



THE FACTS ABOUT TECH VALLEY HIGH:

Tech Valley High School is a nationally recognized STEM program supported by a coalition of business, economic development and higher education partners since its launch in 2007.

- A **joint venture** of Capital Region and Questar III BOCES developed in partnership with area businesses, organized labor and government.
- An instructional model that **prepares students for college and careers** in the region's high tech economy.
- A **laboratory for instructional practice** shared with teachers from participating districts.
- A replication and demonstration site of the national **New Tech Network** which has over 120 four-year, full-day, comprehensive schools in 17 states.

STUDENT PROFILE

- Students are selected by lottery – the only entrance requirement is 8th grade completion.
- 120 students enrolled - capacity 160; more students apply than districts are willing to send.
 - 45% female
 - 40% eligible for free or reduced price lunch
 - 18% minority
 - 16% special educational needs

STUDENT OUTCOMES

- **100%** on-time graduation
- **100%** college acceptance
 - 93% enrolled – 68% in four-year colleges (including the Ivy League)
 - 46% pursuing science/technology-related studies (compared to 7% nationwide)
- **Results** of New York State Regents Exams, June 2011
 - 100% pass rate on Living Environment (88% BOCES regional average)
 - 97% pass rate on Comprehensive English (89% BOCES regional average)
 - 97% pass rate on US History (85% BOCES regional average)
 - 91% pass rate on Global History & Geography (73% BOCES regional average)
- **TVHS seniors outperform college freshmen** on the *College & Work Readiness Assessment* (CWRA) that measures critical thinking, problem solving, and writing skills.
 - Mean score, TVHS class of 2011: 1171
 - Mean score, US college freshmen: 1048
- **TVHS students report a higher degree of satisfaction** with their educational program than the national median on the *YouthTruth* measure of school culture.

UNIVERSITY/ BUSINESS CO- LOCATION

- Located at the University at Albany's East Campus in East Greenbush.
- Students have **multiple connections to the world of work** in Tech Valley.
- Re-locating to the SUNY **College of Nanoscale Science & Engineering (CNSE)** where TVHS will be a "**gateway**" for high school students and school districts to CNSE.
- Students will access undergraduate courses in the TVHS **early college high school**.

PROGRAM

- **Rigorous “Regents – plus” standards-based Project-Based Learning (PBL.)**
- **Aligned** to the NYS Common Core Learning Standards.
- **Projects co-designed, co-taught, and co-assessed** with business and community partners – over 200 volunteers participate each year.
- **21st century skills demanded by Tech Valley businesses** are explicitly taught and assessed; students are assessed and graded for critical thinking and innovation, collaboration, communication, content literacy, information and technology literacy, self-direction.
- **STEM focus** with four years of math and connections to high-tech companies in the region.
- The **engineering design process is infused** throughout the curriculum.
- Students are **“college and career ready”** when they graduate from TVHS. They:
 - **participate** in projects, **collaborate** in teams 30 times/year; 120 times by graduation;
 - **present and defend** their work to peers, faculty, and community experts 120 times during their high school career;
 - **interact** with hundreds of experts over their four-year experience;
 - complete and defend a **capstone project** integrating four content areas focusing on Nanoscale science and entrepreneurship;
 - Present a **portfolio** providing evidence of their growth in **Tech Valley High’s seven learning outcomes** to their parents, a peer, faculty advisor, and community member.
- One-to-one student/computer environment:
 - technology platform documents learning and facilitates collaboration;
 - All students are **technology literate** upon graduation.
- Student-centered culture built on **trust, respect and responsibility** for learning.

PARTICIPATING SCHOOL DISTRICTS:

Currently **32 out of 46** eligible districts offer this outstanding opportunity to students. The districts receive BOCES Aid from New York State to defray cost. .

COST & BILLING

- There is **no immediate cost** to school districts.
- Districts are billed on an enrollment averaging system based on a 5-year rolling average and eligible for **BOCES aid** on the expense.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & TRAINING

- More than 1,200 educators have taken part in TVHS study tours since 2007.
- Teams of teachers from 20 school districts have participated in professional development training by TVHS teacher/trainers since 2010 including such programs as basics of Project-Based Learning and designing STEM nano curriculum projects.

For more information, please visit www.techvalleyhigh.org

