

March 25, 2011

Mr. Ronald Tomalis
Acting Secretary of Education
Pennsylvania Department of Education
333 Market Street
Harrisburg, PA 17126-0333

CERTIFIED MAIL

Dear Mr. Secretary:

On behalf of the Joint Operating Committee, please accept this letter as a request of the Pennsylvania Department of Education to approve the alteration of five courses offered by the Erie County Technical School. For three courses, the basis for the request is a substantial decline in student enrollment from a period five years prior. For the other two courses the basis is enrollment in the course is less than ten students. The alteration in the courses could result in the suspension or furlough of professional personnel.

Since the 2006-2007 academic year, the enrollment in three courses has declined by at least 20%. They include:

<u>Program</u>	<u>06-07 Enrollment</u>	<u>11-12 Enrollment</u>	<u>% Decline</u>
Computer Information Systems	45	30	33%
Construction Trades	76	57	25%
Electrical Engineering	44	32	27%

With regard to 2011-2012 course enrollments of less than ten, enrollment for the two courses in Networking Technologies totals 18 students. One of the courses has an enrollment of six (6) students. Enrollment for the two courses in Tourism & Hospitality Management totals 32. One of the courses has an enrollment of nine (9) students.

As required in 24 P.S. § 11-1124, the director and the Superintendent of Record, Dr. James Tracy, Girard School District, certify the enrollments. The Joint Operating Committee of the Erie County Technical School approved this request at their meeting on March 24, 2011.

We look forward to your prompt reply. Please feel free to contact me for additional information.

Sincerely yours,

Aldo R. Jackson, Ph.D.
Director

Enclosure: Copy of Approved Board Motion
cc: Mark T. Wassell, Knox, McLaughlin, Gornall & Sennett