

Canastota Center for Innovative Learning

LEADERSHIP
INNOVATION
VISIONARY LEARNING
ENTREPRENEURSHIP



Fall
2025

NYS PORTRAIT OF A GRADUATE

In July, the Board of Regents formally adopted the New York State Portrait of a Graduate, a critical milestone in the Department's NY Inspires initiative. Creating a unifying vision of what it means to be a New York State graduate, the Portrait of A Graduate describes the essential skills and dispositions that all students should develop to be successful in college, careers, and civic life.

The Portrait provides our students an opportunity for integrated, student-centered learning. In preparing the "whole" graduate, the recommendation includes:

- Development of real-world skills
- Enhanced critical thinking and problem-solving skills
- Flexibility and creativity
- Improved student engagement and motivation
- Increased understanding of how different subjects relate to each other

The Portrait redefines Credits and Learning Experiences: Students' learning experiences and future diploma requirements will expand the ways students can demonstrate proficiency.

Ways to do this include state and national assessments and micro-credentials. Students earn micro-credentials, or "mini degrees", when they have **demonstrated competency** in specialized **skills** that **meet both industry and state/national academic standards** by completing student competency records.

Digital badges are **visual representations**, like mini digital diplomas, of all micro-credentials earned. Credentials created within industry clusters can be used interchangeably and flexibly – individual organizations can mix pre-constructed credentials with company/job specific credentials. To do this, the Canastota Central School District has created a strong partnership with our local business community. Current credentials showcase employability skills, leadership skills, career-related skills, and community service to name a few.



Any CCSD staff member interested in creating their own micro-credential(s) can reach out to
Liz Garofalo at egarofalo@canastotasd.org

GET IN TOUCH WITH US

EGAROFALO@CANASTOTACSD.ORG

Current Business Partnerships

BUSINESS PARTNERS

Businesses & Schools Working Together For Student Success

Our current business partnerships:

- Demonstrate strong business community support
- Strengthen programming and student participation
- Support student learning by providing hands-on opportunities for students to participate in (experiential learning)
- Help to build a better-educated future workforce
- Result in stackable Micro-Credentials for students to showcase
- Result in an Employability Profile for each student completing a program

Each partnership focuses on creating a unique career readiness experience for our students. This allows the students to attain first-hand knowledge of potential careers. The following business partnerships are currently in place:

CANASTOTA VILLAGE AND MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT

By participating in the Canastota Municipal Government Program, students have the opportunity to participate in interactive and rigorous exploration of career opportunities existing in the areas of public service, law, government, and public administration.

This program provides students with unique opportunities to learn “first-hand” the many critical aspects of local government by participating in job shadowing experiences within several departments.

CANASTOTA JUNIOR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Junior Chamber of Commerce is the result of a partnership between the Greater Canastota Chamber of Commerce and the Canastota Central School District. The CJCC is composed of high school students interested in learning the fundamentals and life lessons to help foster a positive impact on their local community and ensure productive citizenship. The partnership provides leadership opportunities and hands-on experience within the business community.

NEWS CHANNEL 9 – ABC

WSYR TV provides local news, network and syndicated entertainment and local programming to the viewers of the Central New York television market. WSYR is known for broadcasting NewsChannel 9, The Local Station, and delivering quality television on-air and digital media on LocalSYR.com. Earned through a series of in-class instruction, field trip(s) to WSYR TV, and guest speakers at CHS, students will have the opportunity to earn micro-credential recognition in broadcasting, journalism, and videography.



GREATER LENOX AMBULANCE SERVICE - GLAS

As a junior member of GLAS, students will have an opportunity to gain emergency medicine experience under the direction and supervision of a paramedic/EMT, while serving their community.

Trained junior members will aid paramedics and EMT's in patient care and, upon turning 18, may become trained as drivers and EMT's.

To become a member:

- Student must be 14 – 18 years old
- Student must be in good academic standing, with a 75 or higher report card GPA
- Student must complete a membership application and provide three (3) references
- Student's completed application will be voted on by the membership

ROSAMOND GIFFORD ZOO

This partnership is the result of a collaboration between the Canastota Central School District and the Rosamond Gifford Zoo. Students have the opportunity to experience first-hand the ins and outs of running an AZA accredited facility. Students will earn multiple micro-credentials and have the opportunity to participate in leadership projects that will enhance their skill base.

MADISON COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT CADET PROGRAM

The main objective of this program is to equip members with relevant knowledge and experience that will prepare them for a successful career in law enforcement and life

INTERNATIONAL BOXING HALL OF FAME STUDENT AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

Event Ambassadors assist the International Boxing Hall of Fame staff and volunteers with the set-up for special events including the International Boxing Hall of Fame Weekend and Induction Ceremony.

The ambassadors will act as hosts, assist inductees and distinguished guests, and provide services where needed.

The Ambassador Badge Program is the result of a collaboration between the Canastota Central School District and the International Boxing Hall of Fame.

Students are exposed to all aspects of the Hall of Fame operations by participating in hands-on, engaging lessons.

Students gain valuable leadership experience as they connect with International Boxing Hall of Fame management, staff, volunteers, and honored guests.

E-SPORTS

E-Sports Gaming is the most exciting new learning platform for students at the middle and high school levels.

Gaming mixes video gaming and esports capabilities with learning curriculums rooted in STEM to engage, interact, and educate students in a fun way.





Engage Canastota Education Foundation Grants Available

Engage Canastota Education Foundation awards grants to teachers for innovative projects that encourage creative teaching methods. Grants may be awarded for experiential learning and/or expanding students' understanding of the curriculum. The purpose of the Foundation's grant program is to enrich student learning and enhance the instructional programming in our schools.

When submitting a grant application for consideration, it should meet one or more of the following Foundation criteria:

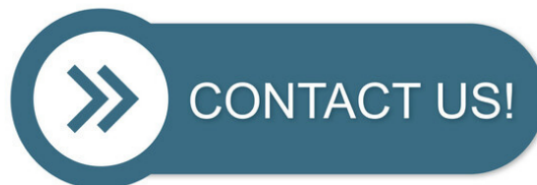
- Serve as an opportunity for enrichment that cannot be funded through the normal school budget
- Offer the possibility of continued impact for more than one year
- Offer expanded opportunities for application in other curricula and use by other educators
- Demonstrate innovative approaches or methodologies
- Anticipate, encourage, or reflect the expanded use of technology
- Impact as large a number of students as possible
- Encourage partnership with other funding sources
- Is consistent with the Canastota Central School District's curriculum and NY State Standards
- Serve as an effective pilot for possible future programs

The Foundation cannot approve funding for:

- Faculty/staff salaries and benefits
- Support of sports teams and equipment
- General capital improvements
- Building and grounds operations and maintenance
- Ongoing transportation expenses
- Routine purchases of equipment and supplies
- Administrative and clerical support



More information and an Application can be found on the
Canastota Central School District Website.
Select Community...Engage Canastota



Feel free to contact Liz Garofalo at egarofalo@canastotacsd.org for assistance