



State Board of Education Tours Passaic County Technical Institute

**Career and Technical Education Programs Highlighted**

**For Immediate Release**

**Contact:** Justin Barra  
Allison Kobus  
609-292-1126

**Date:** March 27, 2012

Wayne, NJ – The State Board of Education toured Passaic County Technical Institute (PCTI) in Wayne when it convened its annual public meeting as the State Board of Career and Technical Education on March 21, 2012.

"Each year the State Board conducts a special meeting to focus on the important role that career and technical education plays in the ensuring that our graduating students are ready for college and today's workforce," said State Board President Arcelio Aponte.

"Our tour provided us the opportunity to see firsthand, the kinds of career-ready skills Passaic students are gaining. Foundational academic skills and career training help students to make better decisions about their futures," President Aponte said.

The day included a student panel discussion in which five students shared their PCTI experiences and discussed their goals for the future. A business partners panel discussion focused on the role they play in the school and the support they provide.

President Aponte and State Board members Edith Fulton, Jack Fornaro, Joseph Fisicaro and Ernest Lepore toured an engineering lab, culinary arts kitchens, food services, medical arts, beauty culture, theater and automotive labs.

You can see photos from the tour [here](#).

**About the State Board**

The New Jersey State Board of Education has 13 members who are appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the New Jersey State Senate. These members serve without compensation for six-year terms. By law, at least three members of the State Board must be women, and no two members may be appointed from the same county. The State Board adopts the administrative code, which sets the rules needed to implement state education law. Such rules cover the supervision and governance of the state's 2,500 public schools, which serve 1.38 million students. In addition, the State Board advises on educational policies proposed by the Commissioner and confirms Department of Education staff appointments made by the Commissioner.