

**Erie County Technical School
Director's Report
April 2009**

Funding Formula. The second meeting of the superintendents regarding the funding formula was held on April 15. A proposal from the committee will go to the Professional Advisory Council at the May 1 meeting. The intent of the committee is to present the proposal to the operating committee at the May 28 board meeting. Participating school districts could review the proposal in June.

Special Education Transition Center. For a variety of reasons throughout the year and most recently this spring, the progress on construction has fallen behind our anticipated schedule. The superintendents discussed the best approach to bring the project to completion by next fall. They concluded and advised the technical school to contract with the construction trades instructor and hire 3-4 students to work on the center over the summer. Funds appear to be available to cover this cost and the districts have committed to contribute about \$600 each to cover other additional costs.

Guidance & Advisement. A subcommittee of administrative, support and instructional staff members has come together to review the guidance services available to our students. The *Technology Centers That Work* initiative we are working with has spurred our interest in this area. We are scanning our current services and fitting them into a 'college' student services framework. We hope to identify weaker areas in our student services system and look for opportunities for new or better services.

Director's Travel and Meetings. The director's recent and scheduled meetings include:

- *Growth Partnership Quarterly Meeting*, April 2, Ambassador Conference Center; presentation by the Clements Group to learn the results of the REthink Erie workforce training and educational needs research. This research will be used to help determine if an application to establish a community college to serve northwest PA is warranted.
- *ECTS Funding Formula*, April 15, ECTS; subcommittee meeting to review further aspects of a funding formula change
- *Erie Regional Chamber and Growth Partnership*, April 16, Bayfront Convention Center; with Jim Bucksbee, Andy Foyle, John Ogden, Jim Tracy and Mary Ellen Camp; dinner and program recognizing Erie businesses
- *Northwest PA STEM Conference*, April 21, Ambassador Conference Center; regional conference showcasing science, technology, engineering and mathematics initiatives
- *Technical Assistance Project Meeting*, April 22, State College; meeting to receive updates on literacy, numeracy and technical achievement activities