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

Three Sessions Investigation

Guidance counselors and principals from our sending districts met on Tuesday, November 3 to examine how a three-session schedule would fit into their respective schedules. After they had the opportunity to consider the proposal, they decided it was best to stay with the two-session schedule. Their considerations to move away from the three-session proposal included:

- a) 'Down time' for ECTS students associated with the schedule,
- b) An insufficient number of wait list students to warrant the change,
- c) A potential decrease in the number of credits awarded for a shorter technical school schedule, and
- d) Students' ability to attain enough hours in the cosmetology program to be eligible to sit for the state exam.

Renovation

At the November superintendents' meeting, Mr. Bill Hall, superintendent of the Millcreek Township School District, informed the group that Millcreek needed additional time to improve its financial position before making a commitment to the ECTS renovation project. ECTS administrators have put the plans to schedule a renovation project to start during the 2017-2018 school year on hold. At this point, we will look to the Millcreek Township School District to advise us of their ability to participate in the renovation project.

Professional Development

Three faculty members and the director continued their participation in a workshop on project-based learning. During the workshop, participants sketched out plans, based on defined steps, for an instructional project. A good project contains participant roles, 21st century skills, integrated academic content, and authentic assessment. Participants include Roach Hewitt, Mariea Sargent, and Dave Yanosko.

RCTC

Term II classes end December 18. There were 135 registrations in 33 classes. Of the 33 classes, 28 met our 'break-even enrollment' criteria, resulting in 129 enrolled students. Projected gross revenue is \$78,305. Projected net profit is \$48,501.

Term III registration opens December 14 and ends January 8. Classes begin the week of January 19.

Other Action Items and Priorities in October

Other items the Director worked on during November and December included:

1. Conducting professional development conferences and observations of professional staff members.

2. Reviewing criteria and expectations for the Ch. 339 Approved Program Evaluation scheduled in April.
3. Assisting CTC directors and SkillsUSA advisors in planning the District 10 SkillsUSA Competitive Events scheduled for January 15, 2016 at the New Castle School of Trades. The primary responsibility is web site maintenance for registration and contest management.
4. Continuing to investigate revenue and expense issues in food service department.

Director's Travel and Meetings — November and December 2015

The director's recent and scheduled meetings include:

-  *Principals and Guidance Counselors Meeting on Three-Session Day*; ECTS; November 4
-  *Hero BX Site Visit*; Erie; November 5; field trip with Automotive Technologies program to observe the manufacturing of biodiesel fuel
-  *Professional Advisory Council Meeting*; ECTS; November 6; monthly meeting with superintendents
-  *Western Region PACTA Meeting*; Monroeville; November 13; semi-annual meeting of career and technical school administrators from western Pennsylvania
-  *Erie Together Community Forum*; Bayfront Convention Center; November 17; annual meeting of community members on this local initiative
-  *Emerge 2040*; Cranesville Fire Department; November 19; quarterly meeting to discuss the regional strategic plan
-  *ECTS Open House*; ECTS; November 19; annual open house for prospective students and their parents
-  *District 10 SkillsUSA Directors Meeting*; Erie County Technical School; November 20; bi-monthly meeting of CTC directors
-  *Professional Unit Negotiations*; ECTS; December 2
-  *Professional Advisory Council Meeting*; ECTS; December 4; monthly meeting with superintendents
-  *District 10 SkillsUSA Site Visit Meeting*; New Castle School of Trades; December 7; to review contest locations and other event planning
-  *Project-based Learning Workshop*; Monroeville; December 8; with Roach Hewitt, Mariea Sargent, and Dave Yanosko
-  *JOC President Agenda Review*; ECTS; December 10; with Jim Bucksbee and Andy Foyle; monthly meeting to review agenda

-  *Community Leadership Workshop*; Monroeville; December 14; participation in a PDE Pennsylvania Inspired Leadership Program to meet Act 45 professional development requirements by PDE
-  *Northwest Workforce Development Area Local Designation Forum*; Meadville; December 15; to discuss the formal request to the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry for the Northwest PA Workforce Development Area to remain designated as an independent six-county local workforce development area
-  *ECTS Joint Operating Committee*; ECTS; December 15; monthly meeting
-  *Northwest PA Workforce Development Board*; Meadville; December 16; quarterly board meeting
-  *Ready to . . . Series Group Meeting*; ECTS; December 17; with various ECTS student services and administrative staff members; to review ECTS guidance and advisement plan
-  *ECTS National Technical Honor Society Induction Ceremony*; ECTS; November 17; induction of new members into honor society
-  *Workforce Development Interview*; ECTS; December 18; with Carrie Anderson, Development Officer for Technologies at Education Scotland; part of the Scottish Government and involves improving the educational experiences for learners in the subject areas contained within the technology curriculum

Best Wishes for the Holidays

Hope your holidays are good times with family and friends, a time to reflect on the year gone by and the year ahead, and an opportunity to refresh the body and soul. Happy Holidays!