A REGIONAL VISION:
COLLEGE, CAREER & CITIZENSHIP READINESS IN CENTRAL NEW YORK

OCMBOCES
Committed to Your Success
The world has changed. Work has changed. Technology has changed. Communication has changed. The pace of the world has changed. Interconnectedness has changed. Collaboration has changed. Just about everything has changed!

The educational community of Central New York knows that the world has changed and a regional vision for college, career and citizenship readiness has emerged. Our regional vision is founded on an uncompromising and relentless commitment to preparing students for college, career and citizenship – in other words, preparing students for their future. At the heart of our regional vision are three commitments: instruction that engages, culture that empowers, and technology that enables.

Instruction that truly engages is instruction that is meaningful and anchored in the real world. In the regional vision, project-based learning is the defining model of learning -- project-based learning that is standards-based and learner-centered.

A culture of empowerment helps provide efficiency and agency to our students. These characteristics will not only help our students be college, career and citizenship ready, these characteristics will help our students all of their lives.

Technology plays an important role. The regional vision for Central New York has every student armed with technology to connect them to the world, allowing them to connect with the information they need when they need it and to connect them to the people in the world with whom they need to connect.
Our regional vision includes, but is not limited to, the creation of “New Tech High Schools” in the OCM BOCES (see reverse). These schools will be places where the instruction is engaging, the culture is empowering and the technology is enabling. Surrounding these three schools will be adult learning, where educators come to learn about creating schools where these qualities exist. Partnerships with higher education, business and teacher preparation programs are integrated in the regional vision.

Throughout the schools in the BOCES, project based learning will be a key approach in teaching and learning. Integrated, project based learning courses will be a significant component of all programs as will increased connections with businesses and the use of technology in ways that more closely mirror the world outside of school into which our students will go. It is important to note that instruction will continue to be based on the NYS Learning Standards and that students will continue to take all exams that are required by NYS.

We are coordinating with OCC and TC3 on college credit opportunities. We are working with SUNY Cortland to influence future teachers to ensure that they are prepared to teach in schools that look different than the schools of yesterday and today.

Central New York’s regional vision will prepare our students for their future and it will better prepare our future citizens to be ready for college, career, and whatever comes their way. Central New York will soon be recognized throughout the State for this innovative vision.
TRAINING AND COACHING

The OCM BOCES Instructional Support Services team has trained more than 1000 educators in New York State in Project Based Learning and 21st Century Skills. Coaches are supporting teachers who are implementing Project Based Learning in more than ten school districts. The annual PBLNY conference draws more than 300 educators from across the state.

NEW TECH HIGH SCHOOLS IN CENTRAL NEW YORK

Innovation Tech

Opened in September 2014 The OCM BOCES Career Academy which currently serves 135 students has been transformed into Innovation Tech. The new model is being implemented with 9th and 10th grade students in September 2014 while students in grades 11th and 12th complete the Career Academy program. When fully implemented, Innovation Tech will serve 140 students grades 9-12. Visit innovationtech.us to learn more.

Seven Valleys New Tech Academy

Opening in September 2016

School districts in and around Cortland County will soon have the opportunity to send students to a New Tech High School. The first year the school opens, districts will be able to send 9th and 10th grade students to the school. It is anticipated that student enrollment will grow to approximately 100 students when the school is fully implemented with students in grades 9-12.

To learn more, contact:

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New Tech Network Student Outcomes

The data from New Tech schools across the nation are very positive and are evidence of increased college, career, and citizenship readiness. New Tech Students...

- Graduate from high school at a rate 14% higher than the national average
- Enroll in college at a rate 9% higher than the national average
- Persist in college at a rate of 83% (91% for four-year colleges, 71% for two-year)
- Grow 77% more in higher order thinking skills