

Together

February ▸ 2018

Together everyone achieves more

By Jennifer Merkel

Even the intimidating waters of a pool's deep end can seem a little less scary when you have a teammate by your side.

Sean LeDuc, a Roberts Wesleyan College senior, knows the comradery of a sports team well. He is a member of the Roberts Wesleyan golf and track and field teams.

LeDuc has also worked with the BOCES 2 Bridge to Earning, Living and Learning (BELL) program for four semesters and a light bulb went off: he wanted to build a Roberts Wesleyan swimming club team. His vision was to bring together RWC student-athletes and BELL program students to create a unified team, building relationships among students and expanding their experiences. The hope is to share the concept with other local college transition programs to create opportunities throughout the area.

Kym Woodard, BELL Program Director, worked with LeDuc to create a proposal and introduce the initial idea to parents. They developed a seven-week program and on Feb. 9, the club officially began with swim assessments. Students had varying levels of comfort in the pool, were encouraged to challenge themselves and advocated for themselves when they weren't up for the challenge.

The students' comfort and ability levels were quickly accommodated by the BELL staff, LeDuc, a lifeguard and a special guest that day, Monica Lepore. Known as Dock, Lepore was visiting from West Chester University in Philadelphia and works with Special Olympics aquatics athletes. She chatted with the students and helped them to set goals for the program.

Safety is of utmost importance to the program. Students performed the assessment to test their abilities swimming on their chest and on their back in both the shallow end and the deep end. They were also tested treading water in the deep end. At all times throughout the program, students will be under the watchful eyes of a lifeguard and coaches in and out of the pool.

One student declined to perform the deep end portion of the test but that didn't mean her time in the pool was over. LeDuc worked with her one-on-one, swimming laps from the shallowest part of the pool to where she felt comfortable. Each lap, she went a little bit further towards the deep end and each lap, she returned to the shallow end with the biggest smile on her face.

"I was freezing the whole time because I had goosebumps," said LeDuc. "It was amazing to see all of their abilities."



Monica Lepore speaks with a BELL student as the student prepares for her deep end assessment.

Sean LeDuc (left) cheers on his teammate as she practices swimming with a paddleboard.

BOCES 2 BUILDS Leaders

By Jennifer Merkel

Career and technical education students throughout the country test their industry and leadership skills by competing in SkillsUSA local, regional, state and national competitions. BOCES 2 CTE students are no exception.

Students have the ability to participate in skills-based competitions or leadership competitions. Skills competitions typically involve a CTE student putting skills they learned in their program into motion, such as cake decorating by a baking student. Leadership competitions highlight transferable skills that students excel in, such as prepared speech, job interview and customer service.

In early 2018, classroom competitions were held at WEMOCO. The top students were

recognized at the BOCES 2 SkillsUSA Classroom Competition Awards Ceremony. The event was held at the BOCES 2 Professional Development Center on Feb. 8.

Next up for the students is the regional competition on March 6 at Alfred State. Winners from that competition progress to the state competition held on the New York State Fairgrounds from April 25-27. Students who place first in the state competition advance to the National Leadership and Skills

Conference in June in Louisville, Ky.

SkillsUSA is a partnership of students, teachers and industry working together to ensure America has a skilled workforce. SkillsUSA helps each student excel. It provides educational programs, events and competitions that support CTE in the nation's classrooms.



First neighbors, now community partners

By Iva Petrosino

Monroe 2–Orleans BOCES and Semrock have shared a street address in Gates for several years, but now they share a common goal as well: student success. Located about 200 feet from Communications and Technology Services on Buffalo Road, optical filter manufacturer Semrock is the newest work site for students in the BOCES 2 Work-Based Learning Program.

Late last year, talks began about how our two organizations could work together to provide BOCES 2 students the opportunity to learn new workplace skills. Within four months, Semrock welcomed its first BOCES 2 student, Andrew Hurrell (Churchville-Chili). Since that time, Andrew has been supporting Semrock's manufacturing operations team to ensure that optical filter products are shipped to the highest cleanliness standards. He works under the supervision of his job coach, Mark Masters.

"Andrew is very independent at Semrock," said Masters. "He learned the job quite quickly and starts his duties each day without prompting. The employees at Semrock have welcomed Andrew and have made him feel like a part of the team."

Andrew's success was even featured in a publication distributed to employees of Semrock's parent company, IDEX Health and Science, LLC.

"We feel very fortunate to have such a supportive organization like BOCES 2 that shares a similar vision and set of values right here on our doorstep," said Neil Anderson, director of strategic marketing at Semrock. "We look forward to building on this over many years."

"Without Semrock and our other community partners, the Work-Based Learning Program wouldn't exist," said Littlewood. "The support that our students receive will help them when they exit school and work toward employment and independence."

Approximately 30 businesses participate in the program right now. If you know a business that is interested in becoming a Work-Based Learning site, contact Nicole Littlewood at (585) 617-2439 or nlittlew@monroe2boces.org.



Andrew Hurrell
(Churchville-Chili)
with Semrock
co-workers
and BOCES 2
supervisors.



Project SEARCH™ interns proving themselves valuable

By Iva Petrosino

While many people are just waking up to have their first cup of coffee, Project SEARCH interns are already well into their days. Their mornings begin before 6 a.m. because many of them rely on RTS buses to take them to and from their job site, Strong Memorial Hospital.

When they walk in the doors of the hospital they're not students, they don't have a teacher and they don't report to a classroom. They are interns who are headed to check in with their job coach in their training room. This environment fosters the exact type of independence that Project SEARCH interns come to learn. Among those interns are Noah Kaforey (Hilton), Joanna Taylor (Spencerport) and Jimmy Tran (Spencerport).

"I'm an adult now, so I have to be responsible and mature," said Taylor. "Project SEARCH is helping me work towards a job, not just working. It's training me for a real job in the real world. I am learning not only how to get a job, but how to keep a job."

Taylor and others are well on their way. Right now, they are all in their second of three internships at Strong. Some of those internships involve opportunities that interns

have never had before. Taylor is working in the hospital gift shop, a job that's not been available to interns for many years. Tran works as a porter within Food and Nutrition Services. His attention to detail impressed his supervisors so much that they promoted him to a job with more responsibility. Meanwhile, Kaforey is forging new ground in the Environmental Services department. He is responsible for filing, alphabetizing and organizing important hospital documents.

"Project SEARCH helps me to learn more skills and be independent," said Kaforey. "I would like to work in a library when I am done with Project SEARCH. I also like to stock items."

"I like learning how to work hard and trying new jobs," Tran said. "I would like to work in security someday. I am able to do a lot of jobs by myself now."

The 20+ hours that they spend working each week are instrumental to the hospital's day-to-day operations. Employees of the hospital consider the interns as part of the team. One of their biggest advocates is Chris Lapple, a trainer in the Environmental Services department, who has worked with interns in Project SEARCH for several years.

"The interns that we work with are hard-working and dedicated to learning the skills they will need for the future," said Lapple. "Strong Memorial Hospital is dedicated to

offering a safe and clean hospital environment for all patients and visitors, so interns that work with us have the potential to save lives every day."

The interns are so passionate about their work at the hospital, that they even took time to attend a recent information night about the program. They spoke to prospective interns about the benefits of the program, including how the skills they are learning will help them gain employment in the future.

"We have been happy to hire a few Project SEARCH interns, and look forward to continuing our partnership with them," Lapple said.

Project SEARCH is a nationally-recognized high school transition program. In our area, it is a partnership between Monroe 2–Orleans BOCES, the University of Rochester Medical Center and Arc of Monroe. Applications are currently being accepted for the 2018-19 school year. For more information, contact Nicole Littlewood at (585) 617-2439 or nlittlew@monroe2boces.org



Joanna Taylor (Spencerport) makes sure the gift shop looks customer-ready.



Noah Kaforey (Hilton) takes care when filing important documents in the Environmental Services office.



Jimmy Tran (Spencerport) is all smiles in the hospital kitchen.

CAPITAL PROJECT UPDATE

By Steve Dawe



Each new page of the calendar brings the opening of a new Career and Technical Education classroom or two inside the WEMOCO building. Cosmetology classrooms are now open with updated furniture and fixtures and a more salon-like feel. Engineering and Metal Fabrication Academy students also moved to their new theory and lab spaces.

The new staff lounge and an additional computer lab are receiving new ceilings now that drywall and coats of paint have been applied. The new conference room has also been painted and steel reinforcement was installed for the new roof top air handling units.

Corridors in portions of the building that have not yet received new flooring will be among the next areas of work. Construction crews and BOCES 2 staff members are working on a plan to utilize the April break to transition construction work to new areas, capitalizing on the time while students are not in the building.



The Engineering and Metal Fabrication Academy welding lab inside WEMOCO just prior to completion. Students began to use the space in January.



This finished cosmetology classroom has desks lined up in the theory area with salon stations in the background.



Equipment is staged in a new conference room in WEMOCO as construction continues.



The new WEMOCO staff lounge after demolition and during painting.



BOCES 2 websites get makeovers

By Heather Campo

You may have noticed a new look for the Monroe 2–Orleans BOCES website, www.monroe2boces.org. The new site features an updated design that includes intuitive navigation and more contemporary graphic elements and visuals. While the look is different, the general navigation structure is similar to the previous site with drop down menus across the top and links along the left-hand side of the page.

Much like our ongoing capital project, this upgrade is the first of its kind in many years. Trends in web presence are ever-changing, and the new website is more aligned with current best practices in the way information is presented. In addition, the new website template supports Search Engine Optimization and compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The Elementary Science Program also has an updated website. The ESP site, www.espsciencetime.org, maintains its unique identity while benefitting from the same best practices and optimization of the BOCES 2 website.

While the transition to the new websites is complete on the surface, there is still much work to be done behind the scenes in order to optimize the more technical aspects of our online presence. The communications team at CaTS continues to work to ensure that the interaction that people have with us online is as smooth and easy to navigate as possible.



Strategic Plan at Work

Center for Workforce Development

Strategic Goal

Community Collaboration

Key Strategy

Provide creative educational solutions to meet the needs of the community

The Center for Workforce Development introduced the Adult Career Education and Diploma (ACED) program to allow adults who do not have their high school diploma to learn career skills while pursuing their high school equivalency (HSE) diploma. Through this integrated training program, students work with both a literacy instructor to prepare for the high school equivalency exam and a job training instructor to learn the skills necessary to qualify for a position in the career field of their choice. Instead of having to wait until they have earned their HSE to enroll in a job training program, ACED program students are able to more quickly prepare and qualify for a new career.

Journalism class visits CaTS

Students from the East Rochester High School Journalism class recently visited the Communications and Technology Services group to learn about how newsletters get produced. Accompanied by their teacher, Courtney Hankins, and East Rochester Superintendent Dr. Mark Linton, the students toured the graphic design and printing services areas.



Boughton selected as ACTE Region I Fellow

By Jennifer Merkel



Monroe 2–Orleans BOCES Career and Technical Education Supervisor Paula Boughton has been selected for the Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) 2018 National

Leadership Fellowship program. The program provides educators with an opportunity to enhance their leadership skills and involvement in professional organizations.

“I am honored to be selected as an ACTE fellow and to grow alongside my colleagues across the country,” said Boughton. “I am looking forward to gaining a global understanding of CTE topics, learning innovation solutions from CTE centers near and far, and sharing the knowledge I gain with those at BOCES 2.”

The Fellowship Program is a one-year commitment through the end of 2018.

Each of the five national regions of ACTE is represented in the program. The program identifies, trains and motivates a cadre of leaders who will continue to advance efforts which support an educated, prepared, adaptable and competitive workforce.

The fellows are required to complete several activities throughout the year, including conducting in-person visits with local, state and federal legislators, writing blog posts, attending events and submitting final summaries of their accomplishments to the ACTE Board of Directors.

Boughton has worked for BOCES 2 since 2010 and is in her sixth school year as a CTE administrator. In her time at WEMOCO, Boughton has worked to revamp the Services and Trades programs to increase entry-level employment opportunities for students in industry. She has been at the forefront of adapting curriculum to create current, in-demand programs such as child and family development and computer automation and cybersecurity.

Boughton supervises the instructional specialists and academic integration teachers, in addition to overseeing dual enrollment agreements for all CTE programs. She is also a key component in teacher evaluation, analyzing, evaluating and helping to steer the direction of teacher improvement.

Boughton graduated with her Master’s degree from St. John Fisher with a focus in school administration. She has devoted her career to children and hopes to continue to advocate for career readiness for all students through the fellowship program.

ACTE is the nation’s largest not-for-profit association committed to the advancement of education that prepares youth and adults for successful careers. ACTE represents the community of career and technical education professionals, including educators, administrators, researchers, guidance counselors and others at all levels of education.

Order up at CTE!

By Jennifer Merkel

Need a bite to eat? Career and Technical Education students are ready to serve you.

The BOCES 2 capital project included relocations and overhauls to the kitchens and theory spaces for the culinary arts, baking and food services programs. CTE students are now using the state-of-the-art kitchens to prepare and serve delicious meals to the BOCES 2 community at least once a week.

The menus have included soups, salads and sandwiches, the home-cooked taste of chicken, potatoes and macaroni and cheese, and let’s not forget the cookies, cakes and delicious baked goods. The delicacies have delighted guests and have them coming back for more each week.

To go along with the new spaces, the three programs’ service lines each have a new identity: Rise Bakery, Fuel Kitchen and Nourish Bistro. The names not only allude to each program it represents, but also speak to the students’ experience in those programs.

“Our students rise to challenges in our programs every day,” said Executive Principal Jill Slavny. “The rigorous curriculum and challenging techniques fuel their drive. Completing our program nourishes our students’ futures with the industry and leadership skills they refine at WEMOCO.”

Service lines are currently open to BOCES 2 staff with the hopes of opening to the community in the near future. For updates on food opportunities and all things CTE, follow [@WEMOCOCTE](#) on Twitter.



Freezin' for a reason

Monroe 2–Orleans BOCES was well-represented in the Annual Polar Plunge along the shore on Lake Ontario on Feb. 11. Five staff members from the Department for Exceptional Children braved freezing temperatures and joined two thousand other participants taking a dip to raise money for the Special Olympics. “So many of the students we work with benefit from their experiences in the Special Olympics,” said BOCES 2 Polar Plunge Team Captain Alicia Granville. “It was the perfect opportunity for us to give back.” The BOCES 2 team raised more than \$1,500. Pictured are BOCES 2 Polar Plunge team members Nicholas Chelowa, Tim Baker, Alicia Granville, Heather Calnan and Kristen Frederick, who wore different colored shirts representing the colors of the Olympic rings.



A step up

By Beth Nash

Holley Middle School/High School students in the Geometry in Construction class used their knowledge of slope and dimension to design and build four sets of small stairs for their elementary school. This is the second year that Holley has conducted a Geometry in Construction class, which began under guidance from the BOCES 2 STEM program. The class teaches students how to take math concepts and apply them to real-world problems to create solutions. The sophomores and seniors placed the stairs in the bathrooms at the Holley Elementary School, so younger students are better able to reach and use the soap dispensers.



SAVE THE DATE!

BOCES 2 Golf Tournament

Braemar Country Club
4704 Ridge Rd. West
Spencerport, NY 14559

Friday, June 1, 2018

Registration at 3:15 p.m.
Tee off at 3:45 p.m. with dinner
immediately following

Please RSVP with registration
information and payment
to Pete Sharpe at
psharpe@monroe2boces.org.

The deadline to register is
Friday, May 18.



Retiree Connection

We would like to feature brief updates from our retirees in Together. If you are a BOCES 2 retiree and have news you would like to submit for consideration, please contact Heather Campo, editor, at hcampo@monroe2boces.org or mail it to BOCES 2 Communication & Technology Services, 3625 Buffalo Rd, Rochester, NY 14624, attn. Heather Campo.

Condolences to:

Kristin Palmer on the passing of her father, **Wendy Peeck** (retiree) on the passing of her sister.

Together

Editor

Heather Campo
hcampo@monroe2boces.org
585-349-9070

Contributors

Mark Ball, Heather Campo, Steve Dawe,
Jackie Finn, Grace Griffie, Chris Klem, Jennifer
Merkel, Beth Nash, Iva Petrosino
and Kerry Sharp

Graphic Design

Lisa Constantine

District Superintendent

Jo Anne Antonacci

Board

Dennis Laba, President
R. Charles Phillips, Vice President
John Abbott
Kathleen Dillon
John Heise
George Howard
Gerald Maar
Michael May
Connie Rockow

NYSPPRA
New York School Public Relations Association
Award winning publication



Monroe 2-Orleans Board of Cooperative

Educational Services

3599 Big Ridge Road

Spencerport, New York 14559-1799

Telephone (585) 352-2400

www.monroe2boces.org

NONPROFIT ORG.

U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

PERMIT NO. 34
SPENCERPORT,
NY 14559

Mission

We provide quality, cost-effective educational services in partnership with school districts and the community in a manner that supports excellence and equity for all learners. We are committed to customer satisfaction, continuous improvement, and personal and professional growth.

Vision

Monroe 2-Orleans BOCES is the educational partner of choice. We strive for continuous improvement in serving the diverse needs of our community, helping all students achieve their full potential.

The Monroe 2-Orleans Board of Cooperative Educational Services does not discriminate on the basis of age, sex, race, color, national origin, disability, creed, marital status, veteran status, sexual orientation, prior criminal offense, domestic violence victim status, or genetic status in its programs or activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following person has been designated to handle complaints/inquiries regarding the BOCES non-discrimination's policies: Director of Human Resource, 3599 Big Ridge Road, Spencerport, New York 14559, 585-352-2420, and is also the Title VII and Title IX Officer.

For further information on notice of non-discrimination, visit <http://wdcrobcolp01.ed.gov/CFAPPS/OCR/contactus.cfm> for the address and phone number of the office that serves your area, or call 1-800-421-3481. Please note that those wishing to file a complaint may also do so through the Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights at <http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/qa-complaints.html>. See also New York State Executive Law 296-a.

CTE Sneak Peek



Nick Weiss (Spencerport) speaks with a group of Spencerport seventh-graders about the Career and Technical Education health and exercise science program during a recent visit. All Spencerport seventh-graders visited WEMOCO to learn about career pathways and how CTE would benefit their career goals.