

**Erie County Technical School
Director's Report
January 2007**

Applications & Admissions. The main effort in our recruiting and admissions process is nearly completed. As of January 18, we received 329 applications. The most popular programs (applications exceed seats available) include Cosmetology, Early Childhood Education, Health Assistant and Metal Fabrication. On January 9, faculty members carefully reviewed all applications and assigned an admissions score. Home school and ECTS personnel can use the score in the admissions process. We will review an application and the summary sheet during the work session.

Of the 329 applications, we could admit approximately 258 students. We would place 71 students on a wait list for the four programs already noted. Recruiting is just underway for the two senior-only programs. Combining applications with returning students would give us a total enrollment of 753 students (see Applications & Admissions report in supplemental information).

Lisa Sorensen, Admissions Coordinator, will be working with each of the districts to determine which applications to admit. She has previously surveyed the current students to determine who will be returning in 2007-2008. We hope to close the admissions process by early March.

Strategic Planning. Efforts are beginning in earnest as we conduct our strategic planning this spring. Jan Kennerknecht, Natalie Fatica and the director met with Debra Thompson, Strategy Solutions, on January 11 to discuss timeline and the associated activities. The input into our strategic plan will include focus groups with superintendents, operating committee members, faculty and staff and students. We will also conduct surveys with parents, business, and industry.

The joint operating committee will participate in their focus group at the March 22 board meeting. We also need board representatives for a steering committee meeting on Thursday, April 19 (8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.). Please let the director know if you are interested in serving on the steering committee.

Regional Technical Community College. A group of 15 individuals representing career and technical schools across the region met on Tuesday, January 9 at the Crawford County AVTS to discuss the technical community college. The intent of the meeting was to build consensus and momentum among the districts. Based on the discussion at the meeting, there is strong support across the region from school administrators and school districts. Compared to the rest of the region, there appears to be more local activity in Erie County in light of the publicity from County Executive Mark DiVecchio, the Erie Community Foundation and the Erie Regional Chamber and Growth Partnership.

The group decided to continue to define and refine the technical community college concept in terms of service area, program offerings, related instructional services and financial support. Efforts will also get underway to promote the concept to business, industry, and legislators.

ECTS representatives will also work to keep the group apprised of the various activities underway in Erie.

The superintendents will dedicate a meeting on February 2 to a discussion of the technical community college. The agenda is tentative at this time, but may include discussions with local legislators and business representatives.

2007-2008 ECTS Budget. The district approval process of our budget seems to be going well. To date, three districts have passed resolutions supporting our budget proposal. The director did meet with Northwestern school board members to explain the significant increase in their contribution. They appeared responsive to the explanation and supportive of the technical school's services.

Equipment Grant. We received notice on January 19 that PDE approved our equipment grant. The state required us to amend are application and remove our request for programmable logic control equipment. Items approved in the grant application total \$192,000 and include:

- | | | |
|--|-------------------------|-----------|
| • Three CNC lathes and three CNC mills | Tool & Die | \$156,000 |
| • Wheel Alignment System | Automotive Technologies | \$25,000 |
| • Tire and Rim Changer | Automotive Technologies | \$6,000 |
| • Video Microscopy System | Health Assistant | \$5,000 |

Corporate Training. The sixth customized welding training program started on January 15. Three companies (Riley Power, Custom Engineering and Warren Co.) have 20 students enrolled in the program. The program is operating on two shifts and should complete by March 1, 2007.