If you had asked Mystique Gomez five years ago if she could see herself becoming a class president, president of the National Technical Honor Society and enlisted in the Marine Corps by the end of her high school career she would have laughed. The Jamestown senior is, however, utilizing the lessons she’s learning in the Criminal Justice program at the Hewes Educational Center to make her dreams a reality.

“BOCES and this class taught me more about myself and gave me a lot of self-growth and it taught me a lot of life lessons,” she said. “Sometimes you won’t always get what you want, but if you work hard enough for it you’re going to get pretty close.”

Mystique’s hard work is paying off. She was voted to serve as her Criminal Justice class president, acts as president of the National Technical Honor Society and still finds time to participate in basketball, soccer and track for Jamestown. Having the opportunity in high school to expand on her interest of criminal justice has been a boon for her growth.

“At Jamestown we have Academies in pre-law, pre-med, human services … and you choose one and you get to learn about it more. I was already in pre-law at Jamestown so I figured I’d expand on that by joining Criminal Justice,” she said. “It’s refreshing because it’s less pressure on you when you have to go to college that you have to pay for and then find out you don’t like it.”

After graduation, Mystique will enter boot camp for the Marines and has been accepted into the Intel Division. She has a drive to succeed and embraces the support she’s receiving from her schooling and family.

“My mom loved the idea of my joining Criminal Justice and she embraced it and encouraged me so that helps me too,” she said. “And BOCES sets you up for real life situations. We have uniform checks, every job you’re going to have you have to be prepared; we also help in the community and help with fairs and parades … it helps prepare you.”

Mystique is one of the 37,313 students developing college- and career-ready skills through Career and Technical Education programs in New York state.
**CTE By the Numbers**

Automotive Body Repair: 6 students  
Automotive Technology: 8 students  
Conservation/Natural Resource Management: 3 students  
Construction Technology: 13 students  
Cosmetology: 17 students  
Criminal Justice/CSI Forensics: 14 students  
Culinary Arts: 5 students  
Diesel Mechanics: 3 students  
Graphics Technology: 6 students  
Health Careers: 17 students  
Information Technology/Computer Systems: 3 students  
Small Animal Science: 8 students

**Career & Technical Education**

Students enrolled in an approved CTE program acquire the skills, knowledge and professional practices necessary for success in college and the workforce. Students experience relevant, challenging, industry-aligned curricula supported by current technology in learning environments that foster high academic achievement and skill development. Course work is organized to provide both theory and hands-on.

Students have an opportunity to participate in internships with business, industry and education partners. Curriculum is assessed against national industry standards and meets the Common Core Learning standards.

Upon the successful completion of the two-year program, CTE students meeting specific criteria will earn a Technical Endorsement on their Regents/Local Diploma.

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Dear Board Members, District Administrators and School Community

E2CCB is continuing its ongoing effort to share student stories and outcomes 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
Jamestown senior Erik Mettler is the second in his family to pursue an education through P-TECH but he doesn't mind. He was able to learn about P-TECH from his sister, Nichoel Mettler, who is now attending Jamestown Community College in pursuit of her associate degree.

“I liked the sense of security knowing I'd leave P-TECH with a better chance at finding a job,” he said.

Erik says he always had plans to pursue college, but the ability to job shadow and intern with local business is part of P-TECH that intrigued him. Over the summer, Erik job shadowed for a week at Blackstone in Falconer where he was able to see all facets of industry including his pathway in Computer-Aided Design & Drafting.

“I've always been a more computer-oriented person rather than hands-on physical things. CADD has been quite fun,” he said. “(At P-TECH) we're currently working on and designing a robot for P-TECH. It has to be big enough to fit through doorways and able to move up and down stairs; we're modeling it after Johnny-5 from 'Short Circuit.'

Erik’s passion for computer technology shows when speaking about such projects. It’s the kind of project-based learning he can get behind.

“There’s a lot more hands-on work rather than just pen and paper work,” he said. “You’re expected to think about what you’re doing and I appreciate that as a student.”

When he isn’t knee-deep in CADD projects, Erik enjoys video games, D&D tabletop games and watching shows like “Sleepy Hollow.” He is one of 18 Jamestown students enrolled in P-TECH and one of 2,545 students in New York state who are advancing their learning through a Pathways in Technology Early College High School program.

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.

The place that Trenton Howard feels most at home is outdoors. This made following a path in Career and Technical Education by enrolling in the Conservation program an easy decision. Trenton splits his academic day between specialized programming at the LoGuidice Educational Center and CTE programming. In his free time he enjoys camping, kayaking and spending time outside.

Since attending LoGuidice, Trenton has seen an improvement in his academics as well as his social skills. Last year, Trenton received the most improved student award.

“I like the opportunities conservation has given me this year and I like the responsibility,” Trenton said. “We get to do a lot of things that take focus like operating heavy machinery and identifying species.”

Trenton takes part in the work experience coffee shop E Brew and likes that he is gaining social and customer service skills that will ultimately help him find a job after graduation. He hopes to pursue a career in conservation.
Shared Services

Career & Technical Education
P-TECH: Pathways in Technology
Early College High School
Special Education
Alternative Education
General Itinerant Services
Staff & Curriculum Development
Cooperative Bidding
Bus Driver/Attendant/Monitor Training
Central Business Office
Shared Business Manager
Shared Facilities Director

Super Eval: Superintendent Evaluation Tool
Risk Management
Certification
Shared Human Resource Manager
Management/Human Resources Audit
Planning Service Management
Labor Relations
School Public Relations
Regional Grant Procurement
Arts in Education
Visiting Experts

Environmental Education
Shared Associate Superintendent
Instructional Technology Resources
Science Resources
School & Societal Perspectives
Coordinated School Health
Shared Athletic Trainer
Community Schools
School Library System Services
Food Service Management
Instructional Media Services
Distance Learning
New Visions

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.