



# Weekly Bulletin

“The measure of who we are is what we do with what we have.”

- Vince Lombardi

## Upcoming Events

- Sat., Oct. 18 – [Sweetest Day](#)
- Wed., Oct. 22 – National Unity Day
- Fri., Oct. 24 – United Nations Day
- Fri., Oct. 31 – Halloween
- Thurs., Nov. 6 – Regular Board Meeting
- Tues., Nov. 11 – Veteran’s Day
- Thurs., Nov. 20 – Regular Board Meeting

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

## A Message from Mike

Here is another example of why BOCES is so cool. Recently, officials from the State Education Department called our superintendent, Dan White, to ask for help producing a video for the October Board of Regents meeting. The Department wanted to show an example of how rigorous career and technical education is in order to support the Regents’ approval of alternative pathways to high school graduation. The State Ed. folks had a particular interest in EMCC’s Cisco Academy. Thanks to Teacher Mike Silivestro, Assistant Principal Mike Ehret, Principal John Lisak, and Senior Digital Media Technician Mark D’Annunzio, we were able to deliver authentic and compelling support for the approval of the pathways, particularly CTE. When you watch the video, you will see several familiar BOCES employees, current and former students, as well an employer and a college professor give clear evidence of the rigor and relevance of career and technical education.

Here is a link to the video: <https://ensemble.monroe.edu/Watch/Eg5j9RQw>

On Monday and Tuesday the Board of Regents is slated to adopt a proposal from The State Education Department to create four alternate pathways to graduation: Arts, CTE (Career and Technical Education), Humanities, and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math). In addition to specialized coursework, these pathways would allow students to substitute an exam in one of the four areas for a Regents Exam to count toward graduation. Hopefully these pathways will be approved and work can begin on what they might look like in our component school districts and here at BOCES.

- Mike Doughty, Deputy Superintendent

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# Technology Tip of the Week

Thanks to Diane Smith for the following tech tip:

## Dictionary/Thesaurus Shortcut in Word

Hold the **Alt** key down and **click** on any word. The Reference Toolbar will open and give the definition of the word as well as synonyms.



## 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 **Judy McKeever**.

- **What are your primary responsibilities?** My primary responsibility is to teach Art to high school students at START/ALA.
- **How long have you worked for BOCES?** I have worked for BOCES for 16+ years.
- **What is your favorite part of your job?** The favorite part of my job is interacting with the students. When it works it is so rewarding. I also work with the BEST people!!
- **What do you enjoy doing in your free time?** In my "free time" I walk, antique, make lamps, and garden!
- **What is one thing you would like people to know about you?** I love my dog, husband, family, and friends and love spending time with them! Maine is my favorite place on earth.



## Programs & Services Update

**CHALLENGER**  
Learning Center of Greater Rochester



Monroe #1 BOCES

### Challenger Learning Center Earns K-12 Content Pinnacle Award

The Rochester Challenger Learning Center program of the Monroe #1 BOCES Instructional Technology Department was among 77 providers internationally to earn a coveted Content Pinnacle Award for the 2013-2014 school year for their "**BE A TRANSFORMER - Fun With Energy Transformations**" videoconference that was presented to classes of students nationwide.

The Challenger staff has won a Pinnacle Award for at least one of its videoconferences every year since 2010 when the group joined the Center for Interactive Learning and Collaboration.

Under the leadership of Steve Orcutt, Director of Instructional Programs for Monroe #1 BOCES, staff members in charge of the Challenger Learning Center and the BUBL™ Project (Bathysphere Underwater Biological Laboratory) have developed distance learning programs that capitalize on the technologies and themes of the outer space and under water learning adventures, so that more students can participate in a more cost effective manner.

Via Challenger Learning Center Mission Commanders and equipment, BOCES #1 offers distance learning programs regarding space travel, motions of the earth that create seasons, simple machines, and energy transformations. Using its BUBL™ technology, BOCES #1 Voyage Commanders lead distance learning involving geometry, biology, history, and buoyancy.



ABOVE: Mission/Voyage Commanders Andy Raab and Peter Robson. Both bring previous experience as teachers of STEM subjects to their roles with the Challenger Center and BUBL project.

For each of these topics, BOCES #1 provides a hands on science kit to classrooms and then connects with them via video conferencing to work live with the students. Students use the materials in the kits to complete experiments while connected live to our mission commanders. The kits remain in the classroom for several days to reinforce concepts taught during the video conference.

The Pinnacle award is given to video conference content providers who score a minimum average of 2.85 out of 3 on teacher evaluations completed by participating teachers. The provider must also have a minimum of 10 complete evaluations. These evaluations are submitted by teachers from all over the nation and in some cases beyond. For these programs, mission commanders have connected with Australia as well as states as far away as Alaska and Alabama.

The Pinnacle Award is given annually by the Center for Interactive Learning and Collaboration (CILC), to organizations that receive outstanding scores on program evaluations submitted by educators and end users. Receiving the award indicates remarkable quality of educational content and exceptional skill at program delivery. The award is seen as an objective measure of ability to meet the needs of students and teachers.

CILC, an organization which helps schools by advancing learning through videoconferencing and other collaborative technologies, is recognized nationally and internationally as the leader in content aggregation, consulting, and support services that assist organizations with the utilization of videoconferencing and other collaborative technologies. Visit [www.cilc.org](http://www.cilc.org) to explore the various providers of content and diversity of programs and trainings available.

To learn more about the “BE A TRANSFORMER - Fun With Energy Transformations“ videoconference, go to <http://www.cilc.org/search/content-providerprogram.aspx?id=2337>.

For more information on the Distance Learning Program Catalog of Videoconferences, go to <http://www.monroe.edu/webpages/dpietrantoni/files/new%20flyer.pdf>.

To discuss any of these programs, contact Steve Orcutt, Director of Instructional Programs and Services, Monroe #1 BOCES, at (585) 249-7890 or [steve\\_orcutt@boces.monroe.edu](mailto:steve_orcutt@boces.monroe.edu).

## Professional Development

### **The Monroe #1 Internal PD Catalog: Keeping Us #1**

Sign up for ‘Digital Technology’ with EMCC’s own Sulyn Bennett-Hennessey. The purpose of this workshop is to allow participants to see a handful of free, simple and versatile online tools that can help students engage with their course content in new and amazing ways! Online bookmarking, vocabulary study tools, and sharing can provide rich experiences for all students in class and anywhere internet is available.

#### Upcoming Professional Development Opportunities:

- Therapeutic Crisis Intervention (Full Week) – October 20 - 24
- Handwriting Without Tears – October 21
- Smart board 101 & SMART Board User Group – October 23
- Digital Technology in the Classroom – October 23
- Curriculum Work Time – October 24

Follow this [link](#) to our Internal Catalog in **WinCapWEB** and enroll today!

- Annette Hauenstein, Coordinator of Curriculum, Instruction & Professional Development & Jodi Coniglio, Teacher Center Director

# SANE (Sometimes Acronyms Need Explaining)

**IPE** – Individualized plan for Employment

## **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)