

Instruction & Technology Weekly Bulletin

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“A man has a property in his opinions and the free communication of them.”
- James Madison

Upcoming Events

- Wed., Sept. 28 – Rosh Hashanah begins at sundown
- Thurs., Sept. 29 – First day of Rosh Hashanah
- Fri., Oct. 7 – Yom Kippur begins at Sundown
- Sat., Oct. 8 – Yom Kippur
- Mon., Oct. 10 – Columbus Day –School Recess

A Message from Mike

In education we often talk about the importance of assessment. “What gets tested, gets taught” is an often-quoted paraphrase of Peter Drucker’s alleged, “What gets measured, gets done.” In classrooms and schools, teachers often look for opportunities to assess students authentically or using real-world contexts and tasks. Emma and I communicate regularly via text message. You have seen evidence of this in previous Weekly Bulletins. In terms of language acquisition and writing instruction, this constant communication via text messaging gives me the opportunity to model Standard Written English while periodically being able to check on Emma’s growth as a writer.

When I was in Albany a couple weeks ago, I received the following text message from Emma at 7:00 PM (I have transcribed these verbatim):

“Don’t even listen to mom. I am being punished. I want you home now. It’s better to have you home than mom being with us alone.”

With the benefit of being 202 miles away, I decided to fan the flames a little with the following response:

Really? What did Mommy do to you?

That was all the invitation she needed.

She yelled to me and told me to stay in my room for whole night without food or tv. I have my laptop in my room so I can watch a movie. PUNISHMENT IS AWESOME:D (Note: The colon followed by a capital D is a large smiley face. This was a new one for me.)

That was not the response I expected. After I stopped laughing, I sent this:

Try to apologize. Remember Mommy loves you.

Emma responded quite concisely:

Ok.

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In terms of content, Emma was able to communicate clearly her thoughts and feelings while including an appropriate use of irony – “PUNISHMENT IS AWESOME.” Some of her mechanics were a little off, but the message was clear, and her voice came through. Following this little reflection on writing assessment, my “parent-ness” kicked back in, and I forwarded the series of text messages to my bride who promptly went up to Emma’s room and relieved her of her laptop. The other message made crystal clear that night was that “Mommy and Daddy are a team.”

www.AskCarolyn.info (now a real website)

- **Staff Reminders**

- ❖ Flu Shots: Here is the Monroe #1 BOCES Flu Clinic Schedule for BOCES 1 faculty and staff:
 - **Wednesday, 9/28/11, 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM, 11 Linden Park, Rochester**

*Please bring your insurance card with you. With most insurance policies there is no cost to the employee. Check with your policy to be certain you are covered.

*If you are pregnant, you must bring in a doctor’s order to receive the vaccine.

- Carolyn

Technology Tip of the Week

Thanks to Dana Bowers for sharing this Tip of the Week:

To retrieve phone voice messages while away from the office:

- Dial your phone number
- When you hear your voice, hit *
- Enter your four digit extension
- Then enter your passcode



(Anyone is welcome to submit a tip.)

JENerally Speaking... [Library, Media, and Arts News](#)

Representatives from each of our component districts were invited to participate in our Regional Media Services Meeting held this past Monday.

To learn more about services provided through this CoSer, please visit www.monroe.edu/iMedia. This portal provides information about the new Safari Montage 5.0 interface and our updated Off-Air Catalog. Click on the video production link to see how districts are utilizing our digital video production services. We welcome the opportunity to work with you to integrate media into your curriculum.

-Jen

Steve’s Space

We are constantly talking about providing good service to our districts. Please read the comment from one of our component districts regarding the repair team. This is a great example of what we all strive for. I know it happens all the time all over BOCES, but when the recipient of our good service takes the time to tell us, I think it is important to share it, way to go!

"I have had two occasions to watch an employee of yours work on my printer. Sam Ciulla came to our school to work on my HP printer in a turnaround time of only twelve hours. He walks in with a smile on his face and introduces himself and goes right to work. Both times he has fixed my printer in record time. He always shows the work he does and

cleans, fixes and even cleans up behind him. He makes sure he asks if there are any other problems he could help with before he leaves.

Please make sure you take the time to thank Sam for being such a great employee! He is sure an asset to BOCES. I have had my printer for ten years, and he has maintained it only twice that should say something."

-Steve

Connecting with a Colleague

Each week, a staff member will be randomly selected to complete a brief questionnaire to help us get to know him or her.

This week we are connecting with **Mark D'Annunzio!**

- **Primary Responsibilities:** *"I provide video production services to our component districts which includes videography, video editing and video compression/converting."*
- **How long have you worked at BOCES?** *"I have been working here for about 8 years!"*
- **What is your favorite part of your job?** *"I enjoy the opportunities I have in creating engaging and creative videos for our districts and in-house use. I also love working in the classrooms and being around the students."*
- **What do you enjoy doing in your free time?** *"I enjoy photography, movies, time with my fiancé and participating in activities in my church."*
- **What is the one thing you would like people to know about you?** *"I wore tights once...."*
- **Is there anything else you would like to share?** *"Want to see a magic trick?"*



Look for a different colleague to be profiled each week. If you are interested in participating before your name is "randomly" selected, please see Carolyn or Mike.
