Dr. Kevin Boys, President

Fall Enrollment

President's Activities and Involvement

Respiratory Care Program

Academic Partnerships





Workforce Development



Continuing Education & Departmental Notes













Computer Fundamentals for the Classroom Workshop Computer Fundamentals for the Classroom,





Relationships

president of Southern State Community College and in my 31 years in public K-12 education, most recently as superintendent of a suburban school district.

Shortly after my arrival at Southern State, it became apparent that it was time to reyear strategic plan, we

engaged the college community in a creative visioning process. One of the key activities was to design a magazine cover with our institution as the feature story. We had to ask ourselves: What would the headline be? The feature articles? The pictures? In the end, our team cast a new vision to be a First-Choice College.

To realize this vision, we identified six core attributes including, "Synergy through Collaboration and Partnerships." We also identified the bold steps required to propel us forward. This made its way to the goal level and the matrices by which the institution and president would be evaluated.

For the purpose of this article, I will specifically outline my part in finding that synergy through partnerships, especially among our partner K-12 school districts.

First, of course, is that relationships can make or break a partnership. In my first few months, I made a personal visit with each of the 24 superintendents in our college's service area. The purpose was simple: to acquaint them with a college president who might serve as a resource or a connection to higher education. I was warmly received and appreciated for demonstrating such a high level of interest.

Second, even though we had assigned the responsibility for fostering dual enrollment programs to a campus director, I relished the opportunity to tell our story to any school leader or group who would listen. Word has a way of spreading, and I have spoken with superintendent groups ranging from High Schools that Work, STEM Consortia, and leaders from high achieving school districts who have long relied on advanced placement courses. I hosted a luncheon at the annual Ohio School Board Association conference that nearly every superintendent and treasurer in the state attends. Why? To explain how our model of dual credit works, and to say thank you.

Third, we have used a financial model that is far less punitive to the local school districts than the state's program