

TOGETHER

October 2019

Welcome to Westview Exceptional Children and Westside Academy

The impressive new building at Westview Commons in Gates, which is the new home of Westview Exceptional Children and Westside Academy, opened its doors and welcomed teachers, staff and students this September. This exciting addition to Monroe 2–Orleans BOCES will help increase student opportunities and build stronger school communities.

The new Westview Exceptional Children houses students in ninth- and 10th- grade, who formerly attended Alternative High School, Therapeutic Day Program or are new to BOCES 2. Supervisor Adam Porter said, “It’s been an incredible experience hearing the comments and seeing the happy expressions on the faces of our students, staff and families as they’ve entered our new school.”

The other half of the building is Westside Academy, providing a permanent home for the junior/senior high school program, formerly located at Gates Chili High School. Principal Martha Willis said, “The new building helps foster our culture of collaboration, and the morale of staff is fantastic. One teacher said he has never heard so many wonderful things about our program as he did at our recent open house.”

BOCES 2 Assistant Superintendent for Instructional Programs Tim Dobberty said, “This is a wonderful new facility for our students, made possible by the support of our component districts who recognize how the right space positively affects the student’s learning environment.”

“

This is a wonderful new facility for our students, made possible by the support of our component districts who recognize how the right space positively affects the student’s learning environment.

- Tim Dobberty, BOCES 2 Assistant Superintendent for Instructional Programs

”



You are invited!

Westside Academy and the Department for Exceptional Children are proud to open the doors to their beautiful new home at Westview Commons for an Open House.

Wednesday, Nov. 13

5 -7 p.m.

Brief formal program at 5:30 p.m.

3635 Buffalo Road in Gates

All are invited to join our celebration: BOCES 2 and component district staff and teachers, students, friends and families. Come see what all the excitement is about. Tour our classrooms and facilities, meet administrators and teachers, ask questions and check out the grand improvements to our learning environments.



RSVP at www.monroe2boces.org/Westview

CTE students finish Clarkson house from top to bottom

Students in Monroe 2-Orleans BOCES Career and Technical Education (CTE) Construction Trades programs at WEMOCO will soon see all their hard work come to fruition. This year for the first time, the students will be able to follow their custom-built house, purchased by Monroe County, to its permanent address in Clarkson. There they will be able to finish the job, completing all the details from the roof to the basement.

The house will be transported in two halves. Students will install the basement and the foundation onsite, position and rebuild the house, then work on moldings, wiring and interior doors. They will add plumbing, a hot water heater and furnace, and hook up the tubs and sinks.

This is special because this year's class is getting an experience CTE students have never had before. Every year, students essentially build the shell of a house, which is then sold to a buyer who transports the house to a site and finishes up the rest. Students only got to see the part that they built, and not the house in its entirety.

The students of the construction career cluster, made up of Carpentry, HVAC/Plumbing, Residential and Commercial Electrical, Heavy Equipment Operations and Maintenance, and Introduction to Construction Trades, are already looking forward to seeing their first house on its permanent site, completely ready for habitation.

"Seeing it done, students think, 'Man, when I came here as a first-year student, there was an empty parking lot, and now there's a house,'" said Pete Sharpe, CTE carpentry teacher. "My company built 178 houses in my career, and that's a lot, and I still drive by them. I think it's the overall finished part. For the rest of their life, they can go to Brockport, take their kids there and say, 'that's my first house.'"

CTE Assistant Principal Shawna Gareau-Kurtz added, "It's going to give our students experiences that they haven't had in the past, because this is new for us. Bringing it to a [permanent] site is new for us. We haven't been involved in that part in the past because we've auctioned it to a buyer, and then the buyer has taken it and we haven't had involvement. That's the most exciting part, for us. It'll give students different experiences, then we've given in the past."



“

Seeing it done, students think, 'Man, when I came here as a first-year student, there was an empty parking lot, and now there's a house.

- Pete Sharpe, CTE carpentry teacher

”



Scientific Career Exploration Fair brings professionals to WEMOCO

There are a wide variety of excellent career opportunities available in the field of laboratory technology. Reaching out to young people while they are still in high school is key to increasing their awareness of these job options. The value of directing students to this career pathway was confirmed by participating businesses at the first Scientific Career Exploration Fair at the Career and Technical Education (CTE) Center at WEMOCO. CTE's Laboratory Technology program hosted the recent event. Enrolled seniors and juniors had a chance to ask visiting professionals about their personal career journeys and what their daily work life entails.

One of the professionals meeting students at the Exploration Fair was Hunter McLean. Just a few months ago, he would have been on the other side of the table, a student interviewing the professionals. Thanks to the co-op assignment he had with Eastman Kodak as a senior in CTE Laboratory Technology, Hunter is now a full-time

film technician. His experience led him to a career, in the same company where he had his co-op.

McLean said, "It was clear from the start of my co-op that if all went well and I liked doing the work, they would discuss a professional career right after high school." He works on testing film and said the job is a good fit for him, as he enjoys working in the background as opposed to a career with front-facing public contact. He said that through the CTE program, he learned to use laboratory equipment and chemical safety procedures, and developed time management and collaboration skills.

All the companies and programs who participated in the Exploration Fair supported reaching students early. They included ACM Laboratories, Catholic Health, Eastman Kodak Film Lab, LiDestri Foods, MCC Biotechnology, Monroe County Crime Lab, Ortho Clinical Diagnostics, Rochester Regional Health Medical Laboratory, URM Medical Laboratory and Vaccinex.



"It was clear from the start of my co-op that if all went well and I liked doing the work, they would discuss a professional career right after high school."

- Hunter McLean



CNA students give 100%

Students in the Career and Technical Education (CTE) Certified Nursing Assisting program are working hard and seeing their efforts payoff: the program currently boasts an impressive 100 percent graduation rate.

Out of a starting class of 26 students, last year 24 completed the program, and took the final exams. All of those students passed.

The Certified Nurse Assisting (CNA) program is a two-year program that prepares students to take their CNA certifications, so that by the time they graduate, they will be fully-qualified certified nursing assistants.

The students get instruction for approximately four months, and then spend their junior and senior years obtaining clinical hours by working with patients at Elderwood of Lakeside and the Wegman Family Cottages at Unity.

In order to earn their certifications, students are expected to have worked 108 clinical hours in addition to their classroom hours studying theory and instruction. They must also pass a two-part written and practical exam.

Those who become CNAs are on track to further their education in becoming LPNs, RNs, nurse practitioners and more. The program is considered a stepping stone into the healthcare field, especially as demands for professionals in these positions continue to increase.

CNA teacher Rachael Piccolo said, "We're teaching our young people what CNAs actually do. I have students who come into the program with no idea what CNAs do."

The program works to instill high self-expectations, along with values and life skills like work ethics and collaboration. This seems to be contributing to the overall success of the graduates. The clinical hours spent with patients also give students a deep sense of purpose. This can help them decide if a career in healthcare is a route they want to take. With so many of them finding success in this program, we have no doubt our graduates will continue to shine as they move into their chosen field.

Yoga is for everyone

The lights are dimmed, the yoga mats come out and quiet, relaxing music fills teacher Carole Cook's classroom at Gates Chili Middle School. Her students are ready for their special weekly low-impact yoga practice. Cook begins by projecting a slide showing a picture of a child in the chosen position, or asana. She quietly describes the movements required to achieve each asana, and then aides and therapists gently help their student partners into versions of the pose. The children stretch their spines, helping to realign vertebrae and release pressure on their nerves. The movements strengthen muscles, increase circulation and tone internal organs. This soothing, aided exercise can even help increase core strength, flexibility and joint motion range.

There are smiles around the room, as children do their best to reach for the sky, sit tall and straight, or twist like a pretzel. "It's the highlight of the week for several of our kids," said Cook. "It is fun and very relaxing for children who are often tense and tire easily."

Cook worked closely with occupational and physical therapists Katie Sassone and Amy Piatek to create the program for her students. She and her team use asanas that have been adapted to her students' abilities. For these children who can't easily do other physical activities, yoga offers a path to stronger bodies and greater mobility.

“

It's the highlight of the week for several of our kids, It is fun and very relaxing for children who are often tense and tire easily.

- Carole Cook, teacher

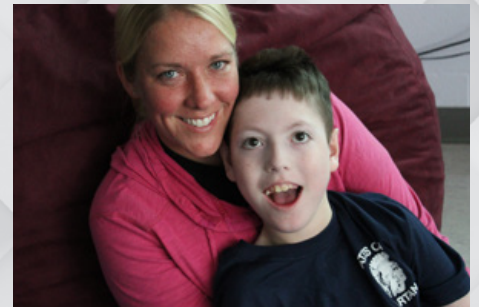
”



Teacher Carole Cook with one of her students.



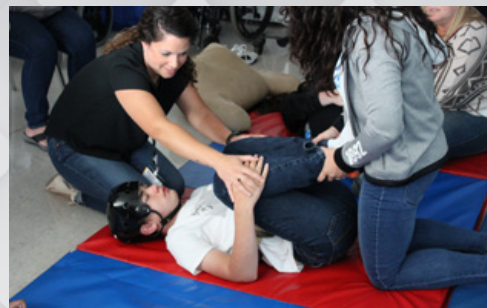
1:1 Aide Sue Bruning helps a student with gentle arm movements designed to increase upper body strength.



Partners in yoga: Physical Therapist Amy Piatek and her friend clearly enjoy the exercises.



Twisting will increase this student's flexibility and range of motion. Working with her are Occupational Therapist Katie Sassone and 1:1 Aide Erin Cassidy.



Speech Therapist Calli Raines and 1:1 Aide Jessica Santillo assist student in achieving the happy baby pose.



Challenger Learning Center relaunches on west side

Students in five BOCES 2 component districts once again have the chance to blast off into space thanks to the relaunch of the Challenger Learning Center of Greater Rochester.

Representatives from Monroe One BOCES cut the ribbon on the center on Sept. 25 in its new location at Kodak Center in Greece. The new facility features an upgraded mission control room, command module and videoconference space. Monroe One BOCES Board Members and administrators welcomed educators from school districts around the region, as well as New York State Regent Wade Norwood and Assemblyman Mark Johns.

The Challenger Center interactive program flew 153 missions last year, serving 3,825 students from 24 different school districts. Commanders Peter Robson and Andy Raab led students on a mission into space in which they use their STEM

(Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) skills and problem-solving, critical thinking and communication skills.

“We are excited about our partnership with Eastman Kodak Company,” said Monroe One BOCES District Superintendent Dan White. “Not only does the lease agreement secure the Challenger Learning Center of Greater Rochester as a learning center for students for years to come, it provides for a fresh, new and exciting space in which the program can look to expand and thrive.”

“Kodak has a rich history when it comes to aiding in space exploration and this partnership with Monroe One BOCES continues that history and will help young people excel in STEM fields for years to come,” said David Bullwinkle, Chief Financial Officer and President of Eastman Business Park.



Social and emotional learning expert visits BOCES 2

More than 500 staff members from the Department for Exceptional Children attended an Oct. 11 training given by Social Emotional Learning (SEL) expert Susan Keister. BOCES 2 will be implementing SEL practices and curriculum in all Pre-K through Transition classrooms. The Department looks forward to collaborating on SEL-related service projects with local Lions Clubs, who have been a great support in getting the training and program materials in place.

Teachers and their students have already begun to make SEL part of their daily life with projects that bring them together.

Strategic Plan Update Instructional Programs

Strategic Goal

Continuous Improvement

Key Strategy

Conduct needs assessment to identify and deliver professional development accordingly

Incorporate research-based instructional practices to ensure quality program delivery

Creating student-centered learning environments that affirm cultural identities, foster positive academic outcomes, develop students' abilities to connect across lines of difference, while elevating historically marginalized voices and empowering students as agents of social change is the purpose behind New York State Education Department's Culturally Responsive-Sustaining Education framework (CR-S). This guidance document, released in spring 2019 by NYSED, is having a significant impact on how schools across New York State view equity and inclusion for all students.

Over the past six months BOCES 2 administrators have attended a number of professional development workshops to learn about culturally responsive educational practices. This past July, BOCES 2 hosted a Regional Leadership Day that featured training on cultural responsiveness for school administrators. In August, BOCES 2 cabinet members spent part of their cabinet retreat day examining the CR-S framework in depth.

Over the course of the next year, administrators will be working within their programs to build a common understanding of the CR-S framework with staff and to identify areas for professional development that will be included in the next professional learning plan.

Communication Services wins a record 21 NYSPRA awards

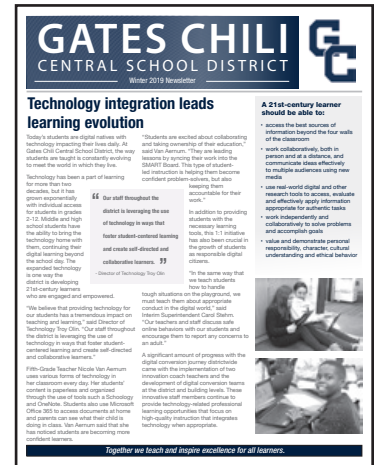
Members of BOCES 2 Communication Services were recently selected as winners in the 40th Annual New York School Public Relations Association (NYSPRA) Communication Awards. The group won a total of 21 awards, the most the group has ever won.

"To be among the best of the best recognized by NYSPRA is always a thrill, and 21 awards is an astounding total for a small group like ours," said BOCES 2 Communication Manager Steve Dawe. "We are proud to showcase the work we do for BOCES 2 and our districts, and we're honored by the confidence they show in us."

Award winners include Communication Manager Steve Dawe, Communication Specialists Chris Klem, Jennifer

Merkel, Beth Nash, Iva Petrosino, Mary Prusak, Digital Media Technician Tony Puleo, as well as Graphic Designers Karen Alsup, Lisa Constantine and Allison Mason. In addition, many of the publications that were honored in other school districts across the state were produced with the help of BOCES 2 Printing and Graphics Services.

NYSPRA accepts submissions in 14 different categories and the entries are judged by communication professionals across the country. In 2019, 513 entries were received with approximately one-third of those receiving awards. There are three levels of distinction; Excellence is the highest, followed by Honor and Merit, respectively.



Gates Chili Central School District Newsletter, Excellence

The winning submissions and the BOCES 2 staff involved are:

Annual Report

Merit, Monroe 2-Orleans BOCES Annual Report (BOCES 2), Steve Dawe, Karen Alsup, SIS Contributors

Budget/Bond Newsletter

Honor, Dimension Budget Issue (Holley), Beth Nash and Lisa Constantine

Honor, The Link (Churchville-Chili), Chris Klem and Karen Alsup

Community Newsletter

Excellence, Gates Chili Central School District Newsletter (Gates Chili), Jennifer Merkel, Iva Petrosino and Lisa Constantine

Honor, The Link (Churchville-Chili), Chris Klem and Karen Alsup, Amanda Puleo, CCCSD Communications Coordinator

Merit, The Chronicle (Kendall), Beth Nash and Karen Alsup

Merit, Together (BOCES 2), Iva Petrosino, Lisa Constantine, SIS Contributors

Excellence in Writing

Excellence, Arts Integration Program Recognized with 2019 Magna Award (Gates Chili), Jennifer Merkel

Honor, Westside Academy: Trauma Informed School (BOCES 2), Chris Klem

Honor, Restoring one home while building two others (BOCES 2) Iva Petrosino

Merit, Moving Forward Together (BOCES 2), Iva Petrosino

Merit, Department for Exceptional Children: Assistive Technology (BOCES 2), Chris Klem

Merit, Byron-Bergen and Elba boys basketball take on a mutual opponent: cancer (Byron-Bergen), Gretchen Spittler

Merit, Geometry in Construction Class Completes Barn Build (Holley), Beth Nash

Overall Graphics and Design

Merit, Monroe 2-Orleans BOCES Annual Report (BOCES 2), Karen Alsup

Photograph

Excellence, Students Constructing Barn (Holley), Beth Nash

Honor, Programs Collaborate for Prom Joy (Monroe One BOCES), Mary Prusak

Merit, Long jump (Byron-Bergen), Gretchen Spittler

Special Purpose Publication

Merit, Are You Ready to Make a Difference? (Wheatland-Chili), Jackie Finn and Allison Mason

Video

Merit, Zombie House Project (BOCES 2), Anthony Puleo and Stephen Dawe

Merit, T.J. Connor Field Day 2019 (Wheatland-Chili), Anthony Puleo and Jackie Finn



Winning photo by Beth Nash, Excellence



Winning photo by Mary Prusak, Honor



Winning photo by Gretchen Spittler, Merit

New Resources from Library Services



Monroe 2-Orleans BOCES
SCHOOL LIBRARY SYSTEM
INQUIRY • READING • LEARNING

Did you know? There is an amazing amount and variety of reading, educational and research materials that are available through Monroe 2-Orleans BOCES Library Services. Any BOCES 2 employee, teacher, student or staff member can access bestselling ebooks or audio books, rights-free images and music, historical newspapers, streaming video and more. Just log in to your official BOCES 2 Office 365 or Google account and visit the Classroom Resources page at <https://libguides.monroe2boces.org/boces> (Component district employees, please refer to your local school library website for access information). From here, you can explore resources for Elementary, Secondary or District-Based Educational Programs.

The newest exciting addition to the Media Library is NBC Learn K-12. From the latest headlines to a mind-boggling collection of archived interviews, shows and historical news coverage from NBC News' vault, it is all streaming, closed captioned and available 24/7, thanks to Library Services. There are even videos made specifically for the classroom and geared to curriculum.

Want to know more about how to use this world of information?

Register for Digi-Know: Tools for the Classroom on Jan. 30, 2020

<https://libguides.monroe2boces.org/slshome/pd/workshops#s-lib-ctab-16621024-0>.



BOCES 2 Staff Tip:

Use the Instructional Resources links on the left side of BOCES 2 Employee Portal for quick access to these digital resources!

Employee Recognition Event

Celebrating You

Thursday, Dec. 5
3:30-5 p.m.

The Professional Development Center at ESC
3599 Big Ridge Road
Spencerport, NY 14559

Join us as we celebrate staff, recognize employee service milestones and award the Crystal Apple

All staff welcome!

BOCES 2

CTE EXPO 2019

See what Career and Technical Education (CTE) has to offer!

Thursday, Nov. 14 6-8 p.m.

BOCES 2 Career and Technical Education Center at WEMOCO

3859 Big Ridge Road, Spencerport, NY 14559

Come experience our high school programs and discuss local job market opportunities with community partners.

Retiree Connections

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 Iva Petrosino, editor, at ipetrosi@monroe2boces.org or mail it to BOCES 2 Communication and Technology Services, 3625 Buffalo Rd, Rochester, NY 14624, attn. Iva Petrosino.

Board of Cooperative Educational Services

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

District Superintendent

Jo Anne Antonacci

Editor

Iva Petrosino
ipetrosi@monroe2boces.org
585-349-9081

Contributors

Mark Ball, Tricia Croce, Steve Dawe, Amanda Dedie,
Jackie Finn, Chris Klem, Beth Nash, Iva Petrosino,
Mary Prusak, Stephanie Robusto, Jade Rood
and Gretchen Spittler

Graphic Designer

Lisa Constantine



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 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 focus on employee wellness

BOCES 2 employees are going back to class—CrossFit class, that is. A group of staff members from various BOCES 2 departments have been meeting for weekly CrossFit sessions each Tuesday with the help of CTE teachers Lewis Cucchiara and Tom Noto.

