

Inside Story

Common Grounds



Opening Day Reminder

Attendance at an Opening Day event is required of all employees. This year, there will be two sessions:

- **August 13** for Technology Service and the Education Campus staff. Titled “E1B Connect,” the morning session will occur at the Millennium Hotel. Registration will begin at 8 a.m. and the presentation will start at 8:30 a.m. Staff members are invited to participate in afternoon sessions back at the Education Campus. See details within the [E1B Connect poster](#).
- **August 27** for all Instructional Services. It will occur at the Salvatore’s in Depew. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m., the presentation will begin at 8 a.m.



Protecting Personally Identifiable Information

As an employee of Erie 1 BOCES we have a duty to protect the sensitive data we have access to every day. One type of data that needs to be secured is Personally Identifiable Information (PII). It could be data you encounter one-time, or data you oversee year-round. We need to be mindful in protecting any sensitive data as that data could include something identifying you. [Learn more about PII on MyErie1.](#)



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. This year, 12-month employees in Technology Services started their annual acknowledgement process in July with a goal of completing them by Aug. 13. All other 12-month employees who have not yet started the process should also plan on completing

their annual acknowledgements by Aug. 13. All instructional employees may also view this material in advance of their Opening Day.



Service Awards

Congratulations to all employees receiving Service Awards this year. [A list has been posted on MyErie1](#) for your convenience. If you have a concern or a question, contact HR at least five business days in advance of your Opening Day session.

Changes to Note



Retirements

At the June 26 Board of Education meeting the following retirements were approved: Denise Dziwulski, Special Education; Elayne Carey, Special Education; Richard Cloos, Finance Services. On July 11 the board accepted the following retirements: Michael Holeva, Technology Services; Paula Kropelin, Special Education; Denise Polanski, Central Office; and Linda Zeitz, Special Education. Congrats!



Board Briefs

Following each Board of Education meeting, Communication Services posts a brief description of HR's personnel actions. While not the official minutes, which are approved at the following month's meeting, this brief provides employees advance notice of the approved changes. All [Board Briefs](#) are accessible on the home page of MyErie1. Read [July 2019 Board Brief](#).



Trautman Appointed Director of CTE

Anedda Trautman has been appointed to the role of director in the Career and Technical Education (CTE) division of Erie 1 BOCES. She will be responsible for all phases of the division's programming, including planning, general program management, personnel management, community/school relations, fiscal management and facilities management.

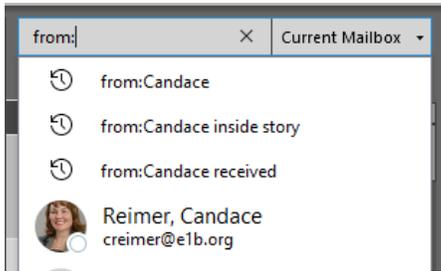
Trautman previously served as associate director of CTE for the past two years, working alongside Michael Capuana, who was appointed as the assistant superintendent of instructional services in February. Before joining Erie 1 BOCES, Trautman worked as a principal for the Niagara Career and Technical Education Center of Orleans/Niagara BOCES and a lecturer for the State University College at Buffalo. She has 18 years of experience in education.



Graser Named Director of PD & Instructional Technology

Steve Graser has been named director of Professional Development and Instructional Technology at Erie 1 BOCES. Graser most recently served in the role of associate director for Instructional Technology Resources and Professional Development. An employee of Erie 1 BOCES for the past 13 years, he has worked as a professional development coordinator, a senior coordinator and a supervisor. Graser was a teacher before joining Erie 1 BOCES.

In this new role, he is responsible for the budget management, revenue and service request administration, employee mentoring, supervision and long-range planning for the areas of instructional technology, instructional resources, professional development, distance education, school support services grants, school library, and administrative professional development. In addition, he will collaborate and foster relationships with other educational, cultural and state organizations.



Search Smarter in Outlook

If you need to find something buried in your email, follow these tips to find it quick. Click in the search bar at the upper left or press CTRL+E and your cursor will automatically jump to it. To search to all instances of a particular word, simply type that word in. To find something from a specific person type: from:Name (i.e. from:Candace) . If you want to be even more specific, type: from:Name received:this week.



Turn an Email into a Meeting

Want to quickly turn an email exchange into a meeting invitation? While in the email, simply press CTRL+ALT+R and the email's correspondents will be auto filled as mandatory invitees and the email will be included in the notes of the invitation.

Accessibility



Using Accessibility Training Every Day

Accessibility isn't just alt text, font adjustments and color contrast awareness. It is making sure all viewers can comprehend the information presented equally. Please continue to use the best practices from training in your day-to-day operations to ensure that we as an organization are progressing toward full Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance. Need a refresher on accessibility? Check out the [Introduction to Accessibility video](#) from Mansel Wells, Erie 1 BOCES professional development trainer. A resource for accessibility questions will be coming soon.

News Zone – Education Campus



12 Month Employee Picnic 2019

Thank you to over 200 of our 12-month employees that came out to Joseph's Country Manor this month and made the 2019 picnic a success! Employees played games of mini golf and volleyball, dined on a catered lunch, and participated in a 50/50 split raffle. Winners of the raffle were Michael Lichtenberger of Human Resources Services, Lynne Bogdan of Finance Services, and Ann Serediuk of Special Education Services. A donation of \$210 was generated for the Renaissance House, which helps adolescents in Western New York dealing with addiction. The 12-month Employee Special Events Committee organized the picnic. Thank you to all who helped make this event possible!



L.L.Ea.P Into the Future

Near the close of the school year, approximately 250 students, their families, teachers, and special education support staff participated in the L.L.Ea.P Into the Future conference. The conference focused on opportunities and supports in the areas of Live, Learn, Earn and Play. Students attended four hands-on workshops where they participated in recreation events such as a drumming circle, daily living skills like making a purchase at a store, making a healthy snack and learning about hygiene, practicing vocational skills, as well as learning the art of guided relaxation. Families and professionals attended workshops on the eligibility process for adult programs. All participants were

able to meet local agencies and providers along with being a part of Self-Advocacy skits.

The conference was made possible by supports from Erie 1 BOCES Community Employment Specialists, Developmental Disabilities Alliance of WNY, Parent Network of Western NY, Community Services for Every 1, Heritage Christian Services, the Arc of Erie County, Aspire of WNY, Autism Services Inc., People Inc., The Summit Center and SUNY Erie Community College.

News Zone – Career & Technical Education



Automotive Businesses Hire 32 Juniors at Signing Day

A number of prominent local businesses in the automotive industry came together on June 25 to celebrate 32 high school juniors who will be working for them during paid internships. The “[Signing Day](#)” event saw the students sign with their employers in the automotive technology and collision repair fields for the summer.



Senior Awards Ceremony Recognizes Nearly 100

Nearly 100 awards were handed out to graduating students across all three career and technical centers during the Senior Awards Ceremony in June. The event recognized outstanding seniors in each program, as well as those who achieved perfect attendance. Additional awards given out included the AFSCME awards, Board of Education awards, [Commitment to Education awards](#) and the Gerber Collision Corp. scholarships, among others. Distinguished Alumni awards went to [Joe Putrelo](#) of NBC2, [John Gorman](#) of Paddock Chevrolet and [Ryan Niedermeier](#) of IBEW #41.



PTECH R.A.C.E.

Justin Penn, a sophomore from Hamburg Central School District, loves cars. He’s so passionate about the automotive industry that despite being on summer vacation, he enthusiastically attended a school-related function in July at SUNY Erie Community College. You can read more about the [P-TECH R.A.C.E. program here](#).

News Zone – Exceptional Education



Special Ed Graduation

Congratulations to our special education students who graduated this week! Pictured here are graduate Sean Kirwan and Amherst’s assistant superintendent for student and staff services, Mr. Belle-Isle.



April 2019 LPN Class Has Highest Pass Rate Ever Reported

The April 2019 class of Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs) graduated with the highest pass rate Erie 1 BOCES has ever reported. About 95% of the students successfully passed the NYCLEX exam and received licensure from New York State. "This is the highest pass rate we've reported in my time and is a direct result of Debbie Summers' leadership, initiative and the community she's built between our staff, students and clinical partnerships," noted Christa McHale, director of Educational Partnerships and Workforce Development.



Workforce Development Center Open House is July 30

The Workforce Development Center will hold an [Open House](#) on Tuesday, July 30 from 4-7 p.m. to provide information to prospective students on training programs that can be completed in a year or less. If you or someone you know is interested in training for Administrative Assistant, Auto Collision/ Auto Technician, Barbering, Certified Nursing Assistant, Certified Personal Trainer, Certified Production Technician, CNC Machining, Cosmetology, Electrical (Residential and Commercial), Electro Mechanical Maintenance, HVAC, Licensed Practical Nursing, Medical Billing Clerk, Medical Office Assistant, Phlebotomy, Welding and more, call 716-821-7500 or email wfd@e1b.org. The center is

located at 1526 Walden Ave. in Cheektowaga at the corner of Walden and Harlem.

Kudos



Kudos Alicia J. Thompson

Trocaire College's Board of Trustees elected Alicia J. Thompson, secretary. Thompson is director of the Erie 1 BOCES School Library System and supervisor for the Western New York Regional Library Automation Service.

Special Features



Free Concerts in Larkin Square

Are the dog days of summer hitting hard, and you're looking for something to do? Buffalo has a lineup of free concerts in Larkin Square where you can bring your family, dogs, or friends to listen to some authentic Buffalo bands! Here is the free concert lineup list: <https://larkinsquare.com/live-at-larkin/>



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.

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