



LABLines

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Syracuse City School District P-TECH Program

P-TECH Career Coaches Participate in First Mentoring Event of the Year with 26 Freshmen

By Mark Jordan, Ed.D., Education Coordinator

The Pathways in Technology Early College High School (P-TECH) program is a progressive educational model designed to provide academically at-risk students with the opportunities to graduate high school, complete a two-year degree and secure employment in high-demand STEM careers — **science, technology, engineering** and **mathematics**. P-TECH is a collaborative model incorporating a K-12 school district, an institution of higher education, and a business partner. Each of these participants contribute to the development of students' academic, technical and career readiness skills and prepare them to hit the ground running as they enter the workforce.

The first mentoring event of the 2017-18 school year took place on Oct. 13, when 13 of our career coaches representing both the Clinical Laboratory Technology and the Health Information Technology programs traveled to Henninger High School and met with 26 new freshmen. This event was a great opportunity for the students to get to know their career coaches and learn about the role they play in the field of healthcare.

Using the small-group mentoring model, each career coach met with two students. The objective of this event was for students to explore the career of clinical laboratory science through the lens of their career coaches. Each of the students conducted structured interviews with their coaches, asking probing questions relating to the challenging and most rewarding aspects of their jobs, educational requirements, work environment, essential hard and soft skills and many other topics. Some of the career coaches also brought props to share with the students such as microscope slides and pictures demonstrating different diseases, as well as different specimen collection devices. This provided another dimension of engagement and learning for the students as they interacted with these tools of the trade and listened to the career coaches' explanations of the items.

The career coaches present at this event include Michael Adetu, Maria Dillon, Barbara Guiffrida, Roseanne Ianuzi, Mark Jordan, Lazaro Martinez, David Mineo, Katie Raimondo, Rita Romano, Debra Shannon, Angela Smith, Morgan Thomas and Jennifer Walczyk.

Thank you to all of the career coaches who were able to attend!

