

## **Erie County Technical School Director's Report October 2008**

**Technical Assistance Program.** Our effort to improve the academic achievement of our students through the PDE Technical Assistance Program continues. Staff members have been involved in the following activities:

- Tim Mientkiewicz, Electronics and Donna Erdman, Early Childhood Education attended a two-day mathematics workshop in State College on October 2-3.
- Pat Holland, Joe Tarasovitch and Aldo Jackson participated in a two-day PSSA and NOCTI analysis workshop in State College on October 6-7.
- Pat Holland, Robin Grimes, Literacy Coach and Joe Salorino, Graphic Communications will participate in a two-day literacy workshop on October 30-31 in State College.
- Patty Palo, Guidance Counselor, Dennis Cerami, Guidance Counselor, North East, Aldo Jackson and a Union City high school guidance counselor will participate in a one-day transcript analysis workshop on November 19 in Pittsburgh.

**2009-2010 Budget.** The business office has begun preparations of next year's budget. Mr. Fritz has projected personnel costs and the faculty provided their input at the October faculty meeting. Other operations will submit their budgetary requests in the weeks ahead. It will be an interesting budget building process in the light of an estimated "average" index of 5.6%, escalating utility costs and revenue concerns at the state level.

**Occupational Advisory Committees Meeting.** On Monday, October 13, nearly 150 business and industry representatives participated in our Fall Advisory Committees Luncheon. These committees provide valuable input to our faculty on curriculum, safety, equipment and other areas where we need to reflect business and industry. Elaine Shaffer, Business Partnerships Coordinator and Patty Heubel, Student Services Secretary deserve a special thank you for the excellent job they did in planning and conducting the luncheon.

**Student Recruitment and Retention.** Our admissions coordinator, Lisa Sorensen, and a staff marketing committee are finalizing plans for 9<sup>th</sup> grade presentations, visitations and open house. ECTS is working with a Cleveland-based marketing firm, Tools for Schools, to enhance our recruitment and retention efforts. Mark Perna, president of Tools for Schools gave a presentation to the faculty and staff on October 13. He is also working closely with the marketing committee. An interesting thought that has come from Tools for Schools is, "The right student, in the right program, for the right reason."

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

- *NOCTI Data Analysis Presentation*; PACTA Pennsylvania Inspired Leadership Program, October 6-7; to present ECTS practices relative to NOCTI data analysis to career and technical administrators from across the state.
- *Regional Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) Meeting*; Meadville, October 9.
- *County-level Workforce Development Meeting*, Erie; October 14
- *NWPA Tech Prep Consortium Meeting*, Edinboro, October 20.