Dunkirk junior Iann Ramirez unabashedly admits school has never been the favorite part of his day. Not because he doesn’t want to learn but because he wants everything he learns to apply to the rest of his life moving forward.

“The stuff I’m learning and the relevance it will have later on and the people here that I get to interact with, these are the things I look forward to each day,” he said. “P-TECH offers an advanced education and it would throw me out into the world prepared and hopefully with the ability to get a job straight out of the door.”

When he’s not creating a new design on SolidWorks in the Computer-Aided Design & Drafting classroom, Iann is watching shows like “Doctor Who” and playing video games like “Star Wars Battlefront II” and “Overwatch.”

“The atmosphere here is loose enough to enjoy but strict enough to get me prepared,” he said. “I’ve toured a lot of businesses, I’ve learned a lot of stuff that will help me in the real world. I’m learning techniques I can use in an actual job scenario which I find to be very helpful. I feel like straight out of P-TECH I can get a job.”

Iann is one of 25 Dunkirk students enrolled in P-TECH and one of five in his cohort. Being a part of a small group of students taking the road less traveled is something that excites him.

“P-TECH is a step toward a future that is yet to be determined,” he said. “You don’t know what the future holds, you can take as many guesses as you want based on what you know about yourself at that time. At P-TECH you will feel like you’re more prepared, whether that’s having more confidence in yourself, socially prepared, or overall. You can see yourself in a better place here.”

WNY P-TECH is tailored specifically for students interested in one of two educational pathways: Welding Technology or Mechanical Technology with specializations in CADD or machine tool. The up-to-six-year program allows students to earn an associate degree from Jamestown Community College in a high-demand field with no out-of-pocket expense.

Iann is one of 2,545 students in New York state who are advancing their learning through a Pathways in Technology Early College High School program.
Dear Board Members, District Administrators and School Community

E2CCB is continuing its ongoing effort to provide tangible stories and data through our Educational Collaborations which highlights how E2CCB is impacting your students, programs and operations.

Thank you for your on-going collaboration as we work together to provide programs and services to support students and districts throughout the region. We continually strive to build and strengthen our programs and services for students in your district as well as maximize operational efficiencies through shared services. We look forward to our continued partnership and making opportunities to best serve the needs of your students, teachers and administration.

David O’ Rourke, Ph.D.
District Superintendent

Danielle O’Connor
Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction

John O’Connor, Ed.D.
Assistant Superintendent for Management Services
Liliana Parker has the right makeup and attitude to make her dream career a reality, according to her Health Careers teacher Lori Poniatowski.

“Liliana is an excellent student,” she said. “She's really doing well in this program.”

The Dunkirk senior plans to follow in her aunt's footsteps to become a neonatal nurse, so when she heard about an E2CCB program that could help her start on the right foot she enrolled.

“If I want to be in the health careers field why not enroll in a program like this? My family was happy for me when I enrolled in this program,” she said. “I know my aunt was excited knowing she was my inspiration.”

Liliana’s aunt works in a New York City hospital in the neonatal unit and has provided insights into the field.

“I've had a lot of influences in my life, but my aunt is a nurse and she works with babies. Seeing her enjoy what she does is really uplifting,” she said. “We talk about the

Mecca's adaptive and academic skills have greatly improved. She is doing a great job to self-regulate and is making many strides in the classroom. She has improved her reading, math and on her behavior.

“When I grow up I want to become a teacher,” Mecca said. “I think being a teacher would be fun and I like helping people.”

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After graduation, Liliana is applying to the University at Buffalo and hopes to become a registered nurse. The new Health Careers Academy and Training Center at the LoGuidice Educational Center has provided her with industry tools and techniques that will assist her in her journey.

“It's a really good program. I like all the learning experiences and getting to go on clinical and getting hands-on opportunities,” she said. “I've learned I do have a lot of patience and enthusiasm for this field.

I'm excited to learn new things each day and things I should know to be in this field.”

When she isn't in school, Liliana enjoys cheerleading, hanging out with friends and family and watching “Victorious.” Liliana is planning on interning with an area hospital in the spring and she is one of the 37,313 students developing college- and career-ready skills through Career and Technical Education programs in New York state.
The Erie 2-Chautauqua-Cattaraugus BOCES does not discriminate in its employment and/or admission to programs and activities as applicable, on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, creed, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, religion, age, economic status, marital status, veterans' status, political affiliation, domestic victim status, use of a guide dog, hearing dog or service dog, disability, or other classifications protected under federal or state law, and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. Visit www.e2ccb.org for more information.