

# Dutchess BOCES



Winter 2010

Issue No. 3

## Dutchess BOCES Highlights

### Quick Links

[Dutchess BOCES](#)  
[PACE University School of Education](#)  
[ER Professional Development Catalog](#)  
[Adult Education Programs](#)

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Highlights is filled with good news and information about Dutchess BOCES. Please continue to send your good news to the Office of Communications and Grants Research or email [Anna Marie Paolercio](#) so that we can share it with others! Dutchess BOCES offers so many exceptional programs and services and we need your help in spreading the word!

### DUTCHESS BOCES

5 BOCES Road  
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601  
voice: 845.486.4800  
fax: 845.486.4981

We welcome your feedback. If you have questions or comments, please feel free to contact me.

Best wishes for a wonderful holiday season!

### Holiday School and Office Closings:

- March 29 - April 2: Spring Recess - Schools Closed
- April 2: Good Friday - Offices Closed

## News from the District Superintendent's Office

### SNOW DAY MAKE UP

To date, we have used six snow days. Five were counted for in the planning calendar. **The sixth will be taken on April 23rd--now an instructional day.**

### YOUTH SERVICE AWARDS NOMINATIONS

The Dutchess County Youth Board is seeking nominations on a countywide basis for public recognition of youth, and of adults in the youth development field. The awards will be presented at the Board's annual luncheon to be held on June 3 at Dutchess Community College. YEA awards are for youth in middle school, high school or alternative educational programs whose performances would otherwise be overlooked. These awards are not intended for traditional students who have effective support systems and have always excelled. **All applications should be returned by March 25 to the Dutchess County Youth Bureau, 27 High Street, Poughkeepsie.** If you have any questions, please call Donna Miles at the Youth Bureau at 486-3646 or email [Donna Miles](#).

# Transition Planning Services Parent Information Workshops

Tuesday, March 23, 2010

## ***College with Confidence***

This workshop will enlighten and inform parents about the challenges and unique issues facing students with IEPs moving from high school to post-secondary programs. Topics will include disability services, supports, and accommodations, documentation needed and the changing roles of parents and students. Presenter: Paula Perez, Disability Services Office, Dutchess Community College

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

## ***Ready, Set, Go to Work!***

This workshop will provide information about preparing students with IEP's for the world of work and day activities. Presenters will represent various school-to-work programs in Dutchess County, Taconic DDSOs Employment and Training Program, (ETP), Dutchess BOCES Career and Technical Institute and Adult Education/MTI programs, VESID, and Adult Employment Services and Day Habilitation.

Tuesday, April 27, 2010

## ***Creating a Safety Net***

This workshop will provide information about providing financial and legal supports for adult children with special needs. Topics will include SSI (Supplemental Security Income), guardianship and special needs trusts.

### **TIME AND LOCATION FOR ALL WORKSHOPS:**

6:30 - 9:00 p.m.

Dutchess BOCES - BETA Site

900 Dutchess Turnpike

Poughkeepsie, NY 12603

## **FREE!!!**

To register call 845.486.4840, extension 3058  
or e-mail [Marilyn McGaulley](mailto:Marilyn.McGaulley@DutchessBOCES.org)

Presented by  
*Dutchess BOCES Special and Alternative Education Programs*  
and  
*Dutchess Transition Network*



It's not too late! We need volunteers for the **American Heart Walk** that will take place on **Saturday, March 13 at Vassar College**. All you need to do is collect donations from individuals and walk. It's that easy! Come out and walk for a worthy cause. If you are unable to walk, please sponsor a walker. Ask one of the AHA building representatives listed below for a collection envelope or register on the Heart Walk website at American Heart Association.

**Tracey Smith, Salt Point Center**  
845.486.8004

**Kathleen Gibson Ferris, BETA (Print Shop)**  
845.486.4840, extension 3008

**Robert Patterson, BETA (Print Shop)**  
845.486.4840, extension 3007



## **PACE School of Education Lecture Series Beyond Closing the Achievement Gap**

This year marks the **8th Annual Distinguished Educators Lecture Series**, which brings innovative leaders to the PACE University each spring. Sponsored by the School of Education, the series has welcomed some of the most influential leaders in education in the United States.

Dutchess BOCES [Educational Resources](#) continues its partnership with [PACE University School of Education](#).

**LECTURE TIMES:**  
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

**LECTURE DATES:**  
Wednesday, March 17, 2010

*George Wood - The Forum for Education and Democracy*  
From a Culture of Testing to a Community of Learning

Wednesday, March 24, 2010

*Tony Wagner - Harvard Graduate School of Education*  
The Global Achievement Gap

Wednesday, April 21, 2010

*Bill Ayers - University of Illinois at Chicago College of Education*  
Problems and Possibilities for Democratic School Reform

### LOCATION FOR VIDEO CONFERENCE LECTURES:

Dutchess BOCES  
Career and Technical Institute  
Conference Room 301  
5 BOCES Road  
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

Registration for these sessions is available online at [Professional Development](#)

### Model Schools Workshops - Spring 2010

Through our Educational Resources Division, a variety of workshops are scheduled for Spring 2010. There is no charge for those districts that participate in Model Schools. The cost for those districts that are not participants of the Model Schools program is \$75. To register, visit [Dutchess BOCES Professional Development](#). For more information, contact Celia White at 845.486.4840, extension 3112 or e-mail [Celia White](#).



## Professional Development Workshops

### ER Spring 2010 Professional Development Catalog Now Available!

The Spring 2010 Professional Development Catalog is now available! You can look at the contents of the [Professional Development Catalog](#) on our Web site. It's full of wonderful staff development opportunities!

### Important Information about K12 Alerts

K-12 Alerts was activated for the recent snow closings. If you have a cell phone, it is suggested to list your cell phone as the primary contact in your account settings in the event that your landline phone service is disrupted. If you have any questions about K-12 Alerts, please contact [Kelly Seibert](#) at 845.486.4800, extension 228.



## Kudos to our Facilities and Operations Staff

Assistant Superintendent Linda Heitmann extends her thanks to Facilities and Operations Supervisor Matthew Colavito and his staff after the recent series of snowstorms. Their assistance and hard work was instrumental in reopening the BETA building.

During days of inclement weather, Colavito is in constant contact with local school district personnel regarding school closings and delay. A new procedure has been implemented to send weather alerts out to our local school districts via email.



- Using Carl Perkins Federal grant money for technology, in late January the Career and Technical Institute (CTI) sent three teachers to a conference called **"Taking the Next Steps to Prepare Students for Careers in the Emerging Technologies,"** at Union College's Conference Facilities located in downtown Schenectady. Teachers Darren Davidson, Al Berti and Bruce Safford attended.
- Dutchess BOCES received an \$18,500 grant from Perkins this year and has been used to fund a **"reverse integration"** project, a program that take our successful integration of academics at CTI and takes it back to the districts to teach math and technology to 9th grade students.
- Congratulations to CTI student **Daniel Hitsman** for recently being awarded the rank of Eagle Scout. As stated by Principal Mitchell Shron, "This very high honor is indicative of one who has achieved significant success and dedication, as well as one who personifies the highest standards of service, leadership, and character. You are in every respect a model student and one in whom we have the greatest pride."
- **The Dutchess BOCES greenhouse located at CTI is beginning to come to life again!** Working on a community garden project, local resident Joe Baldwin is germinating seeds. CTI Principal Mitchell Shron is very hopeful that this will be a good launching point for similar projects.
- **Earth Day weekend is April 24 and 25** at the Dutchess County Fair. CTI student volunteers are needed for earth day table projects. Contact CTI Principal [Mitchell Shron](#) for additional information.
- CTI welding students are working on a **green roof project**. An old piece of farm equipment is being fabricated to help create a super lightweight soil that will be placed on rooftops.

United Way of  
Dutchess County



**Free Tax Preparation and Earned Income Tax Credit Information**  
**A United Way Funded Program**

Find out if you qualify . . . call 211 for an appointment to have your taxes done for free right in



your neighborhood! United Way's financial stability work begins with tools and strategies that help families increase and maximize their income in order to meet daily expenses. The Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) is the most effective federal aid program for low-to-moderate income workers. (To qualify: families earning less than \$49,000 last year and individuals earning less than \$16,000). For many eligible families, the EITC can increase their annual income by as much as fifteen percent.

Last year the United Way CA\$H Coalition (comprised of Dutchess, Ulster and Orange counties) created almost \$4,000,000 in impact for the local community (half of this in Dutchess County) through free preparation of 1,882 tax returns. Of these returns:

- 39% planned to spend their refund on bills
- 15% on basic needs items for their families
- 9% on housing
- 19% said they would spend their refund on car repair, education, child care, or other
- 48% of filers DID NOT CLAIM the Earned Income Tax Credit last year.

For further information, please e-mail [Tina](#) at United Way.

## Dutchess BOCES Hosts New Hire Orientation

Mid-Year New Hire Orientation was held on Thursday, February 18 at the Career and Technical Center (CTI) Room 301 Conference Room. New hires had a chance to meet the Dutchess BOCES administrators and unit leaders and get an overview about the many programs and services that we provide to our community. In addition, Business Administrator for Human Resources Matthew Carr shared a wealth of information about the various employee benefits and other employee-related topics. Many thanks to Joan Goldhammer for organizing this event. New hires in attendance included *Valerie Barnes, Valerie Bueti, Brigid Cassen, Carlo Chiarenza, Pat Crisci, Joseph Frolish, Lance Gibbs, Danielle Goldhammer, Susan Gunning, Cheri Horn, Dorothy Novogrodsky, Lindsay Paolercio, Eileen Scholes, and Becky Scribner.*



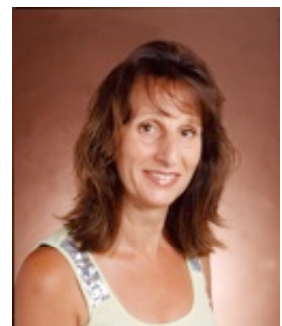
**Dutchess BOCES Retirement Party**  
**June 3, 2010**



This year the Retirement Party will be jointly sponsored by the Board together with our four bargaining units. We hope that all retirees would plan to attend this event. Currently, the employees who are retiring and are planning to attend this event to celebrate include Mary Ellen Deines, Grace Delise, Pat Dolan, Carol Hess, Fran Plass, Cathay Rinschler, and Denise Traver. Information with the party details will be available in the near future. For questions about the event, please e-mail [Jim Moran](mailto:Jim.Moran@DutchessBOCES.org).

**Dutchess BOCES Board Trustee Honored**  
**NYSBBA's Master of Boardsmanship Award**

At the Dutchess BOCES Board of Trustees meeting on January 14, Dutchess BOCES Board Trustee Mary Falcone received a very prestigious recognition from the New York State School Boards Association (NYSSBA). NYSBBA's Area 9 Director, Mr. Richard Feller, presented Falcone with The Master of Boardsmanship



Award, which is currently the highest honor bestowed by NYSBBA's Leadership Development Recognition Program. In addition, Falcone received the Leadership in Governance Award, acknowledging her for successfully completing the series of eight intensive NYSSBA School Board Institute (SBI) courses. To qualify for the NYSSBA Master of Boardsmanship Award, an individual must participate in NYSSBA development events and activities totaling at least 200 credits, including completion of the eight School Board Institute courses. These awards recognize the extensive time, effort, and commitment required of board members who strive continually to expand their knowledge of education and their skill in school district governance. Falcone has been serving as a member of the Dutchess BOCES Board of Trustees since July 2005.

## **BOCES Student Gains Employment at Pizza Hut** **Work-Based Learning Program**



Since Stefan was a little boy his dream has been to work at Pizza Hut. Well . . . his dream has come true. Stefan has been in the Work-Based Learning Program interning at the Pizza Hut in Fishkill for at least three years. He has come a very long way. In fact he has come so far that Pizza Hut hired him. Initially we thought he would be unable to work there without the help of a coach. But thanks to everyone's efforts, particularly Coach Claudia Delavventura and the manager Joan from Pizza Hut, Stefan has learned to be an awesome worker. Stefan is a student from the Wappingers Central School District who is in the PEACCE Program at Arlington High School.

## **HVAC Program Receives Kudos via Web Site Contact Form**

Our new Dutchess BOCES Web site has a [Contact Form](#) that has received a lot of visits and submissions. One submission we recently received complimented Adult Career and Technical Education Instructor Bill Parlapiano and his HVAC program:



*I just spent four days at your facility. The training was incredible. Your trainers have the passion, which I feel has been lost. I cannot believe that you have the relationship with the top manufacturer/distributor that you have. CONGRATULATIONS! Obviously your trainers have a great rapport, which I personally experienced. I am now BPI AC/HP certified, which I could not have passed without three intensive days of information. The investment was well worth it. Thank you for the use of your facility. Bill keeps a clean billboard.*





**Automated Substitute Placement & Absence Management**  
*Selected by more districts than all other systems combined*

Dutchess BOCES AESOP Sub-Calling service continues to grow. Through our sub-calling service, requests from the Mid-Hudson region regarding participation have increased. Currently two new districts from Orange County will be participating in the Sub-Calling Service.

### **Dutchess BOCES Style Guide and Communications Manual Available Soon**

The Communications and Grants Research Division is working on a new document titled the *Dutchess BOCES Style Guide and Communications Manual*. The contents of this publication will be shared with support staff at a mini-workshop in the near future.



### **News from the Alternative High School**

- BETA Yearbook advertisement space is currently being sold to help offset the cost of the yearbook. If you are interested in taking out an ad, please contact [Jackie Sharpe](#) or [Cheryl Hudek](#) for information about prices, size and deadline date.
- The January 2010 Regents testing week was very successful at BETA with 90% passing rate. This was the highest over all success rate! Congratulations students and staff for your accomplishments. Your hard work definitely paid off!

## BETA Interact Club Officer Induction Ceremony



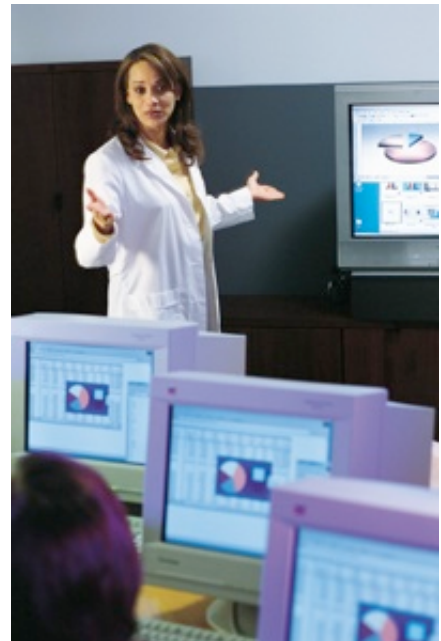
BETA Principal John Jeffrey sincerely thanks Roger Risko and Rotary President-elect Nicole Peluse for their involvement in the recent Rotary Interact Club officer induction ceremony. Staff, students and parents attended this very successful event.

## Educational Resources Updates

Educational Resources hosted a session for Dutchess County administrators on Response to Intervention (RTI) with Jim Wright on February 25. The session "RTI and the School Leader: Promoting Positive Change with Limited Resources" was held at the Dutchess BOCES BETA.

Dutchess BOCES Model Schools service continues to explore opportunities for e-learning for Dutchess County students. Susannah Renzi and Angelo Urrico hosted a vendor presentation from Virtual High School at their January CAIT meeting. Virtual High School offers supplemental course offerings for online learning.

A team from Dutchess BOCES Educational Resources is working together with Marist College on the submission of the Teaching American History Grant. Thanks to Daren Lolkema and Jodi Delucia who assisted with the proposal for the county social studies teachers.



## HR Assists New CTI Teachers with Certification

Matt Carr and Janet Quade recently met with new teachers at the Career and Technical Institute to cover certification basics, and what is required to move to the next level of certification. Please feel free to call Janet Quade at 845.486.4800, extension 217 with NYS Teaching certification questions.

## Dutchess BOCES New Mission Statement

We began work to revise and simplify our mission statement in the summer of 2009. After several revisions, a statement was approved by the Board of Trustees on March 10. Thanks to all those employees who helped with this project! The new statement reads:

*The Board of Cooperative Educational Services provides educational leadership through service, solutions and savings.*



### NYS Alternate Assessment Scoring Institute March 23 to March 25

On February 12, the NYS Alternate Assessment (NYSAA) was completed. Student portfolios were completed and forwarded to the building principals. The Scoring Institute for the NYSAA is scheduled for March 23 to March 25 at the Career and Technical Institute Conference Room 301. District CSE's and BOCES Coordinators will be notified for assistance in sending scorers to this institute. Contact Denise Traver at 845.486.8004 or email [Denise](#) for additional information.

# Salt Point Educational Center

- **PEACCE Reach Event:** On the evening of January 29, approximately thirty students and their families came to "movie night" at the Salt Point Center (SPC) to watch the movie "Wall-E". Many thanks to the staff who volunteered their time to make this event so successful!
- The enrollment at SPC has climbed steadily since the start of the school year. As of the first of February, 170 students were enrolled. The enrollment generally increases steadily throughout each school year as component school districts refer students for our services.
- Deirdre Collin joined BOCES center and district staff through a partnership with Educational Resources in the fall of 2008. Her main role is to coach teachers in different ways to promote and implement literacy improvement strategies in their classrooms. The classrooms in which she worked realized a gain of over 300% proficiency in reading. Several BOCES district classes also benefit from this resource.
- **Skating Trip:** In mid-February, thirty SPC students went to McCann Ice Arena to skate. This trip was one of a series of trips as suggested by the SPC Student Senate. The senate suggests activities in which students will buy into as part of the school's positive behavior intervention

program. Students achieving behavior "honors" at the center were eligible to attend the trip. Students enjoyed the opportunity to unwind on the ice while getting an excellent cardio-vascular workout. The senate has played a crucial role in helping the school administration provide motivating opportunities for students. After all, who better than the students themselves should suggest things that motivate them? Other school wide motivators at SPC include the principal's luncheon, bowling trips, movie of the month, monthly spelling bees, and visits to Yankee stadium. Individual classrooms also provide opportunities on their own to address the individuality inherent in each room.

- On February 17, the SPC chorus students traveled to Avalon Nursing Home to perform for the residents. The SPC chorus is made up of students from the center's programs. This is just one of the many trips the chorus has made to local nursing home in the area. The chorus is directed by Coach Barb Mauer. One of their favorite stops is the Fireman's Home. The students really enjoy performing. Mauer has put together specific shows for them according to the occasion. The chorus also performs at SPC's annual holiday show and the performing arts festival. This year the festival theme is likely to be Motown to Disco.
- **GUITARS WANTED!** SPC's Barbara Mauer has formed a new student guitar group and is looking for guitars. If you have one available that you would be willing to donate, please contact Barbara Mauer at 486-8004 or e-mail [Barbara Mauer](mailto:Barbara.Mauer@spc.edu).



## Adult Education News

GED teachers and students are working on a special writing project entitled **Knowledge + Inspiration = Creativity**. For this writing assignment, students at MTI used the *Picturing America Series* to spark individual interests, goals and creativity. This writing experience has created opportunities for students to write on subjects and ideas that are meaningful to them and to go beyond their comfort zone to reveal more about themselves.

St. Francis Home Care is partnering with Dutchess BOCES to offer a **Home Health Aide Program** starting this spring. Open to people who have, or are studying to become certified nursing assistants, the addition of the Home Health Aide certification will enable a person to work in both health care facilities and in the patient's home. Dual certifications will give additional employment options.

Mill Street Loft is partnering with Dutchess BOCES to provide a **digital art component in adult education**. Building on Dutchess BOCES expertise in adult learning and Mill Street Loft's expertise in the arts, this partnership will help adult students learn and perfect their use of Adobe InDesign software. The class will be approached from a design, rather than a computer software perspective. Mill Street Loft applied for and received the grant for Adobe InDesign. It is anticipated that the class will be offered in the fall of 2010. Consideration is being given to partnering with Mill Street Loft to offer other digital design classes.

The Adult Education Division is pleased to announce the opening of a second **English as a Second Language (ESL)** class in Millbrook. Two teachers are now working with literacy volunteers on Tuesday and Thursdays. In addition, Mary Fayne Simpson reported that every week they continue to have a large number of individuals come to the intake and take the placement tests and it is no longer unusual to have 30-35 people attend a session. Many people are looking for vocational training to improve their job skills or prepare for a new career. The division is offering a number of new continuing education classes and, as a result, sees a rise in its enrollment.





## **Dutchess BOCES Recipient of Walbridge Foundation Funds**

Once again this year, Dutchess BOCES received a generous gift of \$5,000 from the Walbridge Fund, Ltd. of Pomona, New York. Our Administrative Cabinet discussed a number of proposals for the funds. With part of the money, it was agreed to purchase a "Video-On-Demand-Server" with a web-based component that will allow instructional-related content to be easily published and shared online. With the remaining funds, Dutchess BOCES will establish a one-time-only scholarship of \$1,000 to be presented this June to a graduate from our Alternative High School, and another to a graduate of our Career and Technical Institute. The awardees will be selected according to long established procedures involving administrators and faculty. In a letter to the Walbridge Fund, Ltd., Dr. John C. Pennoyer expressed his deep appreciation on behalf of Dutchess BOCES for this generous gift.

Subsequently, the video-on-demand project has sparked interest from some local school districts for a video-on-demand service. Coordinator of Learning Technology Daren Lolkema is currently in discussion with local school district personnel to run a service through one of the BOCES Educational Resources Learning Technology COSERs.



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*Dr. John C. Pennoyer, District Superintendent*

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

- Nelson Mandela