

STATE OF OHIO

Executive Department

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

*Columbus*

I, Mike DeWine, Governor of the State of Ohio, do hereby appoint Rachel D. Cummings, from Seaman, Adams County, Ohio, as a Member of the Southern State Community College Board of Trustees for a term beginning September 27, 2024 and ending at the close of business May 11, 2030, replacing Rachel D. Cummings, whose term expired.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name and caused the Great Seal of the State of Ohio to be affixed, at Columbus, this 27th day of September in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty Four.

*Mike DeWine*

Mike DeWine  
Governor



# RACHEL CUMMINGS

Chief Nursing Officer

## OBJECTIVE

Serve the community and my profession by providing leadership and guidance to Southern State Community College. By assisting with the preparation of educated, quality graduates, the community can benefit from those who can join the local workforce or continue to higher education.

## CONTACT

PHONE:  
937-217-0131

EMAIL:  
cummingsfive@gmail.com

## QUALITIES

- Patient and nursing advocate
- Well-known, excellent reputation in community
- Strong leadership abilities
- Collaborates with community partners/agencies
- Mentor to staff and students
- Internal and External Marketing
- Strategic Planning
- Recruitment/Relations
- Cost Management
- Contract Negotiations

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### CHIEF NURSING OFFICER • ADAMS COUNTY REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER • JULY 2015- PRESENT

Plans, directs, and coordinates patient care activities in the hospital and outpatient specialty clinics to maintain standards of patient care. Advises medical staff, department heads, and administrators in matters related to nursing service.

### DIRECTOR OF QUALITY (JULY 2015) PI COORDINATOR • ADAMS COUNTY REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER • DECEMBER 2008-PRESENT

Responsible for quality measures implementation, data collection and submission as required per various regulatory agencies, ensuring compliance with Joint Commission and Conditions Of Participation (Medicare/Medicaid) standards, and implementation of the Service Excellence Initiative.

### CLINICAL IT • ADAMS COUNTY REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER • 2010-PRESENT

Serves as Clinical IT liaison and implements new modules/upgrades of electronic health record.

### SURGICAL MANAGER • ADAMS COUNTY REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER • NOVEMBER 2000-DECEMBER 2008

Coordinates and directs the services provided by the surgical department.

### STAFF NURSING

ADAMS COUNTY REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER • EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT  
HIGHLAND DISTRICT HOSPITAL • SURGICAL DEPARTMENT, EMERGENCY  
DEPARTMENT, MEDICAL/SURGICAL UNIT

## EDUCATION

BACHELORS OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY • 2010 • AMERICAN  
INTERCONTINENTAL UNIVERSITY • CUM CUM LAUDE

SOUTHERN STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE • 1994 • ASSOCIATE DEGREE  
OF SCIENCE, ARTS AND SCIENCES, CONCENTRATION IN PRE-MEDICINE

SOUTHERN STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE • 1993 • ASSOCIATE DEGREE  
OF APPLIED SCIENCE, NURSING TECHNOLOGY  
RECEIVED OHIO RN LICENSURE 1994

PEEBLES HIGH SCHOOL • 1991

## Ohio Senate Advice and Consent

### Trustee Appointment Questionnaire

Name: Rachel D. Cummings

Institution Being Appointed to:

Board of Trustees- Southern State Community College

1. Are you a graduate of or do any of your dependents attend the institution to which you are being appointed as trustee?

I graduated from Southern State Community College.

2. What is your position on the First Amendment rights of faculty, staff, and students, and how will you balance this with promoting diversity of thought on campus?

I believe everyone should be able to respectfully offer their thoughts and opinions and have a positive dialogue.

3. In your opinion, what are three current significant issues affecting higher education?

There are several factors that impact enrollment such as afford-ability, access, and relevance of programs. For many in our region, having access to a college locally that offers programs that fit the local job market at a reasonable cost is imperative.

4. Do you feel comfortable presenting new or alternative solutions to issues presented to the Board of Trustees ("Board") by the president or other trustees of the institution to which you are being appointed?

I do feel comfortable presenting new or alternative solutions.

5. What are some ideas you plan to propose to reduce the overall cost of higher education?

Encourage community college pathways by educating perspective students on the lower costs of general education requirements and the partnerships between community colleges and four-year institutes.

Negotiate with vendors for better rates and pass savings along to students.

6. What thoughts do you have on faculty tenure, post-tenure review, and annual faculty performance reviews?

I believe tenure provides stability for institutions however believe that performance reviews should still be taken into account. It is imperative to do faculty performance reviews to determine if the faculty member is able to successfully communicate course objectives and foster student success.

Performance reviews provide constructive feedback that can guide in professional development and teaching strategies.

7. What are your thoughts on ways to increase graduation rates at the institution to which you have been appointed?

Educating students on available financial aid, providing tutoring opportunities, emergency financial assistance programs and partnering with community organizations to provide additional resources such as housing, food pantries, and emotional support programs would assist students in overcoming difficulties that often lead to dropping out.

8. Is higher education in Ohio addressing the current and future workforce needs of our state, and how can the institution you have been appointed to better address these workforce challenges?

Yes, Ohio is addressing the workforce needs of our state. Southern State Community College actively reviews their programming to determine viability of classes and need for new, additional courses. For SSCC to be better in addressing these needs, more visibility needs to be given to community colleges and their ability to provide quality education. Creating collaborative programs with new industries would be beneficial to tailoring programs and facilitate internships and job placements.

9. In your view, who are you ultimately responsible to serve as a trustee of the institution you have been appointed to: the president, Board chairperson, or taxpayers of Ohio?

As a trustee, I am ultimately responsible to the taxpayers of Ohio to ensure that the monies allocated to the institution is being utilized effectively and responsibly.

**Please complete and return this form to the Governor's Office of Boards and Commissions at [boards.commissions@governor.ohio.gov](mailto:boards.commissions@governor.ohio.gov). If you have any questions regarding this form please contact:**

**Senator Jerry C. Cirino**  
614-466-7718  
1 Capitol Square  
Columbus, OH 43215

## GOVERNOR'S APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

**Appointment Date:** 9/27/2024

**Name of Appointee:** Rachel D. Cummings

**Address:** 313 Elliott Rd  
Seaman, OH 45679  
Adams County  
(H):  
(W): 9373863536  
(M): 9372170131  
(E): cummingsfive@ymail.com

**Name of Commission:** Southern State Community College Board of Trustees  
Robin Tholen, Executive Asst. to the President, Board of Trustees and  
Foundation  
(937) 393-3431, ext. 2671  
Barb Fleming, Interim Assistant  
100 Hobart Drive  
Hillsboro, OH 45133  
(P): (937) 393-3431  
(E): rtholen@sscc.edu; bfleming@sscc.edu

**Term Begins:** 5/12/2024

**Term Ends:** 5/11/2030

**Party Affiliation:** Independent

**Senate Confirmation:** Appointed by the Governor, confirmed by the Senate

**Financial Disclosure:** Confidential disclosure required

**Vice:** Rachel D. Cummings