

CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION

OVERVIEW

The Mount Vernon City School District Career and Technical Education (CTE) Department is committed to providing students with meaningful, real-world career exploration, exposure, and access to pathways that prepare them for success in both college and the workforce. Our mission is to ensure that students develop the academic knowledge, technical competencies, and employability skills necessary to thrive in today's evolving labor market.

We deliver rigorous, standards-based instruction through NYSED-approved CTE programs that combine classroom learning with hands-on, experiential training in state-of-the-art facilities. These programs are designed to align with regional and national workforce needs while fostering student engagement through immersive, career-focused learning experiences.

A key strength of our department is our robust network of industry and post-secondary partnerships, which enhances student access to internships, certifications, and continued educational opportunities. Over the past four years, Mount Vernon CSD has successfully launched eight new NYSED-approved CTE pathways, each supported by established post-secondary collaborations. We remain committed to sustaining and expanding this growth to ensure continued opportunity and workforce readiness for all students.

SERVICES PROVIDED

The Mount Vernon CSD Career and Technical Education Department provides comprehensive career training and work-based learning opportunities through eight NYSED-approved programs and two locally developed programs. These offerings are designed to prepare students for the rigor and rewards of post-secondary education and the workforce by integrating academic instruction, technical knowledge, and hands-on experiential learning. Students engage in career-focused training aligned with high-demand local and national employment sectors, with an emphasis on industry-relevant skills, professional competencies, and real-world application.

CULINARY ARTS

The Culinary Arts program equips students with foundational and advanced food preparation skills while offering opportunities to earn recognized industry credentials such as ServSafe and ProStart.

HOSPITALITY MANAGEMENT

The Hospitality Management program operates in alignment with the Culinary Arts program, preparing students for a wide range of careers within the growing hospitality sector. Together, these programs create a comprehensive front-of-house and back-of-house model, allowing students to apply their learning through project-based experiences that simulate real-world restaurant operations. Students regularly support school and district-wide events, serving both the school community and the public.

NURSING ASSISTANT (CNA)

The Nursing Assistant program prepares students for careers in healthcare through a combination of classroom instruction and clinical experience. Students participate in hands-on training at local healthcare facilities, including partnerships with organizations such as United Hebrew, and have the opportunity to earn New York State Nursing Assistant certification upon completion.

AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY

The Automotive Technology program provides students with access to industry-level training and internship opportunities through partnerships with local dealerships, including Scarsdale Ford. Through collaboration with Ford Motor Company, students participate in the Ford Automotive Career Exploration (ACE) program, gaining exposure to manufacturer-specific training modules. Recent investments, including an electric vehicle donation from the New York Power Authority and a Ford Explorer ST from Scarsdale Ford, have expanded student learning to include emerging technologies such as electric vehicle systems. Students also have opportunities to earn Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) certifications.

BARBERING

The Barbering program provides rigorous training aligned with New York State licensing requirements, preparing students to become licensed barbers upon completion.

COSMETOLOGY

The Cosmetology program delivers comprehensive instruction in beauty care, hair design, and related services, enabling students to make meaningful progress toward New York State cosmetology licensure. Students in both the Barbering and Cosmetology programs actively engage with the community through service initiatives such as senior citizen events, veteran appreciation programs, and partnerships with district elementary schools, where they provide haircuts and services while refining their professional skills.

COMPUTER NETWORKING AND CYBERSECURITY

The Cybersecurity program prepares students for high-demand careers in network security and information technology. Through access to the Cisco Networking Academy, students develop skills in networking, cybersecurity, and ethical hacking within simulated lab environments that mirror real-world conditions. This program supports pathways into post-secondary education at partner institutions such as Westchester Community College and into careers within a rapidly growing field.

GRAPHIC ARTS AND DESIGN

In the Digital Media and Graphic Arts pathway, students develop industry-relevant skills in design, animation, and multimedia production using professional-grade software. Photography and web design components emphasize collaborative, project-based learning, where students research, plan, and create digital content for real or simulated clients, further strengthening their technical and creative skill sets.

Across all programs, students build essential employability skills through hands-on learning, project-based instruction, industry certifications, and meaningful engagement with post-secondary and industry partners. These experiences ensure that graduates are well-prepared for success in college, careers, and lifelong learning.

FUNDING ACHIEVEMENTS

Career and Technical Education programming is supported through federal Title I and Title II funding to strengthen instructional quality and expand student readiness for college and career pathways.

Title II Funds: Support ongoing professional learning for CTE teachers, strengthening instructional practices and ensuring alignment with current industry standards and workforce expectations.

Title I Funds: Support the implementation of EMT afterschool training in partnership with Kool Nerd Prep, providing targeted academic support and enrichment. Students will have the opportunity to earn New York State Nursing Assistant certification upon completion.

Additional funding priorities include the following:

CTE Program Access: Expand access to high-quality career pathways for all students.

Industry-Standard Facilities: Upgrade CTE facilities and hands-on labs with modernized equipment that simulates real-world workforce environments.

Equipment Modernization: Continuously update training equipment in alignment with industry standards and partner recommendations.

Staffing Support: Provide dedicated staffing to support program expansion and address increased regulatory, compliance, and operational demands through the addition of a CTE secretary, pathway coordinator, and instructional and curriculum coaches, ensuring programs remain current, compliant, and aligned with NYSED regulations.

Instructional Coaching and Curriculum Development: Provide ongoing coaching and curriculum writing support to strengthen instruction and align programs with workforce expectations.

Professional Development: Support CTE teachers, especially those transitioning from industry, in building strong pedagogical and classroom management skills.

Industry Partnerships: Strengthen partnerships to expand internships, apprenticeships, and other work-based learning opportunities and equipment donations, including the Scarsdale Ford Explorer ST, New York Power Authority electric vehicle, tools, charging station, teacher training in emerging technology, and GOYA Foods support for hospitality and culinary programs through food, trips, and competitions.

Work-Based Learning Staffing: Increase staffing, including additional coordinators, to support the expansion and management of work-based learning experiences.

Student Transportation: Provide reliable and equitable transportation to ensure student participation in industry events, career fairs, field trips, internships, apprenticeships, and other work-based learning experiences. Expanded transportation capacity, including access to a dedicated program vehicle, will improve scheduling flexibility and increase student participation in off-site learning opportunities.

Experiential Learning Opportunities: Expand district-wide events and service-based learning, such as barbering and cosmetology outreach to K through 8 students and culinary catering, to apply technical skills in real-world contexts.

Dual Enrollment Opportunities: Increase access to college credit through dual enrollment and articulation agreements.

Industry Credentials: Expand student access to certifications aligned with in-demand workforce skills.

Career Exploration: Provide tools and resources to support student planning and pathway development.

Program Materials and Supplies: Ensure availability of consumable supplies and materials to support hands-on instruction.

Afterschool Explorers Program: Establish an afterschool exploratory program for middle school students, providing structured exposure to high school CTE pathways. This program will offer hands-on, immersive experiences within high school CTE programs, allowing students to explore career interests, build foundational skills, and support early pathway awareness and transition readiness.

Student Competitions: Develop and expand capacity and resources for CTE students to participate in student competitions, including SkillsUSA, DECA, and America's Best High School Chef at Monroe University, which has awarded \$92,000 in scholarships.

PROGRAM EVALUATION ENSURING STUDENT OBJECTIVES MET WITH FUNDING ALLOCATION

The Mount Vernon City School District Career and Technical Education Department utilizes a comprehensive, multi-measure evaluation framework to ensure that student learning objectives are met and that allocated funding directly supports high-quality instructional outcomes aligned with New York State standards and industry expectations. Program effectiveness is evaluated through the following measures:

Technical Assessment Performance

Each approved CTE program administers a series of standardized and locally developed technical assessments. These typically include a program-specific project demonstrating mastery of technical competencies, a written assessment evaluating theoretical knowledge and industry understanding, and a performance-based assessment measuring applied skills in authentic, hands-on contexts. These multiple assessment formats ensure students demonstrate both conceptual knowledge and practical proficiency in their respective career pathways.

Program Completion Rates and Technical Endorsements

Student progress and program effectiveness are measured through program completion rates, reflecting the percentage of students who successfully complete all required coursework and technical requirements, as well as technical endorsement rates, indicating the proportion of students who earn an official CTE endorsement upon graduation.

Industry Credentials and Certifications

Student attainment of industry-recognized credentials is a key performance indicator across all programs. Certifications vary by pathway and may include:

- ProStart Certification (Culinary Arts)
- ASE Certification (Automotive Technology)
- Prometric and National Registry assessments (Health Sciences)
- New York State Nurse Aide Certification
- New York State Barber Licensing Examination
- YouScience and Precision Exams
- NOCTI (National Occupational Competency Testing Institute) assessments

Career Development and Occupational Studies (CDOS) Alignment

All programs support the successful completion of the New York State CDOS Commencement Credential through embedded instruction in technical and employability skill development. Instruction is aligned with NYS CDOS Learning Standards, emphasizing workplace readiness skills, communication and collaboration, problem solving and critical thinking, and professionalism and ethical conduct.

Employability Skills and Career Planning

Each program incorporates differentiated employability profiles tailored to specific career pathways. Students develop individualized career plans that reflect their interests, strengths, and post-secondary goals, ensuring targeted preparation for both employment and continued education.

Post-Secondary Outcomes

Program success is further evaluated by tracking student post-graduation outcomes, including enrollment in post-secondary education and training programs, entry into industry-recognized employment within related career fields, and participation in apprenticeships, internships, or workforce development initiatives.

SIRS Data

SIRS 305 and SIRS 345 data are used to measure enrollment, participation, academic proficiency levels, and concentrator status of CTE student subpopulations. Through these multiple measures, the CTE Department ensures that funding allocations are directly connected to measurable student achievement, workforce readiness, and successful transitions into post-secondary education and careers.

GOALS

The Mount Vernon CSD Career and Technical Education Department will increase overall program access and student success by June 2027 through the following measurable objectives:

Goal 1

Increase the number of CTE student concentrators by at least 3 percent, with a target of up to 5 percent, from the 2025 to 2026 baseline, as measured by SIRS 305 and SIRS 345 data.

Goal 2

Increase the number of students earning the CDOS Commencement Credential by at least 3 percent, with a target of up to 5 percent, from the 2025 to 2026 baseline, as measured by district graduation and credentialing data.

Goal 3

Increase the number of students earning a technical endorsement on their diploma by at least 3 percent, with a target of up to 5 percent, from the 2025 to 2026 baseline, as measured by program completion and technical assessment data.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Career & Technical Education Department (District-Wide)

MVCSD 2026-2027 Budget Expenses (Appropriation)

as of 4/23/2026

By Function; By Object

Fund - A

FUNCTION	ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	OBJECT DESCRIPTION	2024-2025 EXPENSED	2025-2026 ADOPTED BUDGET	2026-2027 PROPOSED BUDGET	\$ AMOUNT DIFFERENCE	% AMOUNT DIFFERENCE
2280	OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION	CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS	2,326	1,000	1,000	0	0.0%
2280	OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION	CONTRACTED SERVICES	10,140	61,700	61,700	0	0.0%
2280	OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION	FOOD SUPPLIES	13,212	20,000	20,000	0	0.0%
2280	OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION	FURNITURE	5,984	10,000	10,000	0	0.0%
2280	OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION	INSTRUCTIONAL SALARIES	71,607	71,634	163,200	91,566	127.8%
2280	OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION	MATERIALS & SUPPLIES	22,207	50,000	50,000	0	0.0%
2280	OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION	OVERTIME	346	6,000	2,000	-4,000	-66.7%
2280	OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION	REPAIRS-EQUIPMENT	975	3,000	3,000	0	0.0%
2280	OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION	TEACHER SALARIES-GR 7-12	984,439	911,513	1,137,377	225,864	22.9%
2280	OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION	TOTAL	1,111,236	1,134,847	1,448,277	313,430	28.2%

26-27 Proposed CTE Budget Expenses

