



June 2014

Vol. XXXVIII No. 10

CAPITAL REGION BOCES FACULTY ASSOCIATION

TRIAD

Affiliated With NYSUT [10-195] & AFT/NEA AFL/CIO-[Local 2991]

News from the President

Dear Colleagues,

Here it is May 27th and the school year is about over and things are winding down. Or are they? Committees continue to work. Issues/problems are popping up and there is still unfinished business to work on.

Summer school is about to start. Oh, and the students still have to pass the Regents exams, CTE tests, SLOs, student growth tests, etc. etc. etc. What is interesting about many of these tests is they often encompass material that is not included in the curriculum of the course. This is definitely a questionable way of approaching education. Winding down? Not yet.

The Celebration Bash was a success. The opportunity for fun and fellowship with colleagues is always great. That was then coupled with a chance to recognize and pay tribute to members who have given so much to the students. The Association and the committee made it a pleasant and rewarding evening. Thanks to Carolyn and Brent Pierce, Catherine Jakway, Natalie Powell, Shelly Peck, Lanny Barsale (as advisor), and many others for a doing a great job in planning and organizing this event. I enjoyed myself immensely.

The VOTE-COPE campaign is under way. By now you should have received a letter soliciting your support. Catherine Jakway is looking for your response. This is your chance. It is probably the easiest way, now easier than ever with payroll deduction, for you to help improve pay, benefits and other working conditions. All you have to do is send Catherine a check made out to Vote-Cope or sign up for payroll deduction. NYSUT and their experts will do the leg work. They will work to get legislation

passed that will help us, the folks who work in public education. They just need a few bucks to do it with. Give whatever you can. Any amount is a help. Thank you, Catherine, for taking on this job. I know it is a lot of work.

I want to take a moment to thank all the members who have helped this Association operate this year and in the past. The year has been a success because members took the time to serve on committee(s), work on an election, prepare refreshments, serve on Rep Council, write a newsletter or serve on the Executive Board. You have done so much and I want to thank you – all of you. I truly feel your support.

I especially want to thank Catherine Jakway. Catherine took on the job of nominations and elections. Through her efforts and others we had an election and we will have officers to run the organization and delegates to represent us both nationally and statewide. Your officers are unchanged. Thank you for your confidence and support.

I also want you, as a member, to consider what you might do to help your Association in the future. Maybe you are someone who didn't have any spare time to give. Consider what time you might have now and offer what you can. It is your Association. There is plenty of work to go around. There are still many things we need to work on. Your talents would be a great gift to give in support of your Association, to your fellow members and yourself. Many hands make light work.

I also want to thank the many administrators I have worked with this year. I'm sure you worked very hard to keep the Executive Board and myself from getting bored or becoming complacent. Perhaps I can return the favor?

Looking Forward, Doug

CALENDAR

CAPITAL REGION
BOCES FACULTY
ASSOCIATION.

REP COUNCIL

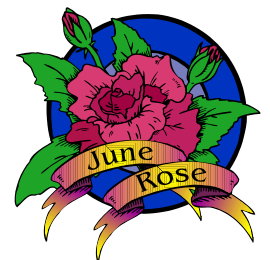
June 11, 2014

BOCES BOARD

June 5, 2014

Summer School

July 7-Aug. 15, 2014



**TRIAD Article
Deadline** July 31st for
September Newsletter

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Capital Region BOCES Faculty Association Election Results 2014-2016

President and ED 10 Delegate **H. Douglas Harple**
 Vice President **Patricia Gollub**
 Secretary: **Barbara Burnham**
 Treasurer **Debbie Sorvari**
 Special Ed Chapter Vice President **Flora Fasoldt**
 CTE Chapter Vice President **Jeannine Moran**
 Service Chapter Vice President **Sandra Smith**
 TA/Aide Chapter Vice President **Colleen Condolora**

Results for the ED-10 Representatives 2014-2016 are:

- Barbara Burnham, TA, CTE
- Patricia Gollub, Teacher, CTE
- Sherry Karcher-Hewitt, Speech, Sp. Ed.
- Colleen Condolora, TA, Sp. Ed.
- Jeannine Moran, Counselor, CTE

Alternate:

- Erica Dow, Teacher, CTE

Congratulations to all of you!

I would like to thank those who participated by returning their ballots for the election. I received a great number of returned ballots, and I hope to continue getting record numbers of returns. Every one I received showed your support for our Association. I would like to thank the Election Committee members. Thank you, Thank you, Thank you, to **James Reed** and **Kevin Rheden** (TA's, Sp. Ed) **Shelly Peck** and **Rit Lupi** (Teachers, Sp. Ed.) **Dan Bush** (Teacher, CTE) and **Susan Kusalonis** (Secretary, Service Chapter) for volunteering your time, effort and patience and spending several hours representing your Chapter. Getting the election results done accurately and correct was greatly appreciated. I could not have done this job so well without your time, effort, assistance and dedication to the Association.

Catherine Jakway, Election Committee Chairperson

Capital Region BOCES Faculty Association Important Dates for 2013-14

<i>BOCES Board of Education</i>	<i>Representative Council</i>
June 5, 2014	June 11, 2014 900 Watervliet-Shaker Road
September 3, 2014	September 17, 2014 ESS-Schenectady Room

Capital Region BOCES Faculty Association Leadership

POSITION	NAME	HOME	WORK	E-Mail Address
President	H. Douglas Harple	899-1044	862-4776	hdharple@msn.com
Vice President	Patricia Gollub	583-1119	862-4716	Gollub02@yahoo.com
CVP TA/EA	Colleen Condolora	393-2244	356-8349	condolora@aol.com
CVP Service	Sandy Smith	869-7421	229-1403	shortmom02@yahoo.com
CVP Spec. Educ.	Flora Fasoldt	674-0223	377-9018	electflora@aol.com
CVP C T E	Jeannine Moran	587-7662	862-4816	jmmoran@hotmail.com
Secretary	Barbara Burnham	334-1193	862-4720	baburnham@gmail.com
Treasurer	Deborah Sorvari	452-8138	334-1296	debmom39@nycap.rr.com
Membership Chair	Gina Hanley		862-5334	ghanley97@gmail.com
Grievance Chair	Kristen Lashway	421-3446		Kris10Lashway@gmail.com

Teaching Assistants/Aides

Colleen Condolora, Chapter VP

Dear Constituents:

June has finally arrived with all the end of the year busting. If it hadn't been such a long, bitter cold winter, I would say the school year went by fairly quickly. I hope everyone had a good, productive school year and were satisfied with your placement.

This year's pool will be held on June 10th. As I write, information should be forth coming. I was told this week there are approximately thirty-one Teaching Assistants in the pool this year. Last year's pool (43) was very challenging for everyone involved. I would like to take a moment and thank Jean Usher for her extraordinary efforts in making sure the TA/Aide pool runs smoothly each year. If anyone has any questions regarding the process, please email me or call me at 265-2358.

The negotiation team (Chris McDonough, Kevin Rheden, Barb Burnham and myself) will be meeting with administration on June 9th to exchange our proposals. As you know, we (the Association teams) are continually being told everything is contingent on Health Insurance. The Association is still waiting for our questions to be answered for the second set of questions NYSUT submitted. I felt it is important to get things moving on our end, so I requested a meeting to begin the process. I will keep you posted regarding any progress we are making on the negotiation front.

The TA ShowCase was held this week and everyone who attended was very impressed with the quality of work being implemented into the classrooms by Teaching Assistants. My only regret in this wonderful

afternoon, is the low number of Teaching Assistants/Aides attending the ShowCase. I am meeting with the TA Subcommittee next week to discuss how to get more people in our Chapter engaged in supporting the Teaching Assistants who are showcasing. Since the ShowCase is done in an Art Gallery style, attendees are afforded the opportunity to stop in and leave at their own leisure. Hopefully, next year we will have a better show of support.

Thank you to the CTE Teaching Assistants for their support in implementing the Association's efforts to coordinate the distribution of much needed supplies to the Special Education summer programs. With all the cuts being placed upon education, the Association wanted to insure the student's needs come first. Thank you for bringing this to fruition. The staff and students appreciate your efforts.

Congratulations to Bryan Toy and Mark Schaffer on winning the Student Incentive Scholarship Awards. The selection this year was extremely difficult, there were many worthy candidates. Best wishes on your college endeavors. Reach for the sky!

Thank you everyone for all your support throughout the school year. I look forward to serving as your Chapter Vice President for the next two years. Enjoy your summer and hopefully you will be able to find some fun and relaxation along the way. Until September, adieu!

In Solidarity, Colleen Condolora

Notes from Retirees

Traveling.....

Anita Riccio, Teacher, Sp. Ed. Retired, recently returned from a trip to Kuala Lumpur, Borneo and interior villages of Malaysia, accessible only by boat. Spending time with the people, their children and learning of their customs and culture was for Anita, the best part of her visit. Anita continues to hear from many of her former students. Her mom Ann who supported and attended BOCES social events through the years, is 96 and still going strong. You may see Anita ushering at Proctors, SPAC or Schenectady Light Opera.

From Cecie.....From **Cecie Evans** who worked at Maywood during the 1980's.

Hi Jeanette,

Just read your article, and was reminded of our penny deals while in grade school. We had a picnic at the end of the year. We walked about a mile to the town park, carrying our lunch, and enough money to buy a soda at the park stand. Since the roads were up hill both ways, we were quite hungry and thirsty by the time we arrived at the shelter. We stood in line for our sodas. A deposit for the glass bottles was 5 cents, but the park people wouldn't give us anything for bringing the empty bottle back. We soon found a small ma and pa grocery store near the park that would give us a small 5 cent ice cream cone for the empty bottle. Such a deal!

Also penny candy was wonderful! T'was a different era for sure.

From the Editor's Desk

By Lanny Barsale, Co-Editor

This is it! The Final: From the Editor's Desk that I am responsible for. There were months where the words just flowed and other months, such as this one, I agonized over every word or even just beginning to put the words to paper. So, instead of that agony, I decided that a retrospective was in order. I'm afraid that may make this my longest article, but please bear with me. I just don't know any other way to say, "Goodbye."

One article that I've been asked for many times wasn't written totally by me. It was written by Darren Hardy, a journalist, called, "Who's Packing Your Parachute." It was about a Top Gun, Hot Shot Navy jet pilot in Vietnam who was shot down on his 75th mission. He breathed a sigh of relief when his parachute opened even though he was captured and spent 6 years in a prisoner of war camp. Many years after returning to the US, he met the man who packed his parachute, the reason that he survived being shot down. He realized that he often saw these people who packed the parachutes and never even gave them a sign of recognition. This made me think about all of the people in my life who have "packed my parachute." The people who work with me and make me look good with no accolades or need for kudos. Without these people, the successful career that I've had would probably have been a lot harder to attain. I needed these people in my life. I challenged people to look around and pick 5 parachute packers in your organization and thank them. Because, in the end, while they may not save your life, they may save the day.

Another that has been requested again was not totally written by me. It was called the Beauty of Holland by Emily Pearl Kingsley. She talked about how it feels to be the parent of a child with disabilities and how to explain that to someone that has never experienced it. It's like planning a trip to Italy, preparing, studying, and choosing the many things that you will do when you get there. And then, as the plane lands, the pilot says, "Welcome to Holland."

"Holland?!?" you say. "What do you mean Holland?? I signed up for Italy! I'm supposed to be in Italy. All my life I've dreamed of going to Italy."

But there's been a change in the flight plan. They've landed in Holland and there you must stay.

So you must buy new guide books and learn a new language. It's a slower paced country. But everyone you know is busy coming and going from Italy...and they're all bragging about what a wonderful time they had there. And for the rest of your life, you will say "Yes, that's where I was supposed to go. That's what I had planned."

And the pain of that will never, ever, ever, ever go away...because the loss of that dream is a very very significant loss.

But...if you spend your life mourning the fact that you didn't get to Italy, you may never be free to enjoy the very special, the very lovely things ... about Holland.

I thought about that and what I had planned for my life. It was not 32 ½ years with BOCES. But it was a special time and I learned so much from colleagues, administrators and especially from the kids. So I stopped mourning and started celebrating

Several years ago I wrote an article for the TRI-AD about teachable moments. I wish I still had a copy of that article because teachable moments have been surfacing in my thinking in the last couple of weeks. The concept of "teachable moment" was popularized by Robert Havighurst in his 1952 book, Human Development and Education. In the context of education theory, Havighurst explained,

A developmental task is a task which is learned at a specific point and which makes achievement of succeeding tasks possible. When the timing is right, the ability to learn a particular task will be possible. This is referred to as a 'teachable moment.' It is important to keep in mind that unless the time is right, learning will not occur. Hence, it is important to repeat important points whenever possible so that when a student's teachable moment occurs, s/he can benefit from the knowledge.

Havighurst linked the concept to repetition and I agree but the definition I used in the previous article was more linked to flexibility and to seizing the moment. In the literature published in the nineties a "teachable moment" is an unplanned opportunity that grows out of what is happening in the classroom. By virtue of what a student says or

does, the flexible teacher can capitalize on an ideal chance to offer insight to his or her students. No teacher can plan for such moments. When students exhibit a keen interest, even if the plans are thrown off temporarily, a flexible teacher will seize the opportunity to pursue that interest. Recently I have noted how a simple question from a student can spark a research project, engage a group such that the students show real enthusiasm, and lead to greater retention. All the better when repetition is involved because when students are reminded of a prior interest and how much enjoyment was derived from the learning, they are more likely to follow a new interest or to get involved when you return to the original lesson. One example is a child resistant to learning fractions but gets it during a classroom cooking activity where he needs to figure the fractions needed for the recipe.

I am more convinced than ever of the value of the concept for teachers, one-to-one assistants, speech therapists, social workers, all classroom personnel. We've had many where my staff will join in when a student shows an interest in something that may lead us away from the lesson at hand but will be remembered for years to come.

And then there's the participation in the therapy dog program. At first it was an annoyance, an interruption to the classroom schedule. But, just as I reap the benefits of being with a dog, so did my students. I found we could get a smile from an otherwise depressed child by spending time with a special German Shepherd. And then a child with anxiety can relax and have fun with a Cairn terrier that melts the tension away. Plus there's a special Golden Retriever who loves to be read to by otherwise reluctant readers. That dog was treated poorly in her early life so she brings a special understanding to the children's needs. We had a Jack Russell Terrier who gave the kids a chance to run and play and for me to not take things too seriously for a while. We've had two of the biggest dogs I've ever seen with the mildest temperaments. Even pit bulls can be a good friend to my kids who always think of them as mean dogs. We've even had dogs that can play hide and seek to find their favorite ball. And you'd be surprised at the value for teachers. Petting a dog named

Zelda would melt away a rough day. And watching Bernie "listening" to a student read would make me smile.

We've learned to make dog cakes and treats, used them for language lessons and math lessons, and our literacy coordinator even did a study of dogs as reading partners. So if you don't have a therapy dog visiting your classroom, look into it. It's well worth it. Students learn to look beyond themselves as they give back some of what the therapy dogs have given them. You can always make up the time taken up with the visit and your students will probably be more cooperative about getting back to work.

Then there was the time that I had had an especially rough day in the classroom. There had been four meltdowns. Mary got mad because I told her not to talk to a student from another class who was in crisis. Frank lost it because the cafeteria again didn't have a cereal that he was willing to eat. Then someone commented on his "hat head". Later a student tried to be nice to him and he had a second meltdown. Joey wanted to go to the gym but thought he wouldn't finish his work on time so he trashed the room and broke the exit sign in the hall as well as other things that we won't mention. And Mark tried to pour dish detergent all over himself so we couldn't carry him to time out (note: we do not carry students to time out). The student who did not have a meltdown kept forgetting to do her work. And, I had two staff out and only one substitute. Just another day in paradise. On top of that I was trying to work on schedule's to ensure each student got his/her common core subjects and connect with related service providers. There was an Alternate Assessment due and each student had to take the Star tests. I got home and had a sick dog, boxes all over to put away so no end to the chaos. I even ran out of diet Pepsi. So the kids go to time out when they get overwhelmed. Where do the teachers go when the metaphorical roof crashes in?

My place was Rep Council. I served as a Rep for over 25 years. While I was providing a service, I got back too. There I could learn what is happening all over BOCES and network with people in the same boat that I was in. It was my support to help me face another day in a work setting that no one could believe it without experiencing it. It's my hope that others will find this to be true in the future.

I also talked about how technology had changed the way we communicated. I'm in constant communication with family members without picking up a phone or speaking face to face. Some of it makes life easier but sometimes I hate how impersonal it is. So I always attend the Celebration Bash. It's a chance to communicate face-to-face. I've met some wonderful people since my table was always the "misfits" table – the ones that came without a specific table to sit at. One year a computer programmer from NERIC was retiring and sent in the invitation. No one from NERIC came so I put him at my table. Well, Dan and his wife Marilyn turned out to be very delightful in spite of the fact that he stated that he wasn't a people person. I also found out that he had hidden the invitation and his wife found it and emailed me. Technology cannot take the place of that experience and many more like it.

Dan talked about being in his cubicle and not engaging with people. For me, a major people person, the Celebration Bash could never be an on-line experience. You don't have to know the retirees, you can come with friends or make them there and you don't need your tablet or laptop.

So finally, I'll try to wind down. I'm still feeling the afterglow of the last Celebration Bash. Finally, the one where I didn't have a role (except advisory). And I got a send-off from someone who really packed my parachute as well as others that have been very important in my life at BOCES. And I remember the day, 32 ½ years ago, when there was a snow day – my first day with BOCES. I really never thought I'd make it this far. However, I would say that when my aunt died, I would retire. She lived a good, long life but went to her reward last year so here I am. When I came, there were two supervisors and four social workers. Since then I've worked with 15 social workers, 17 speech therapists, 12 Occupational Therapists, 6 Physical Therapists, 3 teachers of the Visually Impaired, 1 Traumatic Brain injury consultant, 2 Behavior Consultants, 1 literacy coordinator, 1 math and whatever else they gave her to do coordinator (who helped me survive alternate assessment), 1 Tech Consultant, some computer specialists who understand when the email says HELP!!!, 14 supervisors/principals (but only one who could

keep me organized), 4 superintendents, 2 Special Education Directors, and 13 favorite secretaries. I've been very involved with the Association in many roles and have survived four Presidents. That has given me a place to network with others who might feel somewhat isolated because of how far out we reach. I have met so many people who have enriched my teaching. I've learned from veteran teachers with many years of teaching and from teachers still wet behind the ears. I've learned from principals and even directors. And I had many opportunities to grow within the organization.

Oh yes – I got two clocks.

What I noticed is that the job became more paperwork and less teaching. The mandates pile up and I could see that I wasn't enjoying the job. I loved the teaching but there was less and less time to really work on lesson plans when more time was being taken up with testing, trainings, meetings, etc. If they could hire someone to do all of that and let me teach, I might stay. But it's not what I went into teaching for. Meanwhile, I had 32 ½ wonderful years and I don't have any regrets for not pursuing employment elsewhere.

As for my involvement – I'm still going to stay involved with the therapy dog program. I can still help out with the Celebration Bash and Children's Holiday Party. I might even write an occasional article for the TRIAD. But the heavy duty stuff is someone else's responsibility now. Please consider making some of it yours.

**In Solidarity, Lanny Barsale, TRIAD Co-Editor
(for 30 more days).**



RETIREES CORNER

By Jeanette Christoff

A TRIBUTE TO THE VETERANS OF WORLD WAR II

As a child of the 40's, the word "war", was in the conversation of adults many times daily, as well as the phrases "our boys over there" and "gold star mothers". In time, I gained some knowledge of the word's meaning. But not until recently and with access to the electronic media did I learn of the horrors, agonies and devastation that define the word, "war".

You, who are World War II Veterans, were such young men, some still in your teens, others barely beyond them. Many of you courageously volunteered while others answered the call. Many of you were children of immigrants who had come to America for a better life. They and you respected, honored and cherished this country of America. You young men were determined to keep it free and defend it with your life. You had strength of character and unity of purpose that belongs only to your generation.

You, who survived, returned home to continue on with your life. There were no counselors to listen to you or to understand the mental turmoil you suffered and all you had endured. You rarely spoke of the war, no doubt trying to bury the memories as well as you could. You went on to school or found work. You built homes; you raised your children and hoped they would never know war. You had saved Our Country and went on to build it to be the best it had ever been.

You dear Veterans are a class of gentlemen to whom we owe the good life we have had. Thank you and God bless you.

[A copy of the Tribute was given to each of the 51 Veterans who took the Patriots' Flight to Washington D.C. to visit the World War II Memorial on May 10th]. One of the Veterans replied and we have attached his response to Jeanette. The Communications Committee]

Response from Martin P. Kelly, WWII Veteran

Dear Ms. Christoff:

As one of the World War 2 veterans who took the Patriots' Flight this past Saturday (5/10) to visit the World War 2 Memorial, I feel indebted to the wonderful organizers of this event and to people such as yourself who have remembered us.

As you say, during the 1940s, you were old enough to understand that there was something momentous and important going on during that period but still weren't completely cognizant of the terrible things that were taking place and the cost of such a war.

This week 71 years ago, I entered the Marine Corps and was sent to Parris Island where for 42 days we drilled and prepared for what was to come in the next months and years. I was 18 years of age as were most of the other recruits at that time and were not completely aware of the scope of our duties and the impending possibility of death and injury.

I suppose the vastness of a world wide conflict was too much to grasp at the time so we focused on the immediate need to survive, first of all, boot camp and then what was to come afterwards.

As I left for boot camp, other friends were leaving too for the various branches of service. The 14 of us who made up a sandlot baseball team while growing up in the tenements of New York City, were sons of immigrants: Irish, Italians, Polish, Spanish and Armenian. Of these 14, three did not survive the battles in which they were engaged. One died as a Marine at Guam, another, also a Marine, died at Iwo Jima. The third, a young immigrant from Ireland, was killed in the Battle of the

Bulge in Europe.

When we returned, we mourned the loss of our former teammates as we found ourselves no longer the youths of our teen years but now full-fledged adults, who needed to prepare for a life that was different from the Depression years in which we had lived.

Some fell by the wayside, but the immigrant parents of ours supported wholeheartedly the government's efforts to help us reclaim and better our lives. The GI Bill was a god send to most of us. As a result of my service, I was able to gain seven years of college because of the federal GI Bill and the New York State counterpart. The total cost to me was \$36 for an education that enabled me to have a most satisfying career as a writer for government, corporations and the arts.

And, the government bolstered our efforts. In my case, because I had studied aviation engineering in high school, I entered a college that would guide me to this career. However, by the end of the first year my teachers and I found that this was not to be my calling.

At that point, the Veterans Administration could have said: "Okay, you've had your shot, see you around!" Instead, I was sent to an evaluation program at New York University for two weeks to decide what might be my career. After the various tests and discussions by the university mentors, it was decided that I should be a writer.

Incredulous, I asked how-would I accomplish that?

They suggested that I take liberal arts with an English major and then

WWII Veteran letter continued.

get a job on a newspaper. Since there was a waiting list of two years or more in the New York City colleges, I was urged by a wartime friend to come to Albany where Siena College was expanding. I did so, was accepted, and then several weeks later found a job at the Albany Times-Union as a copy boy where I worked nights while going to school days. By my sophomore year, I was a full-time sports writer so, in effect, I was learning the field of journalism as well as the courses taken at Siena. It was at the newspaper also where I met a young editor who became my wife and mother of our daughter who accompanied me on this trip to Washington.

Because I also had an interest in theater, I gained my master's degree in theater at the Catholic University of America in Washington D.C. and found the flexibility to eventually have a career at the Times Union as theater critic as well as working at other periods of my life in government and corporate work.

While we have been labeled "the greatest generation" I would suggest

that our parents' lives were perhaps more important. They survived the terrible Depression years and supported our going to war, but were equally aware that we might well be the instruments to better their world and that of others through the GI Bill and the discipline we had acquired in our military service.

I like to think that we justified their hopes and dreams even though sadly these wartime efforts and sacrifices did not end future wars and their attendant horrors. Young men and women are still making similar sacrifices, too often the supreme one.

As I appreciate your expression of thanks for our wartime efforts, I hope our lives since then has contributed to a better life for the three generations who have followed us. Thank you for your letter.

It is most appreciated.

Sincerely

Martin P. Kelly

NYSUT Articles of Interest

Upcoming Events

- **AFT Convention in Los Angeles;** Aug. 11-13
- **Making Strides Against Breast Cancer:**
Albany, NY – October 19, 2014

2014 SRP Leadership Conference

Don't miss this professional development and networking opportunity! Join your SRP colleagues from around the state at the 36th Annual NYSUT School- Related Professionals Leadership Conference, Oct. 24-26 at the Desmond Hotel in Albany. Conference information and online registration will be available in early June on the SRP Leader Access page on www.nysut.org. The deadline to register is Sept. 26.

SRPNewsLink (Below are reprints from NYSUT's SRP Newsletter)

New course mandate for new teaching assistants applying for certification

All candidates applying for teaching assistant certification (or teacher certification) after Jan. 1, 2014, are required to complete six clock hours of coursework or training in preventing and intervening in bullying, discrimination and harassment as stipulated in the New York State Dignity for All Students Act (DASA). This training is available only from a provider approved by the NYS Education Department. Individuals can check with local BOCES, colleges/universities that offer teacher education programs and teacher centers

For more info

visit www.nysut.org/resources, click on the "fact sheets" link to download fact sheet #14-1 "Certification Requirements for Teaching Assistants" and #14-3 "Training in Harassment, Bullying and Discrimination Prevention and Intervention."

Health & Safety Seminars for School-Related Professionals

Are Available at No Cost to Districts!*

Professional development designed to improve the quality of teaching and learning to advance your career

- Addressing Aggressive Student Behavior in Schools
- Dealing with Difficult Students in the School Environment: Violence Prevention
- Disability Awareness
- Supporting Students with Autism (Updated version available summer 2014)

For more Information, contact us or go online for more information www.nysut.org/elt

Give to VOTE-COPE

Support your union's efforts to protect public education, access to health care, labor rights and fairness for working families. A contribution to VOTE-COPE, NYSUT's voluntary political action fund, helps ensure your voice will be heard on issues — large and small — that affect your life.

Disclaimer for Articles in the TRIAD

The articles contained in the TRIAD are proofed by the Communication Committee and the individual's opinion does not reflect the opinion of the Executive Board, Rep Council or the Communication Committee of the Capital Region BOCES Faculty Association.

VOTE-COPE 2014 COMING YOUR WAY SOON!

“BE HEARD!”

By Catherine A. Jakway, VOTE-COPE Chairperson

Dear Colleagues,

About **VOTE-COPE**: Your statewide union has a fundraising arm called VOTE-COPE. VOTE-COPE is NYSUT's non-partisan political action fund that coordinates the voluntary contributions of members and supports NYSUT-endorsed candidates and campaign committees that are pro-public education and pro-labor. The single largest category of VOTE-COPE expenditures is in the form of rebates to local unions to be used in local activities such as school board races and for passage of school budgets. Members play a vital role in VOTE-COPE'S success. In order to continue VOTE-COPE's important work, increased contributions are needed. Contributions can be made by check (made out to "Vote-Cope") or through payroll deduction. Retirees can contribute through automatic pension deduction. Contributions or gifts to VOTE-COPE are not tax deductible.

Your contribution helps to ensure that school districts and colleges receive the state aid necessary to provide quality educational services to our youth and it gives our profession the political power we need to protect education, health care and worker's rights. The primary goal of VOTE-COPE is to support the goals of public education and protect all of NYSUT's constituents, from our newest member's to our retirees.

For better or worst, the future of quality public education, as well as the future of your profession, your retirement and your health care is bound to decisions coming out of Albany and Washington. A contribution to VOTE-COPE helps ensure your voice will be heard on issues, large and small, that affect your life.

We have a VOTE-COPE contribution to fit all budgets:

Amount per check Yearly Contribution
\$1.00 = \$22.00; \$2.00 = \$44.00; \$3.00 = \$66.00 and up.

When you get your VOTE-COPE packet in the mail, please help by making a contribution today. **We need your support.**

BOCES Board Meeting—May 15, 2014-Notes by Lanny Barsale

The meeting began with a presentation of some of the Skills USA student who had just returned from the competitions. Terry Swett also talked about the Board of Regents discussing Career and College Readiness where a Skills USA student spoke.

Some of the happenings were discussed. In May students of Nancy Iannacone (Schoharie Teacher) went to the Pro-Start Competition at the Culinary Arts Institute in Hyde Park. They went to Minneapolis for the Nationals but didn't win there. Culinary Arts has received ACF accreditation. It was a rigorous process but no issues and was labeled "one of the best."

They will be running the semi-high tech university again this summer. It is corporate sponsored.

The STEM program offered at Tech Valley is a way to complete career pathway. They have an agreement with Hudson Valley. These are entrepreneurial studies – Seniors at Albany take this. They have to come up with creative business plans. This is the only one in New York State.

We had students from Schoharie who competed at the State Skills USA competition. Terry said, "They represented us well." One student sang the National Anthem, one had a 2nd place, two had 3rd place wins and 2 had 1st place with one going to Nationals. Two of our students were elected state officers – Area Vice President and Reporter.

The CTE award ceremony is June 6th.

Dr. Dedrick talked about CTE not being Vo-Tec. They are Regents plus and doing extra. There are more integrated credits in CTE that can be offered.

Peter Taormina gave out the NYSUT Educator's Voice which had an article about teacher's best practices. Two of our Special Education members have published a scholarly article. These are Mary Francese and Amanda Eilenfeld. It can be found on the website. The US Dept. of Defense is using the same practices.

Denise Capese (CTE Schoharie Principal) thanked Dr. Dedrick for attending the BOCES prom.

Laura Post – talked about the new requirement with the Dignity Act. This is a six hour training. The staff stepped up and 600 people were trained in a short time and is one of the first in the state. They even did night and weekend trainings. They will continue to offer it but need has slowed down.

Ellen Burns, Nancy Hampton – received Community Award from Helping Hands Preschool.

There was a very lengthy presentation about Regional Information Center. The state is looking to RICs to help with Race to the Top initiatives. They want standardized tests in plain English. Use funds to fill in gaps across the state. They have been providing reports and sharing resources for a long time.

Dr. Dedrick told about being invited to present to Governor's panel. Someone from Governor's staff toured RIC. He was pleased to hear that we're doing audits so it's more secure.

Board Meeting Notes continued.

Talking to different district superintendents about the RIC being responsive to needs. The bills are more transparent, more accurate, more choice of vendors, more open to possibilities. Availability of reports had been an issue. Looking to do one common set of "library" of reports and consolidate one good set. The district superintendents want the RIC to listen to them and don't care about being a leader in technology. We are more educational versus technical.

There has been talk about merging RICs. They will fight this. Ours is already huge which puts a strain on the administrative budget which causes costs to our component districts. There are 12 RICs across the state.

Committees:

Policy – recommending Code of Conduct amendment because of Civil Rights complaint. Facilities must be available to groups. All of the language required by law.

Audit – Several items. End of field work. Working on related service providers. Actual audit in several weeks. 2nd follow up to CTE work order much better. Nothing improper on bank conference audit. Found issues with related service providers when provider is absent. It is not fraud.

Nominations Committee – only John Bergeron volunteered.

Executive session – 3 minutes

4/9 – Complaint – Equal opportunity not in compliance. They need Equal Opportunity statement on all publications prior to June 16th.

CTE overnight field trip approved.

Went into executive session to discuss personnel issue.

Highlights of Rep Council –April 23, 2014

Submitted by Lanny Barsale

Chapter Vice-Presidents reports

Special Education –

- dealing with issues related to personnel, date set for negotiations (tomorrow). There have been answers to some of the questions of health insurance. We are waiting for rest of answers. One discussion later will be about Spec. Ed. teachers having no money for summer school supplies.
- We are expanding in Spec. Ed – new class in South Colonie – asking for BOCES to staff it, related services initially covered by district but now District wants related services from BOCES now. There has been confusion about related services – we are not pulling back services.

Teacher Assistants/Aides –

- 2 dates for negotiations – 2nd week in June. We will be at the table. SRP roundtable at NYSUT June 3rd at 6:00 – talking about privatization in schools – how to avoid layoffs, raffle for stay at Cooper's Inn and Otesaga Golf course and some other gift certificates.
- TA pool – June 10th – 31 TAs displaced. Layoffs were low – below 5.
- TA showcase – yesterday, got a lot of positives, administration was impressed.
- Summer school – fewer positions

Service – no report, waiting for negotiations dates

CTE Teacher – one issue, negotiations tomorrow

Motion for \$200 from savings to cover refreshments for remainder of the year – m/s/c

New Business –

Motion – Faculty Association to donate up to \$2200 from savings for summer school supplies – CTE TAs will take lists of items and buy things for teachers and box them up and get them to classes. We will wait until teachers

are assigned. We will also be touring Golub Corporation so will ask them for paper goods. Any unused money will be returned to savings. The cuts administration is making are to kids. We are saying that we care about kids. Get articles in newspaper or NY teacher or the BOCES website. Good PR. M/S/C

Membership – It has changed a bit. We have additional members. There were returned ballots. Let **Gina Hanley** know if you know people who have moved.

Election –

President–**Doug Harple**,

Vice President–**Pat Gollub**,

Secretary–**Barb Burnham**,

CTE Chapter Vice-President–**Jeannine Moran**,

Spec. Ed Chapter Vice-President–**Flora Fasoldt**,

Service Chapter Vice-President–**Sandy Smith**,

TA/aides Chapter Vice-President–**Colleen Condolora**,

Treasurer–**Deb Sorvari**

ED #10 – in order – **Barb Burnham, Pat Gollub,**

Sherry Karcher-Hewitt, Colleen Condolora, Jeannine Moran, Alternate - **Erica Dow**.

Next year we may do election differently. We could do walk-in or electronic. May get us a better turnout and be easier.

Grievance – no active grievances, a few things on the radar, be familiar with your contract, don't be afraid to reach out to Chapter VP

PDP – attended TA showcase because of mini-grant winners,

TRIAD – meeting on Tuesday

Student Incentive Winners – Mark Schaffer and Brian Toy

VOTE-COPE – coming out shortly, contributions do not have to be huge, \$1 can be considered a contribution.

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The TRIAD is published monthly for the Capital Region BOCES Faculty Association Membership. We appreciate any comments or suggestions you may have.

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Student Incentive Award - 2014 Winners

Two \$1500 incentive awards are given every year. Applicants must be dependents of Faculty Association members. One award is based on need and the other on scholarship.

This was an especially difficult year with many worthy applicants. The winners this year are **Mark Shephard** and **Brian Toy**.

Mark is the son of Brenda Shephard, a Teaching Assistant. He will be attending the NTID program at RIT majoring in engineering. He is also one of our BOCES students in the DHH program. Brian is the son of Debra Toy, a Social Worker. Mark will be attending McGill University majoring in International Development Studies.

Thank you to the committee: **Erica Dow**, **Adam Mainville**, **Natalie Powell**, **Anne Conway**, and **Abby Fischer**. This will be my last year as chair and I happily turn the reins over to **Erica Dow**.

Good luck to the winners and all of the applicants in their future endeavors.

Lanny Barsale, Student Incentive Chair

Sunshine Chairperson

If you know of someone who could use a little cheering up, our sympathy, or a get well card, please contact:

Abby Fischer. 518-221-1237, abby.fischer5@gmail.com

Please contact **Gina Hanley**, Membership Chair, with any change in mailing address or to give her your personal email. You can reach her at gahanley97@gmail.com. In doing so, you will be assured of receiving all that correspondence that the Association will send you including your newsletter, the TRIAD.