



For Immediate Release

Central New York: One of 16 Winners in Statewide P-TECH competition
Syracuse City School District, the Manufacturers Association and Onondaga Community College partner to benefit Syracuse High School Students

September 6, 2013 (Syracuse, NY) - Last week Governor Cuomo announced 16 winners of a statewide competition to form public-private partnerships that will prepare more than 6,000 New York High School students for high-skill jobs in technology, manufacturing and healthcare.

The Syracuse City School District (SCSD), The Manufacturers Association (MACNY) and Onondaga Community College (OCC) have partnered and are the Central New York winners of the NYS Pathways in Technology Early College High School (NYS P-TECH) grant. The partnership will focus on advanced manufacturing and impact over 50 students each year for 6 years. The grant is valued at 2.4 million dollars over seven years.

The partnership between SCSD, OCC and MACNY creates a bridge between secondary and post-secondary education and business. SCSD and OCC are working together on the curriculum for the program, with input from many CNY manufacturers who will serve in advisory roles. MACNY, having participated in workforce development initiatives through its affiliate Partners for Education & Business (PEB), is charged with assisting in the development of mentoring programs, job shadowing, career fairs and internships to support the P-TECH mission. The goal is to create a seamless pathway from high school to college to employment, utilizing curricula aligned with industry need.

“The Syracuse City School District is proud to be partnering with Onondaga Community College and the Manufacturers Association of Central New York (MACNY) to further prepare our students for success in college and career. The growth of the Career and Technical Education program is a priority in the district as we continue to offer a curriculum that is innovative, engaging and challenging for all students. This P-Tech grant provides another pathway for our students to pursue college credit while in high school and lays the groundwork for degrees in Electrical Engineering Technology or Mechanical Technology and a career in advanced manufacturing,” noted Superintendent Sharon L. Contreras.

P-TECH will offer a 6-year integrated high school and college curriculum for grades 9-14 that focuses on advanced manufacturing pathways and the acquisition of essential workplace skills. P-TECH students will graduate with a NYS Regents Diploma/Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation and a Technical Endorsement, a no-cost Associate in Applied Science degree from OCC in Electrical Engineering Technology or Mechanical Technology, and the skills and knowledge required to obtain well-paying, high potential jobs in advanced manufacturing.

“Onondaga Community College is proud to collaborate with the Syracuse City School District and MACNY to create a seamless pathway to success that provides students with access to well-paying, high-demand jobs in advanced manufacturing upon completion of an associate degree,” said Dr. Casey Crabill, Onondaga Community College President.

An additional benefit for students will be the alignment with the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM) Skills Certification System. Not only will these students graduate with a Regents diploma and an Associate degree, they will also have a nationally recognized credential that will benefit them when looking to transition from the classroom to the workforce.

MACNY President Randy Wolken stated, “On behalf of MACNY and its collective membership, we are pleased to be part of this exciting partnership with the Syracuse City School District and Onondaga Community College. The P-Tech partnership will enable us to unite our collective areas of expertise and audiences, and elevate the future workforce by connecting them to the exciting opportunities and careers that await them within our region’s robust manufacturing sector. I know I speak on behalf of the region’s manufacturing community when I say we are ready and looking forward to helping shape tomorrow’s workforce today. We look forward to our partnership with the Syracuse City School District and Onondaga Community College as we collectively take our region’s workforce to the next level.”

Across the nation communities are focused on education, career readiness, and workforce development. In Central NY there is a unique challenge as the region looks at the changing face of upstate manufacturing, the need to increase graduation rates, improve college access, close the skills gap, stop the brain drain and provide a qualified workforce for the region’s manufacturers.

There is a one year planning phase which kicked off September 1st and the first students will enter this program in fall of 2014.

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More about MACNY:

MACNY, the Manufacturers Association, represents over 330 companies in a twenty-six county region in Central Upstate New York. The 100-year-old organization provides advocacy support, human resource services, training, purchasing solutions, networking opportunities, and workforce development for its members. For more information, please visit www.macny.org.

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More about Onondaga Community College:

Onondaga Community College is Central New York’s second largest undergraduate college with more than 12,000 students. Onondaga is a two-year college operating under the State University of New York (SUNY) system, and is locally sponsored by Onondaga County. Located on a bustling 280-acre campus atop Onondaga Hill, *the community’s college* remains dedicated to serving the needs of students in ways that help them to explore, discover, and transform. Onondaga offers nearly 50 programs of study, bachelor and master’s degrees available on campus through a [regional higher education center](#), and

more than 80 transfer agreements with four-year colleges and universities. A 2013 report on [“The Economic Contributions of Onondaga Community College”](#) shows student enjoy an attractive 14.4% rate of return on their educational investment and recover all costs in 11 years, while state and local governments see an annual rate of return of 7.8% on their support for Onondaga. The College is home to the seven-time NJCAA national champion men’s lacrosse team and the two-time NJCAA national champion women’s lacrosse team. The men’s team won its fifth consecutive national title in 2013. The women last won the national title in 2012. Onondaga has [fifteen intercollegiate men’s and women’s athletic teams](#).

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