

ECTS develops articulation agreement with Mercyhurst North East, Early Childhood Education students to benefit

The Erie County Technical School (ECTS), 8500 Oliver Road, recently announced the formation of a new articulation agreement with Mercyhurst North East.

This new agreement will

provide students in the Early Childhood Education program at ECTS the opportunity to earn advanced placement credit toward matriculation into the early childhood curriculum at Mercyhurst North East.

"The agreements that we have developed with local institutions give recognition to the professional/technical work that is completed in our Early Childhood Education program," said Donna Erdman, Early Childhood Education instructor. "Our latest agreement with Mercyhurst North East provides our students with another avenue to further their education at the post-secondary level while continuing to work and live in their own community."

ECTS students who successfully complete the Early Childhood Education program are eligible for up to six undergraduate credits from Mercyhurst North East. These credits will be applied as successful completion of two courses: Health, Safety and Nutrition and Family, Community and School Partnerships. Credits will be applied towards graduation requirements in the Early Childhood Associate degree program.

"The process of having

local universities review our course competencies to validate that our curriculum is aligned with their courses confirms the rigor of our program," continued Erdman. "Articulation agreements often provide that extra incentive for students to continue their training and education beyond high school."

Articulation agreements are developed to facilitate a smooth transition from high school programs to training at the post-secondary level and allow students to gain college credit for work completed in

their ECTS studies. Students in specific courses at ECTS will begin their post-high school education and training with significant advantages and increased opportunities while saving time, money and avoiding duplication.

Articulation agreements for the Early Childhood Education program have also been established with Edinboro University, Gannon University and the Pennsylvania College of Technology. ECTS has a total of 70 articulation agreements with 34 post-secondary institutions in 17 technologies.

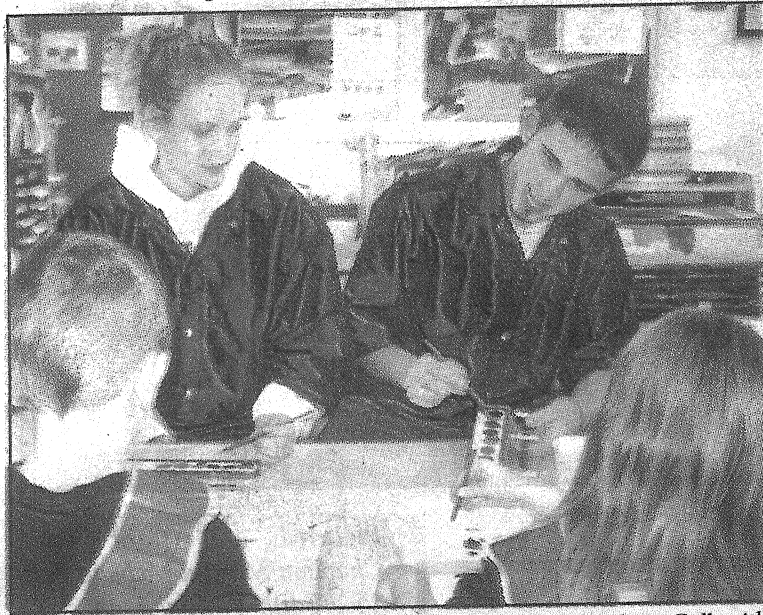


photo by Melissa Galbraith

Students who graduate from the Early Childhood Education program at the Erie County Technical School are eligible to receive up to six undergraduate credits from Mercyhurst North East, Gannon University and Edinboro University. Alyssa Guzman (left) and Brad Lanphere, sophomores at North East High School, are pictured working with children in the Tech Tikes Preschool, part of the Early Childhood Education curriculum at ECTS.