

Leveraging Community Partnerships for Student Opportunity

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"Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time. We are the ones we've been waiting for. We are the change that we seek."

- President Barack Obama



Transforming a School

- Lowest performing high school in the city
- One of the lowest performing vocational/technical schools in MA
- Cautious faculty



Creating a Culture of Excellence

- Community and businesses came together to build a \$90M facility
- Everything new
 - New address
 - New name
 - New mascot
 - New principal

We Needed To

- Seize the transformational moment
- Create a new vision and mission
- Prepare all students to graduate career and college ready
- Implement the new small learning community model
- Improve student outcomes



WORCESTER TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL 2013 National Blue Ribbon School Worcester, MA

2013-2014 Student Demographics 1400 Students

White 46 % Hispanic 34 % African American 13 % Asian 6 % Native American 0.6 % Females 54 % Males 46 % Low Income 63 % Special Needs 16 % 8 % ELL



WTHS Graduation Rate 2013

•	Overall	95.0 %
	2006	79.3 %
•	African American	91.2 %
•	Hispanic	93.1 %
•	White	96.8 %
•	Low Income	95.0 %
•	Special Education	88.1%
•	ELL	85.2 %
•	Dropout rate	1.3 %
	2006	6.5 %



2013 Graduation Placement

82%

13%

3%

2%

2 & 4 Year College Career Job Placement Military Other











Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) Percentage of Students who are Proficient & Above

English Language Arts											
2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
13%	18%	23%	29%	27%	48%	56%	78%	70%	78%	88%	92%

Mathematics											
2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
4%	9%	21%	23%	35%	46%	57%	70%	70%	74%	78%	84%

Build In Rigorous Academic Courses

- AP Biology
- AP English Language
- AP English Lit. & Comp.
- AP Statistics
- AP Calculus
- AP Computer Science
- AP Environmental Science
- AP Physics
- Advanced Algebra* 3 College Credits
- Spanish 1* 3 College Credits
- Spanish 2* 3 College Credits

*Taught by the Community College as College Courses





Worcester Tech. HS Enrollment

in AP math, science and English



College Readiness

Articulations

Over 30 articulation agreements

Dual Enrollment

Numerous school and district dual enrollment opportunities with 10 local colleges

Remedial College Courses

Vision Project for Math and English with the Community College

Early College Credits & National Skill Standards

Biotechnology

- STEM Club
- Premier Advisory Board
- College Advisory/Pipeline
- \$825K donation UMMS
- Developing Articulations
- 100% 4-yr Placement



IT Students

- Earn up to 18 dual enrollment college credits with Northeastern University
- Cisco national exams in A+, wireless, networking & security



Early College Credits & National Skill Standards

Electrical

- LEEDS Certified Construction
- Photovoltaic/Wind
- Smart Grid Beta Testing
- National Grid Engineering Pipeline Program



Electromechanical

- VEX Robotics Club
- 2013 VEX Robotics World Champions



Authentic Learning

- Community Veterinary Clinic
- 125 Seat Restaurant, Café/Bakery
- Full Service Salon
- 16 Bay Automotive Department
- Auto Collision Department
- State Approved Pre-School
- Web-based IT Help Desk
- Credit Union









With Area Colleges & Universities

Solar Decathlon China Datong, China – August 2013

- 1 of 23 teams selected from around the world to compete in the design/build of a zero-energy home.
- Collaborative effort of the U.S. Department of Energy and the China National Energy Administration.
- WTHS students provided the construction skills and labor.













That's impossible You can't do that.

doubt kills more dreams than failure ever will

try.

Someone

like you



WTHS Hosts Annual Motivational Speakers



Liz Murray Homeless to Harvard March 2009



Dr. Ben Carson Gifted Hands March 2010



Erin Gruwell Freedom Writers March 2011

WTHS Hosts Annual Motivational Speakers





Chris Gardner *The Pursuit of Happyness* March 2012

The Three Doctors – Dr. Rameck Hunt, Dr. Sampson Davis, and Dr. George Jenkins May 2013

General Colin Powell, USA (Ret.) March 2014

General Colin Powell, U.S. Army (Ret.)



General Colin Powell, U.S. Army (Ret.)







New England Town Hall with U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan









"...this school has demonstrated that regardless of whether or not you were born with a silver spoon in your mouth, regardless of what your parents' income is, you can be extraordinarily successful if adults - as a team, not a school - an entire community rally behind them."

Our Community Rallied Around Us...



And Our Community Was Rewarded



President Obama to WTHS Graduates:

"I want the nation to learn from Worcester Tech."



2014 Commencement




































Opportunity is missed by most people because it is dressed in overalls and looks like work.

(Thomas Edison)

izquotes.com

Opportunity Presented Itself

Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School District Fitchburg, MA

- 25 Miles North of Worcester Tech
- Independent Regional Vocational-Technical School
- Serving Over 1,400 Students
- Eighteen Cities and Towns, Two Gateway Communities
- 2nd Largest Regional School District in State, Geography
- 3rd Largest Vocational School in the State, Number of Students



Initial Challenges

- Lack of Stable Leadership
 - 5 Superintendents in 4 years (2 Acting, 1 Interim, 2 Full-Time)
- Climate of Mistrust
- Comfortable with Status Quo

We Needed To

- Build a Transformational Culture
- Create a Shared Vision
- Challenge the Status Quo, and Build in Rigor
- Prepare all Students to Graduate Career and College Ready
- Improve Student Outcomes



Replicate What Works

Authentic Learning Experiences & Industry Recognized Credentials

Business Technology

- OSHA 10-hour General Industry Training Certification
- Microsoft Office Specialist

PowerPoint

- Word
- Excel
- Access
- Outlook



• Articulation Agreements with with 2 area colleges, totaling 25 college credits

Monty Tech, in partnership with the Massachusetts Division of Banks and Workers' Credit Union, has established a full-service bank on the school campus.

The bank has hired and trained our students as Bank Tellers, and is providing additional training opportunities for students interested in pursuing careers in finance.



Banking that works.



Next Steps: Embed 1st year of Associate's degree (Business/Marketing) into high school program.

Expand: Make a Good Program Even Better Authentic Learning Experiences & Cutting Edge Technology

Health Occupations

- Medical Terminology Certificate
- Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) 10-hour General Industry Certification
- Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) Certification, American Heart Association
- First Aid Certificate, American Heart Association
- Certified Nursing Assistant License, American Red Cross
- Certified Clinical Medical Assistant Credential, National Healthcare Association
- EMT Certification
 - 8 College Credits
- Simulation Clinic
 - SimMan
 - SimJr.
 - SimView





Support Innovation

Information Technology & MCJROTC

- Comp TIA A+ Exam 801 Series
- Comp TIA A+ Exam 802 Series
- Cisco CCENT Exam Voucher
- C Programming Language
- CIW Web Design Certification
- Testout PC Pro Exam
- Security+
- Lunix
- Embed AP Computer Principles
- Articulation Agreements with with 17 colleges, totaling 24 college credits









Embrace Technology & Create Meaningful Professional Development Programs





In 2015-2016, All teachers, paraprofessionals, and guidance counselors were provided with Chromebooks. Professional development programs were offered for teachers at every level.

In 2016-2017, we rolled out a full 1:1 initiative, providing all 1,145 students with Chromebooks. Professional development efforts continue to target increased use of technology in the classroom.



Chromebooks 101 *Level: Beginner*

Google Apps 101 Level: Beginner/ Intermediate

Designing a Google Classroom Level: Beginner/ Intermediate

Chrome Apps & Extensions to Support Struggling Learners- Going Google! Level: Beginner/ Intermediate



Google Apps for Administrative Assistants Level: Beginner

Challenge the Status Quo: Build In Rigor

- AP English Language and Composition
- AP English Literature and Composition
- AP Statistics
- 👺 AP Calculus AB
- AP Chemistry
- AP Environmental Science
- AP Computer Science Principles



	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018
Students Enrolled in AP Course	57	89	145	120	108
# AP Exams	62	116	187	148	134
# Courses Offered	2	3	5	6	





- Monty Tech program will serve pets from low-income families, providing well-visits, diagnostic services, immunizations, minor surgeries all at a reduced rate
- Collaborate with post-secondary partners
 - Students will earn a minimum of 6 college credits while still in high school, at no cost to the student (Mount Wachusett Community College & Becker College)
 - Becker College donated \$100K to support the establishment of this program
- Program will be NAVTA accredited
- Monty Tech students and instructors provided all of the labor, building the 7,500 sq. ft. facility and saving the district more than \$1.25M in labor costs

Rely On Your Partners...Big and Small

PHASE I: Design & Construction TOTAL PROJECTED COST: \$2,250,000

(7,500 sq. ft. - \$300 per sq. ft.)

PHASE II: Equipment, Supplies and Materials TOTAL PROJECTED COST: \$502,797



Project Made Possible By:

- Grants, Public & Private
- Individual Donations
- Corporate Sponsorships
- In-Kind Services & Discounts





"We all know the role the technical schools play in responding to the workforce needs of this Commonwealth. This is another example of the tremendous innovation that is taking place here, that the Vet Tech program responded to an emerging need - the growing need for veterinary assistants."

- Congresswoman Niki Tsongas

























