Career and Technical Education, a Proven Pathway to Success

CTE and Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics education (STEM) are grounded in hands-on experiences which often lead to workforce readiness. Students need to be presented with CTE and STEM opportunities early, and educational programs must be expanded, funded and readily accessible to ALL children.

Expansion of, and access to, CTE and early college program and advanced coursework will only serve as an engine for New York’s economic revitalization.

These initiatives allow for academics to be seamlessly integrated into career-based curricula, preparing students for a wide range of in-demand, highly-skilled, and high-wage careers.

Investing in Career and Technical Education (CTE) and Early College High Schools is an investment in the future of our state, as more than 90% of CTE students graduate with a Regents diploma.

NYS PTA supports:

- Providing equitable access to adequately-funded CTE programs;
- Increasing support for and access to Early College High Schools, Advanced Placement classes, and International Baccalaureate programs;
- Aligning CTE courses to both state and industry standards;
- Ensuring all CTE courses provide for a balanced integration of technical and academic content;
- Ensuring all CTE pathways are more readily available by approving more end-of-program assessments to meet the 4+1 pathway to high school graduation;
- Developing and implementing an improved CTE data collection system with assuring necessary privacy concerns; and
- Amending the current aid formula for both BOCES CTE programs and Special Services Aid, to provide for more fiscal support to critical CTE services.

There are 70-plus CTE programs in NY which allow students to earn an industry certification in high school, and we must address the antiquated formula for Boards of Cooperative Education Services (BOCES) reimbursement, which hasn’t been increased since 1990. This formula provides aid to the sending school district only for the first $30,000 of a BOCES educator’s salary.

Further, providing opportunities and increasing affordability to early college programs and advanced coursework is critical, as these programs expose students to critical thinking skills, and allow exploration of varied areas of study. Students in these programs often receive both a high school diploma and an associate degree, providing an economic advantage and academic success.

For more information, please contact Kyle McCauley Belokopitsky, Esq., NYS PTA Executive Director at execdirector@nyspta.org, 518-452-8808