour (Ohio)
- Call with Liberty Savings Bank Representative re: North Campus
- OACC President's Bi-weekly Meetings
- Sinclair Symposium
- CCA Ascendium Project Meeting
- Meeting with Wilmington College Representative
- SSCC Foundation Quarterly Meeting
- OACC Governing Board Meeting
- Rural Community College Alliance (RCCA) Board Meeting

As Interim President, I have been involved in the following meetings, calls and virtual events:

- OACC Student Success Leadership Institute (SSLI) Joint Officers Meeting
- Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission (OVRDC) Highland County Caucus
- Graduation Alliance 22+ Program Update Meeting
- Strong Start to Finish: Improving Student Mindset Presentation
- OACC President's Bi-weekly Meetings
- OACC Chief Academic Officers Bi-weekly Meetings
- SSCC Faculty Senate
- EAB President's Roundtable: Supporting Community College Fundraising
- OACC SSLI: State of the State and Spring Institute
- Ohio Code Scholars Presentation to The Honorable Representative Robert Cupp, Speaker of the Ohio House of Representatives
- Insurance Committee Meeting
- Instructional Technology Meeting
- Attended Program Review and Curriculum Committee
- Southern Ohio Education Service Center: Business Advisory Council
- Call with Sara M. Barrere Memorial Scholarship Trust Trustee

Upcoming Events

Campus events are generally not being scheduled until further notice.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Workforce Development

Wastewater Treatment Training Approaching

The semi-annual water treatment training programs are scheduled for this spring in North Canton, Barnesville, and Hillsboro. These training programs offer participants throughout the State the opportunity to earn highly sought after, industry recognized training in water management. All sessions are facilitated by an EPA certified professional.

- Best Kept Secrets of a Better Water & Wastewater Process – Tues., Apr. 27 (Hillsboro)
- Water/Wastewater Process Application of Chlorine Dioxide, a 21st Century Look – Wed., April 28 (Hillsboro) and Wed., May 19 (North Canton)
- Water/Wastewater Process Application of Chlorine Dioxide, a 21st Century Look – Tues. May 18, (Barnesville) and Wed., May 20 (North Canton)

Truck Driving Academy

Despite the turbulent weather throughout the region in early 2021, TDA classes have continued and enrollments remain steady in comparison to previous years.

Pepsi continues to be a partner in continuing education with a steady flow of training opportunities. In January, six Pepsi students took part in training to obtain their CDL's.

| MONTH | 2018/2019 | 2019/2020 | 2020/2021 |
|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| November | 9 | 22 | 16 |
| December | 17 | 14 | 16 |
| January | 22 | 19 | 18 |

Grants

College to Careers

The **College to Career Experience** Coordinator, Sonja Wilkin, continues to put Southern State front and center in the upcoming programs for students with intellectual disabilities. In January, Sonja presented to Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD) counselors and staff regarding the program and the desire to collaborate and work together in support of students and employers in the region. She also attended the Educational Service Center meeting regarding the secondary education graduation seal requirements including the post-secondary education and workforce development components for all students, including those with ID. Despite the continued hardships of the pandemic, the aim continues to be for a Fall 2021 Cohort launch.

RAPIDS Funding Dispersed

A special “THANK YOU” to Kathy Pierson and other members of the Business Office for the work they have done with the processing of the **RAPIDS** equipment request. This team has processed over \$500,000 of requisitions for Southern State and its partners, for training equipment. This is a tedious process and takes a joint effort to make it successful. A special THANK YOU goes to Jim Buck for going before the Controlling Board on behalf of the College and its partners, along with Kathy Pierson and Deb Pettyjohn for their tireless help!

Workforce READi | Highland County

The **Workforce READi Grant** continues to achieve milestones and work towards completion of projects. On January 11, as a part of the grant, a Career Navigator, Brandon Skeen, joined the team and has been working diligently to make strides in connecting adult students with career pathways in Computer Information Technology, Engineering, and short-term credentials/certificates.

Professional Development

Amy McClellan, Director of Workforce Development and Interim Brown County Campus Director, received her plaque for completion of the National Council for Workforce Education (NCWE). Ms. McClellan was selected among a large group of

applicants to participate in the yearlong professional development program. While some activities were canceled because of the COVID pandemic, all requirements were met and she was issued a plaque acknowledging her successful completion of the leadership program.

STUDENT AFFAIRS AND ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT

Financial Aid Office ✓

Spring and Summer Financial Aid

Financial aid for the spring semester was disbursed in February totaling \$1,762,441.00.

Students will be receiving a reminder of the opportunity to obtain financial aid for the summer semester. Summer award letters for those eligible for year-round Pell grants have been processed in addition to notification to all federal aid students regarding the summer semester funding opportunities.

Federal Pell Grant for 21-22

The Federal Pell Grant amount for the 2021-22 academic year will be increased by \$150. The maximum Pell grant award for a qualifying student for fall and spring 2021-22 at full-time will be \$6,496. Students will continue to be eligible to receive Pell grant funds for up to 150 percent if they take classes in the summer semester. Those students attending full-time through summer could receive a maximum award of \$9,744.

Cohort Default Rate 2018

The College has received the draft cohort default rate for 2018 of 14.9 percent, which is down significantly from the 2017 rate of 18.1 percent. During the last few months of this

default rate period student loan payments were all postponed due to COVID 19. Recent action from the federal government has continued student loan postponement through September 30, 2021.

Registrar

Fall Graduates

There were 59 students who completed graduation requirements at the end of fall semester and their diplomas were mailed out at the end of January.

Registration

Summer semester registration opened on February 15 for Veterans/Service Members, February 22 for sophomores, and February 23 for freshmen/new students.

Fall semester registration is scheduled to open April 5 for Veterans/Service Members, April 12 for sophomores, and April 13 for freshman/new students.

2021 Commencement

The Records Department is currently preparing for the upcoming 2021 commencement. At preliminary count, 154 students have petitioned to graduate and plan to complete their degrees as of the end of this current spring semester. Out of the 154 students who have petitioned, 44 are enrolled through the CCP program and will also be graduating from high school this year. In addition, we have 4 students who have petitioned to graduate from SSCC this term who do not graduate from high school until next year, and 1 student who does not graduate from high school until 2023. Graduation applications are still coming in so this number will likely change.

The unofficial count of degrees/certificates that will be awarded for 2020-2021 is 218. This compares to 293 last year (2019-2020).

Recruitment and Admissions

College Credit Plus

Southern State hosted two virtual information sessions for the public on January 14 and February 11. There were over 450 attendees combined.

SSCC participated in the following CCP Info Night Sessions:

- North Adams
- Western Brown
- Southern Hills CTC
- Ohio Virtual Academy
- Manchester
- Eastern Brown
- Western Latham
- East Clinton
- Wilmington
- Miami Trace

Recruitment

SSCC launched an online virtual campus visit project at the start of the year. The visits are conducted via Zoom. As of the March 1, we have received four requests for a virtual campus visit. We expect this number to rise throughout the spring and summer semesters.

The College participated in the OACAC Spring Virtual College Fair on February 24.

SSCC has sent a mailing targeting graduating HS seniors who participated in the CCP program through SSCC, but did not complete enough credits to graduate. The mailings are specific to each individual student and includes information about their progress towards graduation, the benefits of completing with SSCC and scholarship info. A similar mailing went out to the parents of these students. A total of 1,067 letters were sent out to both students and parents.

Stop-out Student Outreach - A letter was sent to students who have attended SSCC, but have not graduated. These students were notified of the credit hours they have toward a

degree, provided contact information for their advisor, and were encouraged to contact their advisor for assistance with getting registered for classes. These letters were sent to 708 students.

SSCC Connections Newsletter - A newsletter is going to be sent monthly beginning March 1 to HS Guidance Counselors highlighting various areas of SSCC including scholarships, deadlines, programs, etc. This will be done through constant contact to better track the data behind the newsletter. The goal is help counselors to become better informed about SSCC and to share this information with their students.

Scholarship Notification - A constant contact campaign was launched with information on SSCC scholarships and deadlines. All area high school Guidance Counselors and Principals received this information and were asked to share with students.

Student Success Center

Career Coaching to Academic Pathways

A state-funded grant for growing remote Workforce Readiness in rural regions has provided career assessments to our sophomore and junior high school students and to OMJ clients in a five-county region. The Academic and Career advisors have been trained as coaches in the assessments as many of our current and potential students (adults/CCP) have completed assessments that can help with determining academic pathways to meet career goals. The holistic approach to academic and career advising by the Student Success Center follows the best practices model by *Achieving the Dream* (nationwide community college network) and the *Community College Research Center* (CCRC).

Counseling Services

CARES ACT Mental Health Grant, Phase II

The Mental Health and Well-being CARES Act grant from the state is entering the second phase of the funding. Southern State received the first third of the grant funding (\$12,000) for which items such as diagnostic instruments, food and nonfood items, crisis intervention services, and psychoeducational materials. The second phase of the grant (\$24,000) will allow the college to extend the services started in the first phase as well as add services to enhance physical health/wellness as well as resiliency. This funding will allow the College to provide assistance through June 2022.

UPDATED: COVID was 4th leading cause of deaths last year in Clinton County

NEWS, TOP STORIES

Health Commissioner: 279 active COVID cases

By Gary Huffenberger - ghuffenberger@wnewsj.com



Clinton County Health District Medical Director Dr. Terry Holten responds to a question from Dr. Janet Gick, a member of the Clinton County Board of Health.

Gary Huffenberger | News Journal



From left at Monday's meeting are Clinton County Board of Health member Brian Larrick, Tansy Bernard with the Clinton County Health Department, and Clinton County Health Commissioner Pam Walker-Bauer.

Gary Huffenberger | News Journal

She compared that with the high mark of almost 800 active cases recorded at one point in December.

"So we're continuing on a downward trend which is great," said the health commissioner.

WILMINGTON — In 2020, COVID-19 was among the leading causes of deaths that occurred in Clinton County.

A draft of the 2020 annual report issued by the Clinton County Health District (CCHD) shows COVID as the fourth leading cause of death, said Dr. Terry Holten, CCHD medical director.

The annual report, however, is based on death certificates filed in Clinton County, which is to say the report only includes the deaths of Clinton Countians that actually occurred in the county. And, especially in the earlier months of the pandemic, Clinton Countians with serious cases often were sent to big-city hospitals outside the county for treatment and a number of them died in another county.

The three leading causes of death were: 1. Cardiovascular disease; 2. Cancer; and, 3. Drug overdoses. After COVID-19 were, in order: cerebrovascular disease; pneumonia; chronic lung disease; dementia; sepsis; and kidney disease.

According to Holten, only about a half of Clinton County residents who died of COVID in 2020 died in their home county, and as a result their deaths are not included in the annual report figures.

Preliminary numbers nationwide say COVID was the third leading cause of death in the United States in 2020, said Holten.

Holten gave her report Monday morning to the Clinton County Board of Health at its regular monthly meeting. During January, there were 15 COVID-related hospitalizations among Clinton County residents, reported Holten.

Clinton County Health Commissioner Pam Bauer reported about 279 active COVID cases in the county as of Sunday night.

But to make the point that 279 is still high, Bauer also compared and contrasted the current number with the first week in October when Clinton County had 40 active cases.

Regarding the vaccination program, she reported that as of Monday morning, a little over 4,400 Clinton County residents have received their first doses.

The Clinton County Health District did not receive any shipment of vaccines last week, with the delay attributed to the extreme wintry weather, said Bauer.

The health commissioner expressed her appreciation for the level of in-person assistance at vaccination clinics from Clinton County Board of Health members who, in normal times, gather monthly for a business meeting. With the launch of vaccination clinics, at least one board member has helped out in some capacity at every CCHD clinic, Bauer said.

Also getting a shout-out Monday for helping out at CCHD vaccination clinics were Southern State Community College nursing students. CCHD Women, Infants & Children (WIC) Director Renee Quallen said she thinks a lot of the nursing students appreciate the significance of what public health workers do.

“A lot of times it’s [public health field] not something you get a good exposure to in nursing school,” said Quallen, describing the Southern State COVID vaccination presence as “a once-in-a-lifetime education for them.”

CCHD Environmental Health Director Matt Johannes reported his staff is involved in COVID work while also trying to get their usual work done to some extent.

The amount of inspections of local food service facilities that the county health department is required to conduct was reduced by the state because of the COVID workload, he said.

“But we got at least one inspection of every [food] facility in the county,” said Johannes.

Reach Gary Huffenberger at 937-556-5768.

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