



Weekly Bulletin

“ In a politically diverse nation, only by finding that common ground can we achieve results for the common good.”

- Olympia Snowe

Upcoming Events

- Mon., Jan. 20 – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- Tues., Jan 21 – National Hugging Day
- Thurs., Jan. 23 – Regular Board Meeting
- Fri., Jan. 24 – National Compliment Day
- Sat., Jan. 25 – Opposite Day
- Fri., Jan 31 – Chinese New Year
- Thurs., Feb. 6 – Regular Board Meeting/Board Retreat

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

A Message from Mike

Last week Emma swam in the Deaf International Short Course Swimming Championships hosted at R.I.T. She did well, and the Democrat and Chronicle was very generous with news coverage. When I thanked the reporter for his interest in Emma, he said, “I would rather write about stuff like this than A-Rod.” I couldn’t agree more.

As Emma and I debriefed the events of those five days last week, I expected her to talk about the 12 races that she was in and how she kept improving her times from preliminary races to finals. She never talked about the swimming. Instead she focused on the deaf swimmers she met from other countries and her United States teammates. After coming home from one of the meals, Emma told us that the table with the U.S. team members was full, so she sat with the Russians. I asked her how she communicated because Russian Sign Language is different from American Sign Language just like Russian is different from English. She shrugged, indicating that they just made it work. It’s amazing to me how easy communication can be when it starts from common ground – in this case everyone is deaf and everyone is a swimmer. Often I see communication break down between groups with seemingly competing interests. The focus is on how the groups and their interests are different. Group members zero in on the magnitude of these differences to the exclusion of each other’s points of view. In contrast, when people start from what they have in common, things seem to go better. I asked Emma what she learned about “The Russians,” during that dinner. She told me that, “they look angry when they sign...they’re not, they just look like they are.” There you have it.

- Mike Doughty, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction

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Data Snapshot

The percentage of adults who read an e-book in the past year has risen to 28%, up from 23% at the end of 2012. At the same time, about seven in ten Americans reported reading a book in print, up four percentage points after a slight dip in 2012, and 14% of adults listened to an audiobook.

(Source: [Pew](#))

Technology Tip of the Week

Thanks to Diane Smith for the following tech tip:

Change your Active Directory Password

With the start of the New Year, it is a good time to change your passwords. Your "Active Directory" password is the one that lets you sign on to your computer and your email and maybe other applications.



Here's how to change your password:

1. Close down all your applications.
2. Hold down the **Ctrl** and **Alt** keys and hit the **Delete** key once.
3. Click on **Change a Password** (4th on the list)
4. Enter your current password and the **New Password** twice.

Below, find tips for creating a secure password:

- Longer passwords are more secure so it is sometimes better to use a phrase instead of just a word. Any phrase you like (and can remember) will work, but you may want to choose a phrase to remind yourself every day of your New Year's resolutions. Below are some examples of secure passwords:
 - **Wagmore,barkless** (*wag more, bark less*)
 - **SmileEveryday!**
 - **GoBears2014**
 - **run30miles.**
 - **IamtheCaptainofthePina4** (*I am the Captain of the Pinafore*)
 - **Ih8peas!** (*I hate peas!*)
- Remember to include at least 3 of the following: Upper case letters, lower case letters, numbers, and special characters.
- Wikipedia has these suggestions about pass phrases:
 - Long enough to be hard to guess
 - Not a famous quotation from literature, holy books, et cetera (*or from the list above*)
 - Hard to guess by intuition—even by someone who knows the user well
 - Easy to remember and type accurately

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 **Jennifer Letendre, Math Instructional Specialist.**

- **What are your primary responsibilities?** I work with District Based teachers on ways to improve math instruction.
- **How long have you worked at BOCES?** I have worked at BOCES since November 2013.
- **What is your favorite part of your job?** My favorite part of my job is watching students fully grasp and truly enjoy math.
- **What do you enjoy doing in your free time?** I enjoy spending time with my husband and 5 year old son, taking walks, going to the library, watching a good movie, or shopping with my mom.
- **What is the one thing you would like people to know about you?** I was actually a poor math student in high school. I struggled a lot! It wasn't until a math professor I had in college opened my eyes, and unlocked my brain, to the world of math. It's because of this, I always remember that one teacher can make all the difference!



Programs & Services Update

EMCC Student Spotlight

This week's student in the spotlight is **Karah Tharp**.

- **What is your school district/high school?** I attend Penfield High School.
- **Why did you choose to come to EMCC?** School was getting very slow to me and I wanted to do something different. If I had never made this decision, my grades and attitude towards school wouldn't be what they are today.
- **How did you hear about EMCC?** I heard about EMCC on the morning announcements at my high school.
- **In what EMCC program are you enrolled?** I am currently enrolled in Culinary Arts.
- **What is your favorite part of this program?** My favorite part of this program is the teachers. They are always willing to help you and show you what to do when you're unsure. I have so much respect for them and look up to them.
- **What classes at your home school have helped you in this program?** Many of my classes back at school have been classes that don't have to do much with culinary arts, but English class has helped me in the past by preparing me to use describing words in restaurant reviews and assignments about food I have made.
- **When did you know you wanted to pursue this career?** I wasn't sure that I even wanted to pursue a career in culinary arts until this year. I was thinking about how I will be graduating soon and I couldn't even imagine not cooking everyday anymore.
- **Who most influenced your decision to pursue this career?** The person that most influenced me to make my decision was myself. I always doubted what I wanted to do until I realized that culinary arts was so special to me. I have come so far and now I want to keep learning more and more.
- **What is one thing you want people to know about you?** One thing that I would like people to know about me is that when I started in my culinary arts class, I had no confidence in my cooking. A little over a year later, I am able to cook something on my own without asking too many questions.
- **What are your future goals beyond high school?** My future goal beyond high school is to choose a career that I will enjoy doing. I would also love to take courses to further my knowledge in other areas that I struggled with in the past.



News and Notes

Superintendent's Conference Day – Spring 2014

'A Healthy Brain...A Healthy YOU' is the supporting theme of this year's Superintendent's Conference Day, to be held on March 14, 2014 at the **Burgundy Basin Inn**. The day (8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.) will be full of enriching sessions for personal and professional development.

All BOCES employees will gather for the **mandatory Session 1** from 8:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. featuring a kickoff by District Superintendent, Dan White, followed by the *'Save Your Brain'* presentation by Dr. Paul Nussbaum.

Brunch will be provided by BOCES for all employees from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Burgundy Basin. Following brunch, shuttles will transport staff from the Burgundy Basin to all Session 2 locations. **Session 2 runs from 11:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** Travel time for staff needing to change location has been taken into account.

All employees **must** sign up for the mandatory Session 1 'Save Your Brain' with Dr. Paul Nussbaum and then select a Session 2 workshop of their choice.

Registration opens January 17, 2014 on WinCap WEB and closes March 5, 2014.

Some Session 2 workshops have limited seating, so plan to register early.

Important Parking Notice:

Due to **limited parking spaces** at the Burgundy Basin Inn, parking will be restricted to employees who require handicap parking, and those who will be registered for Session 2 at Burgundy Basin to attend the 'NYS Employee Retirement System' (ERS) from 11:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Parking passes will be provided for these employees.

Note: Employees attending Greg Ahlquist's workshop 'The Transformative Power of Belief' at the Burgundy Basin Inn during Session 2, from 11:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., **must park at the Foreman Center** on Friday morning and use a shuttle bus to and from the Burgundy Basin Inn.

All other employees will park at the location of their Session 2 workshop and will be shuttled to the Burgundy Basin Inn for Session 1 from that location. Session 2 locations are clearly specified in the Superintendent's Conference Day Spring 2014 Catalog on WinCap WEB.

Shuttles will start running at 7:30 a.m. from the following locations: the red awning at the Foreman Center, the entrance at Lois E. Bird Morgan and the loop at 11 & 15 Linden.

If you have questions about registration or parking, please call the Office of Curriculum, Instruction and Professional Development at 383-2277.

Directions to the Burgundy Basin Inn (located at 1361 Marsh Road in Pittsford) and a map are provided at this link <http://www.monroe.edu/files/filesystem/DirectionsBurgundyBasin.pdf>.

- *Annette Hauenstein, Coordinator of Curriculum, Instruction & Professional Development*
and *John Walker, School-Community Relations Coordinator*

SANE (Sometimes Acronyms Need Explaining)

Education Opportunity Programs: **EOP**