Nassau BOCES Superintenent Dr. Robert R. Dillon announced a coalition to help individuals find long-term career solutions through Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs. The coalition's mission will be to raise awareness to the importance of CTE and to address the growing need of labor-based careers and the positive benefits of a trade background, including recession-ready careers.

More than ever before, countless Long Island youth are underemployed with mountains of college debt, but there are opportunities out there for middle-skilled workers who have the right training.

**Barry Tech**

Barry Tech is a CTE high school program that offers over 40 hands-on courses designed to help students develop the skills they need to get a step ahead in their chosen career fields. More than 1,600 students throughout Nassau County attend the state-of-the-art Joseph M. Barry Career & Technical Education Center in Westbury where classrooms are designed to simulate real-world work environments that meet current industry standards. Classes may be held in an airplane hangar, horse-training stable, carpentry shop or video production studio. The members of the faculty are professionals in their fields who are eager to share their experience and expertise. Students benefit from an array of college articulation agreements, internships and opportunities to connect with and learn from more than 650 industry partners.

**Gerald R. Claps Career and Technical Education Center**

This summer, Nassau BOCES and Levittown Public Schools signed an agreement for Nassau BOCES to operate the Gerald R. Claps Career and Technical Education Center (GC Tech), which is located in the Levittown Memorial Education Center. This program will be operated as a second CTE center, allowing Nassau BOCES to serve even more students in some of its popular courses.

GC Tech, which serves approximately 300 students, was created in the 1980s and has helped thousands of students to turn their passions into their careers. These students will now benefit from Nassau BOCES' vast resources, and school districts will receive state aid on their students' tuitions to attend the program. For the 2019-20 school year, GC Tech will offer programs in Automotive Technology, Animation and Digital Media Design, Cosmetology, Construction Electricity, Medical Assisting, and Police Science and Criminal Justice.
Barry Tech In-district Programs

Districts can host or replicate a number of Barry Tech programs in their district as long as they share the teacher with another district or Barry Tech. The courses are developed and delivered in the local high school by Nassau BOCES. The courses are taught by a Barry Tech instructor, with Nassau BOCES supervision, utilizing a New York State Education Department (NYSED)-approved CTE curriculum, equipment, work-based learning and college articulations, etc. This year, four districts are offering in-district CTE programs serving 95 students.

Adult Career and Technical Education

The Nassau BOCES Adult CTE program provides industry-aligned hands-on training for adults who want to learn a trade or improve their skills. Students benefit from industry connections, on-site technical training and job-related certifications in order to become more knowledgeable and successful employees. More than 1,200 adult students annually attend courses at the Joseph M. Barry Career and Technical Education Center in Westbury.

Long Island High School for the Arts

For over 45 years, Long Island High School for the Arts (LIHSA) has been a powerhouse for the development of Long Island's creative and cultural sector, offering programs in Theatre, Dance, Music, Special Effects, Digital Media, Fine Arts and Film. LIHSA challenges current thinking and practice while producing graduates who are innovators and leaders. The school's alumni are working all over the world on stage, on screen, behind the scenes, and leading major events and organizations. When alumni speak about their LIHSA school experience, the most common words are “awesome,” “amazing,” “transformational,” “and life-changing.”

To learn about Nassau BOCES’ workforce development efforts, please watch our newest video at www.nassauboces.org/workfordvelopment.