

SULLIVAN

# BOCES

WHERE FUTURES BEGIN & DREAMS ARE ACHIEVED



# EDGE

FALL 2018

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The Edge is a publication of Sullivan BOCES Communications Division



- Nov. 21st - Nov. 23rd Thanksgiving Recess
- Dec. 24th - Jan. 1st Winter Recess
- Jan. 21st Martin Luther King Jr. (BOCES Closed)
- Feb. 15th Conference Day
- Feb. 18th President's Day (BOCES Closed)

## BOARD OF EDUCATION

Linda Berkowicz, President - Fallsburg  
Simmie Williams III, Vice-President - At Large  
Carol Bliefernich - Eldred  
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Scott Mickelson - Tri-Valley  
Carol Park - Roscoe

*Where Futures Begin & Dreams Are Achieved!*

## ABOUT SULLIVAN BOCES

Sullivan County BOCES delivers a wide-range of instructional and management services to its eight component school districts and several other districts outside the county. Our three hundred staff members collaborate with our partners to create solutions to educational challenges, increase operational efficiencies, and reduce costs. We improve student success by providing quality educational experiences, helping students achieve their goals, learn skills, increase knowledge and develop a work ethic for the 21st century.



# MID-HUDSON SCHOOL STUDY COUNCIL HONORS MS. KATHLEEN GARLICK FOR EXCELLENCE IN PUPIL PERSONNEL SERVICE

The Mid-Hudson School Study Council honored Ms. Kathleen Garlick at Anthony's Pier 9 in New Windsor on October 18, 2018. Ms. Garlick, a social worker for the alternative education program at Sullivan BOCES, received the Award for Excellence in Pupil Personnel Service.

A devoted employee of Sullivan BOCES for approximately 15 years, Ms. Garlick's colleagues describe her as a kind, considerate, patient, and caring person. She is a role model who easily establishes positive relationships with students, parents, staff, and school personnel. In addition to Ms. Garlick's role as a social worker, she is the lead for the BOCES post-crisis team and is a member of the county-wide Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) team, a group that assists students, teachers, and school districts after a critical incident.

"We are very proud of Kathy and her work," said Donna Flynn-Brown, assistant superintendent for instruction at Sullivan BOCES. "It's people like Kathy who make our programs so successful. The impact that she has on our students is incredible. She is able to help our students achieve success in their studies and grow as individuals."



Kathleen Garlick and Robert Dufour, District Superintendent

The Mid-Hudson School Study Council is a resource for education & educators in the Hudson Valley which includes Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Sullivan, Ulster, and Westchester counties. Its fundamental purpose is to bring about the improvement of education in the school districts located in the Mid-Hudson Valley. The Council aims to accomplish this purpose through the cooperative study of common educational problems, the effective diffusion of educational practices, and the stimulation of active participation of school boards, administrators, teachers, pupils, and laypersons in educational planning and activity.

# NATIONAL TECHNICAL HONOR SOCIETY HONORS MS. DEBRA HEIDT-DUNWELL



The National Technical Honor Society (NTHS) recently honored Ms. Debra Heidt-Dunwell for twenty years of dedication, service, and the desire to recognize high-achieving students at the Career & Technical Education Center of Sullivan BOCES.

Debra Heidt-Dunwell has served as the NTHS advisor at Sullivan BOCES for over 26 years. During that time frame, she has inducted 539 Career & Technical Education students into the NTHS. In addition to her role as the NTHS Advisor, Ms. Heidt-Dunwell is the math consultant teacher at the Career & Tech Center. She is instrumental in working with students to overcome their math challenges and fears. She also is involved in SkillsUSA, an organization for trade, industrial, technical and health occupation students, which conducts contests on the local, state and national levels, in which students demonstrate their occupational skills, public speaking abilities, and leadership potential.



The Honor Society inducts only a select group of individuals each year. Part of the induction is to go through an extensive referral and interview process in order to be considered for this honor. During the 2017-18 school year, fifteen percent of the Career and Tech students were inducted into this distinct group.

Left to right: Jeffery Molusky, Career & Tech Assistant Principal, Debra Heidt-Dunwell, and Scott Palermo, Career & Tech Executive Principal

"I am honored to work with Debra," said Scott Palermo, executive principal of the Career & Technical Education Program at Sullivan BOCES. "Debra does a great job working with our students to help them reach their full potential. This is an honor well deserved."

The National Technical Honor Society currently serves approximately 100,000 active members and nearly a million members since its inception in 1984. Awarding over \$2 million in scholarships to date, NTHS honors the achievements of top CTE students, provides scholarships to encourage the pursuit of higher education, and cultivates excellence in today's highly competitive, skilled workforce. For over 30 years, NTHS has been the acknowledged leader in the recognition of outstanding student achievement in career and technical education.

# CROSS COUNTY READING CHALLENGE

## How do you get kids to read? Or how do you encourage a reading culture?

That's the ongoing challenge for school librarians.

The School Library System at Sullivan BOCES has come up with a way to help school librarians create a reading culture through the Cross County Reading Challenge.

The program started by asking Sullivan County students to talk about the books they have read independently since school started and if they shared them with a friend. As students finished reading a book, they were asked to go online and enter the book they read and where they got the book.

With each student being part of their district's team, as books were recorded, students and school districts could watch their school's flag move as students read their way across the county. If students shared or read the same book, the district received an additional entry. "It's a great way to encourage students to discuss books with others and create a culture of reading," says school library systems director, Lynn Miller.

Now two months into the competition, three of our districts (Eldred, Sullivan West, and Tri-Valley) have catapulted off the starting line and are on their way around the Cross County Reading Challenge.

At the end of October

# 2,834

books have been read.

**County-Wide**

**RACE MAP**

**Read your way across Sullivan County**

Follow the map to read your way across the county through each school district. Each time you finish reading a book go to the online form to complete the Reading Log. Your school will be competing with others in the county to read each month. We will award monthly prizes randomly to the students that record their reading. You will get an additional entry for prizes if you share or read the same book with a friend.

- Eldred
- Fallsburg
- Liberty
- Livingston Manor
- Monticello
- Roscoe
- Sullivan BOCES
- Sullivan West
- Tri-Valley

**Online Reading Log**

<https://goo.gl/forms/8z8F3niLsQRNA6cJ2>

**Cross County Reading Challenge**



Lori Bizjak, Eldred Librarian and Luke Potter

At the end of each month, random students receive a prize for their reading efforts.

September:

Katelynn Machera, Liberty HS  
Khalea Washington, Monticello HS  
Hope Dunning, Eldred Elementary  
Luke Potter, Eldred Elementary

October:

Edwin Mendoza, Kaiser Middle School  
DaShaun Smith, Liberty Middle School  
Abigail Starkweather, Sullivan West HS  
Liam Healy, Tri-Valley HS  
Emily Trotti, Roscoe



## HEALTH OCCUPATIONS PROGRAM MOVES TO CATSKILL REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

Sullivan BOCES has partnered with Catskill Regional Medical Center to enhance the educational experience of its Career & Technical Education health occupations programs by opening the Health Occupations Suite at the Harris campus of Catskill Regional.

At the ribbon cutting ceremony held on Oct. 30th, Jonathan Schiller, Catskill Regional Medical Center chief operating officer, welcomed elected officials, educators, and students and discussed the importance of providing local training for our future workforce. "Catskill Regional Medical Center has worked with Sullivan BOCES for many years in providing a clinical site for their programs," says Schiller. "Creating instructional space within our

walls is a natural progression to that partnership. Being on our Harris Campus will provide a real feel for the careers they are interested in pursuing."

The Health Occupations Program is one of the many opportunities offered through the Career & Technical Education (CTE) Center of Sullivan BOCES. Students enrolled in this program study a variety of health occupations including geriatrics, emergency services, home health care, physical therapy, occupational therapy, pharmacy tech, central supply, veterinary services, dental assisting, radiology, and acute care experiences.

## HEALTH OCCUPATIONS (CONT.)

"We are excited about our expanded partnership with CRMC. Moving our classrooms to one of our clinical sites will increase the opportunities available to our students," said Robert Dufour, Ed. D, district superintendent at Sullivan BOCES. "The hospital is the ideal environment for our students to immerse themselves into the healthcare setting and see what it's like to work in the healthcare industry. We are confident that this partnership will also provide a lasting connection to future healthcare workers."

Assemblywoman Aileen Gunther expressed how proud she was of the partnership. "To keep our children working locally and improve the health of Sullivan County is so important," said Gunther.

Legislative chair Luis Alvarez spoke of how his career started as a medic before he entered law enforcement and how his daughter's career as a speech pathologist started at Sullivan BOCES. "This is the beginning of an honorable profession and a great opportunity for these students," said Alvarez.

According to Adriana Bracey, career & tech new vision health, and Monticello student, "Upon applying for the New Vision program I was really nervous, but when I was informed that we would be located in the hospital, those fears were instantly replaced with excitement. Being in the hospital for this short while has taught me so much about hospital etiquette, professionalism, accountability and diligence all of which the medical field requires from their workers. Thanks to the preparation provided by the new vision course and the opportunity to apply what we have learned by using the resources provided through the hospital, I feel I am on the path to success."



Adriana Bracey, New Vision Health

"Thanks to the preparation provided by the new vision course and the opportunity to apply what we have learned by using the resources provided through the hospital, I feel I am on the path to success."



## PUBLIC SAFETY PROGRAM RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY

Sullivan BOCES and SUNY Sullivan held a ribbon cutting on Oct. 17th for the grand opening of the Career & Technical Education Public Safety classrooms at SUNY Sullivan.

Jay Quaintance, president of SUNY Sullivan, welcomed elected officials, educators, and students and discussed the ever-changing educational landscape of the county. "Our partnership is a prime example of that change. It shows how we are working together to provide high-quality educational experiences and a seamless pathway from high school to college," said Quaintance.

According to Robert Dufour, Ed. D, district superintendent at Sullivan BOCES, "We are excited about our partnership with SUNY Sullivan and the opportunities it affords our students. What makes this partnership so special is the relationships the students are forming with SUNY Sullivan's Criminal Justice Program. Our students not only get to immerse themselves into college life and experience what college is all about, they are able to see that SUNY Sullivan is an ideal institution to continue their education."

## PUBLIC SAFETY (CONT.)

Assemblywoman Aileen Gunther expressed how proud she was of the partnership between SUNY Sullivan and Sullivan BOCES. "I know how important the public safety program is and the college setting will enhance each student's learning experience," said Gunther. She closed with a statement to the students—"I look forward to seeing you in a uniform someday."

Legislative chair Luis Alvarez spoke about his journey that led him to law enforcement and how as a police officer you have a lasting impact on the people you meet. "This is an honorable and rewarding profession; it's a brotherhood that impacts individuals in so many ways. I am so glad for this partnership it will provide a wonderful learning environment for future law enforcement officers," said Alvarez.

According to Destiny Nash, public safety student and senior at



Monticello Central School District, "Being at SUNY Sullivan gives us firsthand knowledge of the criminal justice college experience. Speaking with college students makes us more excited to continue our education and enter the criminal justice field."

"This is a special event for all of us," said Linda Berkowicz, Sullivan BOCES board president. She spoke about her career as an art teacher, as she taught in an area of the school that focused on technical courses. This experience gave her a great appreciation for what BOCES provides through the Career & Technical Education Center. "BOCES is a wonderful place that understands the need to provide technical training for our students. This partnership is just the beginning of future partnerships that will provide memorable educational experiences for our students," added Berkowicz.

## PROGRAMS OFFERED

Animal Science  
Auto Body  
Automotive Technology  
Construction Technology  
Cosmetology  
Culinary Arts  
Early Childhood Education

Health Occupations  
Hospitality & Tourism Academy  
Innovative Design  
Natural Resources  
Precision Machining  
Public Safety  
Welding

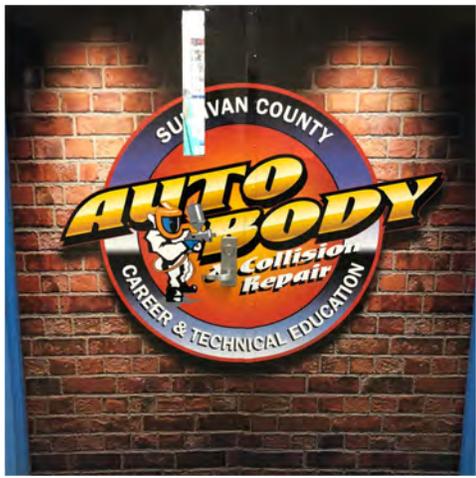


**Sullivan County  
Career & Technical  
Education Center**

*Come Visit!*

The Career & Tech Center welcomes students, parents and school districts to come and learn about the programs available at the Career & Tech Center.

For more information  
call (845) 295-4152



## RENOVATIONS CONTINUE AT SULLIVAN BOCES

During the 2017-18 school year, Sullivan BOCES started its renovation project by updating the classrooms and hallways at the Rubin Pollack Education Center.

This year the renovations continued with the second phase of the project. Several classrooms at the Career & Technical Education Center received new furniture, and the doorways are getting a customized wrap created by the auto body program. The special education elementary program located at the White Sulphur Springs School received a fresh coat of paint and new classroom furniture.

At the Administration Building, two of the conference rooms received new tables and chairs, and Conference Room 4 was completely redesigned to create an active learning space.

An active learning space is not your typical classroom. Gone are the rows and rows of combination desks--the ones where the chair is connected to the table. The teacher is no longer the focal point in front of a blackboard. Instead, the furnishings are portable and can be rearranged by the teacher or the students in configurations to enhance learning.



"It is amazing how the active learning space at BOCES can impact how people feel when they enter a workshop. It's refreshing."

~ Workshop participant from the Sullivan West CSD

Are the students working in groups? Then they can move the tables and chairs into small congregations. Many students work independently in a fashion that suits their individual learning style? If so, there may be a student reading books on a carpet, or lounging on a soft bench, or in a comfortable bean bag chair.



## RENOVATIONS (CONT.)

The purpose of flexible seating and active learning spaces is to create an environment that will optimize the learning experience. It is not recommended, however, that a district purchase all new furniture and then just expect the learning to change. "Practices need to change first," said Sue Zieres, model schools coordinator. "Then adjust the design to fit the new style."

Conference room 4 demonstrates how a little imagination can go a long way. To encourage collaboration, areas can be created with stools, typical chairs, and cafe style chairs.



Tables can be raised and lowered to accommodate different activities and learning preferences. One of the tabletops is also a whiteboard and several personal whiteboards line a wall. They can be removed and used anywhere in the room or even in the small lounge on the other side of the wall.

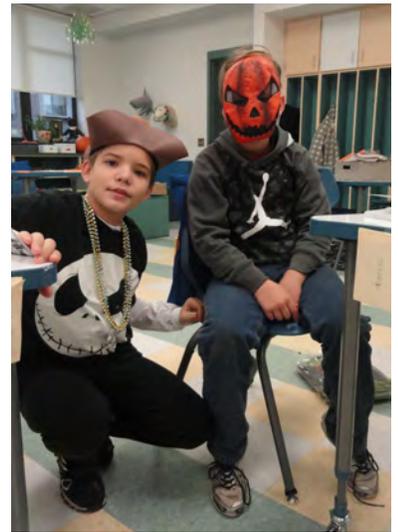
Instructional Support Services designed the room in this manner in order to show teachers and administrators around the county the possibilities in their own buildings and districts. "We believe in modeling best practices," said the department's director Dola Deloff. "And instruction is not only what we do and how we do it, but where we do it as well. How can we use the environment to supplement instruction?" Creating active learning spaces through innovative design implements and flexible seating is a step in that direction.

# HALLOWEEN FILLS THE HALLS OF SULLIVAN BOCES

Excitement filled the hallways of the Rubin Pollack Education Center (RPEC) and the White Sulphur Springs School (WSS) as students and staff dressed up as their favorite superhero, villain or scary ghoul. Students had a chance to parade through the halls to show off their costumes and participate in a little trick or treating.

At the WSS school, students and staff participated in a Halloween dance after their parade. At RPEC, a door contest took place, and the mad scientist came to life in Adam Malfetano's class.

"Today is a fun day for everyone," said Linda Blanton, alternative/special education principal. "Even though the parade and trick or treating were geared towards the younger students, all of our students were involved in today's activities and had a great time."



**Funniest Door**  
Mr. Dolye's Classroom

**Most Creative**  
Mr. Bremer's Classroom

**Scariest**  
Ms. Geiger's Classroom

**Judges' Choice**  
Ms. Peter's Classroom



# STUDENTS CHALLENGED IN NEW CLUB

**Scrubs Club** has come to Sullivan County.

This new student-centered club is offered through the Catskill Hudson Area Health Education Center (CHAHEC) and is sponsored this year by Westchester Medical Center. Seven of the county's eight component districts, including BOCES' health occupations and new vision health programs, are participating in the club.

Healthcare has and continues to be a vastly growing field, and professionals in this field are in high demand. Scrubs Club's engaging exercises, hands-on activities, and meaningful field trips will cultivate the interest many students have in this field. Participants may later choose to study careers in the healthcare industry further while in high school and after graduation.

The club, open to students in grades 8 through 10, meets twice a month in each district, and all of the clubs gather together once a month for special activities such as field trips, guest speakers, and special demonstrations. Activities already planned include visits from an emergency services specialist and a dentist.

The goal of the district/BOCES based clubs is to build interest in careers in the healthcare industry and help students identify long-term career options with stable incomes. The club also builds a "pipeline" capacity for unmet workforce needs, fills job openings, and offers protective information for student/family health needs, as well as help, improve high school graduation rates.

In eleventh grade, students are eligible to enroll in healthcare education programs at the BOCES Career & Technical Education Center, such as Health Occupations, Allied Health, and New Visions, which in turn could lead to additional education and opportunities in the healthcare field.

"We're very excited to be offering this club," said Jennifer Woytkiw, coordinator of the program. "The students will be learning a great deal and also having a lot of fun."

Several final year nursing students from SUNY Sullivan are working directly with the club's middle and high school students. "It's a partnership that works well," said Dola Deloff, director of instructional support services at Sullivan BOCES. "The nursing students are good mentors to the middle and high school students, and they also have a great deal of knowledge about the healthcare industry to share."



# SULLIVAN BOCES MAKES SAFETY A PRIORITY

Administrative teams from local school districts and the BOCES came together to hear from national and state experts on how to identify at-risk behaviors and address critical responses to safeguard the safety of students and staff.

“The importance of our training today is critical in making sure our most valuable assets, ‘our children,’ are safeguarded, and our schools are prepared in the event they have to deal with an incident that could cause potential harm to our students, staff and schools,” said Robert Dufour, Ed.D., district superintendent of Sullivan BOCES.

Guest speakers included Dr. Kevin Smith, member, World Health Organization Global Clinical Practice Network and consultant to the CIA; Gary Tuthill, Regional Director NYS Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Services Office of Emergency Management Region II - Catskill Mountain Zone; and Rick Sauer, Sullivan County Commissioner of Public Safety.



Dr. Kevin Smith

Dr. Kevin Smith started the workshop by explaining the characteristics and patterns of murderers and individuals who have opened fire on schools or other public facilities. Smith also talked about the importance of identifying at-risk behaviors. “Understanding the warning signs and being able to identify at-risk behaviors is key in determining if an individual is at a pivotal point in their lives when he or she may turn down a wrong path or do something that may harm an individual,” said Smith.

Gary Tuthill and Rick Sauer discussed the steps needed to handle a school emergency or shooting and the importance of working closely with local emergency responders. “Holding discussions, planning, and drilling with the different emergency response agencies is vital,” said Tuthill.

“We want our districts to be prepared and be able to test their safety plans to ensure the safety of our students,” concluded Rick Sauer.

Several districts will be following up with additional training throughout the year, the district superintendent added.



## SAFETY A PRIORITY (CONT.)



Rick Sauer

Sullivan BOCES, in collaboration with the Sullivan County Office for Emergency Management / Homeland Security, also held a county-wide emergency tabletop drill for Sullivan County school districts and emergency responders. Rick Sauer, the commissioner for the county's division of public safety, facilitated the drill.

Robert Dufour, Ed. D, district superintendent at Sullivan BOCES, welcomed the group and explained the importance of planning and collaboration among the school districts and emergency responders. "This is just the beginning of our joint efforts to enhance our existing plans to ensure the safety of students," stated Dufour.



According to Alex Rau, 911 coordinator, "This drill was a phenomenal first step in opening the dialogue and building relationships between school districts and emergency responders."

"Getting the school districts together with our emergency responders is so important to help us prepare. I look forward to working with Sullivan BOCES and the County as we continue our planning," said Patrick Sullivan, assistant middle school principal at Liberty CSD.

According to John Hauschild, Sullivan County fire coordinator, "Today's session was very informative. Hearing the responsibilities of all parties involved will assist everyone in their understanding of each other's roles and how we can work together to address emergencies."

"I'm excited about today's session," said Sauer. "Everyone was able to bounce ideas off each other, and learn about how each agency can assist in the event of an emergency. I'm looking forward to continuing our dialogue and planning sessions."





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SULLIVAN BOCES



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