
Erie County Technical School Leadership Report – Director & Principal September 2025

Solar Project RFP

The ECTS Solar for School Project desired outcomes are the following:

- (1) Educational Benefits
- (2) Environmental Impact
- (3) Financial Impact

Our proposed timeline continues:

- Aug 11 Project put to Competitive Bid / September 18 Bids Due / Sept 19 Bids Reviewed
- Sept 23 Interviews Conducted for 3 RFPs (JOC Renovation Committee 3:00PM)
- Sept 25 Project Awarded & Construction Begins
- Aug 2026 Completion of Project

The Solar RFP received 2 proposals at its public opening on September 18. McClure Company and Enerlogics each put in a proposal that consisted of a Direct Purchase with a PPA added on.

The ECTS Solar Project Committee interviewed both parties on Tuesday, September 23, hearing the description of their design and build proposals for a solar field at ECTS, the explanation of the proposal numbers, and their recommendations for options. The committee members consisted of 4 ECTS staff members and 2 advisors, Matt LaVerde, Jessica Garnica, Frank Kimmel, Mike Miller, Patricia Kennedy (School Solicitor), and Dr. Andrew Jester (Energy Engineer for CleaResult). The committee recommends accepting the proposal of McClure Company's Solar Project with a Direct Purchase of 600 kW solar field with an additional 900 kW install with a Power Purchase Agreement that includes electrical upgrades to the Skills Center Building.

Note: Acceptance will lead to a contract negotiation for the project that will be brought back to the board for ratification at the meeting on October 23, 2025.

Maritime Center Partnership Discussions – Maritime Maintenance Program

The Superintendents had our September meeting on the Howard G. Lettie as we discussed a partnership with the Bayfront Maritime Center for a satellite program in Maritime Maintenance. Iroquois SD leadership invited me into the discussion with the center about how CTE can aid in more student options around the maritime industry. A few people from the Maritime Center will be at the meeting to discuss the potential partnership.

- Facility Maintenance Program @ Bayfront Maritime Center (CIP 46.0401)
- Budget Estimates
 - BMC Facility Use Fee, Insurance, Maintenance \$ 57,500
 - BMC Equipment & Supplies \$ 17,500
 - BCM Aide \$ 35,000
 - BMC Admin \$ 15,000
 - ECTS Teacher \$ 100,000
 - ECTS Supplies, Technology, & misc items \$ 25,000
 - Annual Total \$ 250,000
 - Funded through 30 Students x \$8,480/student ~ \$254,400

Emergency Preparedness Plan

We completely overhauled the Emergency Preparedness Plan (also known as Emergency Operations Plan or Critical Incident Plan. We have reviewed the new plan at several levels with staff, safety committee, and local EMA contacts. This is plan that will continually be adjusted as needed and will be edited annually with changes in the educational landscape.

Alumni Association

We continue to try and build our Alumni Association with a few annual events. Here is the plan for this year.

- | | | | |
|---|------------------|--------------|-----------|
| 1. Diggers & Dumpers Operator Social | McKean Tavern | September 26 | @ 4pm-6pm |
| 2. Fall ECTS Networking in the Trades | Poverty Knob | November 12 | @ 4pm-6pm |
| 3. Chocoholic Frolic | TBD | February | TBD |
| 4. Spring ECTS Networking in the Trades | St. Francis | April 15 | @ 4pm-6pm |
| 5. Golf Outing | Whispering Woods | June 30 | @ 8:30am |

Advance Training Day

On September 24, we hosted Advance Training Day with over 35 partners from higher education, the labor unions, military, and other options. All of our programs had the option to send students through to meet the industry, military, and high education recruiters. This is an annual event that gives students exposure to the options discussed with them through ECTS programs to further prepare them for life after high school.

Walk for Wishes

On October 1, we will have our annual Walk for Wishes fundraiser kickoff for raise money for the Make-a-Wish Foundation. The fundraiser will run the month of October with a celebration event on October 31.

ECTS Blood Drive

On September 29, we host our first blood drive of the year. This will be the first of 3 blood drives for our students and staff to give back to our community in the form of vital health care resources. The future Blood Drives are January 21 & May 19.

Assistant Principal Meetings

ECTS will host a new network of meetings for the Erie County Assistant Principals in order to build relationships and expose Assistant Principals to the multitude of things their students are doing here at ECTS. We will host the meetings on September 30 and February 3. Just a reminder, we also have quarterly principal meetings on 11/4, 12/12, 1/27, and 4/13.

Heavy Equipment Program

We continue to plan for the Heavy Equipment program, we have set dates for the OAC meetings to get the program up and running. The 1st OAC is the Curriculum Planning meeting that is an all morning event on January 14. Then we will post for an instructor, hoping to get someone in place by March 1. The 2nd meeting will be on March 24. We continue to look for opportunities to building our fleet, looking at back hoe.

School Pictures

Art & Desing for Business officially took over running our school pictures, we are no longer contracting with Rohrbach Photography. The funds used to pay for the service have been redirected into photography equipment for our ADS & GRA program annually.

Student Spotlight

Students in Lillian Shallenberger's *Art and Design for Business* lab demonstrated exceptional dedication and creativity by completing school pictures for the entire ECTS community. Their hard work and professionalism provided a valuable and memorable service that reflects both their artistic talent and commitment to excellence. The ECTS community is grateful for their efforts and proud of the outstanding work they produced.

Additionally, Sunday September 14th the *Art & Design for Business* students jumped in to help at the Love Your Life by volunteering at the event in downtown Erie! They set up a booth and spent the day creating live portraits for anyone who stopped by. From watercolor to charcoal, pen to pencil, our students brought a mix of styles and a lot of creativity to the community. Best part—it was all free and centered around spreading good vibes and positive mental health through art!

