

OCM holds ribbon cuttings for two new programs



Thousands of OCM BOCES Career and Technical Education (CTE), Special Education and Alternative Education students began their 2014-15 school year on Wednesday, September 3, 2014. Through its Student Services division, OCM BOCES provides programs and services for students of all ages and abilities.

This year, OCM BOCES was proud to welcome students in two exciting new programs, an embedded CTE Media Marketing Communications program at WCNY and Innovation Tech High School in Liverpool. OCM BOCES held ribbon cutting ceremonies for both programs in mid-

September to celebrate the unique opportunities afforded to local students through the programs.

The innovative, new, hands-on Media Marketing Communications program at WCNY, is one of OCM BOCES' three embedded CTE programs, through which high school juniors and seniors gain an in-depth overview of their field through placement in an actual work environment outside of school.

Innovation Tech, created out of recognition that students need to be prepared with 21st Century skills for life and work in our changing world, is the first New Tech school in Central New York. Innovation Tech provides an empowering culture, with relevant, student-driven learning that embraces modern technology and the global environment in which we live. There are more than 130 New Tech schools in 23 states across the country.

"We were fortunate to have some very special supporters help us at our ribbon cutting ceremonies," said District Superintendent Jody Manning. "New York State Senator John Defranco attended WCNY's ceremony and Assemblyman Al Stirpe was at our Innovation Tech ceremony. We are very fortunate for their support to gain funding to start Innovation Tech. We were also honored that our new New York State deputy commissioner, Cosimo Tangorra, debuted at the Innovation Tech Ribbon cutting.

Pictured: (above) ribbon cutting at WCNY on September 15 and (right) ribbon cutting at Innovation Tech on September 17.



Extra, Extra!! We want your news for *BOCES Bits*!

Please submit your ideas and suggestions for publication in future issues of *BOCES Bits* by e-mailing Laurie Cook at lcook@ocmboces.org.

From the District Superintendent



Dear Staff:

The 2014-15 school year is moving right along! It seems as though September went by in the blink of an eye and October is almost half over.

I am happy to report that we had a very smooth opening at all locations once again this year. I am proud of the way that everyone in this fantastic organization comes together to provide a warm welcome for all students in our programs.

This year, OCM BOCES had the distinct honor of welcoming students in two very exciting new programs: an embedded Media Marketing Communications CTE Program at WCNY and Innovation Tech High School in Liverpool.

As you know, OCM BOCES and the educational community of Central New York have a regional vision for college, career and citizenship readiness. These two new programs are aligned with commitments made to that regional vision: instruction that engages, culture that empowers, and technology that enables.



Also in Student Services this year, administrators decided to kick off the year with a "Happy New Year" theme. Staff members were greeted by administrators on September 2, Staff Development Day, with balloons, New Year's decorations, and sparking apple cider toasts!

Staff seemed re-energized and genuinely happy to welcome back returning students and help new students get comfortable in their environment!

So as another year begins, let us dive in with renewed energy and enthusiasm. We have seen the future that exists and we will continue working to build the brightest one possible for our students.

Thank you all for your commitment to OCM BOCES and our students!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jody".

J. Francis Manning, District Superintendent



Words of Wisdom

“ An idealist believes the short run doesn't count. A cynic believes the long run doesn't matter. A realist believes that what is done or left undone in the short run determines the long run. ”

- Sydney J. Harris



EAP News...

Your EAP is a free, voluntary, and confidential assessment/referral service for employees and their family members who are experiencing personal or work related problems.

Your OCM BOCES EAP has a variety of educational information about this month's wellness topic, getting a good night's sleep. Please contact us to receive information about the following topics:



- Lose sleep, gain weight
- Fatigue: more than being tired
- Insomnia
- A good night's sleep
- Missing the dark

Your OCM BOCES EAP - Employee Assistance Program is offering a variety of FREE workshops again this fall. For details about any of these workshops or to find out more about the OCM BOCES EAP, visit <http://www.ocmboces.org/teacherpage.cfm?teacher=599>. Here you will be able to see the full details of any of the workshops and to download registration forms. You can also simply go to the EAP website at www.eap.ocmboces.org and click on the Workshop Schedule Link on the home page. Hope to see you this fall!

October 22, 2014 Wednesday	Caregiver Camp: Understanding Insurance-Long-term Care, Medicare & Medicaid with Michelle Stolicker	OCM BOCES IEH Campus Rodax 8 Conference Center, 6820 Thompson Rd. Syracuse, NY 13221	4:30-6 pm
October 28, 2014 Tuesday	Kiss that Frog: Turning Negatives Into Positives in your Work & Life with Michelle Stolicker	Ithaca City School District Boynton Middle School, Conference Rm 1601 N. Cayuga Street Ithaca, NY 14350	4:30-6 pm
Nov. 5, 2014 Wednesday	Santa's Secrets to Less Stress with Michelle Stolicker	Oswego BOCES Temporary District Office Small Conference Room, Room 156 806 W. Broadway St. Fulton, NY 13069	4:30-6 pm
Nov. 13, 2014 Tuesday	NYS TRS Overview with NYS TRS Representative	OCM BOCES IEH Campus Rodax 8 Conference Center, 6820 Thompson Rd. Syracuse, NY 13221	4:30-6 pm
Nov. 13, 2014 Wednesday	Secrets to Slumber: Strategies for a Good Night's Sleep with Michelle Stolicker	OCM BOCES-McEvoy Campus McEvoy Conf. Cntr., Rm. 701 1710 NYS Route 13 Cortland, NY 13045	4:30-6 pm

Deaf/Hard of Hearing students create Deaf Awareness Week activities



In celebration of Deaf Awareness Week, which was September 22 through September 26, students in Ms. Austin's American Sign Language class, put together a variety of fun learning activities. Activities were designed by students in the OCM BOCES Deaf and Hard of Hearing Program for the purpose of educating Solvay High School staff and students about Deaf people and Deaf Culture.

One of the activities involved the students researching interesting facts about Deaf people and then putting the facts on the morning announcements. The ASL/Deaf and Hard Of Hearing students also came up with a sign for the day, which was then signed on the morning announcements. Additionally, students also taught a basic sign language class for other students outside of the school day.

One of the most engaging activities, a "Deaf Challenge,"



was done to offer hearing students a glimpse into hearing loss. For the activity, the American Sign Language class set up a booth in the cafeteria during 5th, 6th and 7th periods and gave hearing students the opportunity to experience how it would feel to have a mild hearing loss, just as some of their peers. The hearing students were given ear plugs to simulate a mild hearing loss and they were asked to wear the ear plugs for their lunch period and to have conversations as they normally would. The students got to experience the frustrations and accomplishments that students in the Deaf and hard of hearing program have to face every day.



More than 100 students participated in the "Deaf Challenge" and completed surveys explaining their experiences. The activities through Deaf Awareness week brought together the hearing and Deaf students, helping the students to better understand what it is like to live with a hearing loss.

McEvoy holds first Positive Behavior Intervention Supports Parade over summer



OCM BOCES McEvoy students proudly presented their first annual Positive Behavior Intervention Supports (PBIS) parade and dance this past summer. The purpose of the events were to celebrate student growth in the four core values of belonging, collaboration, independence and generosity. Students from the entire building, as well as from the Homer School District participated in the activities.



OCM BOCES Energy Committee

Top Ten Tips

- #10 Turn off lights, computers, monitors, printers, Smartboards, and all electronic devices when not in use.
- #9 Close blinds to reduce solar gain.
- #8 Don't plug it in if you don't really need it.
- #7 OCM BOCES is a Single Stream Recycler - Flattened cardboard, magazines, office paper, brown paper bags, newspapers, paperboard, junk mail, phone books, plastic bottles & containers #1-7, glass bottles & jars, aluminum cans & foil, tin & steel cans all go in one recycling bin!
- #6 No recycle bin in your room/office? Request one from the Facilities Department.
- #5 Check out www.letskeepitgreen.weebly.com - Lots of great resources and project ideas compiled by our STARS Alternative HS students.
- #4 Report water leaks to the Facilities Department.
- #3 Lots of computers and monitors were not shut down for the summer. If there's a light on, it's using energy.
- #2 Engage students in energy conservation and recycling...research shows they will take the lead when given the opportunity.
- #1 Share ideas with your OCM BOCES Energy/Green Committee members:
CTC - Lisa Aguayo, Steve Morgan, Joe Muccio; McEvoy - Renee Mitchell; Henry - Deb Ayers, Dennis Doyle, Phil Grome, Sean Joyce, Mike Rioux, John Wisniewski; CNYRIC - Joe Scott; Rodax 7/8 - Sean Joyce; Energy Analyst - Mike Oemcke; CAS - Maria Britton

OCM BOCES Board Members

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