

# BOCES Bulletin

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Creekside Lego Club

“ The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched - they must be felt with the heart.”

- Helen Keller

## Upcoming Events

- April 1 April Fool's Day
- April 2 World Autism Awareness Day
- April 5 Board of Education Annual Meeting
- April 6 Paraprofessional Appreciation Day
- April 7 World Health Day
- April 8 BOCES 1 United Way Campaign Ends
- April 10 National Library Week

Follow this [link to the BOCES Calendar of Events](#)

## From the District Office

Heart disease affects many people in different ways. Chances are that you or someone you know has experienced cardiovascular problems. Many of our students have complex medical histories involving heart problems. Rochester area is among the top areas in the United States to receive money for research from the American Heart Association. The fantastic hospitals and available medical care in this area are a direct result of those resources. Our family benefited from these regional resources when our daughter, Paige, was born ten years ago with three different heart defects. The last one, an atrial septal defect, was repaired when Paige had open heart surgery at age five. The photo is of Paige the morning after the surgery.

To support the work of The American Heart Association in Rochester - work that helps so many of us and our students, from research to education programs, to the Jump Rope for Heart - I have set up a BOCES team for the **Annual Heart Walk** on **April 16th** at Frontier Field. I invite you to join me at this event. [Follow this link to learn more about the event.](#) And you can sign up at the [BOCES page for the event at this link.](#)



- Mike Doughty, Deputy Superintendent

## Board Briefs

Click here for the Board Briefs for **March 24, 2016**:

[http://www.monroe.edu/files/filesystem/BOEBRIEFS\\_03\\_24\\_2016.pdf](http://www.monroe.edu/files/filesystem/BOEBRIEFS_03_24_2016.pdf)

## Programs and Services Updates

### **Academic Bowl Team** *Wins 2016 Northeast Regional Academic Bowl!*



Monroe #1 BOCES' Academic Bowl team won the 2016 Northeast Regional Academic Bowl Championship competition, March 10–13 in White Plains, NY!

Since the inception of the Academic Bowl for Deaf and Hard of Hearing High School students in 1997, Monroe #1 BOCES has been Northeast Regional Champion seven times, and now they've made it eight! Our team went undefeated and will be traveling to Gallaudet University in Washington, D.C. for the National Academic Bowl in April!

#### **Our awesome team is comprised of four students:**

**Aiden DiDomenico**, (Sophomore, The Charles Finney School)

**Adriana Gonzalez**, (Freshman, Rush-Henrietta CSD)

**Kim Caceci**, (Senior, West Irondequoit CSD)

**Phelan Conheady**, (Junior, Allendale Columbia)

#### **Special recognition goes to:**

**Phelan Conheady** for receiving the **Most Outstanding Player** award.

#### **Our exceptionally dedicated coaches are:**

**Deb Reisch**, Teacher of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and

**Dana Griffin**, Educational Interpreter.

The National Academic Bowl competition was established with the goal of fostering the pursuit of academic excellence, promoting a spirit of academic competition and sportsmanship, and providing social opportunities for the development of collegiality and lifelong friendships. Every year, Gallaudet University hosts five Regional competitions for up to 90 teams of Deaf and Hard of Hearing high school students. Twenty-four teams then advance to the National competition held at Gallaudet every year.

# Healthcare Career Fair *Draws Area High School Students*

## Rochester General Hosts Unique Opportunity to Explore Medical Careers

On March 10th, 100 area high school students experienced Rochester General Hospital (RGH) Healthcare Career Fair. The career fair was a collaboration of Monroe #1 BOCES College and Career Ready Partnership and the Eastern Monroe Career Center's New Vision Medical Careers program. The vast majority of planning and organizing the career fair was done as part of a senior project by the New Vision Medical students, under the direction of teacher, **Gina Lord**, with assistance from the Coordinator for the CCR Partnership, **Kathleen Barrett**.

Deborah Stamps, Senior Vice President of the Quality and Innovation Institute at RGH, welcomed the students and shared the story of her path into the medical field, the rewarding aspects of her career, and the future needs of the healthcare profession.

After the welcome, the New Vision Medical Careers students led small groups on a combination of tours of several hospital departments (Lipson Cancer Center, Central Stores, Pluta Dental Center, Medical Intensive Care Unit (MICU), Orthopaedics, Pediatrics, Pharmacy, Phlebotomy and Radiology). RGH staff members were available in each department to answer students' questions and discuss details about their work.

As the first student group was on tour, the second visited stations where medical professionals provided information and hands-on activities. The students asked questions, received background information, and networked with professionals from a variety of medical specialties.

Additional healthcare demonstrations and staff connections for students, included:

- RGH Respiratory Care supplied breathing equipment for students to test and experience,
- Finger Lakes Physical Therapy provided a device that measured strength according to age,
- RGH surgical department staff captured students' attention with a mock operating room,
- Staff from the School of Nursing, Pediatrics, and Career & Technical Education programs from Monroe #1 BOCES and Monroe 2-Orleans BOCES,
- Staff from Rochester General Hospital Volunteer Office,
- InterVol, a non-profit organization that recycles unused medical supplies and distributes them throughout third-world countries, provided staff to speak about their worldwide mission.

The Healthcare Career Fair registered students from several school districts, including East Irondequoit, Gates-Chili, Greece, Pittsford, Wheatland-Chili, and West Irondequoit.

For more information, contact Kathleen Barrett, *College and Career Ready Coordinator*, Monroe #1 BOCES, via email: [kathleen\\_barrett@boces.monroe.edu](mailto:kathleen_barrett@boces.monroe.edu), phone: (585) 383-2257, or visit the website at <http://www.monroe.edu/schooltocareer.cfm>



Dr. Kathryn Scibona, Physical Therapy, demonstrates a muscle strength device and answers questions about physical therapy.



Sheri Tooley, Respiration Care Education Supervisor, demonstrates the use of a breathing monitor.



Kathleen Carroll-Williams and Sarah Giancursio, surgical nurses, explain equipment utilized in an operating room.

## STEAM Pilot *trains educators and librarians*

A **Science Technology Engineering Arts Mathematics (STEAM)** Pilot, for educators and librarians, was recently presented to demonstrate how to learn by doing using robotics, coding, and design/engineering. Participants attended four workshops, learning, practicing, collaborating and planning classroom integration of robotics and coding in the library and/or classroom. Attendees from East Irondequoit, East Rochester, Fairport, Penfield, and Rush Henrietta enjoyed the hands-on experience with Hummingbird Robotics, littleBits Robotics, Snap Coding, and Scratch Coding. For more information, view the following [STEAM Pilot video](#) which highlights the experience!

Also, we will be offering STEAM Boot Camps over the summer—watch for the [M1B Professional Development](#) summer catalog for more information!

*- Submitted by Doreen Pietrantonio, Instructional Technology Specialist*



## Creekside Lego Club *Builds Social Skills*

The Creekside School Lego Club was launched recently, bringing students together to experience fun building with Legos. Each Wednesday, the Lego Club, currently comprised of nine students from different classrooms, meets in the Creekside Library from 2:30 to 3:00 pm. The club began in Assistant Principal Gina Ditullio's office one day when she was coaching students Dominic and Justin about ways to improve their interactions in the classroom. During the conversation, the students realized they had a common bond—playing with Legos—and the Lego Club was launched. This fun activity helps build social skills and fine motor skills, quietly enjoying free playing with Legos. Students play using Legos provided by donations from BOCES staff, as well as funds from BOCES United Professionals. "Playing with Legos engages students in a typical experience you might find in a typical high school; it's a normalizing activity. It creates teamwork and can have a calming effect on students," stated Creekside Teacher, Aaron Datro. Dominic and Justin have become better friends and classmates—they even designed and built the Lego Club sign that's posted during the weekly meetings. "Legos are fun to play with and build with everybody; we get to talk and meet friends from other classes," stated Justin. Dominic stated, "It's a good idea for kids; I look forward to it. I like to be a leader of the club and like to see more kids work in; I like helping kids."



## Good Apple Awards



In 1988, the administration at Monroe #1 BOCES developed the 'Good Apple' Award program to acknowledge staff who "make a difference" in our school community, and to recognize staff members who demonstrate the qualities of the BOCES vision: innovation, collaboration and leadership.

### March 2016

Kathleen Steele (School Health Services) nominated **Jane Ford**, **Audrey Seibert**, **Cheryl Medley-McKinney**, and **Marcia Gopie** (School Health Services) for Good Apple Awards. Kathleen stated, "Putting their own workloads aside, Jane Ford, RN for the Hart Street Programs and Audrey Seibert, RN for the Martin Street Programs, both spent three days at Aquinas to provide assistance with sports re-qualifications to ensure that students were requalified in time to play sports. Both Jane and Audrey have also been instrumental in assisting in other buildings when staffing has been an issue. In addition, both School Health Aid, Marcia Gopie, and School Health Aid, Cheryl McKinney, were flexible in covering their respective buildings independently without the building RNs for all of those days. Thank you, team, for representing BOCES 1 in a positive, professional way and showing your dedication to our schools and students; great teamwork!"

JoAnne Jones (Multi-Occupational/FOCUS) nominated **Leonard Hall** (EMCC) for a Good Apple Award. JoAnne stated, "Thanks so much to you and your afternoon EMCC students for lugging our broken coffee cart away and bringing it back in tip-top shape."

Elizabeth DeSmitt (School Health Services) nominated **Maria Morales** (School Health Services) for a Good Apple Award. Elizabeth stated, "Maria and I have been working together for over 10 years in the same school. Each and every day is a pleasure working with her. She helps everyone she meets. Not only does she do an efficient job in the health office, anticipating student and RN needs, she has always assisted me and so many other school members and families in translation concerns. Maria has been the model employee and colleague!"



## Technology Tip

### Find nearby gas prices

**Gas Buddy (gasbuddy.com)** provides a website and smartphone app that lists gas prices in your area (sorted lowest to highest), and the smartphone version of the app guides you there with turn-by-turn directions. Just type in a zip code to see a list of gas prices in that area.

## Did You Know?

### Mental Health Services

- Mental Health Services is a team of **28 certified school psychologists and school social workers** supporting student achievement.
- **Every** BOCES 1 operated special education classroom is supported by a Mental Health professional.
- Approximately **75% of students** in BOCES special education programs receive direct counseling services to support mental health and social/emotional development.
- FLECS counselors work with **over 100 families** for students attending their district school.
- BOCES Mental Health counselors are in area **private and parochial schools** providing counseling and assessment services.

For more information, click here: <http://www.monroe.edu/SupportServices.cfm?subpage=1105>

- Submitted by Bill Hurley, Mental Health Services

## Monroe 1 BOCES' 60th Anniversary

### Monroe #1 BOCES . . . a look at the past: 1982 – 1986

- The BOCES Board of Education agreed to jointly oversee the **Urban-Suburban Transfer Program** with West Irondequoit CSD in 1982.
- In 1983, **over 500 visitors** attended the official opening day celebration at BOCES Rush Campus. Also, the **Down to Earth Program** and the **Career Assessment and Planning Center** were established.
- **District Superintendent, Kenneth Harris** retired in July 1984 and **Dr. Joseph Farinola** was welcomed as the new District Superintendent later in that year.
- Thanks to the BOCES 1 Education and Technology Center, **interactive television teaching** arrived in the greater Rochester area in 1986.



#### 1982 Cost of Living Facts:

<b>New House</b>	\$82,200
<b>Average Income</b>	\$21,050 per year
<b>New Car</b>	\$7,983
<b>Average Rent</b>	\$320 per month
<b>Gas (1 gal. regular)</b>	\$0.91
<b>Dozen eggs</b>	\$0.84
<b>First Class Stamp</b>	\$0.20
<b>Annual inflation rate</b>	6.16%

### SAVE THE DATE!

*Monroe #1 BOCES-wide event: The Amazing Race*



**Friday, May 13, 2016 @ 4:00 pm**

**Where:** Pittsford Village (Meet in Fishers Room at Library)

Here's an amazing opportunity to let your competitive side show, while having FUN with your colleagues. A fun event for ALL Monroe #1 BOCES staff! Teams should consist of 4-5 members, or you can sign up individually and we will group you onto a team.

**Sign-ups are open now through April 22, 2016.**

**Cost:** \$10/person

**Sign-Up Locations:** Creekside Office, CTTS Office, EMCC Office, Harris Building Office, O'Connor Academy Office

### The Sheriff's Star Student Award Program: *Call for Nominations*

The Sheriff's Star Student Award program recognizes middle and high school students throughout Monroe County who distinguish themselves through exemplary behavior and embody the core values of the Sheriff's Office: Respect, Integrity, Teamwork, and Excellence (RITE).

In 2014-2015, four students received The Sheriff's Star Student Award and each student received a check for \$500 dollars, made possible through donations from the Sheriff's Foundation and Time Warner. Help the Sheriff's Office highlight the positive things that our students are doing.

[Please click here to download the nomination form.](#)

**Nominations should be postmarked by Friday, April 15, 2016.**

### Bouncing For Clean Air Fundraiser

*presented by Pure Lungs Clothing, Mr. Big Bounce and Sillen Electric*

**Saturday, May 7, 2016**

12pm–6pm

Ellison Park, 1880 Blossom Road, Rochester, NY

Admission is FREE.

A great family event to help raise money for The Golisano Children's Hospital. Free admission, bounce houses, face painting, live music, and the best food trucks in Rochester.

# SANE (Sometimes Acronyms Need Explaining)

## SACC:

### **Skills and Achievement Commencement Credential** for Students with Severe Disabilities

The Skills and Achievement Commencement Credential will provide this group of students who are exiting school after attending at least 12 years, excluding kindergarten, with a commencement certificate similar in form to the diploma issued by the school district. The Skills and Achievement Commencement Credential must be accompanied by documentation of the student's skills and strengths and levels of independence in academic, career development and foundation skills needed for post-school living, learning and working.

If you have an acronym that you think needs explaining, please email [John\\_Walker@boces.monroe.edu](mailto:John_Walker@boces.monroe.edu).



### **Notice of Non-Discrimination**

The Monroe #1 BOCES does not discriminate on the basis of an individual's actual or perceived race, color, creed, religion, religious practice, national origin, ethnic group, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation (the term "sexual orientation" means heterosexuality, homosexuality, bisexuality, or asexuality), political affiliation, age, marital status, military status, veteran status, disability, domestic violence victim status, arrest or conviction record, genetic information or any other basis prohibited by New York state and/or federal non-discrimination laws in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. In addition, students are also afforded protection based on weight.

For more information, contact one of our Civil Rights Compliance Officers:

Nancy Carr, 585-249-7010, [Nancy\\_carr@boces.monroe.edu](mailto:Nancy_carr@boces.monroe.edu)

James Colt, 585-383-2298, [James\\_colt@boces.monroe.edu](mailto:James_colt@boces.monroe.edu)

Dennis Glaser, 585-383-2232, [Dennis\\_glaser@boces.monroe.edu](mailto:Dennis_glaser@boces.monroe.edu)