Skills for life
Premier programs for a premium future

Inside: Students rise to the challenges, prepare for life
While pandemic concerns lingered, we unmasked for most of the year. We found comfort in small things, and found our way toward individual success.
Demarri Fiske, a student in our Reclaim program at West Learning Center and “WLC Winter Olympics” award winner, can light up a room with that maskless smile.
There are certain high-demand skills that simply cannot be "off-shored" or obtained online, making a BOCES career education program a good start to a rewarding future.

Little Lori is a social butterfly, according to her teacher in our Oak Tree program. Still, she loves quiet time, often playing in the classroom’s sensory bin with Play-Doh and Slime.
Jaylyn Jenner was a media darlin,’ as the saying goes, when NewsChannel 34 came to BOCES to cover our “Kindness” event. Miss Jay is a student in our PALS program.
We always find reasons to smile

Above: Madison Whalen, a student in the Reclaim program at our West Learning Center, has taken a liking to calling school bus numbers to students over the public address system at the end of the day. Audrianna Harris (opposite), a student at WLC’s Alternative High School, was chosen to lead the “Pledge of Allegiance” at this year’s graduation.
‘On the go’ for a delicious cause
This spring we held our Drive-Through On-The-Go Pasta Dinner fundraiser for the PALS program, and set a new record for dinners sold. Graduating PALS senior David Conti (right) helped dish out the sauce while Oak Tree teacher Alicia Jones (also occasionally seen dressed as a T-Rex for such events) helped deliver meals to families in the dinner drive-through line.
Messiah Williams, a student in East Learning Center’s Alternative High School, is the school’s resident hallway mural artist. He is shown working on a piece of art honoring this year’s graduates.
Alex White-Holmes, known to schoolmates as the “mayor” of East Learning Center, provided a sound bite for WBNG’s news coverage of our Workplace Readiness Fair this spring at ELC.
Broome-Tioga BOCES is recognized for its innovative curriculum addressing the needs of individuals with mobility impairment and is a designated MOVE International Model Site.

Pictured: student Kendra Billado gets in her daily steps with her nurse, Lisa Picard.
PALS student Alecia Gregrow finished breakfast and had a few laughs with her teacher Elizabeth Menter (right) and teacher aide Sarah Blabac.
Auto repair techs are in high demand

Instructor Doug Jenks and student Dwight Dixon overhaul the engine of a 1966 Plymouth Valiant 100 in our Automotive Technology 1 class. Opposite page, instructor Ron Oakley shows Tyshawn Banks (left) and Nick Lorenz (center) how to set the timing on an engine in our Heavy Equipment Repair & Operation (HERO) program.
Student Noah Waterman (right) learns to repair an exhaust system working with Welding instructor John Shear.
In Carpentry 1: Cabinet Making, student Sophia Tourtual perfects a dovetail joint under the watchful eye of instructor Carey Morgan.
Kaitlynn Chapman, a P-TECH Health student, was the first area student to be elected New York State SkillsUSA president.
Fifty SkillsUSA members from Broome-Tioga BOCES took part in the state-level competition in Syracuse. Trades student James Rogers competed in the plumbing competition.
Masonry student Darrious Ortiz took first place in the SkillsUSA state competition in Syracuse.
Wyatt Quail (above, left) and Reese Mathias competed in the Audio Production competition. Below, James O'Dell won first place in Cabinet Making.
Carpentry student Orion Derr puts the finishing touches on a shelving project for the Broome County Public Library.
Students in our Criminal Justice program enjoy a visit by Binghamton Police Department K-9 officers and their handlers, as student Imanni McKenzie is shown having a tug-of-war with one of them.
Hands-on learning takes many forms

Opposite page: Oak Tree student Sarah Halbert (front) and Anna-Liisa Coppola, from our PALS program, make deliveries and handle the mail run with teacher aide Jim Stasko. Above: Things can get messy in the trades ... it's just part of the deal. Shown are students in the Heavy Equipment Repair & Operations program cleaning up after a particularly busy week in the shop.
Sometimes we are loud, other times not as much.

BOCES graduate (Electrical 2016) Shayne Spoonhower recently brought his race car to school for students to check out. He's pictured with Oak Tree student Ethan Thomas (seated) and PALS student James Senatus.
A student takes a moment in the “Zen Den,” a therapeutic space for students to center and balance their anxieties and/or emotions. Students use coping strategies such as fidget toys, coloring, writing, drawing and more as positive ways to calm and reset before continuing their day.
Culinary Arts students Marcellus Hill (left) and Emme Hall checked out their winning “Restaurant Wars” recipe (seafood linguine), which appeared on the menu at A Tavola's restaurant. Opposite page, Khamren Chanthavong (left) and Ramon Rohena dish out their sweet & sour shrimp with fried rice as part of our “Career & Technical Excellence Wars” event.
New Visions Engineering Academy student Abdallah Halaweh entered his handmade robot in the Robotics competition at SUNY Broome in April.
Tech Academy 9 teacher Eric Saeger guided his classes to an event called Battle Bots. Students Cole Milks (left) and Marcus Daniels were right in the thick of things.
We call them ‘Wars,’ but they’re a beautiful thing

Above: As part of our Career & Technical Education Cosmo Wars competition, Jocelyn Erickson (above) modelled her team’s creation. Opposite page, top: Madison Smith applies makeup to Adrianna Epstein; bottom: the junior Cosmo models show off their teams’ creations on the runway.
After 20 years with our organization, 14 of them as our leader, Broome-Tioga BOCES District Superintendent and CEO Allen Buyck took the plunge into retirement. We wish him all the best.
Thank you, Mr. Buyck
It’s been great
Congratulations!

Retiring teacher Suzanne Messina received the 2022 Ron Dougherty Award, our highest employee honor. Tom McNair, assistant superintendent for instructional programs, made the presentation in May.