October 2022

Monthly Newsletter of P-TECH OHM



Engineering Wars







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On October 14, eleven 10h grade students from P-TECH OHM traveled to Innovare Advancement Center in Rome, NY to compete in Engineering Wars. A total of 10 teams from across New York state were present for the competition. Engineering Wars is a full-day event for students to engage in all aspects of the engineering design process while competing against other schools. This year's challenge was created and sponsored by Trenton Technology and hosted at Innovare Advancement Center. Trenton Technology developed the challenge and supplied all materials; while Innovare hosted the competition at their state-of-the-art facility.

The challenge was to create a simple sorting machine to sort four spheres, keeping one inside the "container of choice" and design a catapult to launch the chosen sphere the greatest distance forward from the catapult. It required teams of four to brainstorm, design, fabricate, optimize and present their solutions all over the course of one day. A panel of judges from Trenton Technology evaluated the teams. First place went to Greater Southern Tier STEM Academy (team 2), Questar BOCES (team 1) came in second place and the Syracuse ITC Eagles placed third.

It was a fun-filled day of engineering that allowed students to connect with peers from other P-TECH programs. At lunch, students were encouraged to network and exchange pins that were fabricated in the OHM BOCES FAB Lab by Mrs. Piatkowski. The pins had logos from each school. In addition to networking with peers, students were able to explore the space at Innovare and hear from the President and CEO of Griffiss Institute, Heather Hage.

October Academy Day









Students in grades 9, 10 and 11 participated in the first Academy Day of the school year on the morning of October 14. Academy Days occur one time per month and focus on personal and professional development while engaging in activities that promote positive mental health and personal growth. The theme for this year's Academy Days is "This is ME," inspired by *The Greatest Showman*. Students engaged with Sow to Speak guest speaker, Kristy Mandour, in activities teaching emotional intelligence. Teachers facilitated mindfulness and positive self-talk workshops.

P-TECH PRIDE



P-TECH OHM junior, Ava White, was recently named as the president for the 2022-2023 school year for the OHM BOCES SkillsUSA chapter. Ava is representing both the P-TECH program and the Career & Technical Education Welding program as the acting president. SkillsUSA is a nonprofit education association of students, teachers and industry partners working together to prepare students for careers.

Overcoming Obstacles



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On October 11, ninth grade P-TECH students joined their peers from across the region to participate in a day focused on resilience, connection and hope. *Overcoming Obstacles: A Message of Connection, Resilience and Hope* provided students with the opportunity to hear from best-selling authors, Liz Murray and Erin Gruwell, while participating in various breakout sessions throughout the day.

P-TECH Pioneer Events



The P-TECH program engages in monthly community service opportunities referred to as PTECH Pioneer events. This month features two events, the first is "Socktober." Academies are competing to see which one can bring in the most pairs of socks throughout the month. Afterward, the socks will be donated to the Utica Rescue Mission and Abraham House. In

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addition, P-TECH students and staff are fundraising and participating in the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk at the end of the month.

Student Ambassadors



Freshman: Chelsy Plows

Chelsy is from the New York Mills Union Free School District. Teachers state that "she is a wonderful student. She is helpful to peers and gets along with everyone she encounters." Peers admire Chelsy's positive attitude and attention to detail.



Sophomore: Wyatt Forbes

Wyatt is from the Clinton Central School District. Teachers recognize Wyatt's enthusiasm for learning as a strength. He has started off this school year being a model student in the classroom. actively participating in all lessons and taking advantage of opportunities that arise.



Junior: Hannah Sook

Hannah is from the Utica City School District. Teachers acknowledge Hannah's positive attitude and consideration of others as two of her greatest strengths. She is emerging as a leader in the program and is always eager to volunteer to help others.



Pathways in Technology Early College High School

A partnership between Oneida-Herkimer-Madison BOCES, Mohawk Valley Community College and Mohawk Valley EDGE.

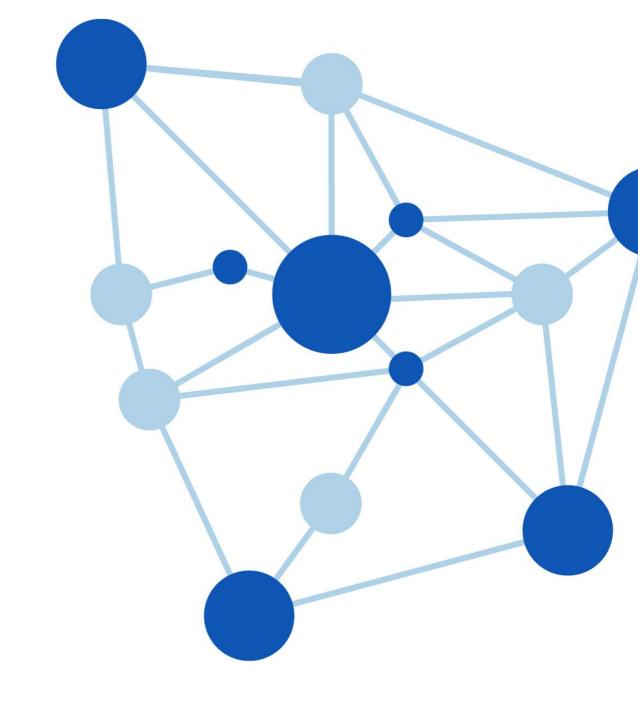
For questions, please contact P-TECH OHM Assistant Principal & Business Partner Liaison Christina Warner.



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