

A Message from the Board of Education President

Well, spring is officially here and there is so much to look forward to. While we're happy to see the cold weather go, we can take pride in saying winter has been quite a productive season for WSWHE BOCES. Hundreds of teachers and staff engaged in professional development; our second annual Regional Schools Job Fair brought out new talent; we launched the WSWHE BOCES Tiny House project, a unique partnership with industry; and students from all 31 districts participated in enrichment activities like Odyssey of the Mind, Battle of the Books, and SkillsUSA, allowing them to find their passion, get excited about learning, and shine. These are just a few of the things we've been up to that will continue to allow us all to make progress; but our job is not done yet!



John Rieger, President, Board of Education (center) with CTE Construction Trades students Anald Joseph (left) from Mechanicville and Osie Johnston of Galway (right) at the Tiny House Project groundbreaking event.

Our Annual Dinner is an opportunity to recognize our area school board members and component school superintendents for your dedication to the children and families you serve and to say thank you for your support. It is also a wonderful time to get a bird's eye view of some of our programs. This year, we are especially excited to highlight our Career and Technical Education Health Occupations program.

Your continued support for WSWHE BOCES allows us to provide the best level of service to our school communities. We value your collaboration and are always open to suggestions to enhance our relationship. We can't wait to see the great things our students and staff can achieve.

Continuing Collaboration

On April 30, 2019, our component school district Boards will vote on the Administrative Budget and elect members to the BOCES Board of Education.

Budget

The 2019-20 Administrative, Capital and Rental Budgets total \$8,455,313, an increase of \$312,430 or 3.84% over the current year's budgets.

The 2019-20 Administrative Budget is \$6,739,676, an increase of \$231,260, or 3.55%, over the current year. Prior to allocating the Administrative costs to component school districts, the associated costs are reduced by anticipated revenues.

The allocation increase for the three combined budgets is 1.57% and has remained under 2% for eight straight years.

The Administrative Budget includes the offices of the District Superintendent, Deputy District Superintendent, Director of Personnel Development and Improvement, Chief Financial Officer, a portion of the Executive Director for Educational and Support Programs, and related office staff. It also includes health insurance payments for retired BOCES employees, which accounts for 53% of the Administrative Budget or \$3.59 million.

Board of Education

There are five candidates seeking to fill five open seats on the BOCES Board for three-year terms ending on June 30, 2022.

Candidate	District of Residence
Steve Grandin	Saratoga Springs CSD
Linda King	Lake George CSD
Naomi Marsh	Cambridge CSD
John Rieger	Schuylerville CSD
Cheryl Smith	Galway CSD

IMPORTANT DATES

SAEC National Technical Honor Society Induction April 16, 2019 7:00 PM at Hudson Falls High School

Myers National Technical Honor Society Induction April 30, 2019 7:00 PM at Saratoga Springs United Methodist Church,

Vote on Administrative Budget and Election of Board Members April 30, 2019

Adirondack Area School Boards Association Meeting May 9, 2019 6:00 PM at the Queensbury Hotel, Glens Falls

Saratoga County School Boards Association Meeting May 13, 2019 6:00 PM at the Holiday Inn, Saratoga Springs

SAEC Exceptional Learners Completion Ceremony June 14, 2019 9:30 AM at Southern Adirondack Education Center

Washington Street TLC End of Year Completion Ceremony June 14, 2019 12:30 PM

Early College Career Academy Completion Ceremony June 14, 2019 6:00 PM at SUNY ADK Queensbury

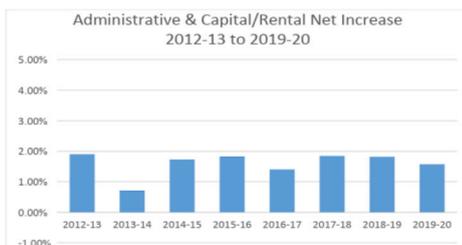
Myers Exceptional Learners Completion Ceremony June 17, 2019 7:00 PM at Gick Road Conference Center

Myers CTE Completion Ceremony June 20, 2019 7:00 PM, Saratoga Springs City Center

SAEC CTE Completion Ceremony June 21, 2019 7:00 PM, Cool Insuring Arena, Glens Falls

Sanford Street TLC Awards Ceremony TBD

Practical Nursing Completion Ceremony June 27, 2019 6:00 PM, Location TBD



Battle of the Books



Lake George CSD student celebrates a winning round

On March 11, 2019, over 530 students on 67 teams from local school districts competed in the 2019 Battle of the Books. The event was coordinated by the Washington-Saratoga-Warren-Hamilton-Essex BOCES School Library System and took place at SUNY Adirondack Community College in Queensbury, NY.

For months leading up to this day, students in grades 3-6 read and studied five fiction and five non-fiction books in preparation to battle it out with competing schools. The teams, each consisting of around 10 students, tested themselves on every

kind of book detail imaginable, from the plot to the dedication. During the competition, they had 20 seconds to answer a recall question, responding in the form of author and title. There were 28 questions per round.

J'aimé Pfeiffer, School Library Services Coordinator, reminds schools that this is not only a competitive event but also an opportunity to encourage recreational reading. "If you can read, you can do anything!" exclaimed Pfeiffer. "Students dedicate time and energy preparing for this day by immersing themselves in a variety of stories and plot-lines, ultimately growing a love for reading along the way."

Thank you to all committee members, librarians, teachers, parents, WSWHE SLS staff, and other volunteers who have made this event possible. Your hard work and dedication allows us to continue to grow each year. We are thrilled to announce



Argyle CSD students huddle to decide an answer

that nearly 60 more students participated this year versus last year's total of 470 students. In comparison, the first edition (which took place 8 years ago) started with only 75 students total! We look forward to seeing what next year's Battle of the Books has in store for us.

Constructing a Career



Alex Wilcox (left) holding a coping saw with John Coffinger (right). After learning the technique in class, coping is one of Wilcox's favorite things to do.



Alex Wilcox (center) and John Coffinger (left) with current Construction Trades students.

Alex Wilcox, a 2008 graduate of South Glens Falls High School, will tell anyone that the Construction Trades program gave him a solid foundation for his future. Recently, he paid the program's Instructor, John Coffinger, a visit at the Southern Adirondack Education Center to share his successes, talk about industry trends, and give current students a little advice.

Right out of high school, Wilcox was hired by Bonacio Construction in Saratoga Springs to work as a sweeper, cleaning job sites. "A clean job site is a productive job site," said Wilcox. "It was entry-level, a stepping stone."

At 19 years old, he became a supervisor, while also taking courses at SUNY Adirondack in Construction Management and Business Management. After working for Bonacio Construction for 3 1/2 years, he started his own business, ACW Family Builders.

Wilcox shared photos of different jobs his company has worked on, both new construction and renovations, playing the role of general contractor, and also a subcontractor for larger builders. His passion is millwork and a large part of his business now is kitchen installations.

He has worked on over 360 kitchens and often does work for Saratoga Signature Kitchens.

He told the class that he places a high value on customer service and his reputation has earned him many referrals.

While reflecting on his time at CTE, Wilcox said he loved working on the modular house project. "The hands-on aspect was great. That feeling of accomplishment, knowing that someone would live in it, it was special." He noted, "It was a cool how the teachers related subjects to the construction field, and you need that."

Wilcox told the class, "you can get every little ounce out of what Mr. Coffinger is teaching you if you pay attention." He also spoke on the importance of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). "Everything relates back to safety. 'Wear your PPE all the time!' I remember Mr. Coffinger drilling that into us."

John Coffinger says it is rewarding to hear such positive feedback from his former student. Wilcox and Coffinger are working on plans to do more collaboration, so students have even more hands-on and real-world experience. "It is great that Alex wants to give back and influence students," says Coffinger.

With many skilled workers retiring, the construction industry is in need of young talent. Wilcox says that if the work ethic is there, the earning potential is tremendous.

Moving Forward...

The rumors are true, we're moving! We are pleased to announce that our WSWHE BOCES School Support Services team is moving to a new location on Ballard Road in Wilton, NY. This new space is conveniently located off of exit 16 on the Northway and will be able to accommodate our growing team and open doors to many new opportunities.

Compared to our current offices, we will have an additional 3,500 square feet of workspace which will meet our needs for flexible meeting spaces, an active learning room, and four new large-space

conference rooms. A highlight to this move will be an additional 1,100 square feet of conference room space which will increase our ability to host larger events in-house while eliminating some use of off site venues.

We anticipate opening our doors to this new space in July of 2019 and we thank you for your support during this exciting transition.



Spring 2019

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 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: Turina Parker and Ronald Black, Washington-Saratoga-Warren-Hamilton-Essex BOCES, 1153 Burgoyne Avenue, Suite 2, Fort Edward, NY 12828. phone: 518-746-3310, email: tuparker@wswhiboces.org or rblack@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