

Together

August ▸ 2018

Regional Summer School 2.0

By Jennifer Merkel

Two minds are better than one, especially when those minds are impacting young adults.

BOCES 2 Regional Summer School (RSS) students are experiencing a new approach to instruction that supports improved outcomes for both regular education and special education students. Over the past 20 years, the percentage of RSS students with disabilities and/or accommodations under section 504 has increased from single digits to nearly 30 percent. As students' needs change, new instructional models must be employed. A new co-teaching model at the RSS Greece Athena location is being implemented to improve the performance of all students in Regents co-taught classes.

"Traditionally, a class is led by a general education content-area teacher," said Dr. John Clifford, principal at the Greece location. "Those needing additional support were visited by a consultant teacher, who provided services to multiple students in different Regents classes. Non-Regents classes were aided by a teacher's assistant who rotated between classes."

This year, the Greece site moved to a co-teaching model for students in need of academic support. A general education teacher is paired with a special education teacher who is either certified in or specializes in the same content subject area. Additionally, many of the teacher aides are primarily newly-certified teachers who are assisting students and gaining valuable classroom experience to build their resumes.

"Most students can't tell the difference between who is teaching the course and who is supporting special education students," said Leslie Bruyns, a special education teacher who is paired with Kim Romig in an English 9 classroom. "Everyone is gelling off of each other and every student benefits from the new model."

The co-teaching model allows the two educators to build a relationship. The dynamic co-teaching environment lends itself to individual and group support, in addition to two teachers with subject expertise and experience.

"It is hard to develop a relationship with a teacher but it is even harder to develop a relationship with students in limited time," said Bruyns. "The co-teaching model allows teachers to get to know the students and invest time in them as individuals."

"Students are more engaged due to the increased support," added Bruyns. "There are less disruptive behavioral problems when students can be individually addressed."

Additionally, special education students' RSS schedules were planned first, providing an opportunity to find the best student-teacher fit. Students are able to receive support on a similar level to the traditional school year.

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The goal of the new model is improved student success on Regents exams, which are required for graduation. However, the benefits of the co-teaching go beyond test results.

"Students are attending school, participating in class and making progress in ways that can't be captured in data and test results," said Bruyns.

The next step for the RSS program is further technology integration by moving to a personalized learning environment for the 2019 RSS session. All students will have a school-supplied electronic device. Several teachers successfully piloted this approach this summer including Bruyns and Romig.



Leslie Bruyns (left front) has a quiet conversation with a student while Kim Romig (center) continues the literature conversation with the English 9 class.

BOCES 2 BUILDS Savings

by Iva Petrosino

While students and teachers relax and unwind soaking up the summer sun, staff at Communication and Technology Services (CaTS) on Buffalo Road are hard at work helping to prepare districts for the new school year.

This year the BOCES 2 Printing and Graphics Service is producing nearly 60,000 school calendars, 100,000 newsletters, 4,500 student agendas, as well as numerous forms, pads, workbooks and classroom materials.

“Each year new districts come to us for their graphic design and printing needs,” said Communications Manager Steve Dawe. “These yearly increases in demand for our services are really a testament to the quality work our graphic designers and printers provide to schools in our area and beyond.”

Extra summer help was hired in both the print shop and warehouse areas to help with the volume of work in the summer months.



The print shop services all nine component districts of Monroe 2-Orleans BOCES, as well as other districts throughout Monroe County, and even as far as the Capital Region.

“The summer months are our busiest time of the year,” said Ken Maley, BOCES 2 digital printing coordinator. “To compensate for the increase in volume, we hired two full-time summer helpers. They do everything from binding books, laminating, cutting paper, and anything else that is needed to help districts get ready for the new school year.”

Similarly, BOCES 2 Technology Services sees an increase in volume during the summer months. In a typical summer, the number of computers, laptops, iPads and other technology arriving in the CaTS warehouse increases about 25 percent. However, with more districts moving to a 1:1 student-to-device model, this volume has increased well above that figure for the last few summers.

“We’re currently averaging more than 5,000 items into our warehouse for our component districts,” said CaTS Supervising Manager Ray Miller. “This has caused us to augment our warehouse staff with student helpers to get the items received, tagged



Shipments of laptops and other technology stream into the Buffalo Road facility all summer long.

and ready for pickup and use by our districts.”

Both of these services provide important savings for school districts. When BOCES purchases technology on behalf of all nine of our component districts, the combined volume often saves districts thousands of dollars through pricing discounted even further below contract pricing.

“The savings are two-fold: districts save in the short-term by getting the best pricing on equipment and print jobs,” said BOCES 2 Assistant Business Official Mark Laubacher. “In the long-term, they benefit by receiving generally more than half of the cost back in the form of state aid the following year. Ultimately, the net cost of what districts purchase through BOCES is substantially lower than what they initially pay.”

To read more about these services and others offered by CaTS, visit us online at:

www.monroe2boces.org/cats.

BOCES 2 facilitates NYSED visit to Rochester

by Iva Petrosino

Rochester was the first stop for members of the New York State Board of Regents and the Commissioner of Education on their Cultural Education journey around the state. Board of Regents Vice Chancellor T. Andrew Brown, Chair of the Cultural Education Committee Regent Roger Tilles and Regent Wade Norwood joined Commissioner MaryEllen Elia, Deputy Commissioner for Cultural Education Mark Schaming and Director of Educational Television and Public Broadcasting Julie Daniels as they embarked on a tour of some of Rochester’s most prominent cultural gems.

“The Rochester area has so many cultural education opportunities for children and families to participate in,” said State Education Commissioner MaryEllen Elia. “I enjoyed my visit to Rochester and saw first-hand how so many institutions partner and collaborate with each other to help our students learn and grow every day.”

The visit began with a tour of the Eastman School of Music. Following the tour, the Regents, Commissioner, Deputy Commissioner and others were wowed by the talents of student musicians during a special performance. The following day, members of the group visited WXXI Studios to learn about the variety of educational services available to students in our area. From there the group joined more than 30 cultural agencies and organizations for a lunch at the Memorial Art Gallery. There they were able to network and share ideas on how to help youth in our area benefit from all of the rich cultural resources available to them. To conclude the visit, the group toured the Rochester Public Library, where the Commissioner had a chance to speak with students about how the library’s offerings open up many new opportunities.

“I am delighted that Commissioner Elia is already planning to replicate this trip across the rest of the state,” said Regent Wade Norwood. “I am even

happier that the Finger Lakes region continues to set a high bar for the other regions to meet.”

“I am proud that our BOCES was able to assist the Commissioner’s team with coordinating this visit,” said District Superintendent Jo Anne Antonacci. “We are honored to have been a part of the important conversations and collaborations about keeping cultural education and the arts a key part of the P-12 curriculum across our region.”

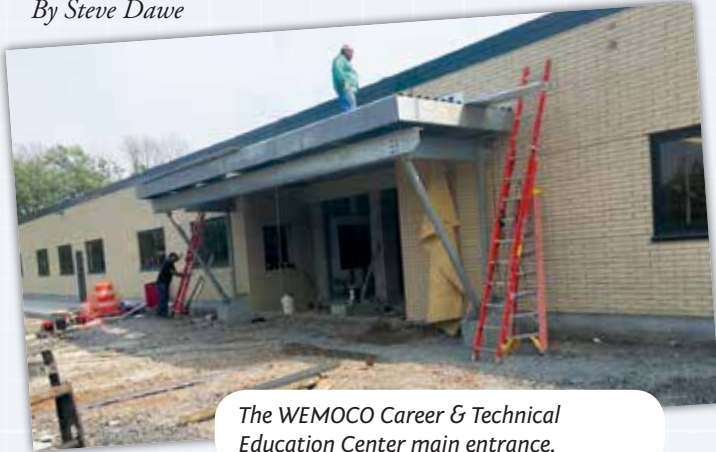


Commissioner MaryEllen Elia speaks with students enrolled in a summer program about music and video creation at the Rochester Public Library.

CAPITAL PROJECT UPDATE



By Steve Dawe



The WEMOCO Career & Technical Education Center main entrance.



The Dental Assisting lab in the WEMOCO D Wing.

As students get ready to return to the Monroe 2-Orleans BOCES Big Ridge Road campus, work crews are spending the final days of summer break putting the finishing touches on the capital project.

The most dramatic change for students at WEMOCO Career and Technical Education Center will be walking in through the main entrance. After passing beneath the new canopy, a renovated spacious lobby featuring enhanced security measures will greet students. The main office has been rebuilt with new walls, lights, ductwork, ceilings and flooring.



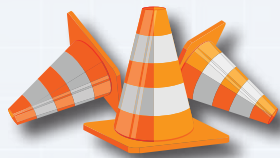
New digital sign installation.

In D Wing, the Dental Assisting lab received a major facelift. Reconfiguration of the space makes an ideal learning environment for students. New ductwork, plumbing and electrical have been installed for the dental equipment. Primer, paint, ceilings and flooring followed, along with the new cabinetry and chairs.

Major upgrades have been made in C Wing as well. The carpentry labs have been rebuilt and painted. Mechanical, electrical and plumbing work was done for Introduction to Construction Trades; Plumbing and Heating; Residential and Industrial Electrical; and Building Trades programs.

Corridor work throughout the CTE center is also being completed in time for students to return.

The Exceptional Children Learning Center playground equipment was delivered and installation has begun. The new playground is conveniently located just south of the building, right outside the preschool classrooms.



Cement being poured near the new playground.



The WEMOCO main office.

MONROE 2-ORLEANS BOCES



SALUTES OUR 2018 GRADUATES



SAANYS Summer Camp brings action plans to Rochester area school leaders

by Gretchen Spittler

Today's schools are undergoing massive cultural changes in technology and social emotional learning. In response to that, Monroe 2-Orleans BOCES Center for Instruction and Professional Development and the School Administration Association of New York State (SAANYS) presented SAANYS Summer Camp. The "camp" was a three-day professional development opportunity at BOCES 2 Educational Services Center covering digital learning, student mental health and culturally responsive schools.

"We focus on what is happening in schools now," said SAANYS Director of Professional Development Karen Bronson. Bronson is a former school principal who now leads the organization's efforts to bring relevant training to districts statewide.



One area of focus was student mental health, including providing school-based behavioral health services, trauma-informed care and developing district mental health/wellness plans.

Keynote speaker David Rossetti is the Chief Officer of Behavioral Health Services for

Northern Rivers Family of Services in Albany.

"If student mental health services are important, then what can we do to meet that basic need?" asked Rossetti. "That was the problem we were given to solve."

In his address, he described the model developed by his organization which provides outpatient mental health services. Northern Rivers Family of Services brought their professionals directly into school buildings. This significantly reduced the loss of "seat time" for students, reduced travel and time away from work for parents and caregivers, and reduced instances of missed appointments due to family priorities and circumstances. Ultimately, Rossetti and his team were able to increase student access to mental health services.



"There is a cultural change for a school district when they introduce an on-site behavioral health specialist," added Rossetti, who also provided a list of similar local organizations with whom local districts could work to bring behavioral health specialists into their schools.

"Our speakers are presenting models that have worked which can be replicated locally," said Bronson. "Sharing information, sharing resources, helping more students. That is what we are trying to achieve."

SAANYS supports more than 7,000 school leaders in New York State with a continuum of services including legal, governmental and negotiations support as well as a strong professional learning component for New York State's school leaders.

Learning goes into overdrive, thanks to School Library Services

by Chris Klem

This fall, all returning students and teachers at BOCES 2 will have access to a paradise for readers —thousands of e-books and audiobooks: required and recommended reading for every grade level, along with popular fiction and NY Times best sellers for older readers. Students will be able to use any internet-enabled device, from phone and tablet to e-reader or computer, to search for, download and read e-books from our collection. They'll even be able to link their school account to the local public library and borrow e-books there, too. All of this is possible through our new digital library collection called Overdrive.

"We're excited to make this available to all of our BOCES 2 teachers," said School Library Services (SLS) Coordinator Jim Belair. "In fact, every one of our component districts signed up immediately for this new service. There is a lot of enthusiasm around being able to expand their own collections and offer things like All-School Reads, where everyone reads the same book. Teachers will have a huge pool of fabulous books to choose from, the ability to customize the collection, and flexibility in how they use books in their own lessons."

The service is scheduled to launch before school begins, so stay tuned for more information from the staff at SLS. And If Overdrive isn't enough

to get your students psyched about reading and spending time in the library, don't forget all the other great things SLS can help you use to build excitement for learning in your classroom:

More cool tools for schools

- **Creative MakerSpace kits for school libraries:** 3D printers, Dash & Dot, Lego, littleBits, Makey Makey and more!
- **Fun content creation tools:** borrow video cameras and access royalty-free music; create a channel on Ensemble and post your own videos
- **Dynamic video streaming:** thousands of titles, most complete with teacher guides
- **Easy-to-use online databases:** newspapers, magazines, reference materials organized by grade level and topic
- **Follett Destiny Library Manager:** access books, e-books, websites filtered by age, content and reliability
- **Access it all:** <http://monroe2boces.org/sls>



BOCES 2 students get career training during summer program

Monroe 2-Orleans BOCES students, staff and administrators join Monroe County Executive Cheryl Dinolfo and MCC President Anne Kress at the graduation ceremony for the Summer Advanced Manufacturing Experience (SAME). The program provides students with experience using state-of-the-art manufacturing equipment, which better prepares them for higher education and the workforce. SAME is a partnership between BOCES 2, Monroe One BOCES, Monroe County and Monroe Community College.

Remembering Kristie Holt



Truly exceptional people are remembered for the difference they have made in other people's lives. Teacher Kristie Holt, who passed away in July, touched so many young lives over her 28 years with Monroe One and Monroe 2-Orleans BOCES that her memory will last over countless lifetimes. From the student who called every year to wish her a happy birthday, even after he graduated, to the mother who credited Holt with her

32-year-old daughter's ability to live independently, people constantly recognized how special Kristie Holt was.

"Students always made progress in her classes," said coworker Gretchen Schober. "She was passionate, caring and had high expectations. The kids always rose to her challenges. They respected her. She helped prepare them to succeed in life."

Holt specialized in working with children with autism and developmental disabilities in the 12:1:1 High School Program at Spencerport. She was visually impaired herself and very familiar with overcoming challenges. She connected with students and never wavered in her belief that they could all achieve great things.

"Hundreds of students lead better lives now because Kristie believed in them," said Schober. "She wouldn't let them give up. She always said, 'Yes, you can do it.'"

Condolences to:

Kimberly Cubitt (retiree) and **Marilynn Cubitt** (retiree) on the passing of their father and husband, respectively; **Jan Kandor** (retiree) on the passing of her husband; the family of **Jack Marnon** (retiree); **Leigh Nenni** and **Taylor Nenni** on the passing of their mother and grandmother, respectively.

MOVING FORWARD *together*

BOCES 2 CAPITAL PROJECT CELEBRATION

Monday, Oct. 15

**4-4:30 p.m.
Ceremony**

**BOCES 2 Professional Development Center
3599 Big Ridge Road, Spencerport, NY 14559**

**4:30-6:30 p.m.
Open Campus Tours**

**Educational Services Center and
WEMOCO Career and Technical Education Center**



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.

Together

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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.

A cultural command performance



Members from the New York State Education Department toured the Eastman School of Music's historic halls with District Superintendents during their visit in July. New York State Commissioner of Education MaryEllen Elia and Members of the Board of Regents visited multiple Rochester cultural centers as part of their tour of New York's rich educational opportunities. For more information on the visit, see page 2.