

Inside Story

Common Grounds

Welcome 2018-19!



Whether you are one of the 25 new staff members hired this summer, or one of the 1,000 returning employees, we welcome you! To kick off the 2018-2019 school year, Erie 1 BOCES held two "Opening Day" sessions for instructional and non-instructional teams. After celebrating service milestones of co-workers, gaining new information from leadership and being provided inspirational messages from national speakers - we hope that you are energized to begin a new school year. Remember, "when you find your talent, pour your heart into it" and "it is often through the messiness in life when you experience what you love the most."



Day of Caring at BNHV

Nearly 40 employees from Erie 1 BOCES (E1B) participated in the annual United Way Day of Caring. This August, the team was assigned to help the Buffalo Niagara Heritage Village (BNHV) prepare for an annual fundraiser. BNHV is a cultural gem of local historic buildings resting on 35-acres. Their tours, museum and activities engage visitors by living the history of our region. While there, E1B team members set up tents, tables, chairs and finished some painting. For more than 15 years, Erie 1 BOCES has been participating in the annual Day of Caring. Past assignments include work at youth camps, senior citizen centers,

community centers, historical sites and various other human services agencies. Are you interested in joining our team? Look for registration information every June/July in Inside Story.



Live United

Erie 1 BOCES is proud to participate in United Way's Live United campaign again this year. If not already, then shortly, all employees hired before June 30, 2018 will receive a paper pledge form from the United Way and we're proud to announce that the online donation portal is also open. We appreciate your support of this non-profit that benefits so many great agencies in WNY.

Thanks to your generous support, the United Way of Erie County has improved the lives of one out of every three people in Erie County. That means your neighbor, your friend and possibly a family member has been helped by your generosity. There are three ways to contribute. However, if you do select payroll deduction, it will be distributed between 18 pays. [See a video and more details on MyErie1](#) to learn how you can contribute by October 12.



Breastfeeding-Friendly Worksite

Erie County Department of Health held an event to honor 17 worksites for their efforts to support breast-feeding mothers; Erie 1 BOCES was included in that honor. On Friday, July 27, three Erie 1 BOCES representatives accepted the award including Warren Ristine, manager of facility operations; Michael Capuana, director of career and technical education; and Kelly Eisenried, director of human resources.

To achieve this designation, each organization shared their policies and procedures for review, a site visit was made to inspect physical locations and setup of lactation rooms and additional technical assistance was made available. Additional honorees included: Rich Products Corporation, Buffalo Bills, Catholic Health, United Way of Buffalo & Erie County, County of Erie, Canisius College, Univera Healthcare, Walsh Duffield Companies, Inc., National Weather Service at the Buffalo Niagara International Airport, SUNY Erie Community College, START WITH SLEEP, Trocaire College, Catholic Charities, Ford Motor Company, BlueCross BlueShield of Western New York and National Fuel Gas Company.



Clean Your Email by Nov.1

In preparation for the Dec. 26 email migration from Lotus Notes to Office 365, the most important thing employees can do is clean out your email. A good cleaning of your inbox, sent mail and folders will help ease the transition. All employees should clean their email within Lotus Notes by Nov. 1. To help you let go of the past, remember that all email will remain archived and accessible through [MailMeter](#). MailMeter is searchable by word, sender, receiver and date range. If you have never used it before, we recommended that you become familiar with the tool this fall. Stay up to date with email migration tips at [MyErie1](#).



Import Holidays

The contractual and the instructional holidays for the 2018 - 2019 school year are completed and ready for employees to import into their Lotus Notes calendars. Here are the directions for importing the holidays into your calendar (same for Lotus Notes Client users and E1b.org iNotes users):

- open your calendar
- select the pull down next to More
- select "Import Holidays"
- select E1 B 10 Mo Staff 2018-2019 or E1 B 12 Mo Staff 2018-2019 calendar
- click ok



Annual Acknowledgements

Each year, employees are informed about the requirement to complete their acknowledgements for the [Compliance Videos and Policies & Regulations](#). Knowledge of our procedures regarding certain rules and regulations affects us all as Erie 1 BOCES employees. Please ensure you review and sign off on this year's material. Thank you.

Changes to Note



New Director for Exceptional Education

Patrick Canfield is the new director for the Exceptional Education division. Canfield has devoted his 30-year career as an educator to countless families and children in need, with 20 years of that time including experience as a school administrator. Most recently, Canfield served as the director of special programs at Niagara Wheatfield CSD. His first day with E1B was Aug. 28. Welcome!



RSE-TASC Tours of Businesses

Regional Special Education Technical Assistance Support Center (RSE-TASC) Community Employment Specialists Mary Richards, Julia Duerr, and Paul Wekarski conducted a [tour of businesses](#) for teachers and other school-related staff in the Tonawanda/North Tonawanda area. The August 8 tours were designed to allow school staff to gain a broader understanding of the many career paths available to special needs students after graduation. With the information they gained, the specialists believe teachers are now

better equipped to prepare students in making more knowledgeable career choices for themselves.



Picnic Survey By 9/14

The 12-Month Employee Special Events Committee would appreciate your feedback regarding the picnic and other annual gatherings. If you are a 12-month employee, [please fill out this survey](#) by Sept. 14. Thank you.



About the 12-Month Employee Special Events Committee

A committee at the Education Campus was formed when auditors informed E1B that it could no longer fund special events for employees. With approval from the district, a group of people came together because they didn't want to lose having social gatherings. Thus, the (Education Campus) Employee Special Events Committee was born for 12-month non-instructional employees.



The Education Campus Employee Special Events Committee traditionally hosts two large gatherings a year, a summer gathering and the winter gathering. These events are mostly funded by various smaller events that occur just about every month by the same committee. These events range from jeans days to raffles. In addition, the fundraising efforts also pay for breakroom supplies in all of the breakrooms! Of course, none of this would be possible without the support of Erie 1 BOCES. In addition, the group does get some help from outside sources: Coca-Cola gives the committee a commission on the machines and product, and R & P Oakhill also contribute.



Because giving back to the community is so important, every quarter a new charity is randomly picked by the committee and \$250 of the quarterly proceeds is donated. During the last five years, more than \$6,000 has been donated to local charities through our employee events. Should you know of a child or family-centric charity (501-c3), please notify a committee member for consideration.

The Education Campus Employee Special Events Committee is very appreciative to all the men and women of Erie 1 BOCES who continue to donate and participate in the events. We could not be doing this without you.

We are always looking for new ideas and thoughts, and try to host something for everyone throughout the year. Please fill out the survey noted above or e-mail "E1 B Special Events" if you have an idea or thought about what kinds of things we should do next. If you would like to join the Education Campus Employee Special Events Committee, please contact Communication Services.



Hamburg STEM Camp

Hamburg High School hosted its annual STEM Camp in August. The camp is an experience for incoming ninth graders interested in the fields of science, technology, engineering and math. Campers participated in two out of seven courses: Art and Science of Baking, Aviation, Food Exploration, Art of Cosmetics, Scratch Programming, Sports Science and Video STEMfinity. A total of 52 students registered for this year's camp. This was the second year of the Hamburg STEM Camp, a partnership between Erie 1 BOCES and Hamburg Central Schools.



Trocaire College Welcomed P-TECH students

Trocaire College celebrated its incoming P-TECH students Wednesday, Aug. 15 as they began their academic journeys onsite at Trocaire. The event featured an on-campus lunch and ceremony before the students' academic program orientations and included remarks from attending elected officials, program partners and Trocaire President Dr. Bassam M. Deeb.

P-TECH (Pathways in Technology) is a state-funded private-public partnership launched five years ago that will prepare thousands of New York students for high-skills jobs in technology, manufacturing, healthcare and finance. Trocaire, the Lackawanna City School District, Erie 1 BOCES and Catholic Health were chosen as the first P-TECH program in Western New York, one they named HOPE (Health Occupation Pathways to Employment). [More details here...](#)



Summer at the Center

In late July, middle school students attended a career camp provided by Erie 1 BOCES at the Harkness Career & Technical Center. This one-week camp allowed youth to choose four different hands-on courses to enjoy. This year's selection of courses included: 7-Hour Movie Challenge, Airbrush Adventures, Bakeshop Boot Camp, Camp Culinary, Express Yourself, Junior Police Academy, Minecraft Madness, Scratch to the Future (Video Gaming), Spectacular Sprinklers, Sports Conditioning and Sports Science, and Tech-Know Coding Adventure.

Kudos



Kudos Nancy Kilger & Extended Learning Program

Jaznique Warrick, a parent, sent the following words after a positive experience with Erie 1 BOCES' Extended Learning program in Special Education. Nancy Kilger, Extended Learning principal at Maryvale site, received these kind words. "...thank you to you and your staff for taking such great care of my son...A special thanks to Miss P (Morgan) and Miss G (Miranda) for the exceptional way in which they took care of my son. He was excited and enthusiastic each day when he came home and had nothing but great things to say about them! It warms my heart to know that such kind and caring people were a part of your team and helped to make my son become more confident. Your leadership is appreciated!"



Quote of the Month

"Labor Day is a glorious holiday because your child will be going back to school the next day. It would have been called Independence Day, but that name was already taken."

-Bill Dodds



Celebrate STEPTember

Step up to the challenge! Children and adults living with cerebral palsy take on physical challenges every single day. Join teams from around the world and challenge yourself to take 10,000 steps for 28 days in September. The effort, which originally began with the Cerebral Palsy Alliance, raises awareness of the condition and also serves as an option for people to raise funds for research. Practice good health in September by taking more steps and [learn more about cerebral palsy here](#).



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.