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## **Constantine Construction donation helps Career & Tech School students to keep on truckin'**

### **Lancaster Development of Richmondville also provided pro bono services for Schoharie Career & Tech student project during '07-'08 school year**

Constantine Construction & Farm Inc. of Colonie donated a day's worth of professional services, trucking and diesel fuel so students at the Capital Region Career & Technical School could keep on truckin' with their heavy equipment education. On July 30, Constantine's Eric Wood loaded and transported a diesel Freightliner CabOver truck tractor from Career & Tech's campus on Watervliet Shaker Road, Colonie, to the school's campus on Route 30A in Schoharie.

The truck had been used for repair and maintenance lessons by students in Sam Frink's Medium/Heavy Duty Truck Repair class at the Career & Tech School campus in Colonie until this summer. It will now be used by students at the Schoharie campus Residential Construction/Heavy Equipment, Commercial Construction/Heavy Equipment and Equipment Operation/Landscaping Services classes, which are team-taught by Kevin Simpson, Maryella Bell and Paul Clavette.

Clavette said he was thankful for Constantine Construction's transport of the truck tractor, "which our Schoharie Career & Tech students will use as a teaching module to learn about basic truck maintenance and basic air brake systems."

Constantine Construction has shown its generosity to the Career & Technical School in the past. "I've reached out before to Rich Szesnat, Constantine Construction's owner, when we've needed assistance, and he always helps our students and school without hesitation," said Kim Brizzell, Career & Tech assistant principal. "Supportive business partners like Constantine enable us to provide greater learning opportunities for our students, better preparing them for further education and successful careers. This ultimately supports our local, regional and state economy."

Constantine Construction donated similar services last summer to Career & Tech when they transported a retired bus donated by CDTA from Albany to Mr. Frink's classroom in Colonie, benefiting numerous students. Most vehicles donated to the Career & Technical School, including new models donated by manufacturers and dealers, are no longer driven on the road, but rather are used for teaching and learning.

During the 2007-08 school year, Lancaster Development of Richmondville donated time, professional services and fuel to assist the Schoharie Career & Tech Residential Construction/Heavy Equipment, Commercial Construction/Heavy Equipment and Equipment Operation/Landscaping Services classes. The firm transported heavy equipment for the classes from Career & Tech to Schoharie Central Schools, where the students completed several major construction and grounds projects as a community service.

"The administration of the Capital Region BOCES is very appreciative of the time, effort and resources committed by Constantine Construction and Lancaster Development," said Hank Stopinski, BOCES director of career and technical education. "At a time when we are exploring ways to reduce our fuel use and costs to taxpayers, such donations mean more than ever! We are grateful for our regional business and educational partners, who take such an active role in providing opportunities for our students."

The Capital Region Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) operates the Capital Region Career & Technical School, which offers 40 programs of study for more than 1,300 students from Albany, Schenectady, Schoharie and southern Saratoga counties. For more information, visit [www.bocescareertech.org](http://www.bocescareertech.org).