

Director's Report April 2004

2004-2005 Applications & Enrollment. Preliminary application and enrollment figures are available for operating committee review. As per JOC Administrative Procedure #126, the superintendents and operating committee review enrollment figures in April and May. Program viability and personnel decisions are based on the review. The guidance counselors will hold their annual "enrollment lottery" on April 16 (shortly after the writing of this report). More accurate enrollment figures will be available at the board meeting.

A review of the enrollment report shows that nine of our 19 programs are over-subscribed (more enrollments than seats available). Two programs (Networking Technologies and Tool & Die) are seriously under-subscribed. We are pleased with the number of applications received to date. In particular, Metal Fabrication has shown a significant increase in applications from previous years. Automotive Technologies has moved to the top of the list of our most popular programs. The three-year Plastics Technologies program seems to be holding its own.

Leadership Council. In last month's Director's Report, we discussed the Jim Collin's *Hedgehog Concept* (passion, expertise and economic driver). We worked with the Council to hone down our passion—not that it is something you can actually hone down in two or three meetings. Nevertheless, as a beginning point the faculty and staff at the technical school is passionate about "Sharing expertise to spark career potential."

Skill Center Building 2004-2005. A discussion should begin on the use of the Skill Center building during next school year. The JOC has agreed to lease space to the Regional Choice Initiative (RCI) and the Erie County Academy for Collegiate and Advanced Studies. The current tenant, North Coast School, is also interested in extending their lease for another year. Of the nine (9) rooms on the second floor, North Coast is using seven (7) of them. RCI has yet to determine the number of applications they will have, but they have talked about using up to eight (8) classrooms.

City & County CTE Collaboration. Dave Kranking and I will meet on Thursday, April 15 to review enrollments at both schools. ECTS is especially interested in looking at the Tool & Die programs. This is where collaboration would allow us to maintain a program rather than losing both programs.

Feasibility Study. Contacts have been arranged with Hamot and St. Vincent Hospitals to serve as advisors to our program and laboratory design for health care technician careers and health information careers. We are continuing to establish contacts for the electronic commerce and legal office programs. The health care technician careers are the most critical because they will involve unique laboratory environments. We should be able to begin work shortly with Hallgren, Restifo, Loop & Coughlin and the program advisors to rough out laboratory plans.

Visiting Board Meetings. It has been our pleasure to host two of our participating school districts' monthly board meetings. Harbor Creek held their work session on April 8 and Iroquois held their work session here on April 13. Their visits included a brief presentation about the school and a tour of all laboratories. First-time visitors, along with previous visitors, continue to be impressed with the facilities, opportunities and learning activities at the technical school.

We welcome each of our participating school districts to schedule a meeting at the technical school and allow us to “share the value” of ECTS.