
Erie County Technical School

Director's Report

March 2024

Professional Advisory Committee

At the Superintendent Meeting on March 1, we reviewed the enrollment numbers and the waitlist, which led to two of the superintendents motioning to take Construction Trades to a two-teacher lab now for next fall. Points emphasized... “Why wait? The industry needs are aligned with student interest, we poured \$34 million into this place let’s maximize the investment.” After discussion, the consensus was to loop in the missing Superintendents, 9 districts in attendance at meeting, through a survey polling who is in favor. Thus, we looped in everyone with the survey collecting feedback and then discussed again after the Superintendent Meeting at IU5 on Friday, March 8. The consensus was in favor of moving forward with 2 teachers in CNT. That motion is on the JOC agenda for approval.

Occupational Advisory Committee Meetings

The 2nd Emergency & Protective Services Occupational Advisory Committee meeting will be on May 3 where our advisory team will build out curriculum.

Local Advisory Committee

The Local Advisory Committee and Perkins Annual Meeting will be held on Friday, May 17, from 11am-1:30pm. We moved the date back due to the PA Department of Education running a new School Safety Conference in Erie at the Bayfront with the support of IU5 on May 14-15. ECTS staff will be attending this conference.

Student Leadership Training for Students / Mental Health Training for Staff

Through the PCCD Grant that is ending, we are bringing in Joe Markiewicz to train juniors on April 15 in a Student Leadership Summit that focuses on a Culture of Support using the 40 Developmental Assets. After school on April 15 from 4pm-7pm, we will do a Mental Health Training with staff on Life Space Crisis Intervention with Joe facilitating. He will connect to the Culture of Support, 40 Assets, and self-care for staff and students during the mental health training. We will end the evening with a Staff Appreciation Dinner. The evening events will be at the Perry Highway Hose Company.

ECTS Grant Projects

1. Grants Submitted in the last month.
 - PCCD Mental Health Grant - \$70,000 over 2 years (approval is on the agenda)
 - PCCD Meritorious Grant – denied since Tech Schools are not eligible.
 - AWS Welding Grant – \$25,000 in Equipment Upgrades
2. Grants we are looking to apply for...
 - Highmark Grant
 - DLI Manufacturing Training to Career Grant
 - Graphic Media Grant
 - PA Communications Grant

Student Worker Action Teams (SWAT)

We continue to develop real-world live action projects for our students to work on for school and community improvement. Our students are working on advertising themselves and creating a database for employers to connect with ECTS students interested in finding work ... Coop Placements, Internships, and other work-based learning opportunities. It is a work in progress... here's the link: <https://ects-cmp.com/cooperativeeducation/>.

Last weekend, the CNT and FMT students contributed to the home and garden show. In a few weeks, our EET students will be working on electrical upgrades to help the educational non-profit, PA Rural Robotics/Innovation Institute 4 Tomorrow.

NW-IRC Passport to Manufacturing

We hosted middle school students and families from Fort LeBoeuf on Saturday, March 23, for the NW-IRC Passport to Manufacturing Day. We had about 25 people attend the event. The event consisted of visits to several local manufacturers during the morning with families ending at ECTS for a tour of our manufacturing labs with demonstrations by PMT and DDE teachers and then a luncheon at the school. Special thanks to Mariea Sargent, Rob Suprynowicz, and Julie Aiken for their time and efforts during the event, and our CUA program for making the lunch for all participants.

Student Spotlight

The following students were highlighted by their teachers as students that shine...



Kelsey Jeffrey

Kelsey is a Sophomore Art & Design student from Girard. He is designing a T-Shirt for the Girard Basketball team featuring illustrations of all the current team members.



Dakota Sharman

Dakota is a Senior Art & Design student from Union City. She will be going to the states SkillsUSA competition after winning gold for the photography competition at districts.



Mallory Campbell

She is a Senior Art & Design student from Wattsburg. She won silver for the advertising and design districts SkillsUSA competition; then joined the states Skills USA Bulletin Board team.



Cameron Starvaggi

Cameron is Junior Art & Design student from Wattsburg. He is the stage manager at Seneca for their theater program, so he's led the set design for their upcoming play. He also designed a T-Shirt for the play production team.

Renovation Report

- The last wing is now occupied GRA, ADS, CMP, & CMN. We continue to make purchases of equipment and furniture now that the spaces are revitalized.
- The new option for Cosmetology expansion is moving forward with electric and equipment purchases. Meanwhile the Health Lab relocation is starting some preparatory work with plumbing and cabinet installation has occurred.
- Punch lists are continually being addressed and several items are being circled back on to explore better functionality and efficiencies, like HVAC balancing, PA system, door access, and much more.
- We are looking to do a Celebration of the Newly Renovated space in August as we kickoff school. Those events are starting to take shape using an Event Planning Committee. We are moving our New Student Orientation to the fall to be part of this celebration, so there will be no dinner with the teacher event this spring.