



To: Joint Operating Committee Members
Superintendents

From: AFT Local 1589

Date: June 7, 2006

Re: Creation of a Community College for Erie County

On behalf of AFT Local 1589 we are formally addressing you to express our concerns about the proposed community college that is currently being discussed by both the administration and the JOC of the Erie County Technical School. We, as a unit, received answers from Dr. Aldo Jackson to proposed question that we have about the community college. Although he did respond in an appropriate manner, we still feel that the reception by the community, our current student population's parents, and our local tax payers will be less than one of enthusiasm.

Some of our concerns are as follows:

- The co-enrollment of adults and high school aged students in a secondary institution. How will parents be sold on this concept especially with the recurring horror stories that keep being brought to light by the local news media?
- No where in his responses do we see that local governmental bodies or local state and federal legislators are in support of this concept.
- The lack of how this project will be funded is also a major issue in this endeavor and will have to eventually fall onto our local over burdened taxpayers.
- How will the general population be convinced of another "school without walls" when NPTI failure is still fresh in many of our county residents minds?

Please consider this correspondence as a formal notification of concern by the staff of the Erie County Technical School.

Sincerely,

Roach C. Hewitt

Roach C. Hewitt / President AFT 1589