

ACIT Superintendent to Lead State Council of County Vocational-Technical Schools

Dr. Philip J. Guenther, the superintendent of the Atlantic County Institute of Technology, has been elected president of the New Jersey Council of County Vocational-Technical Schools (NJCCVTS) for a two year term beginning on July 1. He has served as an officer of the statewide council since 2007.

“High school career and technical education in New Jersey has changed dramatically in the past decade,” Dr. Guenther said. “I look forward to leading our statewide association of innovative county vocational-technical schools as we provide more than 31,000 students with hands-on, career-focused learning opportunities that will prepare them for college and the 21st century workforce.”

Other newly-elected NJCCVTS officers include:

- President-elect: Darlene Barber, Superintendent of the Cumberland County Technical Education Center
- Vice president: Dr. Howard Lerner, Superintendent of the Bergen County Technical Schools
- Secretary: Timothy McCorkell, Superintendent of the Monmouth County Vocational School District
- Treasurer: Scott Moffitt, Superintendent of the Morris County Schools of Technology

Dr. Guenther has been the superintendent of Atlantic County Institute of Technology since 2003. Under his leadership, in 2008, ACIT was one of only eight schools in New Jersey to receive a national Blue Ribbon School designation from the US Department of Education. In 2008 and 2009, ACIT was designated as a Bronze Level School in the *US News & World Report* annual listing of America’s Best High Schools, ranking it among the top 10 percent of New Jersey public secondary schools.

Prior to joining the county vocational school district in 1997, Dr. Guenther taught English and social studies, and served as vice-principal at Atlantic City High School. He was the principal of ACIT from 1997 until 2003.

A graduate of Glassboro State College (now Rowan University), he holds a master’s degree in administration from Central Michigan University and a doctorate in educational administration from Seton Hall University. He also did additional post-graduate work in educational administration at Rowan.

Dr. Guenther and his family reside in Brigantine, where he has served as mayor since 1993. He was the president of the Atlantic County Mayors Association in 2001-2002.

Darlene Barber, the superintendent Cumberland County Technical Education Center, has worked for the school district since January, 2000. She lives in Bridgeton.

A life-long resident of Cumberland County, she is a graduate of Cumberland County College and holds a bachelor's degree in human resource management and a master's degree in educational administration from Rowan University. She currently chairs the Cumberland County Empowerment Zone and serves on the Cumberland County Economic Development Board and its Business and Industry Committee and the Cumberland County Workforce Investment Board.

She is also the co-chair of the Education Committee for the New Jersey Motorsport Park and is a past president of West Cumberland Little League, where she coached and worked with children for over 20 years.

Dr. Howard Lerner is the Superintendent of Bergen County Technical and Special Services School Districts. He joined the two districts in 2006 as the assistant superintendent and was named superintendent in 2010. Prior to his arrival in Bergen County, he had been part of the Wayne Township Public Schools for twelve years as a Director of Special Services and Assistant Superintendent.

He holds a bachelor's degree in psychology, a master's degree in education, a professional diploma in school psychology and a doctorate in educational leadership, and also holds supervisor and administrator certificates in both New Jersey and New York.

Dr. Lerner served as President of the New Jersey Association of Pupil Services Administrators (NJAPSA) and was chair of the State Special Education Advisory Council (SSEAC). He lives in Maplewood.

Timothy McCorkell has been the superintendent of the Monmouth County Vocational School District (MCVSD) since 2009. He has worked in the district since 1995, serving as the vice-principal of the Marine Academy of Science and Technology, principal of the Monmouth County Academy of Allied Health and Science and assistant superintendent.

Prior to joining MCVSD, he taught social studies at Red Bank Catholic High School and at Point Pleasant Beach High School, where he also served as varsity football and track head coach, supervisor of athletics, physical education and health, and assistant principal.

Mr. McCorkell holds a bachelor's degree in secondary education from West Chester State College and a master's degree in educational administration, supervision and curriculum development. He lives in Brielle.

Scott Moffitt became the Superintendent/Principal of the Morris County School of Technology in 2010. He joined the district in 2004 as the business administrator/board

secretary and most recently held the position of assistant superintendent. He holds a master's degree in public administration from New York University with a specialization in management, and a bachelor's degree in political science from Rutgers University.

Prior to joining the Morris district, he worked in the Office of Innovative Programs and Practices and served as Acting Manager of the Charter Schools Office in the New Jersey Department of Education. He also served as the director of the Alexander Hamilton Charter School in Paterson, and as Morris County Business Administrator. Mr. Moffitt and his family reside in Mahwah.