Common Grounds

STEM Honoree
Erie 1 BOCES was initiated into the inaugural Class of Emerging STEM School systems at the WNY STEM Hub Meeting on Sept. 12. Erie 1 BOCES received this honor for allocating resources, forging partnerships, committing to the use of instructional best practices and implementation of STEM. The pivotal reasons for this recognition are a strong CTE (nominated by the CTE Technical Assistance Center), the new Science kits program, birth of the Erie 1 BOCES STEAM Academy, and partnering with the Hub to host a joint event on Jan. 15 at the Education Campus. Carol Barber, chief operating officer and deputy superintendent of Erie 1 BOCES, joined Susan Cyrulik, coordinator of Erie 1 BOCES Elementary Science Kit Program, at the event.

District Superintendent Search Begins
As Board of Education President John Sherman noted in his e-mail to all staff, the process for selecting a new district superintendent for Erie 1 BOCES is underway. Last week, the request for applications began. If you would like to know more details about the leadership position the brochure is available on this page of the e1b.org.

Reminder: E-mail Signature/Closure
Per regulation 5260R.4, employees are encouraged to use the signature field in the Lotus Notes email system to close each e-mail. Standard signatures are to provide your full name, title, phone number, email address and Erie 1 BOCES website address (www.e1b.org). However, if you choose to include additional text it must be limited to Erie 1 BOCES mission statement or changes to contact and service information. Any other quotes or personal statements are not to be used.

Email Access, P.M. on Oct. 2nd
During the afternoon of Thursday, Oct. 2, MyErie1 will be changing platforms. For staff that access email through MyEries, please note that you may experience intermittent outages that afternoon. We apologize for the inconvenience and look forward to bringing the new platform to you.
Changes to Note

Twilight Program

Christine Storey, Principal, E1B Special Education, Twilight Program
As principal, Christine oversees the outlier school districts that offer special education services. She splits her time between that role and principal of the Twilight Program housed at the Kenton Career and Technical Center. Twilight is offered after regular school hours and is appropriate for students who may be under credited or for those who need an alternative placement. By offering small class sizes, individualized counseling, and flexibility, Twilight is a dynamic option for college and career readiness. Prior to this, Christine worked as an eighth-grade special education history teacher at the Stanley G. Falk School for 14 years. She worked with students from many districts throughout Erie County and from Buffalo Public Schools who were in need of intensive behavioral intervention plans.

E1B Special Education

Gina Dailey, Principal, E1B Special Education, Maryvale Work Readiness Building
As principal, Gina oversees 17 self-contained special education classrooms located within the Maryvale, Lancaster, Depew, Cheektowaga-Sloan (JFK) and Cleve-Hill school districts. The students receiving services range in age from 5 - 21 and have various academic, behavioral and physical needs. Prior to this position, she was a special education teacher for 10 years at Northtowns Academy.

Welcome Back Maureen

Maureen Alf has returned to the receptionist chair at Building C. Robin Kozlowski will be filling in for Maureen during lunches/breaks. As a reminder: If the Education Campus is your regular work site, please use your ID badge/access card to enter the building. Visitors will need to sign in with the receptionist and receive a visitor’s badge. Please advise Maureen if you wish to have your visitors announced and if someone from your department will be escorting the person to your area. If the person is a regular visitor and knows where to go, once signed in, Maureen will call your area to announce his/her arrival. It is helpful for all guests/visitors to know the specific building and room numbers for their meeting so that they use the proper entrance; please make them aware of what driveway to use and door to enter when giving directions. Please notify Maureen if a package or other special circumstance may occur involving the reception area.

News Zone – Education Campus

Pledge Forms for United Way
If you haven’t already done so, please return your United Way pledge form. Your donation has a big impact on those in need within our community. Lost your form? Please download this PDF pledge form from MyErie1.
Supporting the United Way in Many Ways

Seneca Niagara Casino - The annual fundraising casino trip to benefit the United Way will be held Thursday, Oct. 23.

The Great BOCES Auction – From Dec. 3-5, employees and guests may purchase chances to win from a selection of approximately 50 delightful baskets.

Read more about these two events on the Erie 1 BOCES website.

Mental Health Lunch Session

Register on MyErie1 for the lunchtime program on Friday, Oct. 17, "Out of the Darkness: Examining Mental Health Concerns and the Needs of the Caregiver." Sponsored by the Erie 1 BOCES Equity & Diversity Committee, the presentation is from noon – 1 p.m. in Room A2. Presenter Lynda Battaglia, LCSW, is the forensic unit chief for the Mental Health Satellite Unit at Attica Correctional Facility and is the local chapter president for the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. Her presentation will answer these questions: What is mental health? How does mental health impact an individual and the caregiver? What can you do to support your co-worker? Please register on MyErie1.

A Focus on Attendance

Regular school attendance is a proactive way to avoid academic failure. School Support Services at Erie 1 BOCES can assist districts by providing professional development and technical assistance to improve student attendance. Erie 1 BOCES has been proud to partner with NYS Council on Children and Families and Buffalo Public Schools on several initiatives to improve student attendance. Read more...

Emergency Drills

Evacuation - Earlier this month the emergency evacuation drill gave us a chance to review evacuation routes and attendance procedures by department. All employees should consider adding their cell phone number to their WinCap demographics to receive Global Connect calls. Some other drill items to consider: If you were in close proximity to your belongings, did you remember to grab your purse/keys/cellphone/jacket. On your way out of the building, did you look out for your colleagues, especially those with mobility issues? Did you pay attention to your surroundings and evaluate your options? It is also important to remain calm and quiet so that you can hear the directions being provided by first responders.

Lock Down - In a true E1B emergency, there is no need to take attendance via emergency@e1b.org. But the e-mail address is still there for a resource to convey information. In a real situation, please spend your time evaluating your options to figure out your next steps of “run, hide, fight.”

EMR Training

Technology Services will be offering two EMR New Hire Trainings for staff who need to add events to the registration system. The two dates are Friday, Oct. 10, from 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. and Thursday, Nov. 13, from 10 a.m. – noon. Both classes will be held in A-Tech Lab 4. Register online: Register now for Oct. 10 session, Register now for the Nov. 13 session. Questions? Contact Gloria Queeno-Chamberlain at (716) 821-7151 or gqueeno-chamberlain@e1b.org.
**Project Search**
The Project SEARCH Collaborative of Western New York is celebrating its 2nd year anniversary. Please join us at our annual Open House in honor of this event. Applications and information for next year will be available. The event will be held on Thursday, Oct. 9 from 5 – 7 p.m. within the first floor auditorium of Beechwood Continuing Care, 2235 Millersport Highway, Getzville, NY 14086. If you plan to attend, please RSVP by Oct. 3 to Erin Richeal via e-mail ericheal@e1b.org.

**News Zone – Career & Technical Education**

**Free Preschool**
Erie 1 BOCES career and technical centers have openings in their preschool programs for children ages 3 to 4 years old. Erie 1 BOCES preschool program is free and is held on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings. Preschool activities include art, music, science and math readiness, English language arts and a nutritious daily snack. Read more...

**Precision Machining**
With Western New York’s advanced manufacturing sector becoming a vital part of the region’s resurgence, trained professionals are needed to surge the sector forward. As leaders in career-focused education, ECC and Erie 1 BOCES are currently training students to fill these positions, and have now formed a partnership to introduce even more candidates to these professional opportunities. Read more...

**Kudos**

**Kudos Board of Education Members**
Congratulations to E1B Trustees Wayne Schlifke who earned a Level 3 award, Board Mastery and Edward Cavan who earned a Level 2 award, Board Excellence from NYSSBA.

**Kudos Sean Christopher**
Dave Smith, Gowanda Middle School principal, sent the following: “I have had the pleasure of working with many excellent staff developers from BOCES. I must say that you have the VERY best in Sean Christopher. Most recently, he was here (July 28-29) to deliver iReady training for our 3-12 staff. As always, he came equipped with real life solutions to logistical and implementation issues, a super sense of humor and a charm all his own.”

**Award from Gerard Place**
On Sept. 20, Erie 1 BOCES was honored by Gerard Place, which provides support and transitional housing for single-parent families that have experienced the pain of poverty, homelessness, and/or domestic/substance abuse. Erie 1 BOCES Workforce Development assists the agency in empowering individuals by providing educational opportunities.
Heritage Month

Autumn Health Tips
The CDC wants you to fall into good habits this autumn! Follow these tips to help you and your family stay safe and healthy.

- Get involved with your kids’ activities at home and at school to help ensure they are safe and healthy.
- Take steps to prevent the flu.
- Get smart about antibiotics.
- Have a safe and healthy Halloween.
- Test and replace batteries.
- Keep food safe.
- Learn your family history.
- Be prepared for cold weather.
- Don’t drink and drive.
- Wash your hands.

More details about these tips are found at this link to the CDC website.

Like Us, Share Us and Re-Tweet Us
One of the easiest ways you can help promote Erie 1 BOCES is by following us and interacting with us on social media. If you like, share or re-tweet E1B’s postings you can quickly spread the word about the great work accomplished by E1b.