
**Erie County Technical School
Director's Report
January 2015**

Building Projects

Renovation. At the January Professional Advisory Council meeting, superintendents and business managers met to discuss financing alternatives for the renovation project. Chris Coughlin, of Halgren, Restifo, Loop and Coughlin, and Mike Zubasic, of PNC were present to assist with the discussion.

There is clear support from all of the districts for Phase I of the project, which is the \$10 million infrastructure improvements. There is some question from a handful of districts on whether they could support Phase II of the project, or the \$17 million dollar in improvements and an addition.

The consensus of the group was to maximize any PDE PlanCon reimbursement that might be available. The group discussed the cost of Phase 1 potentially going up to \$16 million so the roof, windows, and doors would be part of the project. This was originally part of the last phase of the project. It was felt the 'envelope' of the building was too important to exclude from the project.

Mr. Zubasic did inform the group that financing options are available. For example, a district can make interest-only payments for the first two years of the debt schedule. The districts can also fund the project through a combination of cash payments and debt payments. Based on a \$10 million project, five districts felt they had sufficient funds to meet their obligation in full with cash.

Chimney. Mr. Coughlin has provided an estimate for the destruction of the chimney, alterations to accommodate the boiler and water heater exhaust, and re-facing the building exterior. Total cost of the project is \$120,000. The Capital Projects Fund has \$180,465 in unassigned funds. The administration is recommending the JOC authorize the administration to set specifications and seek bids for the destruction of the chimney.

Web Page Redesign

A committee of eight staff members including administrators and faculty members met to review proposals from six advertising agencies. The volunteer committee selected two agencies for interviews on January 20. Once the committee selects the agency, the administration will finalize a contract for services provided. We anticipate the design process will take four months to complete and ECTS and its affiliated services will have a new face in May 2015.

RCTC

1. Term III classes started on January 5, 2015. Enrollment this term is 127 students in 22 classes. We cancelled 10 classes that affected 11 potential students. Projected Gross revenue is \$55,674 and net revenue should be \$28,017. These totals are consistent with 2013-2014 Term III enrollment and revenue.

Other Action Items in January

Other items the director has been working on include:

1. Serving as the lead manager for the 2015 District 10 SkillsUSA Competitive Events. On January 16, 2015, 384 students from 13 career and technical centers will be participating in trade contests at the New Castle School of Trades. Responsibilities to date include maintaining an Internet portal for document control and communication, helping to acquire judges for each of the 52 contests, and finalizing event day detail like meals and contest locations.
2. Adjusting settings in our professional development assessment system to allow for proper faculty and administrator interaction. A group of administrators and faculty members participated in a meeting to preview PAETEP, a web-based professional assessment package used by school entities in Pennsylvania.

Director's Travel and Meetings—November and December 2014

The director's recent and scheduled meetings include:

- ❖ *District 10 SkillsUSA Competitive Events Meeting*; Crawford County CTC; October 15; to work with other administrators in the planning of the competitive events in January
- ❖ *WIB Design & Implementation Committee*; Meadville, January 7; sub-committee meeting
- ❖ *WIB Monitoring and Evaluation Committee*; Meadville; January 8; sub-committee meeting, Director serves as chair
- ❖ *Professional Advisory Council*; ECTS; January 9; monthly superintendents' meeting
- ❖ *Personnel Meeting*; ECTS; January 12
- ❖ *District 10 SkillsUSA Competitive Events*; New Castle School of Trades; January 16
- ❖ *Web Page Redesign—Agency Interviews*; ECTS; January 20; committee interviews of finalist agencies
- ❖ *Workforce Investment Board Meeting*; Meadville; January 21; monthly board meeting
- ❖ *Professional Unit Negotiations*; ECTS; January 22