

Weekly Bulletin

“ Science is a way of thinking much more than it is a body of knowledge.”

- Carl Sagan

Upcoming Events

- Tues., April 16 – School Librarian Day
- Mon., April 22 – Earth Day
- Wed., April 24 – Administrative Professionals’ Day
- Thurs., April 25 – Regular Board Meeting
- Fri., April 26 – Arbor Day
- Wed., May 1 – May Day
- Thurs., May 2 – New York State Teacher Day
- Sun., May 5 – Cinco de Mayo
- Wed., May 8 – National School Nurses Day
- Thurs., May 9 – Regular Board Meeting

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

A Message from Mike

What do you remember from your science education? Do you remember a bunch of big vocabulary words? Do you remember how to use the Earth Science Reference Tables? Do you remember learning how to apply the scientific method to make predictions, collect data, and draw conclusions? Last week I visited Claudine Chartier’s Creekside classroom as she was engaging students in testing hypotheses. The students predicted whether they could keep their hands in ice water longer when they were bare or by using simulated whale blubber (vegetable shortening in baggies). As the students excitedly tested their predictions, I couldn’t help think about the recent release of the [Next Generation Science Standards](#) (NGSS). In the creation of these standards, seven conceptual shifts were identified:

1. K-12 Science Education Should Reflect the Interconnected Nature of Science as it is Practiced and Experienced in the Real World.
2. The Next Generation Science Standards are student performance expectations – NOT curriculum.
3. The Science Concepts in the NGSS Build Coherently from K–12.
4. The NGSS Focus on Deeper Understanding of Content as well as Application of Content.
5. Science and Engineering are Integrated in the NGSS, from K–12.

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Data Snapshot

About two-thirds of internet users use social networking sites (SNS) and all the major metrics for profile management are up compared to 2009:

- 63% have deleted people from their “friends” lists, up from 56% in 2009
- 44% have deleted comments made by others on their profile; and 37% have removed their names from photos that were tagged to identify them.

(Source: [Pew](#))



6. The NGSS are designed to prepare students for college, career, and citizenship.

7. The NGSS and Common Core State Standards (English Language Arts and Mathematics) are aligned.

These new national standards are likely to be adopted by the Board of Regents soon and will have implications for curriculum, instruction, and assessment throughout the region. Stay tuned.

- Mike Doughty, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction

Did You Know?

- The Deaf Education Department started in 1977 with three staff members and has grown to include Vision and Mobility with over 100 staff.
- Over 90% of the students receiving services from Deaf/ASL Education-Vision/Orientation & Mobility are in non-BOCES programs in over 25 districts.
- Educational interpreting, part of the Deaf/ASL Education service, has 32 staff interpreters working in 21 schools in 10 districts.
- Classroom interpreting is more than just knowing how to sign competently. There are many aspects to the educational interpreter's job. For example, in addition to processing language quickly and accurately, while thinking about two uniquely different languages simultaneously, interpreting is also about being able to work closely with the educational team to support goals and outcomes defined in the student's Individual Education Plan.
- Cued Speech Transliterating, part of the Deaf/ASL Education service, has two full-time Cued Speech transliterators on staff.
- Cued Speech is a mode of communication based on the phonemes and properties of traditionally spoken languages. Cueing allows users who are deaf or hard of hearing to access the basic, fundamental properties of spoken languages through the use of vision. Like interpreters, Cued Speech Translitterators work closely with the educational team to support goals and outcomes defined in the student's Individual Education Plan.

-Nancy J. Carr, Program Coordinator, Deaf/ASL Education-Vision/Orientation & Mobility Department

Technology Tip of the Week

Thanks to Mary Begley for sharing this Tip of the Week:

Mary got the tip from Francis Hayes (The Excel Addict) in his [newsletter](#).

An AutoSum Keyboard Shortcut

Everyone uses Excel's AutoSum command for quickly summing values. Did you know there is also a virtually unknown keyboard shortcut that performs the same function? This is great for times when you'd rather use your keyboard.

Simply press the Alt key plus the equal sign (**Alt + =**)

Once you get used to using this shortcut, you can avoid reaching for the mouse when you already have your hands on the keyboard.



Programs & Services Update

Lori Sorber recently spent a day in Albany as a member of the New York State Teacher Certification Examinations Job Analysis Survey Task Force. Lori was selected due to a nomination submitted by a professor at Nazareth College overseeing student teachers who recommended Lori to NYSED as an outstanding cooperative teacher.

Lori was among 40 people from around the state who were divided into subgroups of teachers in the areas of Special Populations, Core Subjects, Multi-Class, and Administrators. Lori was one of 12 educators in the Special Populations group. Their charge was to review and critique APPR indicators and to recommend changes to fit the needs of teachers of Special Populations. They worked with college professors because part of NYS Teacher Certification Exams will include knowledge of the APPR process. Those exams will be revamped utilizing information learned from the work day.

Congratulations to Lori for being recognized for her contributions to the student teaching experience! We extend our thanks for the hard work she did in Albany and for representing Monroe #1 BOCES in such a positive way!

- Ellen Howe, Principal, Lois E. Bird/Morgan School



EMCC

The EMCC cosmetology students do an annual "Era Project" that highlights hairstyles from different decades or eras. This project is a joint effort with EMCC photography students who create photos illustrating the styles. These photos are displayed for all EMCC students and staff to view. Era clothing is provided by Lu's Back Door, a consignment shop in Fairport. Please click [here](#) for more information about the "Era Project".

-John Lisak, Principal, Eastern Monroe Career Center - Work Experience Program

Connecting with a Colleague

Each week, a staff member will be selected to complete a brief questionnaire to help us get to know him or her. This week we are connecting with **Robin Hyatt**.

- **What are your primary responsibilities?** Some of my primary responsibilities include making sure that everyone gets paid, coordinating and processing board approvals - which means reporting to the board all employees who are going to be paid for any reason, conducting new employee orientations, and processing Civil Service paperwork to be sure everyone is in compliance. I also have been involved with the implementation of the time and attendance system and lots and lots of reporting to multiple agencies, auditors, and departments.
- **How long have you worked at BOCES?** It will be 25 years in September. I started working in the Payroll Office in 1988 as a Payroll Clerk, then transferred to Technology Services as a software support person for the Wincap Financial System, then transferred back to the Human Resources Department 8 years ago to be the Personnel/Payroll Supervisor. As they say, time flies when you are having fun!!



- **What is your favorite part of your job?** My favorite part of the job is meeting and working with BOCES employees. I am so lucky to work with so many wonderful people.
- **What do you enjoy in your free time?** I enjoy spending time with family, especially in the summer when we go to our cottage in the Thousand Islands. I love to be on the water, boating or jet skiing or just sitting on the deck enjoying the scenery. My husband has classic cars so we like going to cruise-ins during the summer months. I also enjoy reading and vacationing in Ft. Meyers Beach, Florida.
- **What is the one thing you would like people to know about you?** April 15th will be my 24th wedding anniversary. My husband Don also works at Monroe #1 BOCES. We have 2 children, Rachel who is 21 and DJ who is almost 23. They are both in college so we have been empty nesters for a couple of years now. We also have 3 shih tzus that keep us busy, Abby, Hugo, and Noah.

News and Notes

Seeking Grants

Do you have an innovative idea to improve a program or the delivery of services? Yes? But, wait, there's no funding. A grant just might be the answer. Not really, you say? You don't know where to begin to identify a funding source or you don't know the ABC's of grant writing. Who can you call? Try Grant Busters at 383-2265 (that would be me, Joyce Cymber, Director).

The step-by-step process to pursue a grant is located on our BOCES intranet. While you are there, you might also want to check how to apply for a mini-grant (BUP members only) or a BOCES Foundation grant. The first step for grants that require approval by the Monroe #1 BOCES Grant Committee is to forward a completed grant application request form to my attention. Next, you will present your proposal to the Grant Committee, a friendly bunch of people from various departments. This committee's primary role is to ensure that grants are in alignment with the mission and vision of Monroe #1 BOCES. The Grant Committee will review your proposal and determine if you should move forward to the next steps: writing the grant and submitting to the funding source. Again, help is available; however, expenses incurred for assistance from a professional grant writer will be charged to the individual department.

Last year, the Grant Committee approved grant requests totaling \$1,161,599; Monroe #1 BOCES received awards for approximately \$426,000.

- Joyce Cymber, Director, Career & Technical Education, Co-operative Summer School, Driver Education, ESOL & Translation Services, Grants

Clerical Training a Success!

Over Spring break, Teacher Center organized professional development specifically for clerical staff. The theme was "Technology". Over the course of the week there were options for staff from basic computer use to advanced Microsoft, in addition to some refreshers. Fifty-seven staff members took advantage of the various trainings. Many people have graciously provided positive feedback and were very appreciative of the opportunities provided.

Thank you and accolades go out to:

- **The Trainers:** Bryan Belluccio, Diane Smith, Cherie Nothnagle, Sarah Wendl, Julie Legan, Dennis Glaser, and Ann Thaney, (Linda Schreib, Scott Clarke)
- **The Planners:** Chris Jehle, Bill Gregory, Bryan Belluccio, Edie Miglietta
- **The Back-up:** Campus Security, Campus Technology, and O&M
- **The Bakers:** Kathy Barrett and Gina Carrano's classes

- Nichole Outhouse, Director of Teacher Center

2013 Think About Teaching Conference

On March 28, 2013, the 13th Think About Teaching Conference was hosted by Roberts Wesleyan College. Over 225 students interested in a career in education attended.

The TAT conference, spearheaded by a group of passionate school district leaders, began in 2001. Each year the conference is hosted by a local regional college that offers education as a major for its students. The focus of the conference is to bring college bound high school students from underrepresented groups together to learn more about what it takes to become an education professional.

Each attendee listens to a keynote speaker and attends two workshops related to the profession. Lunch is provided through the college and supported by local teachers' associations.

Shaun Nelms, Deputy Superintendent from the Greece School District, delivered this year's keynote presentation and shared some information about his background related to his career path in education.

This year's TAT Architect Committee organized the conference and was chaired by Jeff Dillon, Monroe #1 BOCES, "College and Career Ready" Partnership Coordinator.



SANE (Sometimes Acronyms Need Explaining)

Thanks to Nichole Outhouse, Director of Teacher Center, for the following explanation:

Response to Intervention (RTI): a method of academic intervention which is designed to provide early, effective assistance to children who are having difficulty learning