



AGENDA ITEM

MEETING DATE: February 25, 2021

SUBJECT: JOC Declaration of NOCTI and NIMS Testing Waiver due to COVID-19 Implications

SUBMITTED BY: Joe Tarasovitch

DESCRIPTION:

The Erie County Technical School's Educational Leadership Team recommends that the Joint Operating Committee make a "declaration" of waiving the 2020-21 NOCTI and NIMS Testing procedures due to the COVID-19 implications. By making this declaration, the Joint Operating Committee will utilize the authority granted to the committee from Act 136 of 2020 Section (i):

The Secretary of Education may waive the NIMS assessment and the NOCTI exam on a school-wide basis or for a specific career and technical education program provided by a school entity based on the recommendations of directors of career and technical education programs under 22 Pa. Code Ch. 339 (related to vocational education. The recommendations shall account for the length of time a career and technical center was open for in-person student instruction and the subject matter of the program affected.

- The Erie County Technical School will have had the majority of the seniors for "in-person" instruction for 50% of the dedicated instructional hours during the 2020-21 school year. As of February 26, 2021, the hours of in-person instruction account for 162.25 hours of a possible 324.5 educational hours.
- In addition, these seniors missed 52 days of in-person instruction as juniors due to the COVID-19 pandemic start; this equates to 143 hours of the 480 hours in the 2019-20.
- Finally, many NOCTI evaluators will not support the practical test process.

RECOMMENDATION:

Motion to make a "declaration" of waiving the 2020-21 NIMS and NOCTI Testing accountability due to the COVID-19 implications and the results of the utilization of the hybrid schedule of in-person and virtual on-line instruction utilizing the A/B Day schedule.