

Erie County Technical School

Director's Report

May 2011

Focus Groups—Yes, I am Interested, But No Application

We have received responses from about one-half of the districts and we began compiling the student responses. At this early stage, there are some themes appearing for why students express an interest in the technical school but then do not apply. A few of the more prominent themes include:

- the desire to take a foreign language, but can't schedule it
- parents were not supportive the child's decision or interest in the technical school
- lazy, forgot, thought it was too late, kept pushing it off

We had hoped to have a more thorough report by this time on this effort. The results, understandably, have been a little slow from the districts.

Non-HPO Programs

The Pennsylvania Departments of Labor & Industry and Education are coordinating efforts to allocate state funds based on a system called High Priority Occupations (HPO). The Department of Education has guidelines and consequences for technical education programs that do not align to an HPO. The most significant consequence is declaring a program not approved by PDE, making the program ineligible for state vocational subsidy. ECTS has five programs that are non-HPO: Auto Body Repair, Automotive Technologies, Cosmetology, Culinary Arts and Tourism & Hospitality Management.

The vocational directors from five of the six NWPA career and technical schools met on May 11 to compile the letters of support. The number of letters and projected job openings for the region were:

Cosmetology	31/151
Culinary Arts	23/104
Auto Body Repair	26/93
Automotive Technologies	64/230

We did not receive any letters for Tourism & Hospitality Management. The letters were turned into the WIB on May 13. It will probably be 60-90 days before we hear anything.

Enrollment Review

A sub-committee of faculty members, administrators and board members has been meeting on a regular basis to come up with an enrollment review process that allows for proper

communication, clear criteria, consistent data, and collaborative decision-making. The committee finalized their work on May 16. The director will provide an overview of the new enrollment review process during the work session. This new process is intended to replace the current Administrative Procedure 126—Enrollment Review.

Performance Check-ups

The director met with each administrator during the week of May 16 to conduct the quarterly performance check-up. The items each administrator intended to achieve during the spring quarter were satisfactorily completed. The list of items to achieve for the summer quarter represents good progress for the school over the summer. The summer quarter performance check-up report is in your confidential folder.

Director's Travel and Meetings

The director's recent and scheduled meetings include:

- ❖ *Professional Advisory Council*; ECTS; May 6; monthly meeting with superintendents
- ❖ *Harbor Creek School District*; ECTS, May 12; hosting district's monthly meeting for dinner and tour
- ❖ *Workforce Investment Board*; Erie; May 13; bi-monthly board meeting
- ❖ *Enrollment Review Committee Meeting*; ECTS, May 16; corrective action group meeting for the enrollment review process
- ❖ *State Correctional Institution at Albion, Education Advisory Committee*; Albion; May 24; participation in SCI's education advisory committee
- ❖ *Communities That Care, Risk & Preventive Factors Subcommittee*; ECTS; May 26; subcommittee's work focuses analyzing data from the Pennsylvania Youth Survey (PAYS) to identify risk behaviors of youth in our county. Data analysis is to lead to community wide preventative programs.