



Weekly Bulletin



It is one of my sources of happiness never to desire a knowledge of other people's business."

- Dolley Madison

Upcoming Events

- Sun., Aug. 4 – National Kids Day
- August 13-14 – Summer School Regents Exams
- Fri., August 16 – ESY ends
- Thurs., Aug. 22 – Regular Board Meeting
- Mon., Sept. 2 – Labor Day
- Wed., Sept. 4 – Rosh Hashanah begins at sundown

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

A Message from Mike

Knowing when to start something is just as important as knowing when to stop. One of my favorite podcasts that I listen to regularly is the Freakonomics Podcast. It was started by Steven Levitt and Stephen Dubner as an outgrowth of their book *Freakonomics*. In a rebroadcast of one of their early episodes, they explore "[The Upside of Quitting](#)." With some rather colorful examples, the authors demonstrate that people can become very successful (and avoid catastrophic failure) by quitting activities that are counterproductive. They also explore the concept of sunk costs, which is the uniquely human notion that even though something isn't working, we have a tendency to continue doing it, especially if we have already invested a lot of time and money into it.

This tendency to pursue activities that are contrary to our own self-interests is not limited to individuals. History is full of examples of governments and organizations persisting down paths that lead only toward doom. Last September, I wrote about a book by one of my favorite historical authors, Barbara W. Tuchman about this topic. In *The March of Folly: from Troy to Vietnam*, Tuchman analyzes four instances of how governments tend to pursue policies that are contrary to their own interests – the definition of folly. She describes the elders of Troy deciding to bring in the Trojan Horse, the policies of the six Renaissance popes that caused the Protestant Reformation, British unwillingness to negotiate with the American Colonies, and the almost thirty years of American involvement in Vietnam. In each of these cases, governments (or leaders) ignored facts and plausible alternatives in favor of the woodenheaded maintenance of the status quo.

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Data Snapshot

Some 78% of the 2,462 advanced placement (AP) and National Writing Project (NWP) teachers surveyed by the Pew Research Center's Internet & American Life Project say digital tools such as the internet, social media, and cell phones "encourage student creativity and personal expression." In addition:

- 96% agree digital technologies "allow students to share their work with a wider and more varied audience"
- 79% agree that these tools "encourage greater collaboration among students"

(source: [Pew](#))

What in your personal or professional life is not working the way you want it to or is feeling like it is not worth the investment of your time, energy, or money? What could you stop doing so that you could do something else? Happy quitting.

- Mike Doughty, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction

Technology Tip of the Week

Thanks to Diane Smith for the following tech tip:

iPad Keyboarding Tips

- To type a word with an apostrophe, press and hold the **Comma key (,)** and **slide up**. This will insert an apostrophe.
- Slide on the **number zero** and get the degrees symbol. (°)
- Hold and slide the **Period** and you can type double quotes. (").



The following tips will work on an iPad and an iPhone.

- Turn on CAPS LOCK by double-tapping the **Shift** key.
- To type web addresses in Safari, there is a special key on the keyboard with **".com"**. Hold and slide that key and you will get other options such as **".org"**, **".edu"**, or **".net"**.

Selecting and Copying:

- Select a word by **double-tapping** it. Enlarge the selection by dragging the little dots at the upper left and lower right corners of the box.
- **Triple tap** to select the paragraph.
- To copy, **tap** on the word Copy on the edit menu. **Long tap** where you want to paste it and tap on **Paste**.

Writing foreign words:

- Press and hold the **letter key** and slide to the variation you want.
- Type words with accent marks such as the word résumé by holding the **E** and sliding up.
- Use other special characters like **(! \$?)** and **slide up** for other variations (i ¥ € ¿)

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 **Tera Strauss**.

- **What are your primary responsibilities?** I am an Assistant Principal at Bird-Morgan School. Some of my job duties include supervising building level personnel and students as well as assisting with supervising and monitoring development, implementation, and evaluation of all instructional programs within the school.
- **How long have you worked at BOCES?** I am approaching my one year anniversary of working at Monroe 1 BOCES on August 27th.
- **What is your favorite part of your job?** Every day is different. I love working closely with teachers, students and families. It truly is rewarding.
- **What do you enjoy doing in your free time?** I love attending my kids' sporting events. I have four very busy daughters ranging in ages from 6-14, and I get to experience all different levels of soccer, basketball, and lacrosse! I'm their biggest fan. When not attending sporting events, I enjoy watching reality TV on BRAVO and TLC; don't judge-it's my guilty pleasure! I also enjoy attending country concerts of all kinds. If you had asked me 10 years ago if I liked country music, I would've been insulted!
- **What is one thing you would like people to know about you?** I am a die-hard Buffalo Bills fan and can throw a perfect spiral like an NFL quarterback!



Programs & Services Update

START/ALA

Attention Shoppers!!! If you love to shop and would like to find a special handmade gift, now is your chance. START/ALA students in Mrs. Burggraf's Art Production class have been busy crafting some wonderful jewelry, greeting cards, and gift items. These items are available for sale in Room F-8, beginning on Monday July 29th. Please see the flyer below for more information.

We're Back!
Studio F-8
JEWELRY & GIFT ITEM SALE

Located in Room F-8, in the ALA/START Building

Greeting Cards
Necklaces, Bracelets, Earrings, Anklets,
Key Rings, Gift Items, etc.

Starts: Monday July 29th
Runs: July 29th-Aug 15th
Times: 8:30 ~ 11:00, daily

START/ALA students in Mr. Stefano's Mechanical Trades class are busy making hand crafted furniture that will soon be available for purchase. Below, please see pictures and descriptions of the furniture. Orders are not being taken, but you may contact Tom Stefano at Thomas_Stefano@boces.monroe.edu after August 9th, if you are interested in making a purchase. He will know at that time, how many items are available for sale.



Adirondack Chairs/Ottoman

These are hand crafted pieces with the customer in mind. Accurately cut materials are put through a series of steps that transform ordinary pressure treated lumber into smooth crafted pieces that are as comfortable to sit in as to look at. We also use corrosion resistant fasteners and premium glue to keep that sturdy feel for years to come.



Adirondack Table

This piece will enhance any setting. This table compliments the theme of our other pieces while adding functionality to your furniture set. Dimensions are: 15" x 30" on top, and the table is 18" tall.



Patio Planter

Here we have a box for your favorite flower or plant. Made with the same care and craftsmanship as our other pieces, the patio planter has a 10 1/2" x 21" opening that is big enough for multiple plants or is small enough to highlight that special item that you want to stand alone. The patio planter has slots on the sides and the base for drainage.



For the 2013 Summer Season we will be selling our items in **COLOR!**

Prices:

Adirondack Chair / Ottoman = \$45

Patio Planter = \$ 22

Adirondack Table = \$15

Other items may be available

Quantities and colors are limited

Final inventory will be posted on August 9th

-JoAnn M. Genthner, Principal, START/ALA/ Preschool/TOUR/Project SEARCH Programs



SANE (Sometimes Acronyms Need Explaining)

Assistive Technology (AT): Assistive Technology includes equipment and service that can improve the functional capabilities of a child with a disability.