



# Innovation Center



Board of Education Update  
JPS Innovation Center  
April 14, 2026

# Concept

- Knowing and being able to do—at graduation
- Space to explore and to discover
- Connections to employers
- Ability to find work in the trades
- Apprenticeships, mentorship and shadowing
- Explore, Experience, Execute



# Need

- ***THE GROWING DEMAND FOR SKILLED TRADES***
- Employment in construction and extraction occupations is expected to grow faster than average from 2023 to 2033, with about **663,500 job openings each year** due to growth and worker replacement.
- Industry experts predict that many of these roles will remain unfilled due to a lack of qualified workers.
- High school training programs that introduce students to these industries at an earlier stage are a vital part of addressing this workforce gap.
- In a survey conducted by Associated General Contractors of America (AGC), **94% of construction firms** reported having difficulty filling open positions for hourly craft workers, which are the backbone of the construction workforce. High school training programs offer both a solution to the labor shortage and a viable career path for students.
- Skilled trade jobs often offer well-paying union careers with benefits, which is attractive to young people entering this uncertain economic environment. The Bureau of Labor Statistics reported a **median annual wage of \$55,680 for trade occupations** in May last year, which is above the overall median of \$48,060. Pay varies by job type and location.



# Need

- ***THE FUTURE OF TRADE EDUCATION***

- As industries continue to face labor shortages, the demand for skilled workers is only expected to grow. High school training programs that focus on the trades are a critical part of the solution. These programs not only prepare students for immediate employment but also provide a foundation for lifelong learning and career advancement.
- Moreover, as technology continues to evolve, the trades are becoming increasingly tech-focused, offering students the chance to work with cutting-edge tools and systems. From green building technologies to advanced manufacturing techniques, the trades are more dynamic and innovative than ever before.
- High school training programs that emphasize the trades are opening doors for students across the country. By providing hands-on learning experiences, certifications and industry connections, these programs are setting the stage for the next generation of skilled workers who will build, maintain and power our world.



# Ability to Grow

- Late Elementary School
  - Exploratory experiences
  - Field Trips
  - “Show and Tell”

Explore



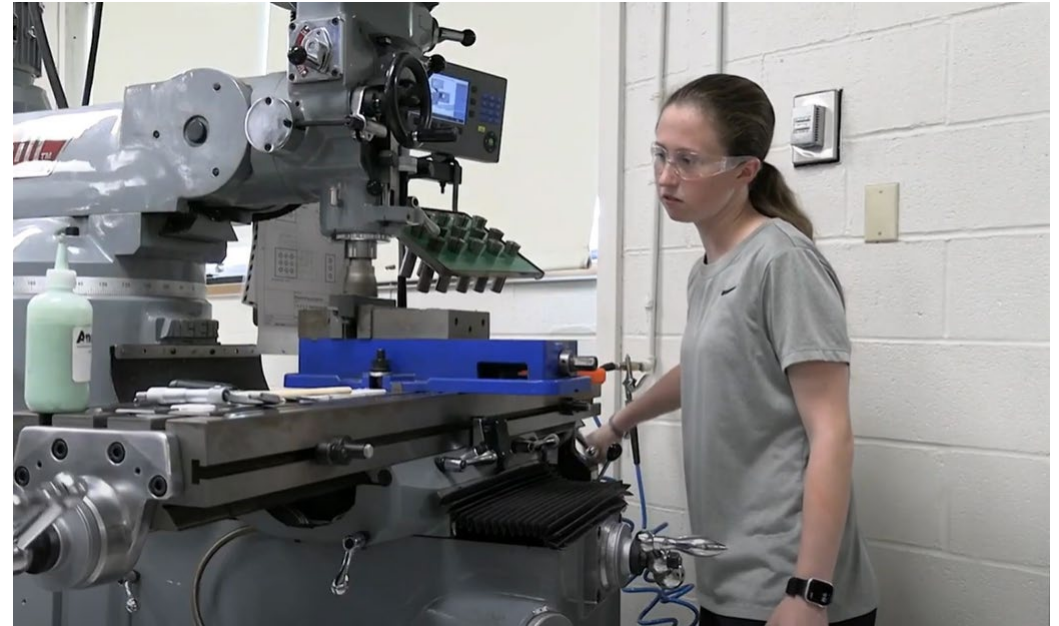
- Middle School
  - Problem solving
  - Visitations to IC
  - Foundations courses

Experience



- High School
  - Foundations
  - Courses at IC and on-site
  - Apprenticeships
  - Job Site experiences
  - Mentorship
  - “known quantity”

Execute



# Progression

Explore, Experience, Execute

- 8<sup>th</sup> – Exposure and tours
- 9<sup>th</sup> – Foundations course begins
- 10<sup>th</sup> – Transition to IC
- 11<sup>th</sup> – Mentorship and apprenticeships
- 12<sup>th</sup> – Job site experience, apprenticeships, jobs, transition to JCC credential programming



# Similar programs

- Warren Career Center
- Brooklyn STEAM center
- NYC High school for Construction Trades
- Lancaster Skilled Trades Academy
- Alden Schools Bulldog Manufacturing



Warren County Career Center  
Striving for personal and academic excellence.



# Initial Focus

- Aviation
  - 101 and 102
  - Aviation Maintenance
- Construction Trades

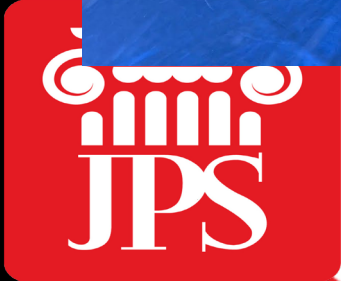


# Already in progress



# Already in progress







DISTRICT NEWS

JAMESTOWN HIGH SCHOOL

### Concrete Skills: Jamestown Schools, BXST Collaborate On Developing A Strong Workforce

Cameron Hurst

Jul 12 2024 2:51 PM

It's 1 p.m. on a Friday at the Innovation Center at Rogers School in Jamestown, New York. While the day, for most across the Jamestown Public Schools is nearing its end, the work is just beginning for students in Daryl Damcott's Jamestown High School carpentry class.

Ten students exit a bus from the high school, arriving at what Damcott, a JHS technology teacher, and Paul Andalora, a Builders Exchange of the Southern Tier-sponsored instructor, hope will be the first of many "work sites" to come in their young careers.

"The goal is to get kids involved with real-life projects," said Damcott, who has also spent 25 years working in construction. "As much as we can, we're trying to make things, even when we're talking in theory, as hands-on as possible. It's all about taking the theory and putting it into practical application as quickly as we can to make that



## JHS Aviation Program Inspires Senior's Ambitions

Cameron Hurst

Jun 16 2025 4:37 PM

JAMESTOWN, N.Y. – When Jamestown High School launched its new aviation program in the fall of 2023, Liam Crandall was among the first students to sign up.

Now, as he prepares to cross the stage of the Chautauqua Institution Amphitheater at Commencement on Friday night, he credits that experience – along with a love of science and a drive to improve how things work – for helping him decide what's next. This fall, Crandall will attend Rochester Institute of Technology to study industrial engineering and join the Air Force ROTC.

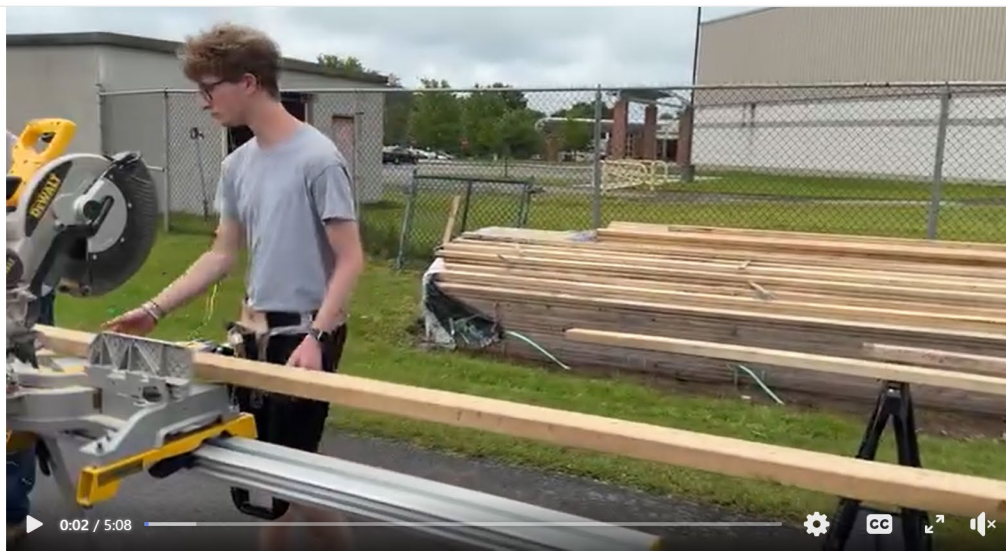
"I've always liked making things better – whether it's design, management, or efficiency," Crandall said. "That's basically what industrial engineers do. They take an idea and figure out how to make it work better for people."

Crandall will graduate 10th in his class and has taken advantage of nearly every opportunity available to him at Jamestown High School. He credits AP Chemistry with Tom Warner as his favorite class, but he relished the opportunity to study aviation with Daryl Damcott as well as flight instructors from the Great Lakes Flight Center.

"Not many people get to say they flew a plane in high school," Crandall said. "I always tell people – no, I didn't just ride in the plane. I flew it. That's an opportunity I'll never forget."

---






**Jamestown Public Schools**  
July 21, 2025 · 🌐


[Follow](#) ⋮

WATCH: Step inside the Jamestown High School Carpentry program, where students are building more t...  
[See more](#)

Most relevant ▾

 **Gizelle Woodard**  
This is such a great idea! I love how the program is giving students real-world skills and confidence. It's amazing to see the impact it's having on their lives.

34w

 **Carla Jean**  
What an amazing program! You're building more than just skills, - you're building a future in the trades ,

35w

[View more comments](#)

2 of 16

### #JPS Spotlight: JHS Carpentry Program

 Like  Comment  Share

  180

In the class taught by technology teacher Daryl Damcott, the students learn about flying with the use of flight simulators, and by learning to fly drones. Damcott added that with weather cooperating, students will travel to the Jamestown Airport and will participate in discovery flights with Great Lakes Flight Center instructors.



From left, Jamestown High School Senior Kameron Milne gives directions to State Education Commissioner Betty A. Rosa during her flight simulator session. P-J photo by Michael Zabrodsky



“We have a handful of students who have gone through our Aviation One classes,” Damcott said.

# Components

- Partnerships
- Advisory Board
- Teacher recruitment
- Staff selection and climate
- JCC connections
- Aviation
- Building Trades
- Food
- Cosmetology
- Health sciences
- Manufacturing



# Needs

- Partnerships
- Staffing
- Scheduling
- Credits and Portrait of a Graduate alignment
- Administrative and clerical support



# Partnerships



- MAST
  - Anderson Precision, Blackstone, Cummins, El Greco, Weber Knapp
- Great Lakes Flight Center
- Builders Exchange of the Southern Tier





- Start with what we have and grow
- Generate sponsorships
- Exploration of additional pathways
- Work with models and mentors for the program
- Develop local mentors in career fields
- Secure apprenticeship agreements (graduation credit)
- Course credits for applied subjects – Portrait of a Graduate
- Embed core classes into IC program
- Solidify pathways to credentialing and certificate programs

# Questions

