

CUTLINE:

"We still have one more year in our South Campus. Classes will continue through the 2013-14 academic year," said Dr. Kevin Boys, SSCC President. "I'm certain the college's Board of Trustees will be discussing options for that campus in the near future. A representative from the Attorney General's office is coming in to talk to the board about their options."

The expansion project has been several years in the making. In 2011, the college's Board of Trustees moved forward on plans to expand Southern State's service region by approving a contract to purchase the Mt. Orab tract. In searching for a replacement site for Southern State's current South Campus located near Fincastle, a market analysis identified Mt. Orab—specifically the State Route 32/Appalachian Highway area—as the prime location based on population centers and accessibility.

"More than 44,000 people live in Brown County. Proximity to even larger concentrations of people is possible because of the Appalachian Highway," said Dr. Boys. "This, coupled with the projection of some lofty renovations to the existing facility, warranted a new approach to the college's framework for accessibility."

Proposals were received from 35 architectural firms and ultimately BHDP Architects, headquartered in Cincinnati and Columbus, was selected to take the helm for the design phase. For the construction phase, The Quandel Group was chosen as the construction management firm for the project.

Throughout the process, Southern State has worked alongside Bruce Lunsford, mayor of Mt. Orab, and Jeff Stine, village engineer. Village representatives have been instrumental in getting utilities to the site and in securing traffic light approval from the Ohio Department of Transportation.

Made possible by a recent legislative decision in construction reform, the SSCC Mt. Orab Campus project is one of the first public projects to use the Construction Manager at Risk project delivery method through the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission (OFCC). The expansion project is coordinated through the OFCC, which oversees the design and construction of facilities for state agencies, boards, commissions and institutions of higher education.

Southern State currently has four campus locations in Hillsboro, Washington Court House, Wilmington and Sardinia, primarily serving students in Adams, Brown, Clinton, Highland and Fayette counties. The college offers a host of academic programs, including certificates and associate degrees, continuing education, workforce development, and GED preparation, as well as partnership degrees which allow for advanced degree completion through other institutions at an SSCC campus.

For more information on progress at the Mt. Orab Campus site, please visit [www.sccc.edu/newcampus/index.shtml](http://www.sccc.edu/newcampus/index.shtml). To learn more about Southern State Community College, call 1-800-628-7722, email [info@sccc.edu](mailto:info@sccc.edu) or visit [www.sccc.edu](http://www.sccc.edu).