SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT
Barbara Hackett Blakey, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent for Instruction
Denise Alterio, School Improvement Specialist
Lorraine Welch, Administrative Assistant
Gloria Van Wagner, Typist

Completed Workshops and Trainings
Hands-on Preparation of Differentiated Lessons – On September 3rd, Denise Alterio, Sullivan County BOCES Staff Developer, and Jennifer Williams, Director of Sullivan County Teachers’ Center, met with teachers from the George Ross Mackenzie Elementary School in Eldred Central School District. The trainings focused on analyzing differentiated activities, applying Thinking Maps, and developing pre-assessments and differentiated lessons for the 2009-2010 school year. The workshop also outlined how to utilize data from the Kaleidoscope Learning Profile (used in grades four – six) to design instruction that will capitalize on students’ strengths. Follow-up sessions are scheduled for October and November.

National Reading Styles – For Technical Assistance Phase I – On September 14th, the National Reading Styles Institute presented a workshop to participants representing Fallsburg CSD and Monticello CSD. The workshop was a follow-up session to a training that was offered last year. The workshop was well attended.

Developing Differentiated Lessons – On September 17th, Denise Alterio presented a workshop on preparing differentiated lessons. The workshop modeled differentiation techniques and provided participants with time to create a pre-assessment and differentiated lesson for use with their classes. Teachers from Cornwall CSD, Sullivan County BOCES and Sullivan West CSD were in attendance.

Introduction to Differentiated Instruction – On September 24th, Denise Alterio presented the first of a three-part series of after-school workshops on Differentiated Instruction. Representatives from Monticello CSD, Eldred CSD and Sullivan County BOCES were in attendance.

On September 29th, Denise Alterio presented an “Introduction to Differentiated Instruction” to the teaching staff of the Sullivan County BOCES Alternative Education Program. Future trainings are anticipated.

County Wide Conference Day Update
Registration for the 2009 County Wide Conference Day is underway. To date, approximately 700 participants have registered. Follow-up workshops are currently being scheduled for later in the school year. Workshops will focus on areas targeted by component school districts (for example, Response to Intervention, 21st Century Skills, Supporting Students’ Behaviors). Plans are in place to include a list of upcoming workshops, by topic area, as part of the County Wide Conference Day folders.
School Improvement Professional Development 09-10  
(as of 10/14/09)

My Learning Plan & Non-My Learning Plan Events

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<th>Area</th>
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<td>High School Graduation</td>
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<td>Special Education Issues</td>
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Counts By Discipline

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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>229</strong></td>
</tr>
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</table>
Prevention Services
Debra Fuchs Nadeau, Ed.D., Director
Lorraine Welch, Administrative Assistant

We welcome the new school year and we welcome a new staff member. Nicole Cucura has joined our team of prevention/intervention specialists. Nicole is a School Social Worker working on one of our federal grants. She takes Luis Viornery’s place at the Benjamin Cosor Elementary School in Fallsburg. Nicole will be working with the PATHS program – Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies. She will be delivering 30 minute classroom lessons to K-5 students. Nicole joins our two other PATHS providers – Ann Marie Franklin in Monticello and Kristi Hewlett in Liberty. This is the second year of a three-year federal grant (Elementary School Counselors Grant).

We welcome Nicole as we say good bye and congratulations to Luis. Luis has taken a full-time Social Work position in the Fallsburg Elementary School. We are hopeful that Luis can assist in institutionalizing the PATHS programs at Fallsburg.

We welcome back our four GRAA Grant Prevention/Intervention Specialists – Suanne Barry, Austin Singleton, Janelle Jones and Debbie O’Malley. Congratulations to Deb – she recently completed the requirements for provisional certification as a guidance counselor. Deb will now be working with us four days a week in the Tri-Valley and Roscoe Schools.

All of our GRAA staff was recently trained in a research-based dropout prevention program – Reconnecting Youth. Staff is hoping to be able to work with their schools on implementing this program sometime in the near future. The program is delivered as a credited course in high school.

SE-TASC Division
Denise Shaffer, Ed.D., Director
Faith Dymond, Administrative Assistant
Sherry Eidel, Parent Educator
Laura Fisher, Parent Educator

In September SE-TASC said good-bye to a Parent Educator who had been a part of the Parents for Parents program since its inception here at Sullivan County BOCES. Debbie O’Malley completed her Masters and took a full-time position with Prevention Services. We are thankful for the countless hours that she has spent serving the parents & students of Sullivan County over the last decade, and for the many hours she has spent in county-wide committees to ensure that the needs of these families
were being addressed & services were being rendered in a way that would benefit our kids. We are sorry to see her go but are pleased for her accomplishment & wish her well in her new career!

We would like to introduce you to our new Parent Educator – Laura Fisher. Laura worked for Sullivan ARC for eleven years. Her duties will include co-facilitating our Parents for Parents support group which assists parents of children with emotional or behavioral difficulties. Laura’s work as a service coordinator for ARC prepares her to bring a wealth of knowledge of the county agencies & ensures that she will be able to assist families with making connections to the appropriate agency in a crisis. SE-TASC is excited to find a highly qualified, talented replacement & look forward to great things happening in our Parents for Parents program.

The Parents for Parents support group meets on the first & third Tuesday of each month at the RPEC Education Center. For more information contact Sherry Eidel at 295-4042 or Laura Fisher at 295-4040.

Accomplishments:

School Library Media Specialists worked in the Model Schools Lab to learn more about Ensemble video for use with teachers and students. We also went covered using the different databases. The group also shared educational websites they had found. Following the training, the SLS Council meeting was held to approve the annual report.

A new SLS Librarian was hired to fill the director’s role since she is shared between the counties. Mrs. Kristy Lee has joined our staff with both a library and technology background. We are thrilled to have her expertise available to our schools.

The library services to schools updated student data provided from the districts, merged book records from vendors, redesigned the website to include the National Gallery of Art videos.

The EMTA Conference was held in Cooperstown provided many varied programs to update the participants. Kristy Lee and Lyn Miller attended to learn about the new VITAL contract, just published educational films/digital video and presentations. One speaker, Mr. Rick Walters, was excellent in showing how Distance Learning is used in Chautauqua County on the Erie 2 network. Another was
Mr. Barry Britt talking about copyright and digital use. He will be speaking here on November 3rd to all the School Library Media Specialists.

The other conference we attended was LiSA which is TLC’s users group and training conference. Mrs. Lee and Ms. Miller attended sessions on software development, training of new modules, and speakers presenting about the future of technology with regard to young students’ interests and abilities. We also presented our own session on how we are using video streaming in schools within the TLC software.

Each year many folks ask us for written details of websites and materials. What we produced this summer are service guides of the various materials and services we offer all bound by one metal ring to make it easy for flipping through. We have passed these out to our member libraries in the first school mailing. Since then, we have been asked to produce more to distribute to individual teachers. We are working to fill this request as much as possible.

In-Progress:

The books for the Mock Book Awards are arriving. The SLS staff is processing these for use by our member schools.

Mrs. Lee has made contact with school administrators to begin presentations of library resources at staff meetings.

Orange/Ulster BOCES:

Lynn Miller, Director
Darren Lanspery, Lead Librarian
Lorrie Borisewich, Media Library Manager
Janet Vaitas, Data Entry & Control Clerk
Pete Polarski, Computer Network Specialist

Accomplishments:

All the cross contracting paperwork and budgets were completed for payment from SED. This involved working with many folks in both BOCES to complete the process.

The first SLS Council meeting was held. The members reviewed and approved the annual report which was sent to everyone electronically ahead of time. Other topics of discussion were their ideas for use of the roll-over funds and upgrading the library automation software/service.
School Library System:
- Continued work on conference day
- Began rollout of Net Library, successfully tested at Pine Bush High

Automation:
- Horizon training held for beginning and advanced users (27 users trained)
- Enterprise online implementation training completed by D.L.

PRL:
- Database orders/pos finalized, passwords distributed.
- Eleven items cataloged and added to collection.
- Multiple Copy Kit list updated and sent to listserv.

Media Library:
- 26 timely Topics kits were sent out to elementary schools.
- Created a new form of recoding the laminating information.
- Completed placing the shelf number labels for the video shelves.
- Shifted the CD audiobooks on to new shelves.
- Pulled the teachers guides that accompanied the withdrawn videos from circulation.
- Adding new teachers and renumbering those who moved to different buildings.

In-Progress:

WinCap access has been given to the director and a complete chain of approval has been adopted. The director is working with the business office to determine the expenses in each of the budgets and where changes can be made.

Media Library:
- We have been working with Gail on laminating tasks and procedures.
- Janet has been working with Gail on PRL and SLS tasks and procedures.
- We still have to pull the withdrawn teacher guide masters from the teacher guide master file.
- Shift the DVD audio books to new shelves.
- Continue to sort through and arrange canvas bags to store those that we don’t need.
- Working with Tek Data on adding the new CCC content (they will forward spreadsheet to me for proofing when they receive it from CCC), as well as the new way that WebMax searches our holdings and displays the secondary results.
- Revising the WebMax Instructions that are displayed on our website and distributed at trainings. These changes also have to be reflected on the Media Library Bookmark that we provide to all teachers.
- Generate User lists (teacher names and ID #s) to send to each building contact person for updating. I also need to create a form for the contact person to fill out which contains all of their contact information.
September stats

Sullivan BOCES SLS:

Items the Learning Resource Center loaned out 398
YTD - Items the Learning Resource Center loaned out 510
Items the 21 schools loaned out for the summer 14,203
YTD - Items the 21 schools loaned out 14,333
Items the schools added this month to their library collections 2,368

Orange-Ulster BOCES SLS:

Items the Professional Reference Library loaned out 108
YTD - Items the Professional Reference Library loaned out 110
Items the 85 schools loaned out for the summer 76,822
YTD - Items the 85 schools loaned out 78,169
Items the schools added this month to their library collections n/a
Items the Media Library loaned out 389
YTD – Items the Media Library loaned out 653
Digital videos accessed by schools 879
YTD - Digital videos accessed by schools 1,384
Items added to the Media Library collection

The first month of school has gone very quickly. With the beginning of each school year comes a
group of teachers new to the teaching profession. In order to welcome these teachers to our schools,
the Teacher Center sent out 73 “Welcome to Teaching” folders. These folders included professional
development flyers, articles with hints for the first days of school, and literature from the Sullivan
County Chamber of Commerce. Attached to these folders was a “Survival Kit” complete with
Lifesaver candies and paper clips.

As of 2004, in order to meet the requirements for teacher certification, all teachers are required to
receive a mentoring experience in the first year of teaching. All districts in Sullivan County provide a
mentor to new teachers, and some districts extend the mentoring experience into the second and
even third year of teaching. In addition, some districts provide a mentor to teachers who have
teaching experience but are new to a district. In order to receive the highest level of support from a mentor, New York State regulations require that mentors receive training in the theory of adult learning, teacher development, the elements of a mentoring relationship, peer coaching techniques, and time management. The Teacher Center held two mentor training programs this year. Many area teachers attended the programs in preparation of their role as a new teacher mentor. To support the training, teachers received the books *The 21st Century Mentor’s Handbook* and *Why Didn’t I Learn This in College* by Paula Rutherford.

The participants in the National Board Certification program have continued to meet. As part of the National Board requirements, Teachers compile a portfolio which contains four entries about practice, including student work samples, videotapes, analyses and reflection of their classroom teaching and student learning. Additionally, every candidate must provide evidence of their leadership, their development as life-long learners, and their interaction with parents and the community. At this point, the teachers are deciding on which units they will develop and video tape for their first entry. The Teacher Center has purchased new video equipment which the Teachers will be able to use for this part of the NBC requirements.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workshop Offered</th>
<th># of Participants</th>
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<tr>
<td>Hands-On Preparation of Differentiated Lessons</td>
<td>21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hands-On Preparation of Differentiated Lessons</td>
<td>14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Introduction to Mentoring</td>
<td>16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Establishing Effective Co-Teaching Partnerships</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elementary School Principal Meeting</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Policy Board Member Training</td>
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**ARTS IN EDUCATION**

Lisa Pacht, Program Coordinator  
Theresa Dutcher, Administrative Assistant

Sullivan County BOCES and a consortium of organizations, Dutchess BOCES, Ulster County BOCES, the Middletown School District, and the Orange County Arts Council, have come together to organize and present the Regional Scholastic Art Awards Program for Dutchess, Orange, Sullivan and Ulster Counties. This is our second year as a four-county region affiliate. The Scholastic Art 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. Awards will be presented on both the local and national level of the Scholastic Art Awards, and high school seniors who submit portfolios are considered for more than $1.5 million in tuition scholarships at colleges across the nation. Last year, two of the National Art Portfolio Gold Award recipients were from Ulster and Dutchess counties.
Four Open House gatherings were held this month that explained the history and details of the awards, how to apply, the jurying process, and notification procedure. Samples of work that achieved Gold Key Status (the highest honor) at the national level were available to view. These sessions were held in the following locations:

- Orange County on September 22nd, 2009 at Middletown High School
- Dutchess County on September 24th, 2009 at Dutchess BOCES
- Ulster County on September 29th, 2009 at Ulster BOCES
- Sullivan County on September 30th, 2009 at Sullivan County BOCES

An Arts In Education liaison meeting was held on September 17th for all art liaisons to discuss procedures and protocols.

This year’s Art Conference, Nurturing 21st Century Skills in the Creative Classroom: Visual Arts, Visual Thinking, and Visual Learning, is going to take place on November 3, 2009 at the Twin Towers Middle school for art teachers in Orange and Sullivan counties. Our keynote speaker, John Cimino, will speak on how to nurture 21st century skills in our classrooms through visual arts, thinking, and learning. Teachers will break out into sessions [K-4, 5-8, and 9-12] to share two of their art lesson plans with artifacts/pictures and explain how they were created.

The 2009-2010 school year has been busy for the Arts In Education CoSer as we currently have ninety-three events scheduled for districts in Orange and Sullivan counties and the event number is growing daily.

**TECHNOLOGY, DISTANCE LEARNING, MODEL SCHOOLS**

Lisa Pacht, Director  
Todd Lewis, Senior Network Administrator  
Debra Atkins, School Instructional Multi-Media Technician  
Charles Wyant, LAN Technician  
Robert Cosh, Network Administrator Manager  
Oscar Ortega, LAN Technician  
Theresa Dutcher, Administrative Assistant

**Distance Learning**

Daily IP videoconference connections between Fallsburg CSD and Broome-Tioga BOCES are occurring for American Sign Language [ASL] II and between Monticello CSD and Eldred CSD for Regents Physics.

Mimi Heher and Chris Weinman, GST BOCES connected via IP videoconference to the Sullivan County Superintendents’ Council to provide a presentation on the Pre-CTE (BEST Program) on September 11th, 2009. The connection was bridged using Sullivan County’s TANDBERG bridge and
TANDBERG Management Suite [TMS]. The connection was facilitated at GST BOCES by Mr. Rene Carver.

On September 22nd, 2009 an IP videoconference between Eldred Jr./Sr. High School and George Ross Mackenzie Elementary School occurred. Robert Dufour, Director of Instruction Services at Eldred CSD conducted a staff meeting utilizing the IP videoconference technology. The connection was automated utilizing the SCBOCES TANDBERG Management Suite [TMS].

The WSWHE BOCES Differentiated Accountability – The new model for 2009 – 2010 IP videoconference was held on September 30th, 2009 for Sullivan County BOCES and their component districts. Nichole Catapana from WSWHE BOCES was the main speaker.

An e-Learning Advisory Committee has been formed from representatives from each district to discuss the Research and Development of Learning through Technology. The advisory committee’s coordination will focus on individual coursework and the development of sequence of studies through virtual and physical seat exchanges, online courses, and hybrid offerings.

Model Schools Program

The WebRegistration system is being used for the Countywide Conference Day 2009 ‘Education in Action’ and the Art Conference for Sullivan & Orange County Art Teachers 2009 ‘Nurturing 21st Century Skills in the Creative Classroom: Visual Arts, Visual Thinking, and Visual Learning Across the Curriculum’. Registration will be open through October 2nd, 2009! In addition, the events have been added to the Sullivan County BOCES website’s home page under Nov 3rd – Countywide / Art Conferences. Take a look at the days many sessions!!

School Improvement used the Model Schools Professional Development Lab for one training in September 2009.

<table>
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<td>Developing Differentiated Lessons</td>
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The School Library System used the Model Schools Professional Development Lab for one training in September 2009.

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<td>Ensemble Training</td>
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The Health & Safety / Risk Management division used the Model Schools Professional Development Lab for one training in September 2009.

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<th>Training</th>
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October and November Workshop Offerings 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Professional Development Event / Description</th>
<th>Location / Program</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 10/6 | **Intermediate Moodle**: Continuing to develop your Online Community using Moodle  
This workshop is for teachers who have already established their Moodle course and are looking to enhance it using different Moodle modules available for educational enhancement such as: Assignments, Chat, Choice, Forum, Journal, Quiz, Resources, and Questionnaire. | Model Schools Lab  
4:00 PM – 6:00 PM  
Register on Sullivan BOCES MLP Model Schools Program & TELL Grant |
| 10/13 | **Using FlipVideos in the Classroom**  
Video podcasting can enhance teaching in many ways. You can bring the real world into your classroom by video with current technology. It’s as easy as a one button camera, a USB port, and placing it on your Online Community (Moodle) or a hosting site. This workshop will provide hands-on experience in using a FlipVideo camera. Participants will learn how to quickly create a video and upload it to their site. Join us in this interactive session to discuss creative strategies for using video technology to enhance student learning. | Model Schools Lab  
4:00 PM – 6:00 PM  
Register on Sullivan BOCES MLP Model Schools Program & TELL Grant |
| 10/19 | **Using WikiSpaces in the classroom**  
This training focuses on sharing a variety of ways to use WikiSpaces in classrooms. We will discuss how the use of Wikis improve and change projects and enhance student collaboration. Participants will be shown how to set up their own free accounts to use with their own classes. | WEBINAR  
4:00 PM – 6:00 PM  
Register on Sullivan BOCES MLP Model Schools Program & TELL Grant |
| 11/5 | **Must Know Web2.0**  
This workshop will examine Web 2.0 classroom instructional tools that every teacher should know. Moodle, Flickr, Twitter, Zoho, Photopatch, VoiceThread, Audacity, WikiSpaces, Blogger, and many more. A variety of resources will be given in this session. | WEBINAR  
4:00 PM – 6:00 PM  
Register on Sullivan BOCES MLP Model Schools Program & TELL Grant |
**Technology**

Over the course of this month the technology team has continued to support the voice and data network located here at BOCES. With the first days of school arriving, our staff of computer technicians finished reimagining workstations, installing software, configuring SMART™ Boards, and fixing network Ethernet cables. Computer workstations were also reorganized in a manor to allow teachers equal access to technology in their classrooms.

During the first weeks of school the IT team worked to update phone extensions based upon classroom changes and the hiring of new employees. This included going room to room checking with teachers to ensure their phone extension matched the written phone list and that they had access to voice mail. New employees were given phone extensions and voice mail accounts. In some instances new network wires were run with the assistance of maintenance to accommodate new phones installations as needed.

The IT department continues to use School Dude to track and organize support tickets. It has been very helpful for the technicians to determine work that was already complete, and work that is on hold due to parts on order. School Dude also has allowed teachers and staff to track their help desk tickets through to completion.

We will be holding a SchoolDude training on October 13th from 2:00 – 3:00pm in the Administration building. SchoolDude is our software system that handles our help desk work orders, maintenance requests, and requests for technology hardware and software. Employees that are new to BOCES or anyone who needs a refresher are encouraged to attend this training so that they have the necessary information to log on to the system.

**Learning Tech CoSer/Telecommunication CoSer**

Over the summer and through the month of September the technology department has continued to assist the Eldred School District, and now the Liberty School District as well, with their technology needs. Through the newly created Learning Tech CoSer, the IT Department has increased the
numbers of days they are in the Eldred School District to four. In addition, the Liberty District has also signed up for one day of on-site support.

In Eldred the BOCES technical staff has continued assisting their technicians with the installation and configuration of their new Lightspeed servers. This is the same Lightspeed system that Sullivan County BOCES uses for antivirus and internet filtering. Our technicians also played an important roll by assisting the district throughout the construction that was done on the High School building. At the same time we assisted the Liberty district with the inventory of their classroom hardware and installing new workstations.