

Early College High School: IT Networking

Fact Sheet

Opening multiple pathways for student success in Career Readiness



The Washington-Saratoga-Warren-Hamilton-Essex BOCES, in an effort to guide students in a real-world process to pursue a career and a meaningful post-secondary degree or credential, as well as servicing the needs of business and industry in the field of Informational Technology have collaborated with stakeholders to offer an innovative educational experience through Career and Technical Education.

The Early College High School: Informational Technology pathway is based on successful industry standards and was developed through the partnerships of SUNY Adirondack, Hudson Falls, Queensbury and Saratoga Springs School districts, and business & industry partner, Global Foundries. Computer networks are critical parts of almost every organization. Network and computer systems administrators are responsible for the day-to-day operation of these networks. Employment of network and computer systems administrators is projected to grow 12 percent from 2012 to 2022, about as fast as the average for all occupations. Growth will be highest at firms that provide cloud computing technology.

(Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, and Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2014-15 Edition, Network and Computer Systems Administrators, on the Internet at <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/computer-and-information-technology/network-and-computer-systems-administrators.htm> (visited April 08, 2014).

The Early College High School: IT Networking program is located at SUNY Adirondack's Wilton Center; students are dually enrolled in their high school and at SUNY Adirondack as non-matriculated students. Half of each student's day will be taking college coursework taught by SUNY professors as well as the IT Networking course taught by a BOCES Career and Technical Education instructor; the other half will include Regents level courses at their home school. Every student will be provided with a laptop for 1:1 technology.

Vision:

The Early College High School: IT Networking program concentrates on the networking industry which has been experiencing unprecedented growth and expansion in the region. Companies are seeking qualified employees who are fluid in technology, adaptable to change and able to think on their feet. With this program we hope to help our students become "IT Networking Technicians" and help companies continue to grow and innovate. At the same time we hope to engage young people in exciting careers and college pathways throughout their high school and post-secondary years that will be geared toward lucrative careers and futures within our region and global economy.

Mission:

To close the skills gap by cultivating new pathways for students to gain meaningful work and educational

experiences in order to earn appropriate degrees or credentials to create a better and stronger workforce for the manufacturing industry in the region.

Program Design:

The Early College High School: IT Networking believes that through a relevant educational experience combining college level courses, career and technical education and work based learning; students will be better prepared for the workforce. The educational opportunities include but are not limited to:

- **A clear pathway from high school graduation to college to career.**
- **Four Nationally recognized Industry Credentials:** CompTia A+ Certification, CCNA (Routing & Switching), CCENT (Cisco Certified Entry-Level Network Technician), CCNA (wireless, security, or voice)
- **College Credits:** Sequence of high school and college coursework to ensure that students will be eligible to earn an Associate in Applied Science degree.
- **Project-Based Learning Experiences:** Students will go through an extended process of inquiry in response to a complex question, problem, or challenge. (collaboration, communication & critical thinking)
- **Work-Based Learning Experiences:** Internships, job shadowing, and mentorship provide clear connections between education and work.
- **Transdisciplinary Learning:** Students will make connections, learn to adapt to changes, understand research, apply knowledge in a creative manner, understand interconnectedness in the world, and be stimulated for self-discovery.

Partnerships:

The Early College High School: IT Networking is possible through support from higher education, charter school districts, and business & industry partners:

- SUNY Adirondack
- Global Foundries
- Annese & Associates

Additional business & industry partnerships will be nurtured as the program develops.