



*Bolton*

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

FALL 2012

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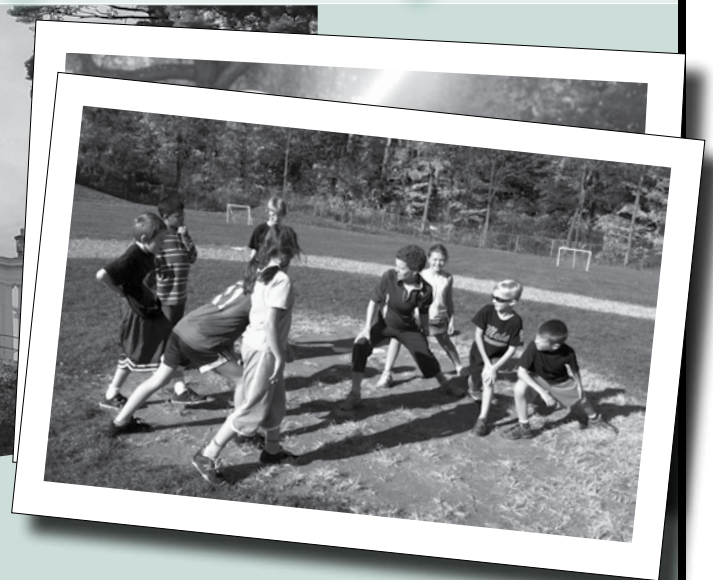
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Don't miss the opportunity to learn something new on the computer with one of the workshops offered.

"We strive for academic excellence and remarkable experiences in a supportive community, which will exceed all expectations."

# Eagle Eye



## More Tests Given

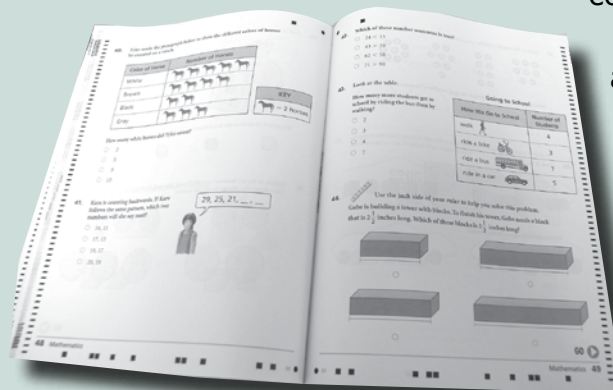
**As with everything, you have to start somewhere.**

When it comes to student achievement, it's important to know what level students are performing at before it can be established how much they've improved.

Establishing benchmarks of student achievement in the fall, winter and spring provides data that drives instruction and indicates where extra help is needed. Data-driven instruction is a component of the Annual Professional Performance Review (APPR), which is explained on page 2.

To establish those benchmarks, schools have been using a variety of standardized tests in addition to the state assessments.

"At Bolton Central School, we've added more tests to pinpoint more accurate data," explained Mrs. Michelle Borgh, K-7 guidance counselor.



A page in the TerraNova test booklet.

This year, BCS has added the TerraNova, a series of standardized achievement tests to assess student achievement in English language arts and Math to students in grades K-3. "We administered the TerraNovas

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# More Tests

Continued from front page

over a two-day period in October,” said Mrs. Borgh, “and we will give them again in May to students in kindergarten, first and second grades. Third graders will take the state assessments, so they won’t need to

take the Terra Nova test.”

Over the past two years, K-8 students had already been taking assessments in reading through AIMSweb, a web-based data management system that measures progress and expands teachers’ assessment time. This year, Math is being added.

AIMSweb uses a three-tiered approach of establishing a benchmark by assessing students three times a year, monitoring at-risk students monthly and evaluating the effectiveness of instruction, and thirdly, writing individualized goals and monitoring those who need more intensive instruction.



## What exactly is APPR?

**If you’re an educator or know any teachers or principals, then you’ve heard the acronym APPR. It’s what’s on all New York educators’ minds and consuming their time.**

**APPR** is the Annual Professional Performance Review plan for teachers and principals.

Based on regulations from the New York State Education Department, the new way to evaluate teachers includes an observation system that determines if the teacher is highly effective, effective, developing, or ineffective. It includes multiple observations including one unannounced observation. More observations will be scheduled for new or ineffective teachers.

Observations are only a part of the APPR. The evaluation is comprised of four areas each weighing in at a certain percentage.

The largest percentage, 60 percent, will encompass the teacher’s planning and preparation in the classroom, the classroom environment, instruction, and professional responsibility. A total of 20 percent will be based on student achievement, such as state tests. Locally developed assessments or Student Learning Objectives (**SLOs**), a point-based system depicting student growth, will account for 15 percent. The final 5 percent is an assessment model that measures student growth.

Data needs to be collected to show where the student is starting from in order to measure student growth. Therefore, pre-and post-tests have been incorporated. (See article on More Tests Given on front page.) The data derived from those tests will determine how and what to teach that student. This is referred to as Data-Driven Instruction (**DDI**).

This shift in teaching and evaluating arose from the Race to the Top (**RTTT**) grant, which was a federal grant that the states applied for. New York State applied and received the grant that dispersed funds to all school districts in the state. In the WSWHE BOCES region, the 31 school districts pooled those funds.

As part of RTTT, the state adopted new learning standards called the Common Core Learning Standards, (**CCLS**) the new assessments (**SLOs**) and evaluation system (**APPR**).

(For a complete explanation of CCLS, see the spring 2012 issue of the Eagle Eye, which is available on the Bolton Central School website at <http://www.boltoncsd.org>.)

# Welcome Three New Members to the Bolton School Family



**A PK-12 Principal, Library Media Specialist and School Psychologist have been hired this year.**

## **Ms. Denise Jorgensen**

Being hired as the librarian at Bolton Central School is a dream come true for Denise Jorgensen. "I'm loving every minute of it," she said, "The students and staff are the best!"

Ms. Jorgensen has been hired as the PK-12 Library Media Specialist to fill the position left vacant by Kathy Field who retired after 30 years.

She began her work in the education field in the Distance Learning Room at Hadley Luzerne High School in 2008. She was also their junior class advisor and planned the high school talent show, the prom and after-prom party. "This was an extremely rewarding experience," she said. Ms. Jorgensen also worked for two years as a substitute teacher in area schools in all grades and subject areas.

A New York State certified school and public librarian, Ms. Jorgensen earned a master's degree in library science from the University at Albany and a bachelor's degree in psychology from SUNY Plattsburgh.

"My goal this year," said Ms. Jorgensen, "is to promote student interest in reading. I want the library to be a place where students frequent, enjoy and are a part of."

Ms. Jorgensen and her husband, Luke Schweickert, a BCS physical education teacher, reside in Bolton Landing.



Denise Jorgensen, the new PK-12 Library Media Specialist, stands in the young children's reading corner of the library.



Mrs. Terry Begly is the new School Psychologist at Bolton Central School.

## **Mrs. Terry Begly**

Mrs. Terry Begly has been hired as the School psychologist/CSE/CPSE Chair to serve the Bolton Central School three days a week. She fills the vacancy left by Mr. Steve Wilk, who semi-retired at the end of the school year, maintaining part time employment in the Long Lake and Newcomb Central School Districts.

A school psychologist with more than 20 years experience serving pre-kindergarteners to 12th graders, Mrs. Begly most recently worked in Geneva City School District for 17 years. In addition to her career as a school psychologist, she has worked at Camp Echo Lake, a residential summer camp, for over 30 years.

Mrs. Begly and her husband reside in Warrensburg and have three grown children. Mrs. Begly commented on her recent move to Warrensburg, "To be able to live and work in

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I am **Bolton** Central School

#### Kevin Wholey is an 11<sup>th</sup> Grader

What I like best about Bolton High School is the size of it. It's much smaller than where I was in Centereach, Long Island. Instead of a class with 50 students in it, you have a more one-on-one ratio with your teacher. You know everybody. My favorite subject is technology. We've been taking apart and rebuilding a motor. I've always liked that kind of thing. I'd like to go to a graphic design school in the future.

Outside of school, I play video games. I'm into the graphics of them. I'm a sports fanatic and am crazy for baseball. I also play baseball, and I'm in chorus. I love my job at the Hometown Diner. It's difficult to pick my favorite food. I like pizza, Italian and Chinese food, and any dessert item. I have two cats, Poof and Sylvester. I have a younger brother and sister. Derek Jeter is the person I'd most like to meet.

One of my favorite books was "The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian."

"21 Jump Street" is my current favorite movie.



# Welcome New Staff

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this area of the Adirondacks is the culmination of a lifelong dream for us!" Excited about her new position at Bolton, Mrs. Begly said, "I want to do all I can to help students and their families in our community have the best possible educational experience. I am looking forward to getting to know everyone. It is a wonderful privilege to be part of the Bolton community and I am anticipating a great school year!"

## Mr. Michael J. Graney

Mr. Michael J. Graney will join the BCS School Community as the PK-12 Principal on or about Jan. 2.

At its Nov. 14 meeting, the Board of Education appointed Mr. Graney. Mr. James Polunci will remain as the Interim Principal until Mr. Graney begins.

Mr. Graney is currently the Principal at Ticonderoga High School, a position he's held since 2002. Prior to being the Principal, Mr. Graney was a Physical Education and Driver Education Teacher at Ticonderoga High School for eight years and for two years before that he taught elementary Math, Science and Physical Education at Putnam Central School.

School Superintendent Ray Ciccarelli Jr. said, "While we had a pool of exceptional candidates, Mr. Graney had the most diverse educational experience and a strong desire to work in our school district. His PK-12 experiences coupled with outstanding references and positive comments from the Ticonderoga community made our choice clear."

Mr. Graney commented that he was looking for a new challenge and opportunity, is very fond of the Bolton School and community, and knows many parents, staff and students. He said, "I feel the Bolton CSD is a good fit for me both personally and professionally, and I'm looking forward to working with all stake holders to continue to provide excellent opportunities for students."

Mr. Graney earned an associate's degree in liberal arts from SUNY Cobleskill, a bachelor's degree in physical education from SUNY Cortland, and a master's degree in educational administration from SUNY Plattsburgh, and an advanced degree in educational leadership from the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts.

A Ticonderoga resident, Mr. Graney is married with two sons.



Mr. Michael Graney will begin as PK Principal on or about Jan. 2.

# The Changing Role of the School Psychologist



**“The role of the School Psychologist has not necessarily changed, but has broadened, with an emphasis on working collaboratively with a multidisciplinary student team to help the students be successful in all areas,” said Mrs. Terry Begly, Bolton Central School’s new psychologist.**

She continued, “Psychologists are one of the key players in implementing targeted interventions needed to help some students reach their potential.”

Mrs. Begly explained that she likes to incorporate her interests and hobbies in ways to get to know the students.

From running and reading, to lunch and mentoring, Mrs. Begly has designed several new ways to get involved. “I like to share my love of activities,” she said.

An avid runner, Mrs. Begly said she has always been interested in fitness and outdoor activities. Therefore it seems natural that she has formed Girls/Guys on the Go for third, fourth, and fifth graders. It’s an after-school, non-competitive, jogging and walking group designed for students to have fun and experience the benefits of a healthy lifestyle.

In an effort to get to know the younger children, Mrs. Begly has been reading stories to students in pre-kindergarten to third grade. “It’s the perfect way to get to know the children, provide a positive role model, show

them I care about them and am interested in their success and happiness.”

In addition, Mrs. Begly has started several Lunch Bunch groups for small groups of students. “The Lunch Bunch is open to all students and provides a place to come and eat lunch and chat. There’s no set agenda.”

She also plans to partner with a parent and together create a book club for second and third graders. Students would meet after school one day a week to read The Adirondack Kids® series of children’s chapter books.

To get to know older students, she has attended Key Club and Student Council meetings.

She’d also like to start a mentoring program where older students are matched up with younger ones.

She views her role as a mentor to students: “No job is more important than helping students reach their potential and help reaffirm their self-worth.”



Mrs. Begly (center) shows students how to stretch before a run in Girls/Guys on the Go.



I am **Bolton** Central School

**Natalie Figueroa is a First Grader in Mrs. Kaveny's Class**

I like to see my friends is what I like best about school. I like math because we learn to tell time. I want to be a nurse when I grow up. I think it's a pretty cool job to be a nurse. I like to play outside on my swing set after school and I like to play computer games. My favorite food is pizza. My grandmother has a dog Oreo that I like to play with. I have a little brother. When my daddy is being silly, that makes me laugh. I like to read. My favorite books are the Junie B. Jones books. My favorite movie is "Finding Nemo."



# More iPads Added

**Creating virtual field trips, researching Meso American civilizations, and learning the alphabet, are just a few of the ways that Bolton Central School teachers are using iPads with their students.**

By the second semester, all BCS students will have access to an iPad. A total of 206 of the handheld tablets designed by Apple Inc. have been purchased.

The three-phase integration of the iPads into instruction began last September. The plan included installing a wireless infrastructure



Mrs. Jennifer Trowbridge shows BCS teachers tips and tricks for using iPads.



Students in Mr. John Gaddy's science class take photos with their iPads that will be used to create a virtual field trip.

Standards and 21st Century Learning Skills, the iPad enhances instruction in several ways.

"Students have instant access to research without leaving the classroom," said Mrs. Trowbridge. "There are countless educational applications available that complement instruction and make learning fun."

throughout the school, revising the Acceptable Use Policy, along with figuring out the best way to sign out the iPads once all the applications have been installed. Plus, the best way to securely store the iPad and keep it charged and synced needed to be devised. Teaching the staff how to use the iPad was another key component of the integration, said Mrs. Jennifer Trowbridge, the school's computer coordinator and PK-12 computer teacher.

In addition to incorporating the Common Core Learning



Wearing headphones, fifth graders use their iPads to research information on Meso American civilizations.

# Annual Carnival A Success

## Inclement weather didn't stop the fun.

There was a great turnout at the Bolton Central School Parent Teacher Organization's (PTO) Kick Off Carnival again this year despite a last-minute rescheduling. Due to inclement weather, the date of the carnival was moved from its original date on Saturday, Sept. 8, to Sunday, Sept. 9. "Safety was our biggest concern. So we rescheduled the event," said PTO president Mrs. Mel Persons. "And, it turned out perfectly on Sunday."



Pie throwing was just one of the activities at the PTO's Kick Off Carnival.

Thanks to Andy Pratt for fulfilling a last-minute request, to all BCS staff for their assistance, and the Bolton Community for their support.

A special thank you to all who donated to the event including: The Sagamore Resort, Lakeside Lodge and Grille, Oscar's Smokehouse, Bolton Fire Department, Iva & Audie's

Country Diner, Quandts, US Foods, and Pepperidge Farm.

"We look forward to our third annual carnival next year," said Mrs. Persons.

## Computer Workshops Held

**A series of monthly community education computer workshops will be held from 6 to 9 p.m. at BCS's first floor computer lab in Room 106.**

The courses, open to the community and free of charge, will be taught by Mrs. Jennifer Trowbridge, the school's computer coordinator and PK-12 computer teacher. The 17-year veteran of teaching at BCS, will teach the following topics on the dates listed below:

- Dec. 4 - Email
- Jan. 8 - Introduction to iOS Using iPads
- Feb. 5 - Microsoft Word
- March 5 - Microsoft Excel
- April 9 - Microsoft PowerPoint
- May 7 - Using Craigslist
- June 4 - Open Lab

For more information, please contact Mrs. Trowbridge at (518) 622-2400, ext. 433 or email [jt433@boltoncsd.org](mailto:jt433@boltoncsd.org).



I am **Bolton** Central School

### Nyla Green is a Seventh Grader

What I like best about the Bolton School is that they give us things we can do at a smaller school that we couldn't do at a bigger school, such as field trips.

My favorite subject is English. I love to read and write.

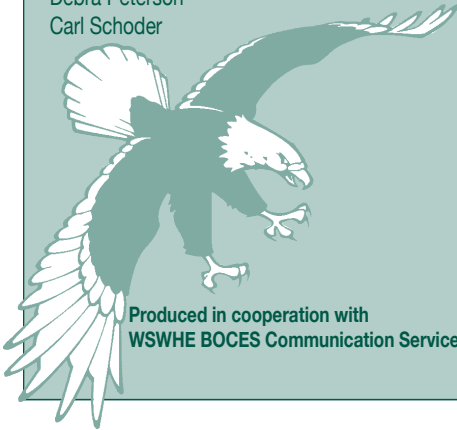
I'd like to be a chef when I grow up, probably a pastry chef. My older sister is going to be a chef. I'd like to take culinary class at BOCES. My favorite food is spaghetti. Outside of school, I play soccer, basketball, softball, and I ski. I like to hang out with friends. I have a dog named Rocky. I have an older brother and sister. If I could meet anyone, I'd like to meet Shawn Johnson, the Olympic gymnast. The funny jokes my friends tell me makes me laugh. The last book I read for pleasure was "Far From You." My favorite movie is "The Hunger Games."



**Bolton Central School District**  
**Horicon Avenue**  
**Bolton Landing, NY 12814**

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## Dignity for All Students Act

**The goal of the Dignity for All Students Act (DASA), which took effect July 1, 2012, is to provide students with a school environment free of discrimination and harassment by peers and by school personnel.**

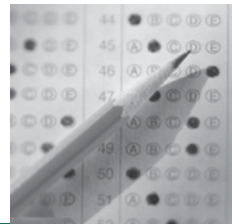
DASA requires school districts to develop a policy that prohibits harassment, bullying, and discrimination and adds awareness to actual or perceived race, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sex, sexual orientation, and gender.

The goal of the DASA is to create a safe and supportive school climate where students can learn and focus in a welcoming considerate environment.

For more information about DASA and Bolton Central School District's efforts to support DASA initiatives, please contact the Superintendent's Office at 644-2400.

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