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BOCES BITS

April 2018

Message from the Superintendent



Each year, we invite superintendents and board members from our 23 component school districts to our Annual Meeting so we can present our OCM BOCES [budgets](#), showcase the fantastic work of our students and staff and demonstrate the tremendous savings opportunities available

through our organization.

For the past several years, we have been presenting a great deal of this information in the form of a video. This year's video, "[We are BOCES,](#)" does a great job highlighting our staff and students, so please take a few minutes to check it out. Best of all, portions of the video were provided by our own Graphic Communications students in Tanya Komar's class at McEvoy.

This year's meeting was held April 4 at the Thompson Road Campus. Once again, I am proud to say that our culinary students offered an incredible dinner and dessert selection. It was a true highlight of the evening. The food was delicious, and our guests enjoyed both their meals along with the ambiance.

So much work goes into this meeting each year, and there are many people to thank for making it a success. Thank you to all the facilities staff who prepared our buildings for our special guests; to the technology staff who ensured that equipment was working properly; and to the many, many staff members who prepared our budgets and helped present them to our component districts. Your efforts made the evening a wonderful experience.

Local school budget voting and board member elections take place on Tuesday, May 15

On another subject, voters across the state will be asked to cast ballots in their district's school budget and board member elections on Tuesday, May 15. Be sure to learn about your district's budget and exercise your right to vote! To find out more about your district's budget plan and voting procedures, [visit the web sites of our component districts](#).

As you are voting, please remember that one factor impacting districts' budgets this year is the issue of school safety. Now, more than ever, it is critically important that OCM BOCES and our districts allocate the resources necessary to keep our students and staff safe in our buildings. If you haven't already, please take a moment to [read my recent message to OCM BOCES staff about school safety](#). As always, I will continue to keep you updated about what we are doing to address this difficult, multi-faceted issue.

Thank you all and remember to think spring!

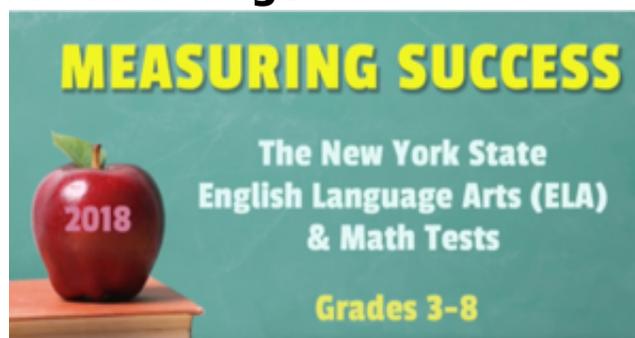


Dr. Jody Manning
District Superintendent

Assessment Time is Here: What has Changed?

Learn about the changes to the New York State Assessments in English Languages Arts and math through this [video from OCM BOCES](#). ELA tests begin April 9, and math assessments start April 30. What has changed? Please check out this [state assessment](#)

[video](#) from OCM BOCES to find out what's different about the tests and how they are used to improve instruction. The video features



representatives from our [Central New York Regional Information Center](#) and educators from the Chittenango Central School District. You can also access the video from our home page at ocmboces.org. We encourage you to share this video with others.

PRHYLI

About 20 students in the [Puerto Rican Hispanic Youth Leadership Institute \(PRHYLI\)](#) participated in a mock Assembly last month in the New



York State Legislature. PRHYLI is part of [Mid-State RBERN](#), which is housed under Instructional Support Services at OCM BOCES. Students research mock legislation relevant to real-world events and debate them on the floor. Solvay participant **Ruth Rodriguez** (in the photo) won a \$2,000 scholarship and trip to Washington, D.C., after being named the Syracuse/Central New York Delegate of the Year. Congratulations to all the PRHYLI students who participated in this prestigious event.

Go Green 2.0 Champions Pull Off Last Minute Victory

The results are in! Our Go Green 2.0 challenge was a nail-biter with many buildings taking the lead at various points in the four-month race. In the end, however, this year's championship goes to the **Henry Career & Technical Education Building** at our Thompson Road Campus! Because of their measured and effective efforts to increase recycling and reduce waste, all students and staff will be treated to a pizza party for their victory. They will also receive the coveted Go Green trophy lamp, which is now on display at McEvoy, the building that won last year. Please check out our [Go Green web site](#) to find how your building fared. Were you in second place? Last? Wherever your building ended up in the competition, we hope you



will continue your efforts to reduce, reuse and recycle for the good of OCM BOCES — and the planet.

Hats off to these Career & Technical Education Students

OCM BOCES recently inducted 175 students into the National Technical Honor Society (NTHS). Students who qualify for this honor represent the “best of the best” in Career & Technical Education programs. To be inducted into the technical honor society, students must have an 85 average or higher, 12 or fewer absences from their program for the year, and a teacher endorsement. Students must also demonstrate attributes that include respect, honesty, skill, responsibility, leadership, service and citizenship. For a story and [full list of NTHS recipients](#), please go to ocmboces.org.



Students Showcase Construction Skills at Home & Garden Show

Kudos to the construction students from our Thompson Road Campus who appeared on [Channel 9's Bridge Street segment](#) before the CNY Home & Garden Show at the Fairgrounds last month. At the four-day event, both our high school CTE construction students and our Adult Education construction



students demonstrated their skills before hundreds of visitors attending the show. The students also constructed sheds that were raffled off to benefit Sarah's Guest House and Habitat for Humanities. In the end, they raised nearly \$3,000 for the two charities. If you haven't seen the video yet, be sure to check it out. You can also read [a full story about this event](#) at

ocmboces.org.

Students Share Research, Sample Culinary Delights

It's always a great day to go to Wegmans, especially when REACH students from our Crown Road Campus at OCM BOCES set up displays of their research projects on foreign countries and share each country's culinary delights with food prepared by Chef John Brady at Taft Road. [Find more photos on our OCM BOCES Facebook page.](#)



Job Fairs Focus on Substitute Positions

Because of our growing need for substitute teachers, teaching assistants, interpreters and nurses, OCM BOCES will be holding a pair of job fairs for prospective employees. The first is set for 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on **Tuesday, April 10** at the Main Campus, 110 Elwood Davis Road. The second job fair is scheduled for 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. **Monday, April 23** at our Cortlandville Campus, 1710 Route 13, Cortland NY 13045. Please check out our [job fair flyer](#) for more details and spread the word to anyone who might be interested.



Welding Students Win Scholarships

Congratulations to four students in our full-time Adult Education welding program who each received a \$1,000 scholarship from District 6 of the American Welding Society to support their continued education in the program. From left to right are **Evan Ambrose, Liam Mulla, Casey Bedell**

and **Brett Parry**. Their instructor is **Gordon McCaffer**. For more information about our [welding program](http://ocmboces.org/adulted), visit ocmboces.org/adulted.



... and Dental Assisting Students, too

Our full-time Adult Education Dental Assisting Program had two students from its last graduating class each receive a \$500 scholarship from the Onondaga County 5th District Dental Society. The awards were presented at the monthly dental society meeting held at the



University Sheraton Hotel. The winners were **Tiffany Brown** and **Heejung Michel** from the Fall 2017 Class. In the middle of the photo is Dental Assisting Instructor **Karen Stannard**. For more information about the [dental assisting program](http://ocmboces.org/adulted), please visit ocmboces.org/adulted.

OCM BOCES Conference Rooms Relocated

In an effort to accommodate program needs, the Oneida and Onondaga conference rooms at our Rodax 8 building have been relocated. The Oneida conference room is now located at our Main Campus in Room 108 on the first floor, which is most easily accessed through the main Adult Education entrance facing the Thruway. The Onondaga conference room is now on the first floor of the building located at 200 Elwood Davis Road, adjacent to the Main Campus. Conference room setup forms will be updated soon to reflect these changes as well as any adjustments in room capacities. Please contact your supervisor if you have any questions.

DeRuyter Searches for a New Superintendent

In addition to assisting the Homer Central School District with its search for

a new superintendent, District Superintendent Jody Manning is also helping the DeRuyter Central School District with a superintendent search. To learn more about DeRuyter, please check [out the video](#) we created to capture the warmth and spirit of this district for potential applicants.

Employee Assistance Program

If you are experiencing a difficult time, the confidential Employee Assistance Program (EAP) can help you with anything from job stress to aging parents to a death in the family. Please go [to ocmbores.org/eap](http://ocmboces.org/eap) for current offerings.

Follow us!

Please follow OCM BOCES on social media and encourage others to do the same. While several OCM BOCES programs have their own social media outlets, our organization has a general [Facebook page](#), [Twitter account](#) and [YouTube channel](#) to share news and events across all departments. We are happy to share and retweet any and all of your important news. For all of our social media platforms, check out our social media hub at <http://ocmboces.org/follow>.

How to reach us

If you would like to contribute to BOCES Bits, which is generally distributed the first or second week of each month, please contact Jackie Wiegand at jwiegand@ocmboces.org or Laurie Cook at lcook@ocmboces.org. If you are looking for work from our communications department outside of BOCES Bits, you can send us an email or use [a request form](#) to get started.

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