

Innovative. Authentic. Student-Centered.

# TechValley

HIGH SCHOOL

You're Invited to Apply



For more information,  
please visit our website at  
[www.techvalleyhigh.org](http://www.techvalleyhigh.org).

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# PBL

PROJECT-BASED LEARNING

# 60+

COLLEGE CREDITS  
AVAILABLE IN HIGH SCHOOL

# BA

INTERACTIONS WITH  
BUSINESS ALLIANCE

# 100

HOURS COMMUNITY  
SERVICE

# 4 years

OF MATH AND SCIENCE

# 2+ years

OF MANDARIN CHINESE

[www.techvalleyhigh.org](http://www.techvalleyhigh.org)

# About Tech Valley High School



## QUICK TVHS FACTS...

- ▶ Tech Valley High School students receive a **well-rounded education** that includes art, technology, foreign language, service learning, experiential learning and physical education, in addition to core subjects.
- ▶ The education at TVHS is enriched by the school's **partnerships with area businesses and higher education institutions**.



- ▶ Students graduate having met or exceeded New York State Regents requirements. Students receive their diplomas from their home districts.

Tech Valley High School is a regional public high school that is open to all students at no cost to families. Students learn through hands-on projects that are based in authentic applications of New York state's learning standards.

Located on the campus of SUNY Polytechnic Institute's Albany Nanotech Complex, TVHS is uniquely situated to provide access to technology resources and partnerships that students need to excel in the global economy. The school partners with businesses and higher education institutions throughout the region to incorporate true-to-life experiences into student learning. In the heart of the region's fast-growing technology sector, TVHS exposes students to aspects of the global economy and builds on developing 21st century skills while meeting New York state's learning standards.

**A small school.** TVHS currently serves approximately 140 students across grades 9-12.

**A BOCES Program.** TVHS is a BOCES program supported by component districts and a state grant.

**Hands-on.** Content in every class is taught through project-based learning that engages students in every facet of their education.

**Collaborative.** TVHS students complete their coursework through collaborative projects that support growth in leadership, team management, and content mastery. Not only do students work with each other, but also with partners and supporters from the professional community in our region.

**Student-centered.** Students at TVHS take an active role in their own education. Intellectual curiosity and passionate ownership are rewarded, heightening engagement with learning and individual accountability.

**Built with partners.** Higher education and business partners volunteer on campus and in the field to host students for learning opportunities alongside experts.

**Technology-focused.** TVHS is a 1:1 school, meaning each student is provided with his/her own laptop to be integrated into their everyday learning. They use electronics, software and programs to help them think critically about projects and problems.



# Project-based learning at TVHS

The distinctive environment at Tech Valley High School is centered on project-based learning. Students collaborate on meaningful projects that require critical thinking, creativity and communication to answer challenging questions or solve complex problems. By making learning relevant, students see a purpose for mastering state-required skills and content concepts.

Students aren't just assessed on their understanding of academic content, but on their ability to successfully apply that content when solving authentic problems. This expands student learning by preparing them with work habits and character traits needed to succeed in whatever the future holds for them.



Students prepare for research at the Hudson River

## AUTHENTIC OPPORTUNITIES IN THE FIELD

Projects at Tech Valley High School integrate real-world scenarios and information wherever possible. In our integrated STEM classes, students are as likely to be found out in the field gathering data, as they are in the classroom analyzing it.

Students routinely present their work and explain the process to participants, including educators and members of the professional business community.



Students work in the science lab analyzing abiotic factors

## STUDENT-CENTERED CULTURE

Tech Valley students take ownership over their own learning and the environment of their school. The inclusive school community is guided by the principles of Trust, Respect, Responsibility, and Stewardship. This positive culture allows students to grow more confident in their academic and "soft" skills.

Student-run clubs and organizations provide opportunities for students to develop and share talents. FIRST Robotics, yearbook, Student Government, and an annual play are just some of the activities that students facilitate. Tech Valley also holds an annual prom open to TVHS students in all grades.



Students showcase their best work for business partners at our annual Expo

## WORKPLACE EXPERIENCE WITH EXPERTS

All students at TVHS undertake an annual I-term project in February that allows them to study a potential career. Students learn from visiting professionals and take on individual career research projects that prepare them to spend 40+ hours working side-by-side with engineers, doctors, researchers, executives and other professionals. Students are encouraged to explore a wide range of careers over the course of their 4-year I-term experience.



## COLLEGE READY

TVHS, in partnership with Excelsior College, offers a 60-credit Associate of Science in Liberal Arts degree. Students can earn college credit for courses through University at Albany, Schenectady County Community College, Hudson Valley Community College, The College of Saint Rose, SUNY Poly, and Excelsior College. In addition, TVHS offers Advanced Placement courses. Credits can be aggregated into one diploma through Excelsior College. TVHS students typically graduate with dozens of college credits that satisfy general education requirements once they enroll in university.

## INTEGRATED CURRICULUM

Many classes integrate the content of two courses.

- Global Humanities (9th - 10th)
- Bioengineering (9th)
- Geometry/Design & Drawing for Production (9th or 10th)
- Inventing America (11th)
- Participation in Gov/Econ (12th)



# Why choose TVHS?



## GRADING

Assessment at TVHS reflects a student’s mastery of academic content in addition to four critical school-wide learning outcomes. Students are evaluated based on agency/ self-direction, collaboration, communication, and technology/ information literacy. This system provides a full understanding of students’ strengths and target areas for growth. Students take ownership over these goals in leading their own Student Learning Team meetings with their parents and advisors.

## STUDENT SUPPORT

Daily mixed-grade advisories provide students with the opportunity to develop close relationships with a consistent group of 10 to 12 peers and a teacher. This teacher, who knows each student well, is the main contact for parents. A licensed clinical social worker and school counselor are also available to meet student needs.



## DID YOU KNOW?

- ▶ The project-based curriculum at TVHS meets all New York State learning standards and students graduate with Regents diplomas.
- ▶ Interested students apply in eighth grade and are selected by lottery.
- ▶ TVHS draws from the 47 public school districts of Questar III and Capital Region BOCES.
- ▶ Clubs are formed and run by students based on their own interests. Students may also participate in sports, clubs, dances and other activities in their home districts.
- ▶ Over 50 percent of TVHS graduates pursue degrees in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) fields, compared to 9 percent nationwide.

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

Students complete 100 hours of community service over their four years at TVHS. This program component allows students to build capacity as local and global citizens.



Students participated in the Albany Rock Project to invite engagement in outdoor spaces throughout the city.

**TECH VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL IS A PARTNER OF THE NEW TECH NETWORK AND A P21 EXEMPLAR SCHOOL**

I would have given anything to get into a school like this.

— Apple co-founder Steve ‘Woz’ Wozniak



Tech Valley High School, Questar III and the Capital Region BOCES do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in programs, activities, employment, and admissions; and provide equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.

The following officer has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Compliance Officer/Coordinator, at [compliance@questar.org](mailto:compliance@questar.org). Inquiries concerning the application of the Capital Region BOCES non-discrimination policies may also be referred to the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights (OCR), 32 Old Slip, 26th Floor, New York, NY 10005, telephone (646) 428-3800 (voice) or (800) 877-8339 (TTY).