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**CONTACT:** Mary Stadick Smith, South Dakota Department of Education, (605) 773-7228, [mary.stadicksmith@state.sd.us](mailto:mary.stadicksmith@state.sd.us) or  
Ruth Raveling, South Dakota Department of Education, (605) 773-2593, [ruth.raveling@state.sd.us](mailto:ruth.raveling@state.sd.us)

### **Board approves program expansion at Southeast Technical Institute**

The South Dakota Board of Education has approved a program expansion in the area of diesel technology at Southeast Technical Institute in Sioux Falls. The program expansion will add an emphasis for students to earn an associate of applied science degree or diploma in Agricultural/Construction Diesel Technology. All diesel technology students will complete a common first-year curriculum; the available emphases for the program's second year are in transportation or agricultural/construction.

Curriculum will be expanded to include additional instruction and experience on critical systems such as emissions, hydraulics and electronics. This expansion will allow STI to increase the capacity of the diesel technology program and at the same time expand the curriculum to address high-demand service areas such as emissions after-treatment, electrohydraulics and advanced system diagnostics.

Southeast Technical Institute will accept up to 24 additional students into the expanded program beginning in fall 2016. An additional 24 students will be accepted for the fall 2017 semester as the transportation and agricultural/construction paths are phased in.