

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



SOUTHERN STATE
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

AUGUST 2026 | DR. NICOLE ROADES, PRESIDENT

Looking Forward to the New Academic Year

Southern State welcomes students on Monday, August 24. While it is too early to predict where enrollment will land, early reports reflect our environment and expectations. As we are in the midst of the long-warned demographic cliff, it is not surprising to see some minor backsliding in the number of traditional students alongside strong gains in the number of College Credit Plus (CCP) enrollees. While demographic pressures continue to impact traditional student enrollment across Ohio and the nation, Southern State remains focused on strategies that expand access and support student success.

Further, we continue to experience a strong attraction to online courses despite many students claiming a desire to connect more fully with their faculty and others in their college experience. This conflicted scenario is not unexpected as students continue to juggle many life responsibilities outside of school and recognize online learning as the most convenient option. As the academic year begins, our focus remains on creating an engaging, student-centered experience that supports persistence, completion, and workforce readiness regardless the distance created through online delivery.

Upon arriving on campus, students can expect renewed intentionality in creating opportunities to connect with their peers, faculty, and staff. Engagement efforts, including recreation and more defined social spaces, are in the final stages of planning. Students can also expect some facility enhancements that will likely continue through the Fall term. Remodeling of the Technology Innovation Center and the HVAC Renovation at the Central Campus have been underway all summer and still need some time for finishing touches. In Brown County, students will have additional testing spaces as the campus has repurposed the bookstore to accommodate overflow.

Most importantly, students will be welcomed by a team of outstanding faculty and staff who share a desire to make their experience at Southern State the best possible. We welcome our new and returning students, as well as our new and existing faculty and staff.

As we begin a new academic year, Southern State remains focused on serving students, strengthening communities, and advancing the priorities outlined in our strategic plan. While higher education continues to navigate demographic shifts, policy changes, and evolving student expectations, our faculty and staff remain united in their commitment to providing accessible, affordable, and high-quality educational opportunities that transform lives and strengthen our region.

Southern State Welcomed U.S. Congressman of Ohio's 2nd District, Dave Taylor During the Summer

Since our last report, the College was honored to welcome Congressman Dave Taylor to campus on July 8. Congressman Taylor, a friend and supporter of our region and our college, met with members of the executive leadership team, Trustee Faas, and me. During the visit, we had the opportunity to express appreciation for preserving Pell funding and supporting federal grants that advance community colleges, such as the Strengthening Community Colleges Training Grants. Additionally, we advocated for support to maintain the Adult Basic Education and Literacy state grants and to preserve subsidized loans for community college students. Congressman Taylor was kind to offer continued support for connecting our college with federal grant opportunities. Additionally, his expertise and experience as a member of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure were invaluable in helping Southern State better understand the current state of the truck-driving industry and the nature of competitiveness and quality in this sector.

2026 – 2027 Data Dive Series Announced

I am pleased to introduce the 4th annual Data Dive Series. This series reflects Southern State's commitment to transparency, informed decision-making, and continuous improvement. Through engaging presentations and data-driven discussions, the series helps connect our college community to the information that drives student success and institutional effectiveness. The Data Dive Series also serves as a mechanism for strengthening data-informed governance by providing employees and trustees with a deeper understanding of the factors influencing institutional performance and strategic decision-making.

Open to all employees and Board members, these voluntary webinar sessions are designed to make key college data, initiatives, and trends accessible and meaningful—regardless of one's role or prior experience. This year's lineup features both popular returning topics and new areas of exploration. Sessions will be held on the third Friday of each month beginning in Fall 2026

and continuing through Spring 2027. Details of each session are included in your packet. The series includes the following topics:

Topic	Presenting	Date
Funding Our Future: 2026–2027 Budget Priorities and SSI Projections	Dr. Steven Hinshaw, Vice President of Financial Services	August 21, 2026 @ 1:30 p.m.
All Things Enrollment: Student Body Profile and Enrollment Targets	Mr. James Farmer, Director of Enrollment Management	October 16, 2026 @ 1:30 p.m.
Measuring Our Momentum: Strategic Plan and Progress Metrics	Dr. Nicole Roades, President & Members of the President’s Council	November 20, 2026 @ 1:30 p.m.
From Legislation to Action: Responding to SB1 and HB96	Dr. Erika Goodwin, VP of Academic and Student Affairs	January 15, 2027 @ 1:30 p.m.
Making Every Credit Count: An In-Depth Look at Transfer and Articulation	Dr. Peggy Chalker, Dean of Transfer and Articulation/Brown County Location Director	February 19, 2027 @ 1:30 p.m.
From Vision to Impact: Launching the Student Success Quality Initiative	Dr. Erika Goodwin, VP of Academic and Student Affairs Ms. Amy McClellan, VP of Enrollment and Workforce Innovation	March 19, 2027 @ 1:30 p.m.

U.S. Department of Education Issues a Call to Action

U.S. Secretary of Education Linda McMahon issued a national Call to Action (included in your packet) on August 3, asking every postsecondary institution to publish, by the end of 2026, a public statement describing its commitment to reforms intended to strengthen public trust in higher education. The request focuses on seven areas, including transparency and merit in admissions, free speech and open inquiry, intellectual pluralism, affordability and student outcomes, academic rigor in the AI era, safeguarding research, and prioritizing American interests.

Although the letter is addressed to university presidents and governing boards, it appears to have been distributed broadly across higher education, making its intended application to community colleges unclear. The American Association of Community Colleges has noted that institutions are not required to take action in response. AACC plans to respond formally on behalf of the sector, highlighting community colleges’ fundamental priorities and

distinguishing our institutions from the universities and elite research institutions that appear to be the primary focus of many of the concerns raised.

Community colleges nevertheless have a strong and important story to tell. Our core strengths of open access, affordable tuition, transparency and accountability, strong connections to employers, responsiveness to local workforce needs, and longstanding commitment to economic mobility serve Ohio's students and regions in exemplary ways.

Southern State's longstanding commitment to access, affordability, student success, workforce responsiveness, and transparency places the College in a strong position to demonstrate its public value. We will continue to monitor developments and evaluate any future actions in coordination with OACC and AACC.

President's Activities and Involvement

Since my last report, I have been involved in the following meetings, calls, and events:

- Meeting with Energy Strategy Representative
- HB 96 Student Records Preservation Plan Meeting
- Highland County Chamber of Commerce | Business After Hours
- Highland County Chamber of Commerce | Board Meeting
- Photo with Youth Development Kids' Program Participants
- President's Council Meetings
- Campus Tour with Congressman David Taylor
- Scholarship Photo Opportunities with Scholarship Recipients and Donors
- Bi-Weekly Meetings with the Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs
- STEEL Conference Committee Meetings
- Weekly Meetings with the Vice President of Enrollment and Workforce Innovation
- AACC Federal Policy Update Webinar
- Meeting re: Patriot Center Activities
- Highland County Chamber of Commerce | Advisory Group Meeting
- Adjunct | CCP Professional Development Seminar
- SSCC and Adena Partnership Call
- New Board Member Orientation
- Highland County Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee Meeting
- OACC Presidents' Meeting | Columbus, OH
- Clinton County Literacy Collaborative Meeting

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS

Opening Week of Campus

Fall semester begins Monday, August 24. Our opening week of campus for faculty and staff meetings and professional development begins the week of August 17. The week will include our traditional All-College Meeting led by Dr. Roades. This year also includes a new Employee Recognition luncheon. Campus Safety and Title IX training with off-campus experts are part of the week's required training for all employees. Faculty have a variety of meetings and development opportunities. The week concludes with our annual Health and Wellness Fair, biometric screenings, a session on retirement planning, and our first Deep Data Dive webinar.

Changing Campus Culture (CCC)

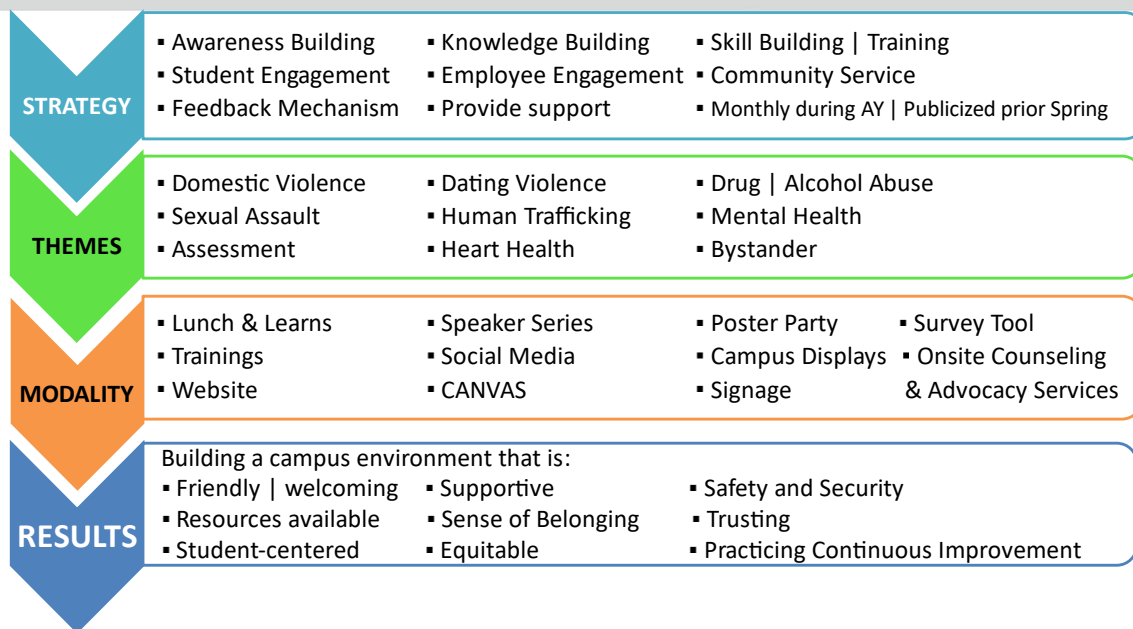
SSCC's CCC Annual Report **earned a rating of 5 out of 5: All Recommendations MET** for the 2025-2026 AY. Institutions are asked to report their progress on implementing the (5) recommendations against the metrics set by ODHE. The (5) recommendations include:

- Rec #1: Data to Guide Action Plan
- Rec #2: Prevention Training with Bystander Components | Prevention Plans Response Training
- Rec #3: Awareness Campaign
- Rec #4: Protocols
- Rec #5: Survivor-Centered Strategy | Multi-disciplinary Team

Dr. Jessica Wise, Dean of Academic Operations, plans the campaign, organizes trainings, schedules campus activities, secures resources and student services, and submits the CCC report to ODHE each year. SSCC's 2025-2026 AY Awareness Campaign centered around the Impact Model below.

IMPACT MODEL

AY 25-26 AWARENESS CAMPAIGN



External Reporting for Academic & Student Affairs

1. ODHE Strategic Completion Plan – submitted
2. SB 1 Syllabus Compliance Report -submitted
3. HB 96 Annual Report – submitted
4. HB 96 Student Records Preservation Plan – submitted
5. OACC Technical Program Survey – submitted
6. HB 96 Work Based Learning Report – due 9-10-26

Brown County Campus Summer Activities

Sparking some summer science fun with CAMP INVENTION, 125 rising kindergarten to sixth grade students had a full week of hands-on STEM activities in their first college environment. Funded by a two-year grant from the Ohio General Assembly, Danielle Sawyers of the Brown

County Educational Service Center (BCESC) STEAMOLOGY and dedicated instructors stirred up the magic of invention and creativity that challenged and charged the imaginations of the campers.

The event was co-hosted by Southern State Community College and Southwest Career Pathway Support Network of Ohio. BCESC and SSCC intend to continue opportunities for career exposure throughout the year, leading to next summer's Camp Invention magic and showcasing SSCC's strength in STEM activities.

Brown County Campus Summer Classes

Summer session activities were a healthy blend of students in classes, ACT testing, and community partners workshops. Summer academics were predominantly nursing, science (chemistry/biology), and truck driving courses. Aspire classes started up at the end of July with a small but consistent class. Full tutoring support (face-to-face and Zoom) for Math, Science, and Nursing courses was offered twice weekly during the term.

Accessibility

June 1- August 5- Accessibility Services registered 26 students for Summer Semester accommodations, completed 8 intake appointments for accommodation and Testing Center services, and conducted 5 intake appointments for new students preparing for the Fall Semester. The Testing Center proctored 34 exams during this reporting period.

The Accessibility Services Coordinator met with Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD) to discuss program updates and strengthen interagency collaboration. The coordinator also presented at the Adjunct College Credit Plus (CCP) Professional Development Seminar, providing information on accessibility services and accommodations.

Professional development activities included participation in the Learning Management System (LMS) review meeting, the SOCHE ADA Title II/Accessibility Panel Discussion featuring OOD's presentation, *Moving Beyond Minimum Guidance*, and Part 1 of the OACC Leadership Orientation. These opportunities supported ongoing professional growth and ensured continued awareness of accessibility compliance requirements and emerging best practices.

Learning Services

June 1- Aug. 5, Learning Services tutors recorded 144 student contacts, including individual tutoring sessions and Early Alert outreach and follow-ups. Tutor Landen Campbell represented Learning Services by participating in the Nursing Orientation, introducing incoming students to available academic support resources.

Learning Services partnered with the Marketing Department to develop and promote a note-taking social media campaign designed to increase student awareness of effective study strategies and available support services.

Professional development activities for the Learning Services Coordinator included: SOCHE Transformative Academic Coaching, SOCHE Navigating Change: Utilizing Motivational Interviewing, Innovative Educators, Success Coaching Strategies to Motivate & Empower Learners, Go2Knowledge Leveraging Motivational Interviewing, Go2Knowledge Success Coaching for At-Risk Students, Go2Knowledge Group Coaching: How to Maximize Resources, Go2Knowledge 80% of Students Commute to Campus: Engage and Retain, Go2Knowledge 5 Proven Retention Interventions.

Academic Advising

	Paula	Michelle	Larry	Total
New CCP	36	22	31	89
Returning CCP	27	13	22	62
New Traditional	31	19	28	78
Returning Traditional	87	88	42	217

Adjunct | CCP Faculty Professional Development Event

On Wednesday, July 22, the Adjunct Faculty Committee hosted the annual Adjunct | CCP Faculty Professional Development Event on Central Campus. Forty-four (44) faculty and administrators participated in the event. Topics covered in mini sessions included: HLC Updates; Attendance | Grade Submissions; Library Services and Resources; Accessibility and Learning Services; Book Access. Longer sessions included: AI/ChatGPT; Simple Syllabus; and

CANVAS. The attendees enjoyed a nice brunch catered by Rachel's House in Washington Court House. The day ended with Division Meetings.

Library

The Library team has been engaged in a number of projects and tasks throughout the Summer, including:

- presenting information on the Library at the CCP & Adjunct Faculty Professional Development event on Wednesday, July 22, 2026
- participating in ongoing conversations, both inter-departmentally and with the vendor and consortia teams, regarding the implementation of the Ex Libris Leganto tool
- completing the "Go-Live Readiness Checklist" for Ex Libris Leganto and submitting it to the vendor to facilitate the switch to support
- coordinating with the Nursing department during Nursing Student Orientation to supply clinical ID badges for ADN students on Tuesday, July 28, 2026
- managing the return process for HotSpot and Laptop devices loaned for the duration of the Summer semester
- engaging in HotSpot and Laptop lending preparations for Fall semester (i.e. contract renewal, inventory, etc.)
- attending the ALA (American Library Association) Annual Conference in Chicago, IL, June 25-30

Campus Safety & Security

Security and Emergency Response Coordinator, **Gary Heaton**, reports the following activity since the last report:

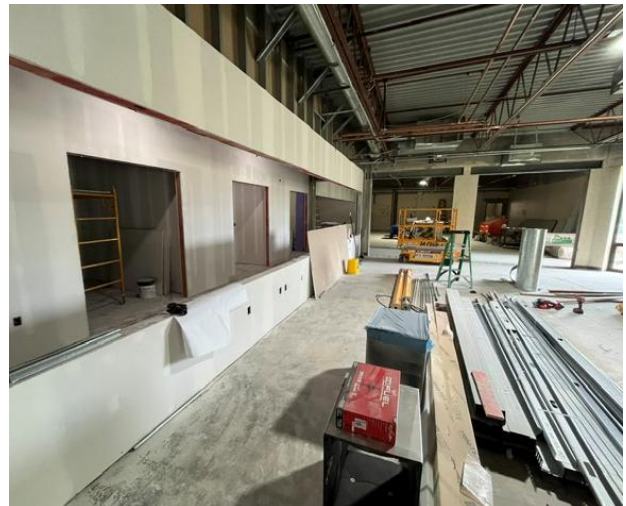
- Monitored AOC recognition ceremony
- Contacted Mt. Orab Police Department and Brown County Sheriff's Office concerning an incident across from the Brown County campus
- Attended planning meetings for Ohio School Safety Security Grants
- Completed vulnerability assessments for both campuses
- Monitored and assisted Highland County Sheriff Deputy with Fire in the Night Season event on Central campus
- Monitored and assisted with the Bob Brown visitation at Central campus
- Phone conversation with School Safety Center concerning clarification on completion of forms

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Technology Innovation Center

Construction on the Technology Innovation Center continues to progress, with work advancing throughout the instructional, laboratory, and office areas. Recent activities include framing and drywall installation and finishing, electrical work above ceilings, lighting installation, and mechanical rough-in. HVAC ductwork installation has been substantially completed, remaining masonry demolition is complete, and structural supports have been installed at the new openings between the Maker Space and Instructional Lab. Upcoming work includes continued framing, installation of gas and electrical service to the DOAS unit, door frame installation, sprinkler work, and above-ceiling inspections.

Project coordination continues through regular weekly construction meetings, with current items focused on submittals, change orders, storefront modifications, interior finishes, and furniture selections. The previously planned overhead doors will be replaced with storefront systems and double doors. Epoxy flooring is also being evaluated for several areas in place of polished concrete, with Key Resin identified as the preferred manufacturer and additional samples and pricing under review.





Access Control and Campus Security

Southern State Community College is implementing a new electronic access control system to enhance campus security and improve the management of building access. Phase One focuses on primary exterior entrances, providing scheduled automatic locking and unlocking while allowing authorized employees to use approved badge or mobile credentials for after-hours and weekend access.

Future phases will expand access control to selected interior doors and additional College facilities, including Student Services, the Business Office, Patriot Center, and Adult Opportunity Center. Additional locations will be considered in future phases based on available funding, operational priorities, and identified campus needs. Special thanks are extended to **Tyler Bick**, Technology Coordinator, and **Loren O’Cull**, Facilities Manager, for their work on this project.

Adult Opportunity Center Building Renovation

Renovation of the building located at 200 Hobart Drive is complete. The two-phase project allowed Adult Opportunity staff to transition into the renovated daycare portion of the facility before work began on the remaining areas, minimizing disruption while improvements were completed.

The renovation transformed the building into a modern, flexible environment supporting the Adult Opportunity Center, Workforce Development training programs, and community meetings and events. Improvements included new paint, upgraded flooring, lighting and

ceiling tiles, renovated restrooms, storefront doors, flat-panel TVs, and the installation of a new exterior door to further improve access and functionality.

Special thanks are extended to **Loren O’Cull**, Facilities Manager; and **Jeff Knauff**, Facilities Technician; for their work and dedication throughout the project.



BUSINESS AND FINANCE | HUMAN RESOURCES

New Hires

Part-Time:

Cody Smith: Test Proctor - Central Campus

Logan Reynolds: Test Proctor - Brown Co. Campus

Full- Time:

Maddy Conn: Testing Center Coordinator

Sevrin Florek: Associate Director of Enrollment and Workforce Outcomes

Brenda McGinnis: Ohio Code Scholar Operations Support Coordinator

Justin Drummond: Theater and Communications Instructor & Theater Director

ENROLLMENT AND WORKFORCE INNOVATION

The team members among the Department of Enrollment and Workforce Innovation completed a four-session series led by Julie Marlatt, Slope and Lever, to examine processes, assets, and strategies associated with the roles of the department. The sessions received positive feedback, and additional isolated trainings have been scheduled among some of the teams' departments to continue with best practices and strategies.

Enrollment Management/Recruitment and Outreach

- Enrollment Management continues to monitor the Fall 2026 enrollment funnel and is working closely with Admissions, Financial Aid, Marketing, and academic departments to support student conversion and persistence through the start of the semester. A Fall 2026 enrollment funnel report is included with this submission and provides current application, financial aid, and registration data, along with comparative analysis.
- As part of ongoing workforce and community outreach efforts, Enrollment Management has been engaging local OhioMeansJobs offices throughout the region to increase awareness of Southern State's academic and workforce programs. The Pike County OMJ office expressed particular interest in the College's Data Center Specialist program in connection with an upcoming data center project in the area. Follow-up conversations are underway to explore opportunities for collaboration and to connect prospective students with relevant training pathways.
- Southern State recently hired **Sevrin Florek** as Associate Director of Enrollment and Workforce Outcomes. Sevrin previously played an instrumental role in the development, growth, and success of the Ohio Code Scholar program. He brings extensive institutional knowledge, experience in program outreach and workforce development, and established relationships with numerous local school districts. In his new role, Sevrin will support enrollment initiatives while strengthening recruitment and workforce partnerships across the region.
- As the College enters the final enrollment push for Fall 2026, Enrollment Management is collaborating with Marketing to develop and distribute targeted anti-melt communications. These messages will encourage admitted and registered students to complete outstanding enrollment requirements, address common barriers related to financial aid and registration, and reinforce the support and resources available as students prepare for the start of the semester.
- In an effort to enhance the student transition experience, Enrollment Management has rebranded the traditional new student process as the New Student Resource Expo, scheduled for Saturday, August 22. The goal of the event is to create a more flexible,

student-centered experience that allows new and current students to visit campus, connect with key departments, and learn about the resources available to support their success. The event will allow students to come and go throughout the day based on their individual schedules while still receiving important information related to academics, student services, technology, campus resources, and overall student success. This event will also coincide with the registration event that takes place the Saturday before the start of the Fall semester.

Financial Aid

The majority of summer aid has been paid for the semester. The breakdown is as follows:

Pell Grant	\$376,604
Federal Loans	\$135,485
SEOG Grant	\$25,128
Foundation	\$4,025
SuperStart	\$38,607
Jump Start	\$3,239
State Grants	\$14,531
Outside Aid	\$13,250

We had a total of 1,562 FAFSA's come in for the 2025-2026 academic year, with 743 of those enrolling in at least one semester.

- As of June 30, 2026 we have 1,014 total FAFSA's for the 2026-2027 academic year, which is 81 more than we had this time last year.
- The following federal financial aid changes became effective on **July 1, 2026**, and will impact institutional financial aid administration for the 2026–2027 award year.

Regulatory Change	Summary
Pell Grant Eligibility	Students with a Student Aid Index (SAI) greater than twice the maximum Pell Grant award is no longer eligible for a Federal Pell Grant.
Cost of Attendance Limitation	Students whose non-federal grants and scholarships fully cover their Cost of Attendance are no longer eligible to receive a Pell Grant.
Parent PLUS Loan Limits	Parent PLUS Loans are subject to new annual and lifetime borrowing caps for new borrowers, with grandfathering provisions for certain existing borrowers.
Part-Time Loan Proration	Federal Direct Loan eligibility must be prorated based on enrollment intensity for students enrolled less than full time.
Federal Loan Repayment Options	The new Repayment Assistance Plan (RAP) becomes available for eligible borrowers, while the SAVE Repayment Plan begins its phase-out.

- Financial Aid Office Participated in the following:
 - OASFAA Working Family Tax Cut Discussion
 - OASFAA Off the Record
 - Recruitment Funnel and Lead Management Training
 - NASFAA Webinar
 - Student First Meeting
 - Directors Meeting
 - Trump and Higher Ed: The Latest
 - Let's Talk-Schedule of Reductions Processing Strategies
 - Boosting Application Completion and Conversion Training
 - HB 96 Student Records Preservation Plan Meeting

Testing Center

	HILLSBORO TESTING CENTER						TOTAL CENTRAL
	Pearson Vue	ACCUPLACER	ACT WorkKeys	Certiport	HESI	Proctored Exams	
Aug-25	22	196	6	0	0	0	224
Sep-25	28	7	0	0	2	0	37
Oct-25	27	21	6	0	4	0	58
Nov-25	31	55	3	0	7	1	97
Dec-25	39	65	0	0	0	1	105
Jan-26	38	114	6	0	0	1	159
Feb-26	57	103	0	0	0	1	161
Mar-26	52	137	8	0	2	0	199
Apr-26	83	284	1	0	7	0	375
May-26	50	301	6	1	30	1	389
Jun-26	22	110	6	0	15	0	153
Jul-26	29	97	1	0	0	0	127
Total	478	1490	43	1	67	5	2084

MT. ORAB TESTING CENTER						OFFSITE ACCUPLACERS	
Pearson Vue	ACCUPLACER	ACT WorkKeys	Certiport	HESI	Proctored Exams	TOTAL MO	SSCC TOTAL
24	120	0	0	18	5	167	391
15	11	0	0	12	0	38	75
11	30	0	0	2	0	43	101
13	39	0	0	2	0	54	151
17	42	0	0	0	0	59	164
18	13	0	0	1	0	32	191
12	2	0	0	1	0	15	176
27	91	0	0	0	1	119	318
46	80	0	0	4	1	131	506
51	93	0	0	19	1	164	553
55	57	0	0	11	1	124	277
27	90	0	0	0	2	119	246
316	668	0	0	70	11	1065	3149

Brown County campuses. **Jonathan “Cody” Smith** has been hired as the new part-time testing center proctor at Central Campus; and **Logan Reynolds** is the new part-time testing center proctor at Brown County campus.

Grants

Ohio Code Scholar

The Ohio Code Scholar program has hired **Brenda McGinnis**, a long-time teacher in the OCS program, as the new office coordinator. Brenda will help lead the connections between the participating schools and the OCS leadership, along with assisting in the Workforce Development space.

ASPIRE

The SSCC Aspire and 22+ programs generated a combined total of ninety graduates in FY26. On June 11, the SSCC Adult Opportunity Center staff hosted the 37th Annual Recognition Ceremony in the Edward K. Daniels Auditorium. Families and friends gathered to celebrate the accomplishments of the twenty-five attending graduates who were recognized for their hard work, determination, and perseverance in reaching this important milestone.

Summer Aspire classes began in July and are being held at the following locations: Adams County Business and Training Center, Brown County Campus, and Central Campus. Fall classes will begin on August 17 at the same sites as well as Greenfield, Clermont County Jail, and Batavia.

We were very proud and excited to open a new Aspire class on July 7 at the recently remodeled Ohio Means Jobs facility in Fayette County! This new location reflects our continued commitment to making adult education more accessible while strengthening partnerships that support workforce development. We’re grateful to our community partners for helping us continue to grow opportunities, enhance partnerships, and empower adult learners to achieve their educational and career goals. There are currently five students attending, with recruitment efforts ongoing.

Performance targets of Measurable Skill Gains, Persistence, and Progress Test Rate are evaluated monthly by the state Aspire office. The following chart shows our SSCC Aspire June data and the state averages as reported in the Aspire Program Summary and the Agency vs. State LACES data snapshot.

Performance Target	SSCC (June, 2026)	State Average (June, 2026)
Students with a Measurable Skill Gain	51.35%	48.15%
Persistence	59.38 hours	52.73 hours
Progress Test Rate	49.09%	45.2%

Workforce Development

Yellow Belt training took place in August at a local company, for which a total of 41 individuals became certified in Yellow Belt.

Graduation Survey Results

The most recent graduation survey request was sent to those who graduated in December and May of the 2025-2026 AY. Below is a summary of those results. The return rate per academic term continues to be 20% or higher:

Results from both the Fall 2025-2026 and Spring 2025-2026 Graduate Surveys indicate consistently high levels of student satisfaction and reinforce Southern State Community College's commitment to student success, academic quality, and workforce and transfer preparation. Graduates overwhelmingly reported satisfaction with their overall experience, the quality of instruction, and the support provided by faculty and staff. Respondents indicated they would choose Southern State again and would recommend the College to others. Survey feedback also highlighted strong gains in workforce-ready skills, including communication, technology proficiency, research, problem-solving, and project completion. Many graduates reported plans to continue their education, while more than half of spring survey respondents indicated employment within their field of study.

Faculty emerged as one of the College's greatest strengths, with graduates consistently describing instructors as knowledgeable, supportive, accessible, and instrumental to their success. Student comments further emphasized the transformative impact of the College, citing a welcoming environment, meaningful support systems, increased confidence, and opportunities to achieve personal, educational, and career goals.

The surveys also identified opportunities for continuous improvement. Experiential learning remains a focus area, with graduates reporting limited participation in internships, co-ops, and other work-based learning opportunities. Additional opportunities exist to increase student awareness and utilization of support services, strengthen academic advising, and enhance engagement in select online courses. These findings will inform ongoing efforts to improve the student experience while expanding opportunities that support academic achievement, career readiness, and successful transfer outcomes.

Communications and Marketing

Presence Report

Southern State Community College

Marketing Area	May	June	July
Press Release	8	14	10
Advertising / Print	10+	5+	5+
Email Campaigns	1	1	1
Emails Deployed	25,000	25,000	25,000
Number Opened	4,555	3,694	4,828
Percentage Opened	18.22%	14.78%	19.31%
Clicks within content	627	612	573
Percentage of total clicks	2.51%	2.45%	2.29%
Social Retargeting			
Reach	18,694	10,423	13,939
Impressions	25,326	31,504	47,926
Clicks	571	143	618
CTR (click through rate)	2.25%	0.45%	1.29%
Frequency	1.35%	3.02%	3.44%
Geofencing			
Impressions/ads Deployed	61,130	100,486	43,891
Clicks	233	268	263
CTR (click through rate)	0.38%	0.27%	0.60%
Top 2 locations of activity	Georgetown, Chillicothe, WCH	WCH, Georgetown	WCH, Georgetown
Audience Management			
Impressions/ads Deployed	88,970	88,873	84,429
Clicks	131	155	175
CTR (click through rate)	0.15%	0.17%	0.20%

Truck Driving Academy

Marketing Area	May	June	July
Email Campaigns			
Emails Deployed	25,000	25,000	25,000
Number opened	4,360	3,573	3,891
Percentage Opened	17.44%	14.29%	15.56%
Clicks within content	564	549	566
Percentage of open and clicked	2.26%	2.20%	2.26%
Audience Management			
Impressions/ads Deployed	206,911	52,898	66,776
Clicks	607	61	192
CTR (click through rate)	0.29%	0.11%	0.29%
Social Retargeting			
Reach	10,223	22,159	14,389
Impressions	117,100	64,478	130,585
Clicks	355	539	532
CTR (click through rate)	0.3%	0.84%	0.41%
Frequency	11.45	2.91	9.08

Recent Southern State Appearances - Communications Activities and Involvement

Since the last report, Southern State has appeared in the following media outlets:

Press Releases

- SSCC Board of Trustees to meet June 4
- SSCC Foundation Awards the Highland County Democratic Party Scholarship to Charles Jackson

- Basic Life Support (BLS) Training Courses Offered at Southern State
- New Trustees Appointed to SSCC Board
- Southern State Community College honors three employees who will receive SOCHE Excellence Awards
- Southern State Community College Announces Latest Graduates of Ohio Leadership Academy for Student Success
- SSCC announces honors lists for spring semester
- SSCC Awards the NCB Student Excellence Scholarship to Six Students
- SSCC Theatre Company presents 'Fire in the Night Season: The Trial of Philip Partridge
- SSCC Board of Trustees to meet June 25
- From Milestone to Momentum: Southern State's Vision for 2026 and Beyond
- SSCC awards Elks Scholarship to Sophia Michael
- Southern State's Adult Opportunity Center hosts recognition celebration for the Aspire and Graduation Alliance Programs
- Southern State Community College Receives Maximum 10-year Reaffirmation of Accreditation by Higher Learning Commission
- Southern State Awarded AI Grant to Expand Student Success and Workforce Innovation
- For immediate release: Start Your Nursing Career in as Little as One Year: Applications Now Open for Southern State's Practical Nursing Program
- Southern State's Aspire Adult Education Classes Offered in Fayette County
- SSCC Awards Joyce Fender Family Scholarship to Angela Sheppard
- Southern State Launches New Engineering Technology Degree This Fall, Opening Doors to High-Demand Careers
- Southern State Community College Awards Scholarships, Opening Doors for Student Success
- Southern State Community College Receives Three-Year Renewal of Collegiate Purple Star Designation
- Southern State Accepting Applications for Choose Ohio First Scholarships in Computer Technology Program
- SSCC Seeking Registrations for Fall 2026 Certified Nurse Aide (CNA) Program

Advertising/Print/Direct Mail

- June e-blast promoting Fall Semester Registration with affordability focus
- June e-blast promoting late summer/early fall start dates for the TDA program
- July e-blast promoting Fall Semester Registration
- July e-blast promoting late summer/early fall start dates for the TDA program
- County Fair ads
- Program specific ads and mailings with a fall semester focus

- ✓ Engineering – **101 students** over the past 5 years with a declared engineering major and have not graduated (excluding aviation interest) – Mailed 7/17/26
- ✓ HSSR – **526 students** over past 5 years with a declared HSSR major and have not graduated. Mailed 7/21/26
- ✓ CSCI – **327 students** over past 5 years with a declared CSCI major and have not graduated Mailed 7/22/26
- 250th Celebration ads for the various community publications and activities
- GED Graduates Mailing Project Approx. 30 students (16 GED completers and 13 22+ Program completers were mailed personalized letters with Adult Incentive/GED scholarship information and next steps for enrolling at SSCC
- Current Student Mailing – **1,064 students** who attended in the spring, but not yet registered for fall semester as of June 22, 2026. (excluding CCP students and spring/summer graduates)
- Stop Out Student Mailing – **1,143 students** who attended Fall 2025 semester, but did not attend spring 2026 semester and did not graduate
- Email Follow-up campaign to current students still not registered as of July 26.
 - ✓ 947 emails sent
 - ✓ 63 opens (9%)
- Email campaign to early registrants (March – June 1, 2026) for Fall Semester, and did not attend summer term. Goal is to reduce summer melt and keep them engaged with SSCC
 - ✓ 100 emails sent
 - ✓ 16 opens (16%)
- Clinton Co. Progress Edition ad and article

Social Media

Month	Platform	Views	Reactions	Interactions	Profile Visits	Link Clicks	Impressions
June	Facebook	51,736	838	391	2.6K	295	
July	Facebook	223,706	726	964	2.7K	3.2K	
June	Instagram	1,509		164	36		
July	Instagram	15,701		147	188		
June	LinkedIn		78		95	86	3.2K
July	LinkedIn		119		82	85	6.2K

2026 2027 Data Dive Series

Topic	Participant Outcomes	Presenting	Date
Funding Our Future: 2026–2027 Budget Priorities and SSI Projections	1. Explain the major revenue and expense drivers influencing the College's 2026–2027 budget. 2. Describe the key components of Ohio's State Share of Instruction (SSI) funding model. 3. Identify strategic budget priorities and how they align with institutional goals. 4. Recognize factors that may impact future financial sustainability and resource allocation.	Dr. Steven Hinshaw, Vice President of Financial Services	August 21, 2026 @ 1:30 p.m.
All Things Enrollment: Student Body Profile and Enrollment Targets	1. Describe key characteristics and trends within the current student population. 2. Interpret enrollment data, including headcount, FTE, retention, and demographic information. 3. Explain institutional enrollment goals and performance targets. 4. Identify ways employees contribute to recruitment, retention, and student success.	Mr. James Farmer, Director of Enrollment Management	October 16, 2026 @ 1:30 p.m.
Measuring Our Momentum: Strategic Plan and Progress Metrics	1. Summarize the major goals and priorities of the College's Strategic Plan. 2. Explain how progress is measured using key performance indicators (KPIs). 3. Interpret dashboard metrics and performance trends. 4. Connect individual and departmental efforts to institutional strategic outcomes.	Dr. Nicole Roades, President & Members of the President's Council	November 20, 2026 @ 1:30 p.m.

2026 2027 Data Dive Series

From Legislation to Action: Responding to SB1 and HB96	1. Identify key provisions of SB1 and HB96 that affect community colleges. 2. Explain how legislative changes influence institutional policies, operations, and student services. 3. Understand the College's implementation strategies and compliance requirements. 4. Recognize their role in supporting successful adaptation to new state requirements.	Dr. Erika Goodwin, VP of Academic and Student Affairs	January 15, 2027 @ 1:30 p.m.
Making Every Credit Count: An In-Depth Look at Transfer and Articulation	1. Define transfer, articulation, and credit mobility concepts. 2. Describe pathways that help students transfer credits efficiently. 3. Explain how articulation agreements support student success and degree completion. 4. Identify strategies to improve transfer opportunities and reduce credit loss.	Dr. Peggy Chalker, Dean of Transfer and Articulation/Brown County Location Director	February 19, 2027 @ 1:30 p.m.
From Vision to Impact: Launching the Student Success Quality Initiative	1. Explain the purpose and goals of the Student Success Quality Initiative. 2. Describe the initiative's key focus areas and expected outcomes. 3. Understand how data and continuous improvement practices support student success. 4. Identify opportunities to contribute to the initiative within their role and department.	Dr. Erika Goodwin, VP of Academic and Student Affairs Ms. Amy McClellan, VP of Enrollment and Workforce Innovation	March 19, 2027 @ 1:30 p.m.



THE SECRETARY OF EDUCATION
WASHINGTON, DC 20202

August 3, 2026

A National Call to Action to University Presidents and Governing Boards

Dear University Presidents and Board Members:

As America celebrates 250 years of freedom, I call upon university leaders and governing boards to reaffirm their commitment to serving the American people.

America's oldest universities were founded almost 400 years ago and have, since the colonial era, helped to forge the political leaders, institutions, and public culture that made this country the greatest in the world. For centuries, American colleges and universities were a source of immense national pride: they excited in students a love of beauty and truth; they advanced science and opened opportunities in a growing national economy; they powered the modern research enterprise that secures our sovereignty and military might; and they served as indispensable repositories of our civilizational inheritance.

Yet, as higher education has drifted from the principles that built up so much public esteem, Americans' trust in universities has reached record lows.

Several university leaders have publicly recognized the need to chart a new course to rebuild public confidence and trust. In May, Yale's Committee on Trust in Higher Education boldly acknowledged that the dilution of academic standards, opaque admissions policies, and a domineering monoculture have badly eroded public trust. Last month, in response to a charge from the presidents of Vanderbilt and Washington University, a committee of leading scholars documented the politicization of the humanities and humanistic social sciences.

These courageous documents evince a generational opportunity for self-reflection and institutional renewal. For the good of the Nation, university leadership must seize this occasion to drive essential reforms—a process some began by adopting positions of institutional neutrality and improving policies related to campus protests.

Before the end of 2026, I call on every postsecondary institution to describe to the American public your commitments to rigorous teaching, pathbreaking research, and national service—commitments that make our universities a bedrock institution of the American republic.

These statements of principle should be posted prominently on institutional websites. Only full candor and transparency can begin to strengthen the bonds between higher education and the American people.

I know that there is no single template for academic excellence, and I hope we will witness a variety of institutional types, each with distinct missions and priorities, issue landmark declarations of purpose that will revitalize higher education in the years ahead. In detailing your

commitments to your students and the American people, I ask institutional leaders to **address the following questions**, detailing adopted and planned reforms:

1. The opacity of university admissions has caused allegations of favoritism, unjust outcomes, and illegal discrimination. Every prospective student is legally entitled to equal treatment regardless of protected characteristics, and credible accusations of covert attempts to evade the Supreme Court's ruling in *Students for Fair Admissions v. Harvard* will persist as long as admissions criteria remain shielded from public view. **How will your institution ensure that admissions criteria are transparent and wholly described to prospective applicants? And how will your institution ensure admissions decisions are based on merit, achievement, and your university's educational purpose?**
2. Institutions must encourage an ethic of free speech and foster a thriving marketplace of ideas, guided by open inquiry and honest debate. The collision of opposing viewpoints is necessary to advance learning and prepare students for the duties of citizenship. **How will your institution protect the free exchange of ideas, wide-ranging debate, and open-minded campus discourse? And how will you guarantee that unruly and violent protestors do not harass students or disrupt classes, research, public lectures, and campus operations?**
3. Some academic disciplines and departments have subordinated the scholarly pursuit to political and social goals, as documented in the recent *Report on the State of Scholarship in the Humanities and the Humanistic Social Sciences*. When disciplines skew toward one side of the ideological spectrum, the truth-seeking function of the university suffers and public trust declines. **How will your institution encourage intellectual pluralism in all its academic units? How will your faculty hiring and evaluation practices support academic vitality and ensure that all relevant perspectives are taken seriously? And how will your school ensure the research enterprise is dedicated to advancing knowledge, deepening understanding, and serving the American people who fund it?**
4. The price of some postsecondary degrees seems out of reach for many American families—in significant measure due to ever-rising administrative costs and other expenses unrelated to core university functions. Rates of student attrition and student loan defaults are too high, and universities should take responsibility for ensuring better outcomes. Schools should be transparent about the value of their degrees and prioritize offering education that fosters employment. **How will your institution ensure that families can access affordable, high-return, degrees? What can your school do to contain costs, improve pricing transparency, and ensure that every academic program equips students to repay their loans?**

5. High academic standards are essential because rigor and learning go hand-in-hand, equipping students with the skills and knowledge they need to succeed in life and contribute to their country and community. Artificial intelligence has upended traditional methods of teaching and assessing student learning. Some schools recently have announced steps to combat grade inflation. **How will your institution incentivize rigor in the age of AI, combat grade inflation, and prioritize excellence in teaching and learning?**
6. University-sponsored research can drive economic growth and deliver medical innovation and technologies with vital military applications. University leaders must ensure that the research enterprise is oriented toward advancing the U.S. national interest—not our adversaries'—by refusing gifts with problematic conditions and ensuring that foreign actors do not unduly influence academic programming, research personnel, researcher assignments, or student admissions. Institutions must also ensure that malign foreign actors do not gain access to sensitive research or technology. **How will your school protect academic programs from foreign influence and safeguard the integrity of the research enterprise?**
7. American taxpayers invest hundreds of billions of dollars into higher education every year. American universities must put Americans, and American interests, first. That means prioritizing American students and faculty, orienting the research enterprise to support the country's economic and security needs, and putting American societal success ahead of global commitments. **How will your institution answer this national call to action? How can your campus and faculty advance American security interests, deliver academic programs that meet urgent workforce needs, and contribute materially to the Nation's prosperity?**

I encourage universities to respond concretely to these questions and provide full transparency to the American people.

This forthright conversation with the American people is long overdue. And it is the essential first step toward rebuilding trust in the sector.

Bold university reformers will bring excellence and accountability to American higher education. A renewed academy, in turn, will usher in a new era of opportunity, prosperity, and American leadership.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Linda E. McMahon", with a long, sweeping horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Linda E. McMahon

Preparation for Trustee Challenge

August 2026



Background for Trustees: ODHE Trustee Challenge and Financial Viability Review

Chancellor Mike Duffey has challenged Ohio trustees to become more familiar with key indicators of institutional financial health. The initiative reflects significant changes affecting higher education, including declining birth rates, reduced college-going rates, shifting student demand toward workforce-oriented disciplines, and increasing financial pressures across the sector.

To better assess institutional sustainability, the Ohio Department of Higher Education (ODHE) has expanded its review beyond traditional measures such as enrollment and annual budgets. The Chancellor emphasizes that enrollment growth alone does not guarantee financial strength. Institutions must also monitor liquidity, operating efficiency, financial resilience, and long-term sustainability.

Viability Calculations

As part of the Trustee Challenge, institutions were asked to calculate and review five financial metrics using audited FY2023-FY2025 financial data:

Metric	Measure	Southern State Performance
Income	Three-Year Average Net Income Ratio	4.9% ratio
Wealth	Expendable Net Assets per FTE	\$10,378
Operations	Days Cash on Hand	219.9
Plant Costs	Facilities Costs as a Percentage of Operating Expenses	6.48%
Margin	Change in Net Assets per FTE	\$487

Note: A detailed calculation table and comparative worksheet are included for Trustee reference only.

Southern State's Response

Southern State shares the Chancellor's focus on financial viability and has monitored these indicators for many years. The College's approach is grounded in careful stewardship, transparent reporting, strategic planning, and responsible investment in student success.

Key Strengths

- **Strong Financial Stewardship**
Southern State has a long history of disciplined financial management. Regular reporting to the Board of Trustees, ongoing monitoring of key financial indicators, and data-informed

decision-making have positioned the College to navigate changing economic and enrollment conditions while maintaining fiscal stability.

- **Strong Liquidity and Financial Reserves**

The College's Days Cash on Hand and net asset position compare favorably with peer institutions. These measures reflect a strong liquidity position that allows Southern State to manage enrollment fluctuations, support operations, and pursue strategic priorities without reliance on short-term financial remedies.

- **Efficient Operations and Facilities Management**

As a multi-campus institution serving a rural region, Southern State has successfully balanced community access with operational efficiency. The College's Plant Cost ratio reflects responsible stewardship of facilities and validates difficult but necessary decisions made in 2020 and 2022 to reduce and optimize its physical footprint.

- **Positive Operating Performance**

Southern State's positive three-year average net income ratio demonstrates sustained financial discipline despite significant sector-wide challenges, including demographic decline, enrollment pressures, workforce shifts, and revenue variability associated with College Credit Plus (CCP).

- **Expanding Access with Financial Discipline**

Southern State continues to provide broad educational access across its service region while remaining a leading College Credit Plus provider. The College has experienced consistent CCP growth driven largely by reputation and outcomes rather than significant recruitment expenditures. This positions Southern State as a valuable partner for families, schools, and communities throughout the region.

Areas of Ongoing Emphasis

While Southern State's overall financial viability profile is healthy and highly competitive, the College continues to monitor several long-term challenges that warrant strategic attention.

- **College Credit Plus Dependence**

As the Chancellor noted, enrollment growth generated through discounted or reduced-revenue models can create financial risk. CCP remains one of Southern State's greatest strengths and one of its most closely monitored vulnerabilities.

The College takes pride in the quality of its CCP programming and the value it provides to students and families. At the same time, the financial model associated with CCP generates less revenue per student than traditional enrollment. Consequently, Southern State continues to focus on retention, completion, and post-secondary enrollment pathways that convert CCP participation into long-term student success and institutional sustainability.

- **Rural Demographics and Scale**

Like many rural institutions, Southern State operates in an environment where population density can make traditional efficiency measures difficult to achieve. This challenge is increasingly reflected in state policies, funding formulas, and performance measures that often favor larger population centers.

As Ohio continues to emphasize productivity and outcomes, Southern State must continuously demonstrate both efficiency and impact while fulfilling its mission to serve geographically dispersed communities.

- **Increasing Focus on Workforce Outcomes**

State and federal policymakers are placing greater emphasis on workforce outcomes as a driver of funding and accountability. While this trend aligns with Southern State's workforce mission, it presents unique challenges for rural community colleges.

A significant portion of Southern State's enrollment, particularly CCP students, is concentrated in transfer-oriented Associate of Arts and Associate of Science pathways, where immediate workforce outcomes are harder to measure. Additionally, wage levels in rural communities are often lower than in metropolitan areas, affecting outcome-based comparisons. As a result, the College must continue balancing transfer, workforce, and community access missions while ensuring programs demonstrate measurable economic value.

Trustee Takeaway

Southern State enters this discussion from a position of strength. The College demonstrates solid financial stewardship, strong liquidity, efficient operations, and a positive record of financial performance. At the same time, trustees should remain mindful of evolving risks associated with CCP dependence, rural demographics, and increasing outcome-based funding models. Continued vigilance in these areas will help ensure Southern State remains financially sustainable while fulfilling its mission of expanding educational and workforce opportunities throughout its service region.

FIVE KEY METRICS FOR THE 2026 OHIO TRUSTEES CONFERENCE (TRUSTEE CHALLENGE)

SOUTHERN STATE				
INCOME		Calculation	4.9%	ratio
		Net Position Change	Total Revenue	
	FY23	(\$1,405,105)	\$20,867,447	
	FY24	\$2,885,098	\$21,854,762	
	FY25	\$1,539,380	\$18,828,538	8.18%
	Total	\$3,019,373	\$61,550,747	
WEALTH		Calculation	\$10,378	net assets per student
		Net Assets expendable restricted for loans	\$17,696	
		Net Assets expendable restricted for OPEB plans	\$690,852	
		Unrestricted Net Assets	\$2,463,941	
		Pension liability add-back	\$10,007,836	
		FTE	1,270	
OPERATIONS		Calculation	219.9	days of cash on hand
		Cash + cash equivalents	\$10,413,986	
		Operating expenses	\$17,042,027	
		Interest on debt	\$247,131	
PLANT COSTS		Calculation	6.48%	ratio (lower is better)
		Plant operations	\$1,104,246	
		Operating expenses	\$17,042,027	
MARGIN		Calculation	\$487	net change per student
		Net Change	\$1,539,380	
		Change in net pension liability	(\$920,768)	
		Pension-adjusted net change	\$618,612	
		FTE	1,270	

FIVE KEY METRICS FOR THE 2026 OHIO TRUSTEES CONFERENCE (TRUSTEE CHALLENGE)

	Income		Wealth		Operations		Plant Costs		Margin		Total Rank	Composite
	<i>ratio (FY25 only)</i>	Rank	<i>with net pension liability add-back</i>	Rank	<i>days of cash</i>	Rank	<i>percent</i>	Rank	<i>per student</i>	Rank	"points"	Quintile
WASHINGTON STATE	16.20%	4	\$14,285	5	346.3	3	9.80%	15	\$2,454	3	30	Q1
MARION TECH	18.13%	3	\$5,263	15	169.2	7	5.04%	2	\$1,765	5	32	Q1
SINCLAIR	9.34%	10	\$16,369	3	380.1	2	8.75%	13	\$871	9	37	Q1
COLUMBUS STATE	24.05%	2	\$11,633	8	76.9	16	8.02%	10	\$3,079	2	38	Q1
CUYAHOGA	9.00%	11	\$29,897	1	283.0	4	11.07%	20	\$1,371	7	43	Q2
SOUTHERN STATE	8.18%	14	\$10,378	9	219.9	5	6.48%	5	\$487	13	46	Q2
NORTH CENTRAL	8.28%	13	\$16,053	4	414.2	1	10.59%	19	\$529	12	49	Q2
STARK STATE	9.77%	9	\$12,816	6	76.9	17	6.82%	7	\$658	11	50	Q2
CINCINNATI STATE	14.01%	5	\$6,930	12	142.3	11	10.51%	17	\$1,526	6	51	Q3
NORTHWEST STATE	14.01%	6	\$2,848	18	4.1	22	2.98%	1	\$1,836	4	51	Q3
LORAIN COUNTY	4.88%	16	\$17,463	2	83.3	14	6.65%	6	(\$531)	18	56	Q3
HOCKING	11.16%	7	\$5,969	14	80.8	15	8.48%	12	\$731	10	58	Q3
CENTRAL OHIO	4.49%	17	\$11,643	7	217.5	6	9.36%	14	\$12	16	60	Q3
EDISON STATE	10.55%	8	\$5,080	16	117.0	13	7.53%	8	\$348	15	60	Q3
RIO GRANDE	6.34%	15	\$8,100	11	69.4	19	*	11	\$1,183	8	64*	Q4
JAMES RHODES STATE	-0.66%	20	\$6,825	13	161.2	8	6.17%	3	(\$904)	21	65	Q4
LAKELAND	30.54%	1	\$195	22	56.1	20	12.40%	21	\$4,721	1	65	Q4
OWENS STATE	8.86%	12	\$8,985	10	120.1	12	10.51%	18	\$436	14	66	Q4
ZANE STATE	2.56%	18	\$2,126	20	144.2	10	6.22%	4	(\$852)	20	72	Q5
CLARK STATE	1.92%	19	\$2,774	19	73.7	18	7.86%	9	(\$554)	19	84	Q5
BELMONT TECH	-4.89%	22	\$5,058	17	157.1	9	9.83%	16	(\$1,142)	22	86	Q5
TERRA STATE (FY24)	-2.02%	21	\$1,617	21	16.2	21	8.30%	11	(\$470)	17	91	Q5

* Rio Grande does not report plant costs, so a placeholder score of 11 was assigned.

The ODHE treats pension and OPEB (other post-employment benefits) expenses differently for different calculations, which may affect the calculations for Income, Wealth, and Margin.

The net income ratio is a 3-year average. For this analysis, only the most recent fiscal year was used. If SSCC's calculations match the ODHE, then the other colleges' calculations should be close.

Four colleges were placed in each quintile with six colleges placed in the middle quintile. SSCC would be in Quintile 2 in most cases.

This analysis performed on August 11 is for preliminary comparison purposes only.

On August 14, the ODHE announced they already have all the financial data collected, have calculated the scores for each metric, and assigned quintile rankings. ODHE plans to release that information "soon."