

**Erie County Technical School  
Director's Report  
August 2006**

**Regional Technical Community College.** Nine of the districts have received the presentation (ten by board meeting date). Kudos to the Union City school board—they were the first to approve the resolution at their meeting on August 14. The boards have been very responsive to the presentation.

Dr. Judy Miller and I met with Senator Jane Earll on Monday, July 31 to discuss the technical community college. It seems interest within the community prompted Senator Earll to contact us for additional information. Senator Earll expressed her commitment to help with the initiative. She offered to contact Dr. Gerald Zahorchak, Secretary of Education, to ask him to appoint someone from PDE to assist us with the design and application process to ensure it goes smoothly.

It was also my pleasure to make the TCC presentation to the superintendents in Clarion County on August 15. They too were very receptive and wanted to know, “Where do we go next?” They plan to make a presentation to the Clarion County Career Center JOC. After that, they plan to move the presentation out to the school districts. They are also making plans to start involving the business community.

One of the sentiments expressed in Clarion County is the inequality of funding and services when a consortium model is used, especially when Erie County is involved. I have heard this sentiment before, especially in workforce and economic development circles. Some of our neighboring counties are concerned the “big” county gobbles up all of the resources. If the TCC proposal is to be successful throughout the region, the community college designers will need to address this perception.

**Strategic Planning.** In preparation for our strategic plan effort this year, we have sent request for proposals to four companies. Two are local, one is from Harrisburg and the other from Saratoga Springs, NY. A public notice in the Erie Times-News did not generate any proposals. We hope to have an agency under contract by September. We plan to have the strategic plan completed by the end of December.

**Adult Education Accreditation.** The administrative staff has been working very hard on collecting “evidence” for our Pennsylvania Postsecondary Vocational Education accreditation visit in September. There are six categories evaluated in the assessment. A copy of a narrative report we submit to PDE is available in the supplemental information section.

**Satellite Program—Wattsburg.** Elaine Shaffer, Business Partnerships Coordinator and I met with Seneca High School assistant principal Doug McGarvey on Monday, August 14 to finalize details on the satellite Diversified Occupations program. The application and enrollment process is set. Mrs. Shaffer will meet with interested students as they establish their work-based training plan.

**Welding Training.** The second contract class began on August 7 and will conclude on September 8. The CareerLink and Industrial Resource Center are holding an information meeting for welding companies on Friday, August 25. The meeting is intended to recruit more companies to participate in the welding program.