
**Erie County Technical School
Director's Report
April 2013**

“Nothing New, Nothing Different . . . Just Better”

Career Street Host/Sponsor

A new school-to-career initiative is underway in Erie County that will allow youth to experience ‘business’ first-hand so they can make better career choices. Career Street, currently sponsored by the Erie Regional Chamber and under the advisement of the Career Exploration Leadership team, is a [web portal initiative](#). On one side of the portal, businesses post field-based learning activities (e.g. internships, job shadows, field trips, speakers) to which they are willing to assist students. On the other side of the portal, schools, teachers, and students can choose to participate in the field-based experiences.

The Career Exploration Leadership Team is looking for an agency to host a coordinator assigned to Career Street. As a countywide initiative, there is sound rationale for the ECTS Foundation and ECTS to serve as the host/sponsor. The leading reasons include the project’s tight alignment to the ECTS mission; the technical school’s close relationship with 12 of the county’s school districts; and, the technical school’s expansive and frequent interaction with the business community.

The director indicated to the leadership team there is an interest and willingness of ECTS and its Foundation to serve as the host/sponsor of the Career Street project, pending an endorsement by the Joint Operating Committee and the ECTS Foundation board.

Strategic Plan Review

The director has retrieved strategic plan information from the PDE online system. Sadly, the PDE online system does not present plans in a clear, progressive and historical manner. In light of the limited meeting time at the April JOC meeting, the information is posted as part of the agenda supplemental information section. We will set aside time at the May meeting to review the results.

Request for Proposals—CAEP

The administration held a mandatory pre-proposal meeting on April 8. Ten individuals representing five organizations attended the meeting. Attendees received an overview of the CAEP, given the opportunity to ask questions, and then taken on a tour of the Skill Center and CAEP areas. ECTS is posting questions and requests for additional information on the ECTS web page for all potential vendors to review.

Proposals are due on April 26. After a review of the proposals by administrative staff and the Professional Advisory Council, the director will present a recommendation to the Operating Committee at its May meeting.

RCTC

U.S. Probation Office Training. The RCTC continues a training program for five parolees of the U.S. District Court, Western District of Pennsylvania, U.S. Probation Office. The program includes mathematics, blueprint reading and welding. The program started on Monday, February 25 and will end May 30.

Corporate Training—PSB Industries. RCTC is conducting training for PSB for 40 hours of industrial electricity training. The training is for six employees who will eventually become field technicians. A meeting is scheduled on April 22 with PSB management to discuss additional hours of training.

Corporate Training—Industrial Sales and Manufacturing. ISM conducted a blueprint and GDT assessment with production, quality and support staff. Based on the results of the assessment, a decision has been made to do training in blueprint reading and basic GDT concepts. The training will be provided to 48 machinists, be 32 hours in length, and begin the first week in May.

CDL Training. Conversations continue to bring CDL training to the Erie area. We are working with CareerLink and the Crawford County Career & Technical Center.

Other Activities this Month

Other items the director has been working on in January include:

1. Conducting the At-Risk review with the Electronics program--data is also be compiled and recorded for all programs for comparative purposes
2. Reviewed Professional Portfolios of 14 professional staff members, as part of our Professional Development Assessment
3. Carried out additional Cost by Program analysis at the 1-, 1.5- and 2-teacher levels for Construction Trades for the 2013-2014 academic year
4. Provided assistance to Corry Area School District as they prepared for their Approved Program Evaluation (Ch. 339)
5. Participated in various ISO internal audits
6. Submitted RCTC course information to PDE in order to be eligible for state subsidy
7. Working with the WIB's Policy & Compliance Committee to create a performance dashboard

Director's Travel and Meetings

The director's recent and scheduled meetings include:

- ❖ *New Student Greetings*; East County; April 2; with Lisa Sorensen at Iroquois, Harbor Creek and North East
- ❖ *New Student Greetings*; West County; April 3; with Lisa Sorensen at Fairview, Girard and Northwestern
- ❖ *New Student Greetings*; South County; April 4; with Lisa Sorensen at Fort LeBoeuf, Union City and Wattsburg
- ❖ *Career Street and Get Connected Collaboration Meeting*; Erie Regional Chamber; April 8; with various agencies; to discuss how these two similar projects could collaborate
- ❖ *Corry Area School District*; April 9 to 11; to assist with and monitor their Approved Programs Evaluation (Ch. 339)
- ❖ *Workforce Investment Board, Quarterly Meeting*; Erie; April 12
- ❖ *Industrial Sales & Manufacturing, Assessment & Training Meeting*; ISM; April 17; with Kit Carson, instructor; to review assessment results and determine training needs and schedule with ISM management
- ❖ *PSB, Inc.*; Erie; April 22; with Bob Lyle, instructor; to review achievements of first part of industrial electricity training and make arrangements for second part
- ❖ *SonisWeb Product Assessment*; ECTS, April 23-24; with various support and administrative staff; assessing the viability of a proposed vendor that will provide a student information management system
- ❖ *Rubber Technology Programming*; ECTS; April 24; with Roger Shultz of Lord Corp; to discuss training
- ❖ *Meet the Teacher Dinner*; ECTS; April 25; dinner for nearly 700 guests—admitted students, parents, family, staff
- ❖ *CDL Training*; Meadville; April 29; with Gary Shaw of PA Pride and Neil Donovan, director at Crawford County Career & Technology Center; to investigate CDL training
- ❖ *Career Street Meeting*; ECTS; April 30; with Mary Bula, United Way, Melanie Johnson, Erie Regional Chamber and Ann Scott, Erie Insurance; to develop a job description for the Career Street Coordinator
- ❖ *Professional Advisory Council Meeting*; ECTS; May 3; monthly meeting with superintendents