

## OCM BOCES leads the way for CNY Leadership Program



Good schools depend on good teacher leaders and good administrators. Through its Division of Instructional Support Services, OCM BOCES has begun the Central New York Leadership Development Program (CNYLDP), a joint initiative with Le Moyne College, as part of efforts to support existing leaders and encourage and develop future leaders.

On Monday, December 9, 2013, Dr. Stephanie Wood-Garnett, New York State Education Department (SED) Assistant Commissioner for Teacher and Leader Effectiveness and SED Project Coordinator Melissa Greene, visited the area to learn about OCM BOCES and Le Moyne College's CNYLDP collaboration.

The CNYLDP provides a combination of instruction and coaching/mentoring for three different audiences: teacher leadership, building leadership, and district leadership. Participants engage in initiatives with colleagues from other school districts, bringing richer ideas that will impact their analysis and problem solving. The format allows weekly feedback from mentors and monthly presentations by adjunct professors who are current practitioners in the field. CNYLDP is designed to complement and integrate ongoing professional development initiatives while providing a sustained focus on leadership development.

During their visit to the area, the Assistant Commissioner and Project Coordinator met with representatives from OCM BOCES, the Fayetteville-Manlius and Liverpool Central School Districts and Le Moyne College to learn about the program. Additionally, the group spent time observing an issue analysis presentation by a first year team of associates from the Liverpool School District and participated in a year two cohort seminar.

OCM BOCES District Superintendent Jody Manning is pleased the SED is looking at the collaboration as a model. He said, "BOCES is about success...not just the success of students, but of teachers and administrators as well. We believe that this collaborative endeavor will strengthen our area's existing leadership as will nurture future leadership. We are excited to have SED looking at the program as a model for others."



*Pictured above left: Dr. Stephanie Wood-Garnett and Melissa Greene from the New York State Education Department listen to representatives from OCM BOCES, Le Moyne College and the Liverpool and Fayetteville-Manlius School Districts discuss the new CNY LDP.*

*Pictured bottom right: Dr. Corliss Kaiser, Annette Speach, Jeff Craig and Mark Potter.*



**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](mailto:lcook@ocmboces.org).

## From the District Superintendent



Dear Colleagues,

This is certainly the perfect time of year to share my sentiments with you regarding the contributions you make to the Onondaga Cortland Madison BOCES.

Simply put, our BOCES is made up of strong supporters: board members, staff, students, parents, district colleagues, business and community organizations, and agency representatives. Together we serve students and families and are always looking for better ways to do so. Your connection with BOCES is tried and true. What more could we ask for?

As District Superintendent of this BOCES, I thank you for the commitment you have made to a cooperative that stands proudly on its own merit. Our work holds meaning and impacts lives in so many ways. Our cooperative is bursting with talent, drive and compassion – the secret to our success.

During this holiday season, may you and yours experience all the joy and simple pleasures of this time of year. I cannot thank you enough for your trust, confidence and support throughout the year. Together we impact the lives of students and contribute to the delivery of a vast array of services. We make meaningful and valuable connections that benefit many and are incredibly powerful.

May the holidays and 2014 bring you hope.

*Jody*



### Cosmetology students participate in Veteran's Day Expo



OCM BOCES senior cosmetology students from the Irvin E. Henry campus were invited to participate in the Nov. 9 Veteran's Day Expo at the NY State Fairgrounds. A booth was set up for the nine students who attended to provide face-painting for attendees. The students were glad to participate and wrote literacy reflection papers citing some of their thoughts.

One student, Tori, met two young refugee twin brothers who came to America just a year ago and were accompanied to the event by a veteran. After the boys had their faces painted, Tori learned that it was the first time they had ever been able to have it done. Tori said, "They were so excited as [I] finished an American Flag on their faces. It was the most memorable part of the day."

She also said, "I had a great time meeting many veterans, who have done their job to keep our country safe."

Another student named Kayleigh met a six year boy who asked to have an American Flag painted on his face. He told her that although his father was on active duty and "I know daddy can't see me, but now I can match him."

Marissa, another student, wrote "When I was at the expo I thought about how my grandpa who was in the coast guard, and how he was on a ship headed to Cuba during the Cuban Missile Crisis. When he talks about it he gets teary eyed and chokes up."

The students did a great job face-painting and learned a great deal about American History at the same time. They came away with an appreciation for their country and for those who served.

Many thanks to the students who participated: Micala Witherbee, Emily Keller, Mckenzie Gransbury, Kayleigh Nett, Talia Iglesias, Tori Galizia, Vi Nguyen, Marissa Beradi and Vivian Bakowski. ❄️



# 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 such as:

- Alcohol and/or Drug Abuse
- Emotional problems
- Stress management
- Marital and/or family conflict
- Compulsive gambling
- Financial difficulties
- Aging parents
- Grieving
- Wellness
- Other personal matters

## HOLIDAY STRESS? THINK EAP!

Holiday time can be a joyous and wonderful time of the year but it can also be very stressful. Gift and food shopping, parties, family gatherings, and cooking can all be overwhelming. If the holidays are stressful for you, please remember that the OCM BOCES Employee Assistance program can help. Call EAP at 315-471-1361 or visit their website at [www.eap.ocmboces.org](http://www.eap.ocmboces.org)...don't let holiday stress overwhelm you. Remember your EAP is available to help year-round!

### ~December~ Oral Health Month



# EAP

1-800-EAP-8764  
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## Water conservation

is another piece of the energy puzzle.

Leaks can account for more than 6% of a facility's total water use.

A single toilet that leaks/runs excessively can cost a facility an extra \$2,400 per year!

If you notice a water leak, please report it to our Facilities Department using a work order on their website at <http://www.ocmboces.org/teacherpage.cfm?teacher=363>.

It takes a team effort to improve our operational efficiency! Thank you for doing your part!



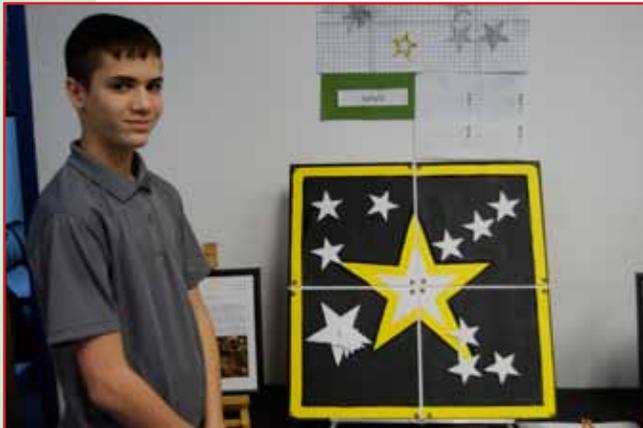
# Project Based Learning Projects Showcased



On Tuesday, November 26, students from the OCM BOCES Reach Program at the Lee G. Peters Career Training Center in Liverpool had the opportunity to showcase their knowledge and creativity through their “The Power of Symbols” Project Based Learning Display.

In order to provide a Project Based Learning (PBL) experience for their students, Reach teachers were first trained on PBL by OCM BOCES PBL 101 trainers Patrick Shaw and Joanne Keim. The training received allowed teachers to plan, assess and manage PBL with their students. Teachers were also coached on the implementation of their project idea.

The culminating effort was presented as an “art gallery” of each students’ work, with student artists on hand to discuss their projects with family, friends, school staff and judges. Reach’s PBL experience involved students choosing a symbol and researching it to provide write-ups, mathematical transformations and a final display of the symbol. During the exhibit, students presented and explained their work to attendees and were judged on their ability to effectively convey an understanding of the symbol, as well as on their craftsmanship, creativity and amount of effort put forth. Some of the symbols chosen by students included the US Army star, Peace sign, Rainbow Brite, Air Jordan, basketball, Rosie the Riveter, and more.



*Pictured above Dylan Steigmeier from the East Syracuse Minoa Central School District chose the Army symbol for his project.*

OCM BOCES PBL Trainer, Joanne Keim, was impressed with the work that resulted from the project, She said, “When we walked into the public exhibit of the student projects, Patrick and I looked at each other and said, ‘WOW!’ To see all of the training and coaching come together was rewarding for us.” She added, “As we visited each project, we talked to the students and quizzed them on the content. We were impressed by each student’s communication skills. [They] were articulate and passionate about the personal symbols they chose and the math content they learned.”

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*Pictured above: Trevor Hotchkiss, a REACH student from the Solvay Union Free School District explains his project to OCM BOCES Director of Alternative Education Karen Clark.*

*Pictured above, top left: REACH students’ Project Based Learning displays were showcased in a gallery-type exhibit at the OCM BOCES Career Training Center in Liverpool on November 26, 2013. Students were able to choose their own symbol and create a project around it. Pictured above middle: Kurtis Sanborn from the North Syracuse School District selected the Peace sign for his work. Pictured above right: REACH student Aubrey Revette created her project around the Rainbow Brite symbol.*

## REACH student PBL projects *continued from page 1*

Family members also attended the exhibit and were impressed by the students' work. Gina Bisesi, mother of Reach student Aubrey Revette (Rainbow Brite project) said, "All of the kids did a wonderful job. I thought it was a very interesting way to combine creative and academic pathways. I am so proud of Aubrey for standing up and displaying her project. She greeted people as they approached her and explained the mathematics behind the design of her project very well. I am so happy that Aubrey had the opportunity to show how articulate she can be."

During the display, Kurtis Sanborn, a Reach student from the North Syracuse Central School District explained why he chose the symbol he did. He said, "I did the Peace sign because it means something to me. I tried to create peace and quiet and explain the true meaning behind the symbol. The colors are for Jamaica to represent Bob Marley and his involvement with the peace movement. [This project] was fun [and] I learned a lot because I got to pick something that matters to me."

Joanne Keim said that student engagement is one of the biggest benefits of PBL, "Teachers told us stories about particular students and how this project engaged them like no other classroom experience had previously. They said attendance was up due to student interest. Projects like this, and the results we saw and heard about, are what PBL is all about! It is a different way of learning **AND** [it] helps prepare students for their future!" ❁

## Criminal Justice students serve as ushers/greeters at Sheriff's awards

OCM BOCES New Vision Criminal Justice program students were recently asked to assist the Onondaga County Sheriff's Department at their annual awards ceremony. This is the 8<sup>th</sup> year that students have been asked to serve as ushers/greeters for the celebration.

During the ceremony, Onondaga County Sheriff's Department staff, along with members of the community were recognized for valor, merit, dedication, and assistance. The event also served as a promotion ceremony where members were promoted to the ranks of sergeant, lieutenant, and captain.

Several of the event's attendees took time to compliment the OCM BOCES students for their professionalism and support for others in their vocation. ❁



## Henry College/Career Day



On Friday, November 22, 2013, hundreds of OCM BOCES CTE students at the Irvin E. Henry Campus in Syracuse had the opportunity to learn more about some local and statewide colleges and higher education institutions without having to travel.

Representatives from nearly 30 organizations, including Alfred State College, Paul Smith's College, Onondaga Community College, OCM BOCES Adult Education, several SUNY schools, and more, came to the Syracuse Campus to provide an overview of their programs for interested students.

This is the 8<sup>th</sup> year that a college career day has been held at the OCM BOCES Irvin E. Henry Campus. Each year, the money donated by participating colleges/businesses is used for the OCM BOCES National Technical Honor Society.

## OCM BOCES STARS program graduate earns Eagle Scout medal



Congratulations to Kevin Ryan, a 2012 STARS program graduate from the Solvay Union Free School District who recently earned his Eagle Scout medal. Kevin was a student in the STARS program for over four years, graduating this past June. Over the years, Kevin has volunteered a great deal of his time at the Solvay Geddes Youth Center, refinishing and making benches for its members. On December 1, a ceremony was held at the center in recognition of his achievement.

STARS Principal Matt Tarolli was invited to the event and had the opportunity to speak during the ceremony. He said, "It is an honor to be included in the celebrations and achievements of our former students. What Kevin has earned is no small accomplishment. I am proud to be among those recognizing him for his efforts."

Congratulations OCM BOCES Graduate Kevin Ryan! ❄️

## Kudos to You!

### OCM BOCES Staff recognized for leadership efforts

Congratulations to **Melissa Muller, Dave Karam, Marilyn Davis, Tracie Clark, Tina Gonio, Lisa Austin, Gretchen Belanger and Mary Beth Crysler**, who were honored on Friday, November 22, in the OCM BOCES Student Services Employee Recognition program.

Additionally, **Molly McDermott, Gordon McCaffer, Siobhan Bussone, Renae Montroy, Sarah Nactrieb, Beth Cottrell, Dominique Riccardelli, Mary Helen Hoag, Sarah Virgil and Karen Leonard** were honored through the program this past June.

The program was implemented during the 2012-13 school year in order to recognize employees who have helped OCM BOCES achieve its organizational goals. The staff members recognized were all nominated by their supervisors in recognition of the leadership roles they have taken in moving the organization closer to its goals. Each staff member recognized was treated to a luncheon buffet at the Irvin E. Henry Campus, was presented a certificate of appreciation and received a small token of thanks.

Staff members recognized at the November luncheon are pictured above.

Congratulations on your great work and THANK YOU! ❄️



### OCM BOCES Board Members

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