

Erie County Technical School Director's Report January 2010

2010-2011 Budget Proposal

Our budget proposal is moving through the districts. As per the business manager's report, two districts have 'officially' approved the proposal. The director presented the budget to the Millcreek Township School District's Finance Committee on January 19 and the faculty and staff on January 21.

Admission of Students Policy Revision

At the request of the operating committee, a revised version of this policy is presented for a second reading.

Best Practices Site Visit

The PDE, Bureau of Career and Technical Education selected the Erie County Technical School for a best practices site visit. ECTS will be one of five schools across the state visited by a team from Meeder Consulting Group, LLC. Hans Meeder, the former Deputy Assistant Secretary for Education in the U.S. Department of Education Office of Vocational and Adult Education, is the president of the Meeder Consulting Group, LLC.

The site visit will occur on Wednesday, January 27 and focus on local initiatives that improve academic and technical achievement of career and technical students. The visiting team will review local documents and data, visit programs, talk with faculty and staff, as well as meet with groups of student. See the supplemental information section of the agenda for additional information regarding the site visit.

Enrollment & Employment Analysis

As the board will recall, the administration recently presented information about the declining high school population in Erie County. The 'bottom line' of that data was a projected cumulative drop of 434 students through 2016. This would translate into a 16% decline in ECTS enrollment, assuming a status quo enrollment pattern.

As a next step in that analysis, the administration compared 2009-2010 enrollment data to local and state guidelines for program curtailment or alteration. Based on the local analysis guidelines (Administrative Procedure 126), no programs would face 'mandatory' consideration. However, eight programs have enrollments that would place them near consideration. Based on PDE guidelines (24 P.S. §11-1124 Alteration and/or Curtailment of Programs), seven

programs could be subject to alteration, while another three programs would be near consideration. The administration conducted a similar comparison for the 2010-2011 school year. The data and analysis was shared and discussed with the faculty at the January 18 faculty in-service. See the supplemental information section of the agenda for additional information.

Feasibility Study

The Hallgren, Restifo, Loop and Coughlin architectural group and our feasibility architect, Chris Coughlin, have submitted the final copy of our feasibility study for renovation and possible expansion of ECTS facilities. The administration will be reviewing the feasibility study with the superintendents at the February PAC meeting. A copy of the study is available in the Public Information section of the ECTS web site.

Director's Travel and Meetings

The director's recent and scheduled meetings include:

- *Great Lakes Building & Construction Industry Partnership Meeting*; Union Hall, 17th and State Streets, Erie; January 7; with Mary Ellen Camp, Jan Kennerknecht and Elaine Shaffer; to discuss weatherization program and partnership opportunities
- *NWPA WIB Meeting*; Meadville, January 8
- *ECTS Marketing Committee Meeting*; ECTS, January 19
- *REthink Erie Academic Services Committee Meeting*; Gannon University; January 11
- *STEM Regional Meeting*; Intermediate Unit 5; January 12; served on panel of CTE directors in a video conference with Arlington Career & Technical Center in Arlington, VA regarding dual enrollment and STEM programming
- *Classified Unit Negotiations*; ECTS; January 12
- *Richard Gacka, WIB Research & Quality Committee Chair*; January 13; campus visit and meeting regarding WIB committee activities
- *Millcreek Township School District, Board of School Directors, Finance Committee*; January 19; presentation of 2010-2011 ECTS Budget
- *Classified Unit Negotiations*; ECTS; January 26
- *PDE/BCTE Best Practices Site Visit*; ECTS; January 27
- *Fort LeBoeuf School District Dinner Meeting at ECTS*; February 4