



Weekly Bulletin

“Man is so made that whenever anything fires his soul, impossibilities vanish.”

- La Fontaine

Upcoming Events

- Mon., July 8 – ESY begins
- Mon., July 8 – Ramadan begins at sundown
- Tues., July 9 – Cooperative Summer School begins (staff report)
- Thurs., July 11– Board Meeting-Reorganization Meeting (rescheduled)
- Thurs., July 25 – Regular Board Meeting
- August 13-14 – Summer School Regents Exams
- Fri., August 16 – ESY ends

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

A Message from Mike

With the Fourth of July holiday, this is a somewhat abbreviated Weekly Bulletin. I hope everyone had a safe and restful holiday. On Monday we begin Extended School Year. There is a ton of work that goes into preparing for this six-week program. One administrator described it as planning for an entire school year to occur in six weeks. And this is not the kind of work that a few people accomplish in isolation. Many people from many different departments pull together to make it all work. From the program folks, to Operations and maintenance, to Technology Services, and Transportation, the two weeks between the end of the regular school year and the beginning of ESY are very busy. If you have the opportunity, please thank anyone and everyone who helped to make our important summer programs a reality.

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Data Snapshot

National Assessment of Educational Progress (The Nation's Report Card): Trends in Academic Progress 2012

Both 9- and 13-year-olds scored higher in reading and mathematics in 2012 than students their age in the early 1970s. Scores were 8 to 25 points higher in 2012 than in the first assessment year. Seventeen-year-olds, however, did not show similar gains. Average reading and mathematics scores in 2012 for 17-year-olds were not significantly different from scores in the first assessment year.

(source: [NCES](#))

The link to the Weekly Bulletin survey is still active, but it will be closing on Friday, July 12. Please click “button” at the right to complete this short, anonymous survey about the Weekly Bulletin. Over 100 people have already responded, and **your** honest feedback is critical to making this communication tool more effective. Thank you for taking the time to help out.



- Mike Doughty, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction

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 **Marianna McCormack**.

- **What are your primary responsibilities?** My primary responsibility as an occupational therapist is to provide therapy for students who demonstrate difficulties in those fine motor skills and sensory motor skills which may impact their ability to be functional and independent in their school setting. Other responsibilities include supporting and educating teachers, administrators, and parents by providing consultation and strategies related to motor skills and sensory processing issues that impact students' performance at school or at home.
- **How long have you worked at BOCES?** I began working at BOCES in October of 1988.
- **What is your favorite part of your job?** The most stimulating part of my job is applying newly acquired knowledge and skills to my clinical decision making processes. This also allows me to improve my evaluation and assessment skills, or what I call "detective work." I like figuring out all the different aspects of a problem and then putting together the big picture and deciding what needs to be done to optimize or improve the problem.
- **What do you enjoy doing in your free time?** I love to do Zumba and other creative activities such as traveling, gardening, cooking, and of course, shopping for fabulous shoes.
- **What is one thing you would like people to know about you?** I love to learn and understand new ideas and concepts, and then find a way to explain those concepts to others so that they can understand as well. I love to improve my skills in teaching and presenting. Now that I have completed my doctorate in Occupational Therapy, I look forward to applying my new skills here at BOCES. I also look forward to future opportunities in teaching OT students at the college level.



SANE (Sometimes Acronyms Need Explaining)

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

Behavioral Intervention Plan (BIP): a plan that is based on the results of a functional behavioral assessment and includes a description of a problem behavior, hypotheses as to why the behavior occurs, and intervention strategies to address the behavior