

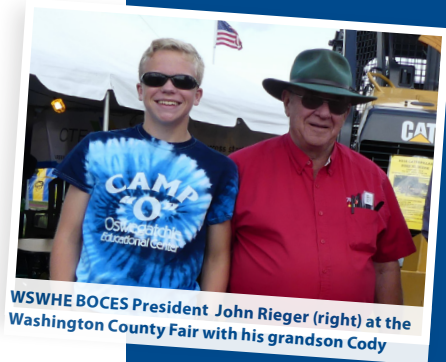
A Message from the WSWHE BOCES President

This year marks the 70th anniversary of the creation of BOCES in New York State. While WSWHE BOCES is quite a bit younger, and has had several formations, milestones like this are a great opportunity to think about the future as much as reflect on the past. Today, our mission remains just as powerful and important for our school districts and students. We remain committed to be an educator for all ages and abilities, an engine for economic growth and a facilitator of collaboration and efficiency. We strive to grow and evolve to meet the changing needs of our school districts and students.

As we welcome a new year, with a renewed sense of hope and promise, WSWHE BOCES is thankful to our area school board members and component school superintendents for all you bring to the children and families we serve.

The occasion of our annual Legislative Breakfast allows us to present our regional legislative priorities, and also recognize our outstanding regional business partners. We are privileged to have strong relationships with so many business partners and our legislative representatives. Throughout this legislative session, we urge all board members to remain engaged with your representatives to discuss your district's priorities and educational goals.

Every year our BOCES makes progress. We engage our students. Through hands-on lessons, project based learning, real-life experiences and embedded programming, our students are living the lessons they are learning. This is thanks to you and your support of our staff and administration. They are providing students, educators and communities with the expertise they need to be successful. We wish you a happy, productive 2018 and look forward to our continued collaboration.

WSWHE BOCES President John Rieger (right) at the Washington County Fair with his grandson Cody

IMPORTANT DATES

Early College Career Academy Information Session 6:00-7:30 PM

January 17, 2018, SUNY Adk Queensbury

CTE Open House

January 18, 2018 6:00 - 8:00 PM

F. Donald Myers Education Center, Saratoga Springs

Adirondack Area School Boards Association (AASBA) Meeting

February 15 and May 3, 2018 at 6:00 PM

Queensbury Hotel, Glens Falls

Saratoga County School Boards Association (SCSBA) Meeting

January 29 and May 14, 2018 at 6:00 PM

Holiday Inn, Saratoga Springs

Combined AASBA & SCSBA Meeting

March 22, 2018 at 6:00 PM

Queensbury Hotel, Glens Falls

WSWHE BOCES Annual Meeting

April 11, 2018 at 6:30 PM

F. Donald Myers Education Center Saratoga Springs

Vote on Administrative Budget and Election of Board Members

April 24, 2018



EXCEPTIONAL LEARNERS DIVISION

Empowering students through education.

What's In A Name?

At the start of the 2017-18 school year WSWHE BOCES announced that the Special Education division was being renamed the Exceptional Learners Division and unveiled a new logo. This change acknowledges that learners have

different abilities and take different paths towards their future. WSWHE BOCES supports that journey through core academics and individually tailored instruction, setting students up for success. The division's new logo reflects a feeling of hope and opportunity. We have created new print materials and videos, and updated our web page. We wanted to show the value of our programs, how we put students first, let parents know what their options are, and also to highlight our dedicated and talented staff. We hope you will find the new resources helpful.

SkillsUSA

Melissa Phelps, a graduate of Saratoga Springs High School who completed the Career and Technical Education (CTE) Health Occupations program, earned the silver medal in the Basic Health Care competition at the SkillsUSA 53rd annual National Leadership and Skills Conference in Louisville, Ky. in June. More than 17,000 people — including students, teachers and business partners — participated in the week-long event. Melissa works full time at the Saratoga Center for Rehabilitation & Skilled Nursing Care. She has enlisted in the Army National Guard and will train as a Health Care Specialist. She says the training she received at CTE and the experience of SkillsUSA has helped her to get to this point.



Melissa Phelps shows her medals at the August Board of Education meeting

Focus on Literacy

Need a book to capture the imagination of a reluctant reader? Need student specific data for an IEP or district meeting? Looking for a different way to teach content area vocabulary? Having difficulty adapting ELA modules to meet the specific needs of your students?

If WSWHE BOCES staff answer yes to any of these questions, they've probably contacted a literacy facilitator. Starting in the 2017-18 school year, WSWHE BOCES has two new full time literacy facilitators. Lisa Corbett splits her time between Sanford Street Teaching and Learning Center (grades K-6) and Washington Street Teaching and Learning Center (grades 7 & 8.) Theresa Wild works with high school students at both the Southern Adirondack and F. Donald Myers Education Centers. In the past, speech and language pathologists, and speech therapists combined these duties with their day to day roles.



Theresa Wild working with a high school student on an essay.



Lisa Corbett pushing in to a classroom at WSTLC

A typical day in the life of a literacy facilitator includes:

- Checking in with teachers first thing (How are things going? How did that lesson go? When will you be done with that novel? Do you need help finding materials? etc.)
- Collecting resources, creating tutorials, collecting and interpreting data from computer based literacy programs WSWHE BOCES uses.
- Pushing in to classrooms during scheduled ELA and intervention periods to model lessons, show teachers how to use different aspects of computer guided instruction programs, guide teachers through using new materials and teaching techniques to increase student interaction and engagement.
- Meeting with teachers during common planning periods to collaborate on future lessons/units.
- Facilitating data meetings and discussions related to student reading data to improve overall literacy instruction.
- Working with teachers and students to help improve the quality of writing essays and other written pieces.

"A big piece of what the literacy facilitator does is to facilitate staff training in order to provide teachers at BOCES with strategies for implementing reading and writing instruction which aligns with current research for student achievement," says Theresa Wild.

Literacy Facilitator Lisa Corbett says, "the introduction of literacy coaches allows us to work individually with teachers to support them and the unique needs of the students in their classrooms."

While it is a bit early to see full results, Corbett says, "students are excited about the literacy based activities we are implementing and are eager to show off what they've accomplished."

Business Entrepreneurship



Business Entrepreneurship Class of 2019

New for the 2017-18 school year is the Business and Entrepreneurship program in the Early College Career Academy (ECCA). Students get a jump start on a business degree of choice that encourages creativity and planning, and prepares them to pursue different avenues and career paths in the field of business.

Students can earn up to 26 credits toward an Associate in Applied Science (AAS) in Accounting; Management, Marketing and Entrepreneurship; or Hospitality and Tourism Management; an Associate in Science in Business Administration; or Certificate in Entrepreneurship and Business Management.

Students kicked off the new program with a focus on self assessment, self reflection, and team building. "I knew this class was going to be 2 years long and it was extremely important to set a foundation as a team," says Business and Entrepreneurship Instructor Susan Stone.

"I told the students I had really high expectations for them. I was going to push them out of their comfort zone and they were going to present a lot. If you are going to be in the business world or have a business, you need to be able to communicate to people," adds Stone.

If the inaugural *Business Pitch Idea* event in December was any indication of the innovation that students are coming to the program with, and the skills they have developed so far, they are off to a great start. The class started with 9 ideas in September, which were then narrowed down to 6 ideas that were presented in December. Based on feedback from their peers in the ECCA New Media and IT Networking programs and BOCES staff, three ideas will move forward: (i) Halcyon, polycarbonate skis; (ii) ImBlant, a blood test microchip; and (iii) FiloDesk, an interactive, health conscious, desk.



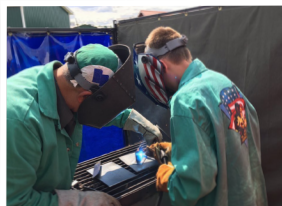
Students presenting the FiloDesk

Students will regroup, work as teams and present these ideas at the New York State High School Business Model Competition at Siena College in May. The competition is sponsored by the Center for Economic Growth, and offers not only a chance for the students to test their ideas on real entrepreneurs and business experts, but they may actually obtain monetary investments to turn their ideas into products for the marketplace.

"The program has an innovative and creative setting," says Sam Hogan, Glens Falls CSD, who pitched an idea for Halcyon, customized polycarbonate skis. "I feel I will be more prepared for college and real life than if I was in a regular high school business class. I am encouraged to take risks and create my own ideas."

CTE at the Fair

Last summer we wanted to make our presence at the Washington County Fair more interactive so fair goers would have the same hands-on experience our students get at CTE. With attendance reaching 112,000, CTE tapped into a substantial part of that audience. CTE instructors and students held daily demonstrations with the culmination of events on CTE Day August 25, when demonstrations took place every two hours. Big trucks, excavators, chainsaws, flower arranging, cookies, blood pressure monitoring, and bird house building were just a few of the attractions. Social media, WTEN, WNYT and LookTV, as well as the Post Star helped widen our exposure. It was a year of firsts and we look forward to doing it again in 2018.



Instructor Clay Corey giving a welding demonstration.



Doug Fleischut shows fair goers how to make corsages.



Assemblywoman Carrie Woerner tried out the CAT D3K2 bulldozer.

Winter 2018

WSWHE BOCES CONNECTIONS

The Washington-Saratoga-Warren-Hamilton-Essex BOCES does not discriminate in its programs and activities, including employment and admission as applicable, on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, creed, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, religion, age, economic status, marital status, veterans' status, political affiliation, domestic victim status, use of a guide dog, hearing dog or service dog, disability, or other classifications protected under federal or state law, and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The designated district compliance officers will coordinate compliance with the nondiscrimination requirements of Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended, the Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act, and the New York State Human Rights Law. The BOCES Compliance Officers are: Donna J. Wisenburn, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resource Services or Timothy G. Place, Deputy District Superintendent, Washington-Saratoga-Warren-Hamilton-Essex BOCES, 1153 Burgoyne Avenue, Suite 2, Fort Edward, NY 12828, phone: (518) 581-3310 or 746-3310, email: dwisenburn@wswhiboces.org or tplace@wswhiboces.org. Complaints may also be filed with the Office for Civil Rights, New York Office, U.S. Department of Education, 32 Old Slip, 26th Floor, New York, NY 10005-2500, phone (646) 428-3800, fax (646) 428-3843, email: OCR.NewYork@ed.gov