

Herkimer BOCES presents Community Partnership Award to Herkimer Hannaford at 2018 Annual Meeting

Herkimer-Fulton-Hamilton-Otsego BOCES recognized Hannaford in Herkimer with its 2018 Community Partnership Award during the Herkimer BOCES Annual Meeting on Thursday, April 5.

During the meeting, Herkimer BOCES District Superintendent Sandra Sherwood thanked Hannaford for its support of the Herkimer BOCES Career Awareness program. Career Awareness students visit Hannaford in Herkimer every Thursday – gathering carts, restocking shelves, bagging groceries and interacting with customers and staff.

“Our students feel welcome and valued when they have the opportunity to work at the store,” Sherwood said.

The Herkimer BOCES Annual Meeting is open to all school board members, superintendents and some other administrators from Herkimer BOCES and its component school districts. Herkimer BOCES gives out a Community Partnership Award each year during the meeting.

The award:

The Community Partnership Award was presented to Michael Childrose, manager of customer service at the Herkimer Hannaford, and Peter Fitzgerald, associate relations manager at the Herkimer Hannaford.

Herkimer BOCES Career Awareness teacher Alana Connolly, teaching assistant Shelley Smith, teacher aide Melinda Kisker and teacher aide Lynne Barse also were part of the award presentation.

Herkimer BOCES Career Awareness



Herkimer BOCES presented its 2018 Community Partnership Award to the Herkimer Hannaford during the Herkimer BOCES Annual Meeting on Thursday, April 5, for supporting the Herkimer BOCES Career Awareness class. From left: Herkimer BOCES District Superintendent Sandra Sherwood, Herkimer Hannaford Manager of Customer Service Michael Childrose, Herkimer Hannaford Associate Relations Manager Peter Fitzgerald, Herkimer BOCES Career Awareness teacher Alana Connolly, teaching assistant Shelley Smith, teacher aide Melinda Kisker and teacher aide Lynne Barse.

students are generally between the ages of 16 and 21 and have the option to graduate at 18 or stay on until they are 21. The program is designed for students with mild special needs who will be seeking entry level community employment after graduating.

Career Awareness students receive vocational training at dozens of jobs sites in the region including stores, restaurants, churches, hospitals, nursing homes, farms, government agencies and more. The students do volunteer work at job sites on

Monday through Thursday each week – with various students typically spread out to three or four locations per day.

Career Awareness students have been going to Hannaford as one of their primary job sites since Hannaford first opened in Herkimer, and students feel like they belong there, Connolly said.

“That is the one constant one we do throughout the year,” she said. “It is the most educational and realistic job, and we are so appreciated.”

Continued on next page ...

Community Partnership Award, Annual Meeting continued ...

After accepting the award, Childrose said there is a sense of teamwork among Hannaford employees and the Herkimer BOCES students, and store associates take pride in helping the students learn about the job.

“I think showing the students that everyone is equal and they can have the same opportunities as anyone is great for them,” Childrose said.

The meeting:

The Herkimer BOCES Annual Meeting takes place at the Herkimer BOCES William E. Busacker Complex in East Herkimer, and one school district is considered the host each year – with Herkimer Central School District taking that role this year.

Herkimer Central School District Board of Education President Robert Mihevc served as the chairperson for the meeting, and Herkimer Superintendent Robert Miller introduced the evening’s entertainment: the Herkimer High School Jazz Band directed by Terry Gordon.

Herkimer BOCES Culinary and Hospitality students, guided by instructors Alicia Gatto and Melissa Davidson, served hors d’oeuvres, refreshments and dinner for the guests.

The business meeting portion of the event included Sherwood giving a presentation about “The Power of Working Together” and school superintendents introducing candidates running for election to the Herkimer BOCES Board of Education.



Herkimer BOCES Culinary and Hospitality students, along with instructors Alicia Gatto and Melissa Davidson, pose for a photo in the Herkimer BOCES lobby after serving dinner to guests during the 2018 Herkimer BOCES Annual Meeting on Thursday, April 5.



The Herkimer High School Jazz Band, directed by Terry Gordon, performs during the 2018 Herkimer BOCES Annual Meeting on Thursday, April 5.

Farming Your Future returns May 16 to Herkimer County Fairgrounds

The second annual Farming Your Future has been scheduled for 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Wednesday, May 16, at the Herkimer County Fairgrounds.

Farming Your Future is an opportunity for students in grades 7-9 to explore careers in agriculture. Students will have hands-on access to exhibits in the agriculture field and interact with local professionals in the industry.

The Herkimer-Fulton-Hamilton-Otsego BOCES School to Careers program in collaboration with Oneida-Herkimer-Madison BOCES and Madison-Oneida BOCES presents Farming Your Future each year at the fairgrounds.

Farming Your Future is for students – primarily in grades 7-9 – from school programs in the three-BOCES region. It is not open to the public. If you are interested in having students attend the event, contact your school for information.

For the first Farming Your Future last year, about 1,000 students from 25 school programs attended the

event, which featured more than 50 exhibitors.

Some examples of confirmed exhibitors so far for this year's event include the New York State Farm Bureau, the Mid-York Beekeeper Association, the Oneida County Soil and Water Conservation District and the State University of New York at Cobleskill.

If you or someone you know is interested in being an exhibitor at Farming Your Future, contact the Herkimer BOCES School to Careers team at 315-867-2077 or msscott@herkimer-boces.org.

To follow updates on Farming Your Future, visit:

- ▶ www.herkimer-boces.org/FYF
- ▶ www.facebook.com/HerkimerBOCES
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Farming Your Future



Exploring Careers in Agriculture

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Herkimer BOCES Board of Education updates

The following are highlights from the Herkimer-Fulton-Hamilton-Otsego BOCES January, February and March Board of Education meetings:

January Meeting

Board forum:

▶ Herkimer BOCES board member Ronald Loiacono gave kudos to board member William Miller for being recognized at a recent Mount Markham board meeting for being elected president of the New York State School Boards Association.

▶ Board member Linda Tharp made positive comments on recent happenings at Owen D. Young Central School District – students attended The Polar Express and the Student Council tradition of hosting a Holiday Luncheon for retirees where the chorus performs. She noted that state Sen. James Seward attended this event.

▶ Board member Thomas Shypski shared an event held at Richfield Springs Central School District where student alumni are invited to a luncheon to discuss what their experiences have been since they graduated. They often offer ideas on

what they may have done differently when they were in high school.

▶ A brief discussion was held relating to the governor's proposal on anyone over 65 years old being exempt from paying property taxes. According to Miller, NYSSBA will be looking at this and will provide current information to its membership as this unfolds.

▶ Board President Daniel LaLonde presented board member Michele Szarek with certificates of completion for required school board training.

Washington, D.C., and the NYSSBA Capital Conference in Albany.

Positive thoughts:

LaLonde presented the following positive thoughts:

▶ News articles:

• Alana Connolly, special education teacher, was recognized for outstanding voluntary leadership in the development and support of educational programs as part of the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Herkimer County.

Herkimer BOCES – Visioning 2030 6-8 p.m. on Thursday, May 3

The Herkimer BOCES Board of Education is in the process of planning a region-wide meeting of component district Boards of Education. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss future initiatives within our component districts and the role BOCES will take in supporting those initiatives. The meeting is scheduled for 6-8 p.m. on Thursday, May 3, at the William E. Busacker Complex at 352 Gros Blvd. in Herkimer.

There have been several changes in the past few years both within our BOCES and in our component districts with new education leaders, school board members, and instructional programs and supports. This exercise will provide information, future planning, and direction between your Herkimer BOCES and our component districts. In preparation of the meeting, we asked all board members and superintendents to complete a brief survey. That input will help us determine and design our program for the evening.

▶ LaLonde noted that the principal position vacated by Central Valley Superintendent Jeremy Rich at Barringer Road Elementary has been filled by Middle School Vice Principal Aaron Carey.

NYSSBA update:

▶ Miller stated he recently attended a CEO symposium, and in February, he will attend the National School Board Conference in

• Herkimer BOCES asks visitors to respect school grounds – use hiking trails only during school hours, clean up after pets, observe NYS law prohibiting drugs or alcohol on school property and observe NYS law prohibiting firearms and hunting on school property.

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Herkimer BOCES Board of Education updates continued

Matthews report:

Report by Director of General Education and Special Education Roberta Matthews:

Career and Technical Education:

► Administration is currently working with component guidance counselors to poll students to determine if there is a student base that may be interested in Collision Repair for the 2018-19 school year. This information will inform our need to recruit and hire a teacher for that program.

► CTE continues to work through the program re-approval process. Plans for the internal review are underway. At the internal review, CTE teachers, administrators, representatives from business and industry, as well as representatives from post-secondary institutions meet and review program curriculums. Recommendations for additions and/or deletions are provided based on current market conditions.

Special Education:

► Due to district need, Special Education opened a new class for children with autism in early January. Currently, there are six autism classes, which serve students in kindergarten through 10th grade.

Pathways Academy/VP-TECH:

► The Pathways Academy, VP-TECH and some Special Education students are preparing for the January Regents exams.

Kline report:

Report by Director of Adult, Early Childhood and Outreach Education Mary Kline:

Adult Education, LPN, Literacy Zone and High School TASC:

► The Request for Proposals to operate a Literacy Zone and the WIOA grant for three more years was released by the New York State Education Department. Plans to meet with community partners and others to put together our response are underway in order to meet the April deadline date. It will be late June before we know if we are funded.

► NYSED will be conducting a three-day review of the licensed practical nursing program in April. Required data collection has begun in preparation for this review.

Early Childhood Education:

► A meeting was held in December with representatives from each of the districts in order to collect data to be used to complete the

Featured online: Special Education students get up-close lesson on Iroquois culture



For more, click here: www.herkimer-boces.org/news.

NYS Pre-K Program Quality Self-Assessment. A self-assessment will be completed for the UPK at West Canada Valley and one for Frankfort-Schuyler. A combined assessment will be completed for the TPK funded programs located at multiple districts. We have two years to complete the items that are targeted in the review.

► The Preschool Special Education Program will be adding a half-day morning class integrated with a half-day preschool class operated by Poland Central School District and a

Herkimer BOCES Board of Education updates continued

full-day class integrated with a full-day program operated by Dolgeville Central School District. Thank you to both districts for agreeing to become an integrated site. All the paperwork has been filed, and we are awaiting approval from NYSED to begin.

► The Owen D. Young Targeted Pre K once again raised money along with the primary grades at ODY to take buses of families to the Polar Express in Utica. All families who participated received a copy of "The Polar Express." Everyone had a wonderful time.

Migrant Education Tutorial and Support Services (METS):

► Students are participating in the winter assessments that are required to be administered to targeted students. Last year's data indicated the largest gain for students was in the area of fluency.

Community Outreach:

► All who received gifts from the various programs at holiday time were overwhelmed by the generosity of those who provided gifts. [Gram Lorraine and the parish at St. Anthony-St. Joseph].

Deierlein report:

Report by Executive Director for Financial Services Mark Deierlein:

Budget process update:

► Deierlein stated the 2018-19 administrative budget has been created while adhering to a maximum 2 percent increase. He noted district shares are changing due to RWADA fluctuations and that the major driving factor of the administrative budget is the post-retirement health insurance costs.

The budget was held steady given the administrative restructuring that was recently developed.

► A discussion was held relating to the P-TECH funding after the grant money is depleted. According to Assistant Superintendent for Instruction James Picolla, the grant funding was for startup money and that by design the program started charging tuition up front in order to fund the program down the road. There are three years left in the P-TECH grant. It was noted that building space has been stabilized because students are attending some classes at Herkimer College.

Sherwood report:

Report by District Superintendent Sandra Sherwood:

► Sherwood updated the board on the developing plans for the upcoming board forum visioning for Herkimer BOCES. It was noted that a survey would be sent to component board members to gain some ideas in order to develop the discussion topics prior to the forum. Herkimer-Madison-Oneida School Boards Institute Executive Coordinator

Featured online: School, law enforcement officials reactivate Safety in Our Schools Task Force



For more, click here: www.herkimer-boces.org/news.

James Van Wormer will facilitate the evening.

► Sherwood reported the administrative staff held a constructive meeting prior to the board meeting. She is working on administrative job descriptions and expects to have them in regulation format in the near future.

► Sherwood concluded her report by expressing how proud she is of the amazingly generous staff who took care of so many families this holiday season.

Herkimer BOCES Board of Education updates continued

February Meeting

Board forum:

▶ Board member Jack Bono noted the coffee cart program at Frankfort-Schuyler High School, which he stated is teaching students life skills.

▶ Loiacono reported that Seward visited the new agriculture program at Mount Markham and noted he was impressed with it.

NYSSBA update:

▶ Miller reported he recently attended a federal meeting titled "Equity Summit" and the National School Boards Association Conference in Washington, D.C., where he met with local legislators.

Remington lease:

▶ Sherwood reviewed the proposed Remington school building lease agreement with Central Valley Central School District. Sherwood shared that Rich has indicated it is Central Valley's intention to hold a vote to sell the building in 2019 or 2020. Following the sale vote, BOCES would hold a vote to purchase Remington.

▶ The section on use of the fields and stadium was reviewed. It was noted these properties will be available for BOCES physical education classes or other educational activities during BOCES' regular instructional day. The lease further states the landlord shall maintain full control and use of the athletic fields and stadium at all other times. Sherwood stated there is not a problem with this arrangement because this has been the agreement since the lease began more than four years ago.

▶ The Board of Education authorized Sherwood to sign the Remington lease agreement.

Positive thoughts:

LaLonde presented the following positive thoughts:

▶ Central Valley will not be taking back the Remington school building to house its middle school students for the next two years, based on Rich's recommendations

▶ The Herkimer BOCES Health and Safety Service organized a Youth Mental Health First Aid training for educators.

▶ Thank you letters to various volunteers and donors were received for their work in providing special gifts for children in the early childhood and outreach education programs during the holidays.

▶ Chis Grethel, Interim Principal of Alternative Education, was introduced to the BOCES Board of Education.

Matthews report:

Career and Technical Education:

▶ A process is underway of fully explaining and outlining the career choices students have at BOCES.

Featured online: Herkimer BOCES CTE programs prepare students for college, careers



For more, click here: www.herkimer-boces.org/news.

These descriptions will be used to assist districts in making program choices for all students.

▶ CTE programs under review are currently being studied by six academic teachers [ELA, math and science] from our component districts; this group, along with our CTE teachers, will meet to examine the results of the review.

Special Education:

▶ There may be snow on the ground, but Special Education is gearing up for its Extended School Year (ESY) program. The program will run from July 9 to Aug. 17, 2018. As in the past, the program will be housed at the BOCES WEB Complex.

Herkimer BOCES Board of Education updates continued

Pathways Academy:

► Teachers at Pathways Academy met with Amy Konz from the Regional Information Center in late January. The discussion topic was on data informed decision-making with regard to the Regents assessments. Teachers by content area reviewed commonly assessed standards, analyzed Regents trends and identified areas where vertical alignment was necessary. They were then able to use informed, planned and instructional choices to target these standards and trends. This initiative will inform instruction as we move forward. Knowing what is asked most frequently on the Regents and where students struggle helps teachers to prioritize their curriculum and ultimately improve outcomes for students.

Kline report:

Adult Education, LPN, Literacy Zone and High School TASC:

► The LPN program has begun holding monthly open houses at the Remington Educational Complex. These will run through the end of May.

► In mid-December, 10 Adult Literacy students took the Test Assessing Secondary Completion (TASC) exam, and eight of those students passed and now have their High School Equivalency Diploma.

► The Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) class began in January for 10 students from Focus HealthCare.

Early Childhood Education:

► The new preschool special education classes opening in Dolgeville and Poland are still awaiting SED approval.

► The prekindergarten programs will hold registration for fall.

Migrant Education Tutorial and Support Services (METS):

► On Feb. 2, filmmaker Rodrigo Reyes will be doing a presentation for two groups of Migrant High School students at Icabod Crane Central School District. This will be done in conjunction with their ENL class. Students will view excerpts from his film "Lupe Under the Sun" prior to his visit. He will be doing a presentation at SUNY Albany that evening.

► Students in Columbia and Greene County attended the bilingual play. The organizers donated 15 tickets, and some of our students were able to experience the event as well.

Community Outreach:

► We continue to work with many agencies in accessing services for families and students; these agencies include Mohawk Valley Community Action Agency, Herkimer Health Net, Mohawk Valley Perinatal Network, Cornell Cooperative Extension, Herkimer County Working Solutions, Neighborhood Center, the

Featured online: Hearts, shamrocks help build character education for Special Education students



For more, click here: www.herkimer-boces.org/news.

Columbia County Migrant Coalition and the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program. Some of these agencies provide group sessions for our adult students. Additionally, Working Solutions helps to support some LPN tuitions. We thank all our community partners!

Deierlein report:

► Deierlein noted the 2018-19 service request forms will be distributed at the next Superintendent's Cabinet meeting. He noted the program budget is very conservative and reminded the board that the five-year enrollment average determines the CTE tuitions.

Herkimer BOCES Board of Education updates continued

► Loiacono stated he is interested in continuing to serve on the Audit Committee and asked if there was any others interested. The Charter states there are five members. We are in need of two new members. Board members Daniel Voce, Shypski and James Schmid all stated if there is no other interest they would be willing to serve on the Audit Committee.

Sherwood report:

► Sherwood stated that the "Save the Date" messages for the May 3 board forum visioning for Herkimer BOCES were emailed to all component board members, superintendents and board clerks. She was currently working with the superintendents to finalize the board survey in preparation for the forum discussion.

► Sherwood reported the Annual Meeting letters were mailed out, which included the board member nomination form, dinner reservation and agenda for April 5. It was noted the students have been more involved in this year's dinner planning, and they decided on three meal choices for attendees to select from.

► Sherwood stated the BOCES budget presentation to component board members has been reviewed by the central administration. The presentation concludes by reminding board members of the April 18 budget vote and board member elections, as well as the May 3 board forum.

► In conclusion, Sherwood noted that administrators' job descriptions are being finalized and are expected to be available at the March board

meeting, and the Board received the 2017-18 Mid-Year Communications Report submitted by Bryon Ackerman, public information specialist.

March Meeting

Recognition of staff and students:

► The board recognized SkillsUSA students and advisors for their success at the SkillsUSA Area 2 Regional Conference on Feb. 2 at Morrisville College:

- **Advertising & Design:**

First place: Sierra Gonzalez – Frankfort-Schuyler; Third place: Samantha Ferdula – West Canada Valley [Mrs. Maycock - Visual Communications & Media Arts Program]

- **Technical Computer Applications:**

First place: Rachel VanOrden – Little Falls; Second place: Anthony Treonze – Mount Markham [James Hunt – Information Technology Academy Program]

- **Customer Service:**

First place: Isaiah Oord – Little Falls; Second place: Abigail Baumes – Poland

Featured online: 65 Herkimer BOCES students & 7 staff attend SkillsUSA Area 2 Regional Conference, 12 students win awards



For more, click here: www.herkimer-boces.org/news.

[Holly Fischer – Cosmetology Program]

- **Employment Application Process Basic:** Second place: Sharon Hamilton – Frankfort-Schuyler [Holly Fischer – Cosmetology Program]
- **Cosmetology Junior:** Second place: Britney Tucker – Mount Markham [Holly Fischer – Cosmetology Program]
- **Power Equipment Technology:** First place: Griffin Parker – Mount Markham [Jesse Marosek – Outdoor Power Equipment Program]
- **Small Engine Service Basic:** Third place: Austin Daley –

Herkimer BOCES Board of Education updates continued

Owen D. Young [Jesse Marosek - Outdoor Power Equipment Program]

- **Motorcycle Service**

Technology: Third place: Brandon Loiacano - Mount Markham [Jesse Marosek - Outdoor Power Equipment Program]

- **Welding:** Second place: Derek LiBritz - West Canada Valley [Mason Fisher - Welding Program]

► Sherwood noted that Deierlein's retirement resignation will be acted on at this evening's meeting. He was recognized and thanked for his service to BOCES.

► Matthews recognized Special Education Principal Brittany DerCola and Technical Education Principal Kathy Fox recognized Welding and Metal Fabrication instructor Mason Fisher and elaborated to the board on why both were being recommended for tenure.

Board forum:

► The board discussed school safety given the recent tragedy at the Stoneman Douglas High School in Florida.

Bono stated that Frankfort-Schuyler students were asked to share their concerns on school safety. They expressed concerns that adults had not considered.

Sherwood stated a meeting was scheduled on March 9 with state/county/local law enforcement and the superintendents to discuss school safety.

Miller shared a video "Tomorrow's News" and shared school safety

strategies from a presentation he recently attended.

Tharp noted the long-term solution is more mental health services.

Shypski added that school-based health centers are also a way to provide mental health services in a more preventative care model.

Schmid noted that Dolgeville is working to have a health clinic in the community. The school is considering selling a piece of school property for this purpose.

Szarek stated it is difficult to have some conversations in public if the topic focuses on an issue involving a small number of students.

Appointment of Audit Committee members:

► Sherwood explained the superintendents polled their boards and found no volunteers for the Audit Committee. Therefore, given the offer of two BOCES board members to serve on the committee, the board was asked to consider appointing Schmid and Shypski to the BOCES Audit Committee.

Featured online: Herkimer BOCES Board of Education recognizes DerCola, Fisher for receiving tenure



For more, click here: www.herkimer-boces.org/news.

Goals setting session - feedback:

► Hedges provided a sample of one of the goals, which included indicators and strategies to accomplish the goal. The board consented to the format. Now the other two goals will be developed along with the tracking tool.

2201 survey letter

► Sherwood explained the BOCES is required to participate in the 2201 survey whenever a contiguous BOCES has a district superintendent vacancy. The process has begun with the retirement announcement of Howard Mettelman, Oneida-Herkimer-Madison BOCES district superintendent.

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Herkimer BOCES Board of Education updates continued

Sherwood reviewed the three options. Following a brief discussion, the board agreed to respond with "Option 1 - Make no change in the Sole Supervisory District of Oneida, Herkimer and Madison Counties and BOCES."

Positive thoughts:

LaLonde presented the following positive thoughts:

► News articles:

- A five-year lease agreement has been reached between Herkimer BOCES and Central Valley for the former Remington Elementary School. The Central Valley board will look to schedule a vote on the possible sale of the building to BOCES, but because BOCES' current lease on the building expires at the end of June, the Central Valley board decided to go ahead with a new lease agreement pending consideration of a sale.
- BOCES students learned Iroquois culture from Oneida Indian Nation Assistant Director of Education Randy Phillips. He explained how Iroquois arrows were feathered to make them spin through the air to increase speed and enter further into an animal during a hunt.

► A thank you letter was received from Kevin Schmiegel, chief operating officer of Operation Gratitude, to Herkimer BOCES and Pathways Academy for the "chock full" care packages sent to service men and women deployed overseas.

Matthews report:

Technical education:

► Administration is in the process of developing a CTE-like program that is currently being called "Fundamentals of CTE." This program would give students an exposure to a variety of CTE programs and more importantly a good foundation in safety and employability skills. Component district representatives and CTE staff are working closely to create this program.

Special education:

► Herkimer BOCES was represented recently at the Autism Spectrum Disorders Advisory Board Public Forum. The purpose of this forum was to identify programs/strategies that are working well with children with autism and to inform the board of areas of need. Responses to questions were solicited from our Special Education division as well as our mentor coordinator. These responses were shared directly with the board and other providers throughout the state.

► There are plans to use a master teacher online program

Featured online: Students, staff pay tribute to Florida school shooting victims, promote positive culture



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as a professional development tool for teacher aides and teaching assistants. Units such as confidentiality and FERPA/HIPPA will strengthen the awareness and understanding of these two important laws. Some of the additional units are: Positive Supports to Behaviors, Autism and What to Expect on Your First Days of Work in the Classroom.

Herkimer BOCES Board of Education updates continued

Pathways Academy:

► Several students from our alternative education program were recently honored. On Feb. 16, a PBIS assembly acknowledged students who have good attendance, improved behavior and improved academics. Many parents, administrators, and district personnel came to support these students and their achievements.

► On Feb. 21, administrators at Remington hosted a class from Herkimer College. The Educating the Exceptional Child Class (EDU-215) visited Remington and learned about alternative education, special education, and the qualities and characteristics of excellent teachers. These students had a tour of the facility and were encouraged to think about careers in alternative education and special education. They were also made aware of our Extended School Year program and the opportunity to work as a teacher aide during the summer to gain additional classroom experience.

Kline report:

Adult Education, LPN, Literacy Zone and High School TASC:

► The Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) class began late January for 10 students from Focus HealthCare. These students did their clinical training the week of Feb. 19 and now will take the CNA exam.

► The Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) program is scheduled for a three-day review by the New York State Education Department. The review team will be here April 2-4 to conduct many interviews with BOCES staff, LPN students and the clinical

sites. A detailed document has been prepared and submitted in preparation for the review. This will allow our LPN program to be re-registered by the state. The last site visit was in 2007.

Early Childhood Education:

► The New York State Education Department approved our request for a new half-day integrated prekindergarten class at Poland Central School District and a full-day integrated prekindergarten program at Dolgeville Central School District.

► The prekindergarten programs will be holding registration for the 2018 fall classes. Dates vary in each school district because most are held in conjunction with the district kindergarten registration.

Migrant Education Tutorial and Support Services (METS):

► Migrant tutors have been busy assisting high-school seniors fill out scholarship applications, including migrant-specific ones. We look forward to having some scholarship recipients from the METS program.

► METS staff participated in a series of virtual workshops on a

Featured online: Superintendent's Conference Day provides trainings, chance to thank staff



For more, click here: www.herkimer-boces.org/news.

variety of topics. This venue was chosen this year in lieu of an in-person conference to save program dollars. Staff members were able to self-select the topics and time to participate in the training and Continuing Teacher Leader Education (CTLE) hours were earned.

Community Outreach:

► Herkimer County is in the process of updating their Child and Family Services (CFS) plan. A series of focus groups and meetings to get input from a variety of stakeholders, including BOCES and the local school districts, were held. A public hearing to review the plan was scheduled for March 13.

Herkimer BOCES Board of Education updates continued

Sherwood report:

► Sherwood reported that the new prekindergarten class in Poland began on March 5 and another one started on March 15 at Dolgeville. Kline was thanked for her persistence in getting state approval and then, for Dolgeville, county approval for busing.

► Sherwood reported recent advocacy initiatives in Albany with New York State United Teachers members and the New York State Council of School Superintendents. She noted that there was a sense that state aid would come in higher but not at the level of the Regents' request.

Featured online: Herkimer BOCES students inducted into National Technical Honor Society



For more, click here: www.herkimer-boces.org/news.

**Thanks
for
reading.**