



County of Onondaga
Office of the County Executive

J. Ryan McMahon II
County Executive

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Media Release

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County Executive Ryan McMahon Thanks Governor Cuomo for Funding Commitment of Historic STEAM School

Major Step Forward for Workforce Development & Syracuse Surge in Onondaga County

SYRACUSE, N.Y. – County Executive McMahon thanked Governor Cuomo for committing the funds necessary for the first ever county-wide STEAM school in New York State. The STEAM school combines science, technology, engineering and math with an arts component to create a first of its kind school located at the old Central Tech in downtown Syracuse.

County Executive McMahon said, “This is an important and historic day for Onondaga County and the City of Syracuse. Thanks in part to Governor Cuomo and our partners in Albany, Onondaga County is now a leader in New York State when it comes to workforce development, preparing our youth for the jobs of the future and showing the power of positive collaboration, partnerships and shared interest in moving our community forward.” McMahon continued, “I look forward to working with our partners at the County Legislature, Common Council, City School District as well as our educational partners in the suburbs to make this project a reality.”

The county-wide STEAM school was born out of a shared vision and collaboration between County Executive McMahon and Syracuse Mayor Ben Walsh. The Onondaga County Legislature, Syracuse Common Council and Syracuse City School District were all critical partners in making this historic agreement happen. The project also received unanimous support from suburban school districts emphasizing the vast and deep support for the STEAM School.

The Onondaga County Legislature will have to take a vote to authorize borrowing the funds necessary to renovate Central Tech and will be subsequently reimbursed by New York State. The Onondaga County Legislature is taking the lead on financing thanks to its historically responsible financial management resulting in some of the best credit ratings in New York State, frequent surpluses and historically low tax rates. The Onondaga County Legislature could vote on the financing as soon as next month.

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