## SCHOOL NAME:
John Bowne High School

## PROGRAM:
Agriculture

## LOCATION:
Flushing, NY

## SUCCESS DATA:
**92% of students** passed the Regents or an approved substitution exam

**98% of students** passed a technical assessment

**78% of students** received a technical endorsement on their diploma

## ENROLLMENT:
587

## PROGRAM TEAM:
**Principal Howard Kwait**

**Assistant Principal Steve Perry**, work-based learning coordinator, agriculture teachers, academic teachers, and school counselors.

## CTE TAC REVIEW TEAM:
**Marsha Iverson**, Regional Field Representative, NYC and Yonkers

**Michael K. Woods**, Regional Field Representative, Central and Northern NYS

## MISSION:
The overall mission of the program is to provide an opportunity for success for all students in a challenging atmosphere with high academic standards, all centered on the field of agriculture.

# NYS CTE Model Program

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Agriculture program at John Bowne High School is a comprehensive four- year program that is located adjacent to a year-round 3.8-acre farm and near Queensborough Community College. It is the only school in NYC with a working farm, and one of the two schools



in the city that have an agriculture program. The facilities include a large animal barn, poultry house, aviary, small animal laboratory, machinery barn, orchard, plant nursery, and greenhouse. Chickens, sheep, alpaca, cows, and horses are housed on the farm. Students are provided a true industry setting as well as a college environment, which allow for practical/scientific experiences.

Freshmen are introduced to agricultural education fields such as veterinary medicine, landscape architecture, floriculture, and animal laboratory science on a 6-week rotation. Sophomores take these courses for double periods. Juniors select either plant science or animal science as their program of study, and seniors are enrolled in research and design coursework. Freshmen and sophomores take the indoor classes and go to the farm for the "Land Lab" experience in the summer. Upper classmen run the farm. The wide variety of work-based learning placements include the on-campus Land Lab and summer work on upstate NY farms.

## KEY PROJECTS

John Bowne's Agriculture program has a unique work-based learning program called Land Lab. During the summer between grades 9 and 10, all students attend Land Lab for one month, either July or August. Each student is assigned a 15 x 15 foot plot of land on the farm in the back of the school. The students plan, create, tend to, and harvest what they grow. The produce is used by the student or sold at local farmers markets. Teachers and upperclassmen supervise and assist. Teachers are compensated for their time, and upperclassmen can use the time they give as part of their required work-based learning hours.

## INDUSTRY CERTIFICATIONS

The program is planning to convert to a Bacho (a division of Snap-On tools) "shop" so students will be certified in Bacho Repair for pruning equipment.

## ARTICULATION AGREEMENTS

- An agreement with SUNY Cobleskill guarantees qualifying students admission; they receive 3 credits if pursuing animal science or 2 credits if pursuing plant science.
- An agreement with SUNY Farmingdale offers students 3 credits for a horticulture elective.
- An agreement with SUNY Delhi gives 3 credits towards Introduction to Horticulture.
- An agreement with Delaware Valley University in Pennsylvania gives 3 credits each for Survey of Animal Agriculture, Botany of Vascular Plants, and a general elective.

## PARTNERSHIPS

**NYC Department of Education** - NYCDOE plays an important role in providing work-based learning opportunities for a number of students by paying half the cost of a private placement or the full cost of a public placement for 15-30 hours a week in the summer.

**Bartlett Tree Company** - There many opportunities in arbor culture and urban agriculture, and the company needs people to fill them. Bartlett also sponsors a grow-out station at John Bowne that gives trees to schools and parks. Students learn about caring for trees and about the nursery business. They grow and care for trees for the 9-11 Tree Memorial and prepare them to be shipped out, at Bartlett's expense, to places where acts of violence have taken place. Bartlett also has a foundation that provides scholarships.

**The Bronx Zoo** - Students have opportunities to work at the zoo to learn about wildlife and get exposure to nature to build on for future careers. Students commit to working a certain number of hours, and the zoo helps them move through the pipeline by exposing them to agriculture, animals, and additional education. The John Bowne students are culturally diverse. so offer diversity that the field does not typically have. Some of the zookeepers and veterinary technicians are former students, who talk clearly and proudly about the program. Students from the program have been hired outright as teaching fellows.

**Alumni** - Alumni who have been successful in their careers and businesses are giving back to the program. One alumnus did his internship with and worked for a veterinarian who has served on the advisory committee for many years. This former student has since opened a grooming, boarding, and pet supplies store where he employs students as interns; after they have graduated, they can become employed. He is now opening an animal hospital with the vet who was his mentor.

## PROGRAM AWARDS

- CTE Industry Partnership Award
- NYAAE Outstanding Agricultural Education Program Award
- NAAE Region VI Outstanding Agriculture Education Program Award

## CTSO CONNECTIONS

John Bowne has 130 active members in National FFA, formerly known as Future Farmers of America. It is the largest chapter in NYS.

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### About CTE TAC of NY

The Career and Technical Education Technical Assistance Center of NY is funded through a state contract under the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Improvement Act of 2006, administered by the New York State Education Department (NYSED).