

TOGETHER

September/October 2021

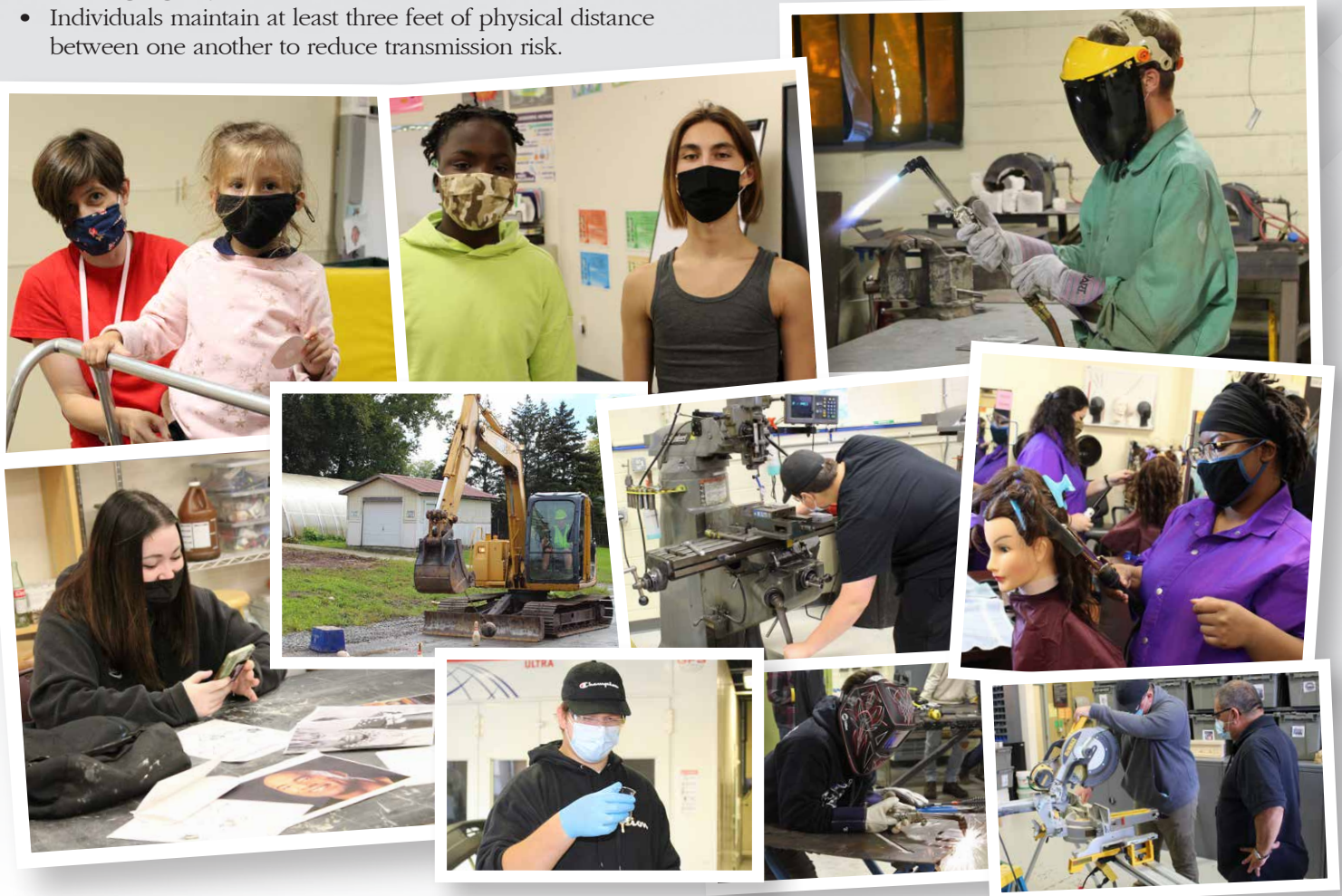
BOCES 2 is Back to School

Students have returned to BOCES 2 programs and buildings for five days a week of instruction for the 2021-22 school year. Based on New York State Education Department's (NYSED) recommendation that schools reopen, guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and information from the Monroe County Health Department, BOCES 2 is following the protocols below to ensure the health and safety of students, faculty and staff:

- Universal indoor masking required for all individuals, including visitors, in all BOCES-owned or leased buildings and classrooms, regardless of vaccination status.
- Masking not required outdoors on BOCES-owned or leased property.
- Individuals maintain at least three feet of physical distance between one another to reduce transmission risk.

- BOCES continues to layer additional prevention strategies for added safety including personal protective equipment (PPE), proper hand hygiene, enhanced cleaning protocols and respiratory etiquette.
- Students, teachers and staff stay home when ill.
- A one-time electronic health attestation required of staff and students at the beginning of the school year.

Similar protocols are adhered to when staff serve students at locations other than their school setting. BOCES will closely monitor community transmission rates, as well as New York Department of Health (NYDOH), CDC and NYSED guidance. Necessary adjustments to our health and safety protocols will be made accordingly.



Editor's Note: Photos of students and staff in this issue were taken following appropriate social distancing measures and/or with masks in place.

Students Attend Summer at the Center

by Beth Nash

Students in grades 7-9 from BOCES 2 component districts attended Summer at The Center at the BOCES 2 Career and Technical Education (CTE) Center in July and August. Five camps were offered: Camp Culinary, Baking Bootcamp, Junior Fire Academy, Red Carpet Hair and Nails, and Camp "Hammer" - Head. Each camp was held from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. daily for a week. Participants paid \$199 as the early reservation rate for each camp.

Camp Culinary students prepared a variety of menu items, working in the professional kitchens at the CTE Center. Five students learned cooking techniques, proper handling of kitchen tools, food safety and sanitation, and safe operation of kitchen equipment. They prepared and served breakfast to family members at the end of the week. Students also explored careers in the hospitality industry.



"By the end of the week, students exhibited confidence in operating the equipment and producing good food," said Camp Culinary instructor Carol Lupisella. "They were enthusiastic and took pride in what they did. I was surprised by the knowledge these students possessed at the start of camp. They exceeded my expectations in the work they did."

Fifteen Baking Bootcamp students prepared sweet and savory baked goods in the CTE bakery. They learned safe food handling techniques, proper kitchen equipment operation, the difference between volume and weight measurements, and how to convert recipes.



In the Spencerport Junior Fire Academy, eight students received hands-on training in EMS and firefighting from members of the Chili, Gates and Spencerport Volunteer

Fire Departments. Students trained on the CTE campus and at Spencerport Fire Department Station 3. They met professionals from Monroe County Hazmat, 911 Radio Operations, Mercy Flight, Strong Trauma, Gates Ambulance and the Ogden Fire Marshall. Students also toured emergency services and/or vehicles, including the Public Safety Training facility. They learned teamwork through radio communications, put out a mock car fire, navigated through a training maze in full firefighter gear, and rode on a 105 foot aerial ladder and in a firetruck with lights and sirens blaring. By the end of the week, students earned their Community CPR and First Aid Certifications.



"Students were challenged to push themselves physically and mentally to experience what it is like to be a first responder," said Fire Academy instructor Sara Missell. "I was beyond impressed with our students. Every day, we presented them with new challenges, and each of them stepped up. Some students even asked if they could complete the training maze blindfolded! We had 20 Spencerport Fire Department members volunteer during this week, and everyone was impressed with the work ethic and dedication of these students. It was so much fun to see the excitement and wonder in these boys as they experienced everything, which helped renew my love of the fire service. We are hoping to expand the program next year to two weeks to allow older participants to experience it, plus allow students that attended this year to continue their training. I know I will see some of these kids working as first responders in years to come, and it's humbling to think that this program had a part in starting that fire in them."



Ten Red Carpet Hair and Nails students learned basic braiding techniques, used professional heat styling tools, created various curls, learned basic nail art and shaping techniques, and designed a nail art set according to a theme.

"Students showed great improvement from the beginning to the end of the week," said Red Carpet Hair and Nails instructor Raeann Materise. "It was cool to see how they interacted with each other and to watch their interest grow as they learned new techniques. Some students came in expecting to like nails, but ended up loving hair, too."

Camp "Hammer"- Head students learned the carpentry fundamentals of framing and building a house. They built two-story "mini-houses" on a scale of 2 feet by 3 feet, working in groups to build each floor and roof. Eighteen

students used measuring tapes and band saws, and learned how to cut wood and hammer different-sized nails. They also learned how to mix concrete to make a concrete seat that sat upon four wooden legs, and took home their handmade stools at the end of the week.

"These students exceeded my expectations," said Camp "Hammer" - Head instructor Jake Bartalo. "They worked quickly and were able to finish the projects on time. Students loved working with their hands, and they thought the mini-houses were a cool project. Most parents were very appreciative of the experience for their students, and they wanted to know if the kids can come back again next summer."

Look for another series of camps next year!



Summer School Successfully Continues Learning for Students

BOCES 2 Regional Summer School (RSS) program served more than 2,000 students from districts all around Monroe County and beyond. In the Extended School Year (ESY) program, children in pre-school through high school attended classes and received services. More than 400 children participated in the ESY program this summer, bringing much-needed continuity to their learning experience and peace of mind to their families.



Flu Vaccine Clinics

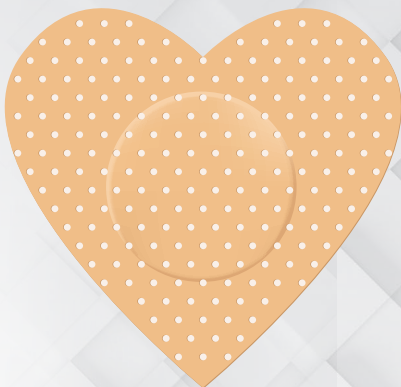
- Tuesday, October 12
- Thursday, October 28
- Wednesday, November 3
- Thursday, December 2

Flu vaccine clinics are held from 3-6 p.m. on the dates listed above at the Career and Technical Education Center in Room A116 off the main lobby. These clinics are open to the public, for adults age 18 and older. No appointment is needed. Bring your insurance card. If you have no insurance or a non-participating insurance, the fee is \$35, payable by cash or check.

All COVID-19 safety measures will be followed; don't forget to wear your mask.

For clinical questions, contact Flu Prevention Partners of Workplace Vitality at 585-568-8340. For information on insurance matters, visit [Flu Immunizations — WPV Inc.](#)

BOCES 2 Contact: Barb Swanson, 585-352-2749



CWD High School Equivalency Graduation Ceremony

by Jordan Kirkpatrick

BOCES 2 Center for Workforce Development (CWD) recognized the accomplishments of 142 graduates on Aug. 11. Fifty-five graduates participated in the ceremony, each receiving a certificate of achievement as they walked across the room in their caps and gowns, with friends and family in attendance.

CWD Director Tom Schulte made opening remarks: "Earning a high school diploma can be challenging enough in normal times, but doing so at a time in your life when so many other distractions tug for your attention, and during the COVID-19 pandemic, is a testament to your commitment to personal growth and your perseverance in the face of countless obstacles. We are incredibly proud to have been able to support you through all of this and are humbled to share in your graduation."

CWD graduates go on to enroll in post-secondary college, learn valuable workplace skills in job-training programs or seek higher-paying employment opportunities.

If you or someone you know is ready to earn their high school equivalency diploma, contact CWD at 585-349-9100,

CWDInfo@monroe2boces.org or online at

<https://www.monroe2boces.org/HighSchoolEquivalency.aspx>.



YOU ARE INVITED

to the 15th Annual Monroe 2-Orleans Educational Foundation

Celebration

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2021

Ridgemont Country Club
6-11 p.m.

Remembering Mark Bibby

by Beth Nash

Mark Bibby, a BOCES 2 employee for 17 years, sadly passed away on July 14. Bibby originally worked for BOCES 2 as a cleaner for about eight years, then as a working foreman, supervising the other cleaners, for two years. He was then promoted to a mechanic position. As part of his daily responsibilities, he performed carpentry tasks, and assisted with HVAC, plumbing, and Health and Safety. Operations and Maintenance Director Tom Burke said Bibby was one of the “go to” guys for painting requests.

“Mark was very detail-oriented and would always follow through with the work he was assigned,” said BOCES 2 Service Response Manager Courtney Pollet. “He was meticulous; he would think of all angles of a request to ensure the job was completed to high quality standards. Mark had a photographic memory, and he was organized. He knew where specific tools/equipment were placed in the shop and offsite locations. He knew everything about painting BOCES 2 facilities. Mark had excellent communication with BOCES staff and outside vendors. He was always one of the first ones here in the morning, but if a request needed to be met after hours, he was always willing to help. He worked with other team members to complete job requests, even in areas outside of his expertise. Mark was well-liked within all departments.”

Bibby was known for his love of spicy food amongst his coworkers. “Mark would always say, ‘the hotter, the better,’” said Pollet. “His coworker, Danny Milillo, tried to find a pepper that would beat Mark’s standards. He brought in peppers no one else would eat, but Mark ate them like they were candy.”

Survived by his wife of 41 years, Maureen; son, Mark Jr.; and dog, Jack; Mark loved spending time with his family. He loved the outdoors, spending time gardening, fishing and boating. He was very family-oriented, stopping often on his way home from work to visit his mom, Jean Bibby.



Remembering Nicole Versace

by Beth Nash

Nicole Versace, a BOCES 2 employee for 23 years, sadly passed away on July 28. Versace was a Teacher of English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL), who worked out of Brockport’s Ginther



Elementary School. She also helped coordinate and facilitate Regional Summer English as a New Language Program, which provides English Language Learners with opportunities to expand their language and learning over the summer.

“Nicole was a hardworking and dedicated teacher who put students first, and genuinely cared about them and their families,” said BOCES 2 Special Education Supervisor Phil Ortolani. “She provided a lot of support to her colleagues and leadership within the English and a New Language department. As one of the veteran teachers, she helped new TESOLs get acclimated and develop their skills. Nicole was a kind and thoughtful person who appreciated those around her.”

Versace was able to embrace other cultures and bring those traditions to the classroom. “I once observed Nicole teaching a lesson on papel picado to a group of six kindergarten and first grade students,” said Ortolani. “Papel picado is a Mexican folk art that involves cutting elaborate designs into sheets of paper, similar to paper snowflakes. Students read about the tradition and then created their own papel picados. Not only did Nicole maintain the attention and productivity of this diverse group of little people, but this lesson served as an excellent example of how she helped students develop their language and literacy skills, while simultaneously highlighting and placing value on other cultural traditions and identities. There was a true joyfulness to the learning, and students were so proud of their creations.”

Survived by her father, Frank Versace Jr.; mother, Frances Carr Versace; brother, Frank Vincent Versace; beloved nephews, Finn Walker and Blake Paxton Versace; and many aunts, uncles and cousins.

Condolences to:

Erin Cassidy on the death of her husband; **Tanya Frank** on the death of her grandmother; **Maureen McAnany** on the death of her father; **Carrie Rubert** on the death of her grandmother-in-law; **Kiera Russo** on the death of her father.

CTE Hosts Open House on Sept. 23

by Beth Nash

BOCES 2 Career and Technical Education (CTE) Center was able to host open house in-person this year on Sept. 23. Students from all the component districts were able to bring their parents/guardians to the event to meet their teachers, visit their classrooms and view some of the projects they are working on. Teachers gave families overviews of courses students were enrolled in, outlining career prospects and differences in the two-year programs, as they applied to juniors and seniors. Students are off to a great start with five days of in-person learning this year!



Students Attend SAME Program This Summer

The Summer Advanced Manufacturing Experience (SAME) provides students with a hands-on experience in manufacturing, and they earn credits at Monroe Community College (MCC). The three-week program puts teens in Career and Technical Education (CTE) classrooms, where they use state-of-the-art equipment, similar to what they'll find in advanced manufacturing facilities in the region. Students also toured some of those companies thanks to the industry connections CTE professionals have made. These community partners include Monroe One BOCES, MCC, Monroe County, the Rochester Technology and Manufacturing Association (RTMA), the Finger Lakes Advanced Manufacturers' Enterprise (FAME) and many other local businesses.



BOCES 2 Welcomes Three New Board Members This School Year

by Beth Nash

Cindy Dawson, Mark Porter and Heather Pyke represent Wheatland-Chili, Holley and Kendall school districts, respectively. Here is some information on each new BOCES 2 Board Member.

Cindy L. Dawson

Employment: Independent Quality Assurance Specialist for the bio-pharma and medical device industries

Education: BS in Microbiology from SUNY Plattsburgh; Certified Technical Writer from Rochester Institute of Technology

Family: Married for 32 years; Children: Olivia, Connor and Nathan

School/Community Activities: Former Scottsville Athletic Association (SAA) Board Member and Secretary for five years; SAA Travel Soccer Coach for 13 years; Booster Club Treasurer for two years; Wheatland-Chili CSD Board of Education (BOE) Member for two years, PTA Member for seven years, Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF) Walk to Cure Type 1 Diabetes (T1D) for 14 years

I wanted to join the BOCES 2 Board to better understand and promote the BOCES 2 programs and to communicate this information directly to the Wheatland-Chili BOE.

The top issues facing schools are: addressing the bus driver shortage and stringent requirements; the need to have the community more involved in understanding the school curriculum and learning processes; and the downfall of social media and use of cell phones in school.



Mark B. Porter

Employment: Monroe Ambulance

Education: Kendall High School graduate; attended Genesee Community College Criminal Justice program

Family: Wife, Rose; Children: Jennifer, Lori and Joshua

School/Community Activities: Holley CSD Board of Education member for six years; volunteer wrestling and baseball coach for Holley CSD; former Trustee of the Village of Holley; former Fire Chief of Holley Fire Department

I worked with the administration, teachers, parents, Board of Education and community to make sure every child in the Holley Central School District had the opportunity to succeed. As a board member, it is also my obligation to be financially responsible to the taxpayers, students and staff. We have a duty to make sure our children will receive the best possible education, taught by inspiring teachers, and using the finest educational resources. Our demanding world requires students who are successfully prepared for its challenges. We should expect responsibility, accountability, transparency and constant parental communication from the district for the sake of our children.



Dr. Heather L. Pyke

Employment: Assistant Professor of Communication Sciences and Disorders at Nazareth College

Education: BS and MA from SUNY Geneseo in Speech-Language Pathology; PhD from University of Rochester in Health Practice Research

Family: Husband, Peter Clark; Children: Willow, a freshman at Nazareth College, and Noah, sophomore at Kendall Junior/Senior High School

School/Community Activities: Vice President of Kendall Music Boosters

I wanted to join the BOCES 2 Board to give back to the community. Now that both my kids are teenagers and I am finished with my PhD, I have more time for service. I have spent most of my career as a medical speech-language pathologist, but I have also worked in a variety of school settings. I am hopeful that my experiences will help me to contribute to the work of the BOCES 2 Board.

Schools are the core of the community, and they are tasked with not only educating our children, but also ensuring their emotional and social wellbeing. We know that each child deserves an individualized program to meet their unique needs, however, this is not always possible, given the limited resources, especially in our smaller districts. Schools are now faced with the additional burdens brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic and political divide in our communities.



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Award-winning publication

To view our newsletter online, visit
<https://www.monroe2boces.org/Newsletters.aspx>.
Past issues are also housed at this location.



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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, religion, color, national origin, disability, creed, marital status, veteran status, military status, sexual orientation, prior criminal offense, domestic violence victim status, gender identity, gender expression or genetic status in its programs or activities, and it provides equal access to the Boy Scouts of America and other designated youth groups. The following person has been designated to handle complaints/inquiries regarding the BOCES' non-discrimination policies: Director of Human Resources, 3599 Big Ridge Road, Spencerport, NY 14559, 585-352-2420, and is also the Title VII and Title IX Officer.

For further information on notice of non-discrimination, visit <https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/addresses.html> 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 <https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/complaintprocess.html>. See also New York State Executive Law 296.

Exploring Bold, New Flavors at Westview

by Chris Klem

This summer, students at Westview in the Department for Exceptional Children learned a variety of cooking techniques and tried unfamiliar foods. They discovered a brave new world of flavors and had a lot of fun.

Students found taste inspiration on the social media app TikTok, with unlikely-sounding recipes that challenged them to make something out of the ordinary. Guided by 6:1:2 Complex Needs teacher Kim Stephenson, the class made Potato Chip Mashed Potatoes (in six different flavors!) and Pasta Chips with Feta Cheese Dip. They even put mustard on watermelon and ate it – a true sign of bravery! “We enjoyed starting with favorite foods we really liked,” said Stephenson. “Then we looked for ways to put things together differently to create novel tastes and textures.”



Chris and Nathaniel making mashed potatoes.

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