

## SEACOAST SCHOOL OF TECHNOLOGY RENOVATION FACTS

### 1. Why is the Seacoast School of Technology being Renovated now?

The State of New Hampshire made a commitment 30 years ago to underwrite a major portion of the renovations to all 23 Career and Technical Education (CTE) centers. This commitment was written into law. The six CTE centers constructed ahead of the Seacoast School of Technology (SST) have been renovated or are in the process of being renovated. SST's building was built in 1980 and needs updating. Technology has changed, programs have been added, student enrollment has increased and SST needs 21<sup>st</sup> century technology. It is now OUR turn.

### 2. What will the Renovation of Seacoast School of Technology cost?

*There will be no local tax impact incurred with this \$8.5 million project.* Technical centers are unique because the State provides 75% of the funding up front. The State has committed \$6,375,000 (75%) for the renovation of SST. While the funding must be approved by the New Hampshire State Legislature and Governor, all centers renovated ahead of SST have received their support. In addition to the 75% grant, the State will also reimburse the remaining 25% local share with 55% building aid. The State's total support of the project is nearly 90%. The remaining balance of about 10% will come from member district tuition fees as explained below.

### 3. What does the budget look like?

Total Project Budget	\$8,500,000
State of New Hampshire 75% Funding of Technical Centers	<u>- 6,375,000</u>
Balance	2,125,000
Local State Building Aid @ 55%	<u>-1,168,750</u>
Balance to be Funded by Member District Tuition Fees	\$956,250

The member districts, Epping, Exeter, Newmarket, Raymond, Sanborn and Winnacunnet, of the Seacoast School of Technology, are paying tuition fees beyond the calculated tuition rates in order to fund the \$956,250 portion of the 25% local share not covered by building aid. *The renovation of SST will have no impact on local taxes.*

### 4. For a project of this size, why don't we need to sell bonds?

Because the project is being funded by the State and a capital reserve account there is no need to incur any additional costs associated with selling bonds. Savings of approximately \$250,000 will result.

### 5. Why is the State of New Hampshire being so generous?

The State developed the concept and paid 100% of the original construction costs (\$80 million) for a network of 23 regional Career and Technical Education centers between 1974 and 1997. This regional plan enabled every New Hampshire high school student to access quality technical education. To protect its investment and to ensure that program quality is maintained, it will continue to update Technical Centers over the next 20 years. The 2007 State budget includes \$13.5 million to renovate both the Seacoast School of Technology (\$6.375 million) and the Manchester School of Technology (\$7.125 million).

**6. Who uses the Seacoast School of Technology?**

The Seacoast School of Technology serves students from Epping, Exeter, Great Bay eLearning Charter School, Newmarket, Raymond, Sanborn Regional and Winnacunnet High Schools. There are currently 630 students enrolled in Career and Technical Education programs at the Seacoast School of Technology including: Animal & Plant Science, Automotive Technologies, Biotechnology, Building Construction, Computer Programming, Culinary Arts, Digital Communications, Early Childhood Education, Health Sciences & Technologies, Marketing Education, Pre-Engineering, Technology Careers, Welding Technologies.

**7. What needs to happen to make this renovation project a reality?**

*Though there will be no local tax impact, the ERCSD voters will be asked to pass a warrant article to raise and appropriate \$8,500,000 in order for SST to access the State funding.* The SST Governing Board, made up of School Board representatives and Superintendents from all member districts, shapes SST program and SST budget decisions. The Exeter Region Cooperative School District (ERCSD) is the responsible fiscal agent for SST.

**8. What general improvements will the project include?**

- Expand and update lab and classroom space in all programs to enable more student participation and competency development to prepare students to be industry/college ready
- Improve building safety through controlled entrances
- Increase traffic safety through the creation of new traffic patterns and parking for students, staff and visitors
- Locate the preschool play area off the street to create a safer environment for outside activities and parent drop-off
- Update mechanical systems to address poor air quality and expand electrical capacity for equipment and technology
- House the largest Automotive Technologies program in the State in its own facility to prepare students to work in this high-demand, high-wage field
- Relocate Building Construction and Welding Technologies to larger space adjacent to new Multi-Trades shop featuring electrical, HVAC, plumbing, masonry and CAD
- Create outside storage for Automotive Technologies, Building Construction and Welding Technologies
- Renovate the Culinary Arts kitchen, dining room facilities and replace and update equipment

**9. Public Tours:**

A tour of the facility is planned for Saturday, March 3, 2007 from 9:00-11:00 a.m. (Inclement weather date, March 10). If the tour date is not convenient you may call 775-8461 and we will find a time that is convenient for you to visit.

**10. Voting Day is Tuesday, March 13, 2007**

2/05/07