

Inside Story

Common Grounds



E1B Connect: Power of Teams 2019

To kick off the 2019-2020 school year, Erie 1 BOCES held the “E1B Connect” opening day ceremony at the Millennium Hotel for non-instructional employees. After celebrating service milestones of co-workers, participating in breakout sessions, visiting the food trucks, and being provided inspirational messages from national speaker David Rendall - we hope that you are energized to begin a new school year. Thank you to the employee committee who made this expanded event possible. To leave feedback on the event, please fill out the [E1B Connect survey](#).



New Websites

Erie 1 BOCES will launch a new website in September 2019. The new site will better align with accessibility guidelines. The change will also entail an updated service directory and micro sites for WNYRIC.org and RBE-RN West.



Changes to MyErie1

MyErie1 is transitioning to a new platform, o365. We'll continue to call it MyErie1, however we are still phasing out the old MyErie1 platform. Until October, as we continue to transition, you may still see pages from the old MyErie1 site. Our goal is to transition using links as seamlessly as possible for you and share any big changes within the MyErie1 photo announcement feature. Following a brief pilot run, you will soon see that MyErie1 will be set as the default screen for all E1B-owned devices. That means, if you hit the Chrome icon, you'll see MyErie1 initially. We're listening. We respect your time. That's why we're delivering to you one screen with access to the online tools you need.



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.



Instructional Opening Day 2019 Reminder

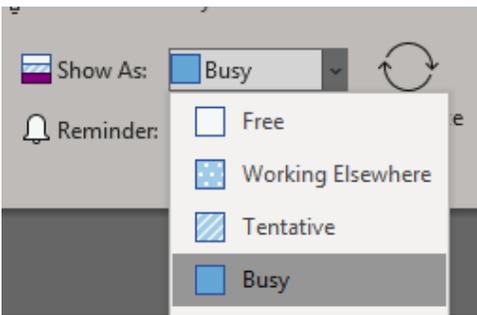
The Opening Day ceremony for instructional teams will be on August 27 at the Salvatore's in Depew. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m., and the presentation will begin at 8 a.m. Remember, this event is a requirement for employees.



New Antivirus Software

Due to all the ransomware attacks happening across the country, Erie 1 BOCES has deployed the antivirus solution, Forticlient, to all workstations. With Forticlient, if you download an attachment from an email or a file from the internet, it will open the attachment in a secured location and scan it for virus and malware. If the file is infected, the client blocks you from downloading the attachment and notifies the user. If the file is fine, it will download it for you. The program was deployed in the background and once installed should display a shield with a green checkmark in the system tray at the bottom right of your screen. If there are any issues after the deploy, please open a ServiceNow.

O365 & Accessibility



Mark Yourself as Busy in O365 Calendar

Don't get double booked for meetings. Make sure you are marked as busy in Outlook when you have an appointment or meeting. When you open a new appointment or meeting under Options, Show As, you can be listed as free, working elsewhere, tentative, busy or out of the office. The default is busy when you make an appointment or meeting. Others see this status in the small bubble on your picture in Outlook or Teams as well as showing up as conflicts in the Outlook calendar. If you have a calendar item, but wish to be seen as free, you will need to change this setting.



Accessibility Statistics

It is estimated that 20 percent of Americans have some form of a disability. This suggests a high number of students and their family members may have disabilities. There are many forms of disabilities. Six categories include visual, hearing, cognitive, speech, mobility and neural. It is not uncommon for individuals to have disabilities and be unaware of it. That is why it is important for us to be creating content that is accessible and not just responding when we know that we're facing a unique situation.

Changes to Note



Mechanic Crew Chief Stoberl

Robert Stoberl has been promoted to maintenance mechanic crew chief. He joined Erie 1 BOCES 11 years ago and has played a key role in keeping our buildings warm, safe and dry. Robert has a wealth of experience which will allow him to lead the dedicated maintenance mechanics while performing their duties. Congratulations!

Career & Technical Education



CTE Capital Project Moving Forward

A capital improvements project for facilities in the Career & Technical Education division is moving forward after Erie 1 BOCES component districts unanimously approved the plan. The “warm, safe, dry” project follows on the heels of a building condition survey, which is required every five years. The project focuses on the Harkness, Kenton and Potter career centers and targets improvements to outdated HVAC systems, boilers, roofs, ceilings and secure entryways, among other items. Construction for phase one (Harkness) is expected to take place in 2021, phase two (Kenton) will take place in 2022 and phase three (Potter) will occur in 2023.



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, adventures in babysitting, bakeshop boot camp, camp culinary, destination animation, flair for fashion, express yourself, junior police academy, Minecraft madness, sports conditioning and sports science, and spectacular sprinklers.



Aviation Alumni Get to See Plane They Built

Students in Thomas Leach’s 2018 Aviation Technology class who helped build a working airplane got to personally see the end product in July. The Click Bond Inc. Sportsman 2+2 single-engine aircraft made a special trip from Arlington, Washington, to Prior Aviation Flight Training in Buffalo. The students earned the chance to build the plane at Glasair Aviation after winning a national design challenge by the General Aviation Manufacturers Association. Those that went to Washington included Tatiana Forbes from Amherst, Jacob Bell from Maryvale, Aidan Hurley from Williamsville North and Christopher Kozak from John F. Kennedy High School.



Fashionable Grad in the News

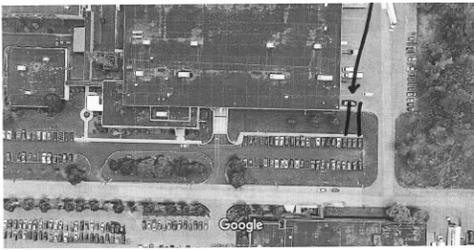
A student from Darlene Borchert’s fashion design class at Harkness was featured in a Ch. 4 news story. Austin Stoll, who graduated from the Fashion program in June 2018, mentioned Erie 1 BOCES in his story. Presently, he is a global fashion model for major fashion houses through the world and has released his first complete up-cycling fashion collection inspired by the Western New York area. Watch [Ch.4’s story on Austin](#) here.

Education Campus



New Meeting Room Technology

As you may have noticed, the conference rooms in A and B are getting technology upgrades. Currently we have completed A1 and B1 and will be moving to B2A/B2B next. Instructions for how to connect your device in those rooms were emailed and will be available in the rooms as well. If you have additional questions or issues, please reach out to Bill Valtin or complete a Service Now ticket.



Edu Campus Upgrades

- Work will begin installing a new walkway that will connect the south-east parking lot to the area of the courier ramp
- Over the next 2-3 weeks, miscellaneous repairs around the outside of the buildings will be made to sidewalks, asphalt parking lots and grassy areas that were dug up for water line repairs.
- We are currently accepting quotes to install Handicapped Automatic Door

Operators on many rest rooms in our buildings, these will be the same as we have on the first floor of building C. The process will take a couple of months but please know we are working to have these installed as soon as possible.

Please be very careful when driving or walking, the crews that will complete this work will set up safety guards which we will need to respect.

Exceptional Education



Extended School Year Art Show

Ellen Foegen, art teacher, and Linda Kleiber, aide, are pleased to share photos from this year's Extended School Year Art Show at West Seneca East Middle School. All students, grades K-12, participated. Projects included multi-media name design; creating a neighborhood with 3-D and 2-D creative buildings; paper sculptures; tie-dye paintings using tissue paper and more. Staff who viewed the pieces left notes for the artists telling them what they liked about their work. "Students were more excited about those notes than in having their art on display because people like their artwork," Foegen said. "It was a great confidence booster to our students."



MiddleTech Expands

The MiddleTech program will begin serving school districts north of the city. MiddleTech, a collaboration between the Alternative and Career education divisions, has been operating at the Learning Center and Potter Career Center in West Seneca to fulfill the needs of various south town schools. The new classes will be based at Erie 1 BOCES Northtowns Academy and Kenton Career Center in Tonawanda. MiddleTech is a full day program for academically and socially at-risk students in grades seven and eight. The program focuses on core academic areas with an infusion of project-based learning and career exploration.

Kudos



Power 125

Congratulations to Lynn Fusco, chief operating officer and district superintendent of Erie 1 BOCES, for being named as one of the 2019 Power 125 Women of Western New York. The compilation of the Power 125 Women comes from the observations and opinions of the reporters and editors of "Buffalo Business First."

Special Features



United Way's Family Volunteer Day

Come join United Way in assembling 2,000 personal care bags for the unsheltered homeless in Western New York. This is United Way's 10th annual Family Volunteer Day, featuring a new partnership with The Service Collaborative, so bring the whole family! This event will be on Saturday, September 28 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Catholic Charities, 75 Caldwell Place, Lackawanna NY. [Sign up for the event online by Sept. 20th.](#)



Quote of the Month

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."
- Nelson Mandela



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.