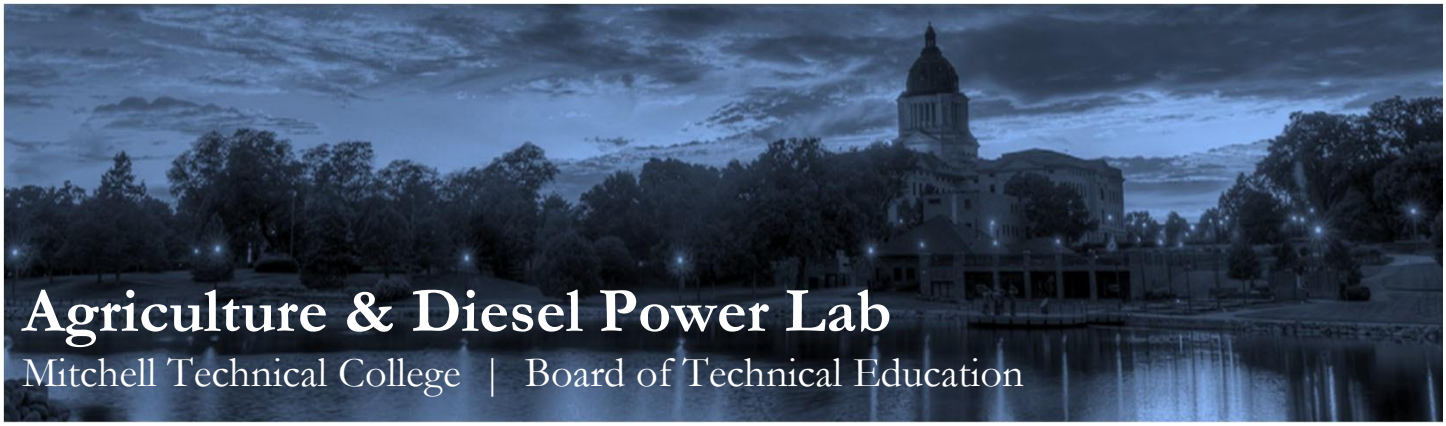

Agriculture & Diesel Power Lab

Mitchell Technical College | Board of Technical Education

Overview

Governor Noem's recommended budget includes $5,000,000 in one-time funding for a new technical laboratory and shop space to support Agriculture and Diesel Power Programs on the campus of Mitchell Technical College (MTC). The commitment from the State of South Dakota will be matched with $5,000,000 in local and private/industry funding from MTC.

This facility would allow the college to add a new dedicated technical lab and shop space, expanding the opportunity for educating and training on-campus students, corporate education clients, industry partners, and the region's diverse workforce. The new lab and shop space will directly impact students enrolled in a variety of academic programs, including Agronomy, Precision Agriculture, Animal Science, Powersports, Marine Technology, Agriculture Diesel, and Light/Medium Truck Diesel Repair.

Project Description

Currently, MTC students in three programs (Precision Ag, Diesel, and Light Truck), travel off-campus to an outdated diesel shop with limited space on the west side of Mitchell to complete lab activities and assessments. Agriculture/Precision students do not have a designated technical lab space for large course projects, which means much of that learning is confined to early fall and late spring. The creation of this new lab and learning environment would make it viable for learning and training on large equipment to occur year-round.

The proposed space will be approx. 55,000 to 60,000 square feet and include both technical laboratory and shop space. This will increase capacity for 50 to 65 additional students in the Agriculture and Diesel Power programs.

Funding

The total estimated cost of design and construction of the MTC Agriculture/Diesel Power Lab is approximately $10,000,000. MTC is prepared to match the $5,000,000 from the State of South Dakota with $5,000,000 raised through contributions from private and industry support. MTC's industry partners, particularly those from agriculture, recognize the value of enhancing this learning environment for future professionals.