

BUSINESS EDUCATION

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Fayetteville Technical Community College signs strategic regional partnership agreement with Robeson Community College

BY STAFF REPORT, POSTED 2 YEARS AGO

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Singler and Sorrells at the agreement signing. Photo provided by FTCC

Fayetteville Technical Community College has signed a strategic regional partnership agreement with Robeson Community College, which will provide RCC students with the opportunity to train in dental hygiene, dental assisting and funeral service programs at FTCC.

FTCC President Dr. Mark Sorrells and RCC President Melissa Singler signed the agreement Monday during a ceremony at RCC's campus in Lumberton.

Both colleges shared reports detailing the logistics of the partnership and providing statements shared by their leaders at the signing.

"This is an unprecedented signing today," RCC President Melissa Singler stated. "We are partnering with one of our sister institutions, Fayetteville Technical Community College. We are just really excited for this opportunity. We know this is going to be a perfect fit for our college and provide many opportunities for our students."

The agreement acknowledges that FTCC will reserve six seats in each cohort of its Dental Assisting program and four seats in each cohort of the Dental Hygiene program for Robeson Community College students. Also as part of the agreement, RCC will work cooperatively to inform students of the FTCC Funeral Services Education program and its admission requirements.

"This is an opportunity to create a win-win situation for both colleges," Sorrells said. "These are high-cost programs that are hard to replicate and hard to sustain in a rural area."

Through the partnership, RCC students will be able to take general education courses in their home community, then go to FTCC for their technical training.

"We know it's going to be a perfect fit for our college and provide many opportunities for our students," Singler said.

Sorrells said Monday that he and Singler are working to add more programs to the partnership agreement, including truck driver training, heavy diesel mechanic and a college transfer program.

This is the third regional partnership that FTCC has entered into this year. In March, FTCC and Richmond Community College signed an agreement providing Richmond CC students with access to FTCC's respiratory therapy, funeral service, paralegal and speech language pathology programs while giving FTCC students access to a Richmond CC program that provides training in substation and relay technology at electric utilities. In July, FTCC signed an agreement with Bladen Community College that will increase truck driver training opportunities in the region and allow BCC students to use FTCC's current and future truck driving instruction facilities.

Like FTCC, Robeson Community College already has a truck driver training program with a waiting list. Both programs are limited in the number of students they can currently accept because of limitations on physical space – students at both must now learn and practice required maneuvering skills in parking lots at the two schools.

But FTCC plans a \$13 million truck driver training facility on land it owns in western Cumberland County near an interchange with I-295. The new facility will provide ample room for an expanded program, including access for students from partner community colleges.

Sorrells said regional partnerships between community colleges benefit their students, their communities and businesses as well as the colleges themselves.

"My philosophy is we are better working together than we are working separately," he concluded.

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Editor's note: That's three for me!

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GFBJ staff joined by Publisher Marty Cayton's wife pictured at the 2025 Q2 Power Breakfast. Left to right: Faith Hatton, Joy Cayton, Marty Cayton, Ellie Rhoades and Stephanie Meador. Well, in case LinkedIn failed to inform you I have now been at the G

Driving health forward: Campbell University's station house nears completion for med school mobile units

(https://bizfayetteville.com/commercial-real-estate/2025/8/7/driving-health-forward-campbell-universitys-station-house-nears-completion-for-med-school-mobile-units/4565)



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The 6,000-square-foot station house will provide cover and added security for Campbell's four mobile clinics. Construction is expected to be wrapped in August of 2025. Photos by Campbell University. Campbell's four Mobile Health and Education Cl

Trades transforming futures: Miller-Motte College President champions growth, trades education and community impact

(https://bizfayetteville.com/business-education/2025/8/7/trades-transforming-futures-miller-motte-college-president-champions-growth-trades-education-and-community-impact/4563)



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Dr. Geddis Dr. Janell Geddis assumed the role of president for Miller-Motte College's Fayetteville campus in February of 2024. Dr. Geddis joined MMC with 15 years of experience in higher education, with most of her roles serving community