



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
MAYOR'S OFFICE OF STRATEGIC PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
JOSEPH A. CURTATONE
MAYOR

MICHAEL F. GLAVIN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

To Whom It May Concern,

The Somerville Center for Career and Technical Education is more than just a highly performing CTE program, which it is. The Somerville CTE is also a centerpiece of Somerville's larger economic development strategy.

The Mayor's Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development's Economic Development Division is charged with enabling commercial real estate development, attracting and growing businesses in the city, and providing training resources to prepare and connect residents with jobs. The CTE has been a major partner on two of these three areas: attracting businesses and providing training resources.

When a business is looking to move into Somerville, specifically if they are in the high-tech and advanced manufacturing industry, one of our first steps will be to show them the CTE programs, especially "FabVille", the fabrication laboratory or fab lab located in the former autobody shop. FabVille teaches creative problem solving and digital fabrication skills for the innovation economy to students during the day and to the general public after school hours.

The CTE's classrooms provide the equipment and space our office needs to operate training programs for under and unemployed adults after school hours. For the past two years our office has run CNC machining programs for adults to be trained and placed as machine operators throughout the region.

The CTE has been an enthusiastic partner in providing resources not just for students but for the whole community and is a powerful economic development and workforce development engine in the city. It is rare that a school district and a city government work closely together. It is because of the Somerville CTE's commitment to all of Somerville that we have been able to develop an extremely rewarding relationship, one that will surely grow and develop in the coming years.

Sincerely,

Thomas Galligani
Director of Economic Development
Mayor's Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development
City of Somerville