

ER • BULLETIN

• Message from the Assistant Superintendent

“The future is not the result of choices among alternative paths offered by the present, but a place that is created – created first in mind and will, created next in activity. The future is not some place that we are going to, but one we are creating. The paths are not to be found, but made, and the activity of making them changes both the maker and the destination.”

--- John Schaar

Today, school districts and BOCES alike face challenging economic times. Control of our current realities might lie in our collective ability to be innovative and energetic. Our relationship and our common purpose as partners in Educational Resources is well established. Working together we can more easily develop the solutions and overcome the challenges that we face together. Our strength is in supporting both student and teacher learning. Our new collective goal is to find inventive and pioneering ways to do so. --- **Linda A. Heitmann**



The kick-off for the growing Mathematics Project work was kicked off on November 5th.

MORE INFORMATION INSIDE...



Dutchess BOCES Educational Resources On-going Initiatives

- Adaptive Schools
- Co-Teaching
- Cognitive Coaching
- Curriculum Mapping
- Formative Assessment
- Leadership
- Learning Walks
- Literacy
- Mathematics Project (K-12)
- New Teacher Induction
- Response to Intervention (RTI)
- Technology Integration
- Thinking Maps



• Model Schools News

The Model Schools Office has been busier than ever. With eight new concurrent session workshops in our new Spring 2009 line up, we anticipate that enrollment for all new courses will reach its maximum. Meanwhile, the use of our web services course management system, Moodle, continues to increase steadily. Staff Specialists, Angelo Urrico and Susannah Renzi, support teachers in developing interactive web-based activities. The 4-county Title IID grant kicked off this past summer with a diverse array of technology integration and literacy professional development. Many Dutchess County teachers are involved in the two-year program. Participants will receive in-district support and attend regional activities to continue their growth.

Arts in Education News

Dutchess County BOCES, as part of a consortium of organizations including the Orange County Arts Council, the Enlarged City School District of Middletown, and the Dutchess, Orange-Ulster, Sullivan and Ulster County BOCES, have come together to organize and present the Regional Scholastic Art Awards Program for Dutchess, Orange, Sullivan and Ulster Counties.

The Awards, which are open to students in grades 7-12, bring outstanding visual arts by teenagers to an audience by showcasing their remarkable work and encouraging their creative journey and career development. This is the first year the four-county region will have an organized presence. Information can be found on the regional website at: www.hudsonvalleyscholasticartawards.org. The site includes submission guidelines, frequently asked questions, a calendar of significant dates, and important links and contacts.

All school districts participating in the Dutchess County BOCES Arts-in-Education Co-Ser, are entitled to this service as an additional benefit at no extra cost. The Co-Ser is facilitated by Maria DeWald, Arts in Education Coordinator, who can be reached at (845) 486-4840, ext. 3010 or at maria.dewald@dcboces.org with any questions.

• Energy and Going Green

Soaring energy costs have forced many organizations to look at ways of cutting costs and reducing our 'carbon footprint'. 'Going Green' has become a movement that has long been a win for the environment, and more recently has become a win for business.

Even before oil peaked at \$147 per barrel, the Dutchess BOCES Learning Technology Department has been implementing IT cost cutting measures that are now considered a 'Green Standard'. We have been busy consolidating our organizations disparate server

hardware onto a unified Blade Server platform that allows us to 'virtualize' many servers onto a single piece of hardware.

The basic concept of a virtual server is that a server is given a portion of existing hardware with no working knowledge of the presence of other servers occupying the same hardware. Server virtualization even allows you to have different operating systems (Windows, Linux, Netware, etc.) on the same piece of hardware.

Currently Dutchess BOCES has consolidated all of the servers from the Career and Technical Institute (CTI), Salt Point Educational Center, Alternative High School, and the Print Shop into this virtual deployment model. We have plans for adding up to eight more servers into this model in the next year. The scalability of our virtual deployments has proven we can put five to seven different virtual servers on a single piece of hardware. With 13 servers slated to become virtualized we are effectively taking ten machines offline. This not only cuts maintenance costs on all of this hardware, but it also cuts down on our power consumption and air cooling requirements.

There is seldom an instance when being environmentally friendly and reducing costs go hand in hand. But with server virtualization we can reduce our Total Cost of Ownership while reducing our carbon footprint at the same time.



Contact Us: (845) 486-4840

LEARNING TECHNOLOGY
Daren Lolkema - ext. 3086
daren.lolkema@dcboces.org

MODEL SCHOOLS
Susannah Renzi - ext. 3062
susannah.renzi@dcboces.org

Angelo Urrico - ext. 3071
angelo.urrico@dcboces.org

SCHOOL LIBRARY SYSTEMS
Rebecca Gerald - ext. 3061
rebecca.gerard@dcboces.org

Dan Donohue - ext. 3088
dan.donohue@dcboces.org

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT
Jodi Delucia - ext. 3114
jodi.delucia@dcboces.org

SETRC
Cecilia Dansereau-Rumsley - ext. 3023
cecilia.dansereaurumsley@dcboces.org

Kelly Becker - ext. 3087
kelly.becker@dcboces.org

Brian Orzell - ext.3109
brian.orzell@dcboces.org

Co-Teaching Cohorts

Dutchess BOCES Educational Resources SETRC Staff Specialists Cecelia Dansereau-Rumley and Kelly Becker began working with teacher teams of over 98 teachers in three cohorts this July learning to develop effective co-teaching partnerships. They will meet over a series of six sessions through June 2009. Teams have and will continue to focus on implementing effective evidence-based strategies in the classroom in order to provide instructional support for all students. These cohorts of teachers will discuss belief systems, discipline, communication, collaboration, and skill development. The sessions to date have been exceptional and we look forward to the upcoming sessions and continued collaborations!

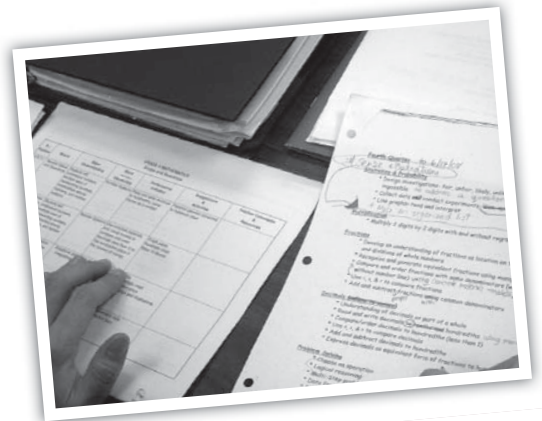
For more information:
www.marilynfriend.com

Dutchess BOCES Mathematics Project Continues to Grow!

One thing that we excel at here at the BOCES is partnership and collaboration. We often interact with our component school districts and are responsive to their varying needs. Through this interaction, Educational Resources developed a partnership with Performance Pathways. Performance Pathways provides a suite of technological solutions to provide school districts with quick and simple access to their assessment and curriculum data electronically. As multiple districts began working with TechPaths through Performance Pathways, we began to explore a solution for creating a cohesive core curriculum in Mathematics through our Mathematics project. In response to the districts needs, we chose to complete this work in TechPaths to offer consistency with our district partners. Once this work is complete, component districts working with Performance Pathways can have this core curriculum uploaded into their TechPaths solution to be shared faculty wide.

The Kick-off for this Curriculum mapping work was on November 5, 2008 and was a success! We are very excited to continue this work on December 3, 2008 with our next cadre of teachers. As we move further along in this project, we will expand to include not only K-8 but our high school teachers. Our goal is that this will be a complete and Cohesive K-12 Core Curriculum.

As always we have a host of upcoming activities related to the Mathematics Project, and continue to be excited as the project continues to grow!



The Teaching American History Project: *Four Hundred Years of Defining the American Dream*

The third year of professional development for secondary American history teachers in Dutchess, Orange, and Ulster counties got under way this past July. Thirty six teachers from 16 districts and the three BOCES took part in two year-long institutes: Presidential Leadership in Wartime and Beyond Europe: Asian and Caribbean Emigration in the 19th and 20th Centuries. The America's Promise Project: Four Hundred Years of Defining the American Dream is funded by a Teaching American History grant which was awarded to Dutchess County BOCES and Marist College. By June, 2009 the participants will have developed and field tested learning experiences which will be published on the Hudson River Valley Institute website and completed a portfolio of activities designed to enhance their knowledge of American history, their instructional strategies and their ability to be leaders in their school community. In October, twenty teachers attended a workshop entitled Presidential Election 2008 taught by Marist political scientist, Dr. Martin Shaffer. Plans are underway to offer a spring workshop for secondary American history teachers designed to provide lessons to celebrate the upcoming Quadracentennial Celebration of Henry Hudson's voyage in the fall of 2010.

Library 2.0 Fall Retreat

Certified school librarians from Dutchess and Ulster counties met September 27th-28th for a weekend of Web 2.0. Participants earned 12 contact hours by working from 9am-9pm on Saturday and early Sunday morning. They contributed to a wiki using PBwiki, created a personal avatar, signed up for twitter an account, set-up and shared their delicious accounts, and created a personal iGoogle page with RSS feeds and other cool tools. Before leaving on Sunday afternoon, each librarian shared with the group two web 2.0 tools that they plan to use with students during the 2008-2009 school year. One participant said it best - "This was an amazing course and I learned a huge amount about web 2.0. It was down to earth, practical and supportive."

• Using Curriculum Mapping to Improve Student Learning

Educational Resources was thrilled at the success of our September 18, 2008 kick-off session for the Dutchess County Curriculum Mapping Initiative. District leadership teams worked with Dr. Bena Kallick and Karen Bailey from Performance Pathways to discuss how Dutchess County educators can make sense of the cascades of information coming at them in today's educational world and improve student learning through the development of strong curriculum maps. Dr. Kallick worked teams through the rationale for creating a data informed culture that supports student learning and achievement. Participants worked diligently to explore the components of quality curriculum maps in the process of making curriculum more transparent.



Educational Resources has worked with component district partners to develop a curriculum mapping planning committee. This committee is in the process of meeting in order to plan and implement our ongoing work.



Dutchess County Response to Intervention Initiative

Response to Intervention (RTI) is a problem-solving framework that provides a school-wide system for delivery of high-quality instruction in academics and behavior. It is a process that ensures that a school meets the needs of ALL students in a timely and effective manner. The major components of the RTI framework are:

- **School-wide system for supporting all students (academically & behaviorally)**
- **Levels or Tiers of Instruction with increasingly intensive, individualized interventions**
- **Instruction based on reliable research**
- **Systemic monitoring of progress**
- **Instructional planning by teams using data about a student's response to instruction**

Dutchess BOCES Educational Resources is pleased to share that the commencement of a multi-year professional development initiative to enhance the development of a system of Response to Intervention (RTI) to support student needs has begun! One hundred twenty educators from eleven schools in the county began work with consultant Jim Wright on September 23, 2008. Teams worked on developing RTI implementation plans, and developed guiding questions for our continued work. Jim Wright will be returning to the county to work with us again on December 11, 2008 with a focus on tier one interventions and promoting RTI. The group will continue to meet, develop Response to Intervention plans, and support each other over the course of this year.

RESOURCE LINKS:

www.interventioncentral.org
RTI4success.org