

ECASB Member School Districts

Sharing Our Best

A Compilation of Best Practices and Successes in Collaboration

An initiative of Promoting Partnerships in Public Education, Inc.

District: Cheektowaga Central

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Title of Best Practice: Developing a High School Health Care Academy

Description: The primary objective of the Health Care Academy is to expose students to courses that are relevant to the health care professions. We believe education is more meaningful when students can make the connection between high school programs and the skills potential health care employers are demanding.

Partners: Erie Community College, Trocaire College, Bryant & Stratton, Villa Maria College, University at Buffalo, Catholic Health System, Roswell Park, Kaleida Health, UNYTS.

Need addressed: There is a tremendous growth projected for the health care profession within the next ten years. Students who pursue careers in these professions will most likely gain employment opportunities upon graduation from an accredited collegiate program. This program will provide students with health care oriented courses.

Cost/resources used: Grant from ECC for purchasing of materials in year 1 – no additional costs incurred.

Briefly describe how you implemented this: This initiative was developed in stages. It was at least three years of research and development and one year of fine tuning courses and developing partnerships.

What were the outcomes:

- This is the first year of the Health Care Academy so it is too early to tell. However, by the numbers of students enrolled in our Anatomy and Physiology, Medical Ethics and Medical Terminology classes, we are off to an excellent start. This initiative is coming to fruition at a time in WNY when the Health Corridor, Bioinformatics Center, and SUNY Buffalo are moving their medical opportunity right here in WNY.

Please complete this sentence:

This program serves as an example to others because: By CCHS pursuing this project we were able to get the junior colleges to work together about their respective curriculum and come to consensus about what they would like to see in our Anatomy and Physiology, Medical Ethics, and Medical Terminology classes to enable them to grant articulation credit.

Are there other supporting materials to share? Please contact S. Cain for supporting materials. There are many – textbooks, lab manuals, materials, health care brochures, and application for admissions to academy.