

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

Senior-only Programs

We are asking the operating committee to approve a revision in our senior-only programs from a one-year program model to a two-year program model. Two years ago, a review of PDE guidelines revealed a requirement that one year, senior-only programs must meet for 720 hours. Our senior-only programs meet for 495 hours. At the time we became aware of the discrepancy there was not enough time to revise the curricula and recruit the students. For the 2010-2011 school year, the timing of the curriculum work and student recruitment will line up.

We have announced the change in the programming to the home school counselors. Recruiting at the sophomore level will begin this fall. As with any of our programs, high school seniors can enroll in the program for just one year.

State Budget

The budget enacted on October 9 contains decreases for three main sources of state revenue for the school. The Career & Technical Education line item has a \$641,000 decrease (\$62.64 million to \$62 million); the Safe and Alternative Schools line item was eliminated (\$21.5 million) and New Choices/New Options was reduced \$871,000 (\$2.37 million to \$1.5 million). We have yet to receive information from Harrisburg whether the decrease is state funding for CTE meets the 'maintenance of effort' requirement in federal Perkins legislation.

Occupational Advisory Committees

The Erie County Technical School hosted 126 individuals from 64 different companies at its Fall Occupational Advisory Committee meeting on Monday afternoon, Oct 12. Elaine Shaffer did a marvelous job coordinating this year's A Harvest Picnic: The Fruits of Erie County Labor. Erie County employers produced all of the food items featured at the luncheon.

Weatherization Grant

At the request of Edinboro University and the Workforce Investment Board, the Regional Career and Technical Center is taking part in a grant application to provide weatherization training. The grant, totaling \$150,000, will allow Edinboro University to 'administer' the training program while the RCTC will provide laboratory space, equipment, supplies, instructional materials and personnel. See the RCTC report for more information.

Director's Travel and Meetings

The director's recent and scheduled meetings include:

- *Tech Prep Consortium*, Meadville, September 21
- *NWPA Workforce Investment Board—Annual Dinner*, Ambassador Conference Center, September 25
- *Data-Driven Decision-making: Analysis of NOCTI Scores*; presentation by the director at the PACTA Pennsylvania Inspired Leadership workshop; October 6; State College
- *PACTA General Membership Meeting*; October 7, State College
- *Weatherization Grant Proposal*; meeting to finalize grant application including GECAC, RCWE, RCTC and Edinboro University; October 9, with Mary Ellen Camp
- *Fall Occupational Advisory Committee Meeting*; ECTS; October 12
- *Girard School Board Meeting at ECTS*; to visit Transition Center; October 12
- *REthink Erie Academic Services Committee Meeting*; Gannon University; October 15