

High School Activity Report

August 2004

1. New Teacher orientation for Andrea Lucarotti in Cosmetology and Donna Erdman in Child Care will be held on August 19th and 20th. Elaine Shaffer and Patty Palo will organize this set of activities designed to provide necessary information for our new teachers for the first day of school, the first week, the first quarter. We are still actively searching for a Networking Technologies instructor.
2. Mr. Donovan has contacted sending school principals and guidance counselors to enlist their support in an effort to more strictly follow the ECTS Board Policy with regard to student absenteeism. Last school year, 65 students missed 25 or more days of school for a total of over 2,000 days of absenteeism. Board Policy states that after specified initial steps, a student may be brought before the board for a formal hearing due to severe absenteeism. This action would be taken only in cases of intentional and repeated absence from school.
3. ECTS instructors will report to school three days before the students this year for an intensive in-service on the integration of reading instruction into their technical curriculum. Dr. Jean Faieta from Edinboro University will work with Pat Holland, our new reading instruction coordinator, to guide our staff in this important venture. ECTS administration has heard from local business and industry leaders that they need a better reader graduating from our school, and sending school administrators concerned about PSSA score improvement will welcome our efforts to improve reading at the secondary level.
4. This year, eight of our eleven sending schools will start classes on or before September 1st, the first day of classes for the Erie County Technical School. Seneca, Iroquois and North East will begin after Labor Day. The principals of these schools have assured me that they will work with their transportation departments to arrange student transportation to the tech school on the day our school opens as important safety and procedural information is covered during these first days of school.