

## **High School Students from Across the Capital Region Complete Clean Technologies & Sustainable Industries Early College High School**

More than 50 students from high schools across the region graduate from the Clean Technologies & Sustainable Industries Early College High School (ECHS), located at Hudson Valley Community College's TEC-SMART extension center in NYSERDA's Saratoga Technology + Energy Park® (STEP®) in Malta on Wednesday, June 8, 2016.

The morning's agenda, from 8:30 to 10:45 a.m., includes a display of students' capstone projects, offering innovative solutions to real world problems. Speakers at the Graduation Ceremony include Tom Caulfield, senior vice president and general manager of Fab 8 at GlobalFoundries; Johanna Duncan-Poitier, senior vice chancellor for community colleges and the education pipeline at State University of New York; Michael J. Hickey, vice president and chief of staff at Siena College; and Hon. Carrie Woerner, assemblywoman of the NYS Assembly District 113.

Astria Solutions Group will also be presenting their annual scholarships to Clean Tech ECHS graduating seniors at the graduation ceremony. These scholarship are for students who specifically plan to continue their studies in a STEM field.

Jointly sponsored by Hudson Valley Community College and the Ballston Spa Central School District, the ECHS prepares high school students for college and careers in clean energy, computer science and information, mechatronics and entrepreneurship.

The school was begun in 2011 and now enrolls nearly 300 students from 24 different school districts across ten counties. Students take courses at TEC-SMART for half the day and complete regular high school courses in their schools for the remainder of the day to earn more than 20 college credits in addition to a high school diploma. It is one of the innovative educational programs available to interested students in the Capital Region. Mentoring, job shadowing, workplace visits and field experiences are provided through the program's partnerships with business and industry, government and non-profit regional groups.

In 2013, ECHS was recognized as a New York State Pathways in Technology (NYS P-TECH) school, with a grant of \$2.6 million to expand its offerings and reach to include 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade students. For details about the program, go to [www.bscsd.org/cleanTech.cfm](http://www.bscsd.org/cleanTech.cfm) or contact ECHS Coordinator Adrienne Snow at [asnow@bscsd.org](mailto:asnow@bscsd.org) or (518) 884-7150.