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## From the District Superintendent



Each year, during the months of December, January and February, OCM BOCES administrative cabinet members take time to meet with administrators from each of our 23 component districts to provide them with a snapshot of the services they purchase from us. For me, the snapshots are a great visual reminder of the magnitude of services offered here at OCM BOCES and the incredible **value** of those services. Please visit our [district snapshots website](#) and take a moment to look at the document for your school district. Thank you all for doing the work you do every day that helps OCM BOCES provide our districts with excellent services at an incredible value.

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## Seeking nominees for CTE Alumni Hall of Fame



OCM BOCES is currently seeking nominations for its Career and Technical Education (CTE) Alumni Hall of Fame. The Hall of Fame honors OCM BOCES CTE program graduates who demonstrate leadership in their field. Two individuals will be selected for recognition as 2016 Hall of Fame inductees: one graduate from the Irvin E. Henry Campus in Syracuse, and one graduate from the Charles E. McEvoy Education Center in Cortland. [\[Read More\]](#)

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## Annual Meeting will take place on April 6



OCM BOCES' 2016 Annual Meeting will take place on Wednesday, April 6, 2016, at the Irvin E. Henry Campus in Syracuse. Each year, the meeting gives OCM BOCES the opportunity to educate its 23 component school districts about the high quality services it provides, while fulfilling the legal requirement of providing those districts with information about the BOCES budget, which will be voted upon on April 18.

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## Student delegates announced for Hispanic/Latino

## leadership program



A program aimed at empowering Hispanic/Latino high school students from across the state recently announced this year's delegates from six Central New York school districts. The program, called the Puerto Rican/Hispanic Youth Leadership Institute, is hosted by the Mid-State Regional Bilingual Education Resource Network (RBERN) at OCM BOCES. Students who qualify for the program engage in five leadership training sessions before attending a culminating event in Albany. [\[Read More\]](#)

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## OCM BOCES facilities construction updates



Work is well underway at several OCM BOCES facilities. Construction at the main campus building continues to progress according to schedule with an anticipated completion date in April. Planning for the relocation of adult education classrooms has begun, and scheduling for cubicle installation is underway. The Henry B project is also progressing on schedule with the initial demolition phase complete and framing, sheet-rocking and electrical/HVAC work in progress.

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## Going Solo



Have you ever had the desire, or the courage, to travel alone? Kathleen Pascarella of Liverpool has traveled across continents by herself and is now sharing her expertise with others in a unique OCM BOCES Adult Education class called "How to Travel Alone." Her story recently caught the attention of local author Matthew Liptak, who wrote about Pascarella in the February edition of 55 Plus magazine. (Just flip to page 12 [after clicking here for the story.](#)) Two sessions of the classes are available from 6 to 8 p.m. on Thursdays at our Crown Road location in Liverpool. To get more information, or to enroll, [please click here.](#)

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## Innovation Tech open house draws crowd from Cortland area

About 65 parents and students from the Cortland area recently trekked



through the cold to experience the unique educational character of Innovation Tech, an OCM BOCES high school in Liverpool that will soon be replicated in their region. The new school, called Seven Valleys New Tech Academy, is set to open in September 2016 at 240 Port Watson St. in Cortland. The State Education Department (SED) has given preliminary approval to the proposed renovations at Seven Valleys, and the architect for BOCES is making some minor revisions before resubmitting to the proposal to SED for final approval. Construction is generally proceeding on schedule. [\[Read More\]](#)

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## CNYRIC Chief Technology Officer to retire



Michael J. Fay, our chief technology officer for the Central New York Regional Information Center (CNYRIC), will be retiring from his position later this school year. Mike has worked 11 years at the helm of CNYRIC, developing and overseeing a multitude of top-quality services for 50 school districts in four BOCES regions: Onondaga-Cortland-Madison, Cayuga-Onondaga, Oswego and Tompkins-Seneca-Tioga. Given the importance and magnitude of these services, BOCES will be working quickly and diligently to appoint an interim replacement for Mike. We wish Mike nothing but the best in his future endeavors and greatly appreciate his exemplary service to BOCES.

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## Students host breakfast at WCNY



Students from the Career & Technical Education (CTE) program at WCNY gave a presentation in February to about 35 staff members from WCNY, BOCES and Onondaga Community College, offering their appreciation for the opportunity as well as emotional testimonials about how much they learned and matured over the course of two years. Many talked of feeling a great sense of acceptance and belonging after being exceptionally shy and isolated in their home districts. [\(Read More\)](#)

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## EAP wellness information

Your OCM BOCES EAP — Employee Assistance Program — is a free, voluntary and confidential assessment and referral service for employees



and their family members who are experiencing personal or work-related problems. In addition to one-on-one counseling, EAP offers information on a wide variety of wellness topics. Visit their website by [clicking here](#). To make an appointment with an EAP counselor, call 1-800-EAP-8764 or 315-471-1361.

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