



THIS MONTH

**THE THREE C'S**

In addition to the Three R's, discover what else students are learning at BCS.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

Can you answer this trivia question?

**I AM BOLTON**

Find out what's on the minds of three randomly selected BCS students.

**WEB SITE**

Check out the new look to our Web site.

**EXIT POLL**

New this year, BCS will ask voters to fill out a survey after they vote.

# Teaching the Three C's: Character, Citizenship and Community Service

In addition to the Three R's of reading, writing, and arithmetic at Bolton Central School, the three C's are woven into our students' lives.

"It's something you can't assess by taking a test," said School Superintendent Mr. Ray Ciccarelli. "Yet, character and all the volunteer activities our students are involved in show what kind of citizens they are."

After all, the character of those young citizens will be the foundation of our future communities.

## Character Education

"The school year began with a Welcome Back Assembly by Mr. Cris Johnson," noted BCS PK-12 Principal Damian Switzer. "Mr. Johnson presented his 'I Love to Read' program using magic and active participation to engage the students in the importance of reading and good character."

As part of the school's guidance curriculum, counselor Mrs. Michelle Borgh teaches a different value every month to students in kindergarten to fifth grade. The curriculum for CHARACTER COUNTS! is centered on basic values called the Six Pillars of Character: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship.

**"Character is higher than intellect."**

~ Ralph Waldo Emerson

Those students, whose actions exemplify the value for that month, are chosen as Character Stars and rewarded with a certificate and ice cream.

"Character Education is a valuable part of our students' lives," said Mrs. Borgh. "It teaches our youngsters to exhibit



Mr. Cris Johnson presented his "I Love to Read" program at the September Welcome Back Assembly. He used magic and active participation to engage the students about the importance of reading and good character.



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these characteristics throughout their life and instills an awareness of doing for others.”

Mrs. Borgh continued, “Our students are also very involved in community service projects. As an example, students are involved in Key Club, a service organization that is associated with the Glens Falls Kiwanis Club.

Bolton students are very involved in the community with service projects and have also helped out the Kiwanis Club at Taste of the North Country which raises money for scholarships. In December, the students sent Christmas cards to soldiers and collected food for a holiday meal for a needy family, made Christmas cookies for Bolton’s Senior Citizen Center, and collected for the annual food drive for the Bolton Food Pantry.

Students also are involved by participating in many charitable causes. Some of these examples include: an upcoming event at Moe’s in Queensbury, the Kidney Foundation Walk in May, and performing in the Bolton Variety Show. The Girls Varsity Soccer Team joined forces with the Key Club members by walking in the Making Strides for Cancer event.

Mrs. Borgh along with fellow guidance counselor Mrs. Denise Clark described the myriad student activities that are building character, promoting citizenship and providing community service from helping their fellow students and collecting aluminum can pop tops to polishing senior citizens’ fingernails and staffing blood drives.

## Aluminum Can Pop Top Tabs

“Over a two-month time period, 20 National Honor Society students collected nearly 5,000 tabs from aluminum cans,” said Mrs. Clark, grades 8-12 guidance counselor. “Our original goal was to collect 2,000, so they’ve certainly surpassed what we imagined.”

Those aluminum tabs translate into dollars for nonprofit charitable efforts.

Bolton students chose to donate to the Ronald McDonald House, a program that provides a home-away-from-home for families so they can stay close by their hospitalized child at little or no cost.

## Clothing Collection

This year, students also participated in Teens for Jeans, a program affiliated with Aéropostale, a retailer of casual apparel targeting teens. In an effort to convey the message that one out of three homeless people are under the age of 18, the store donated the jeans in the United States and Canada.



Marisa Parrotta, front row, far left, stands with fellow ambassadors who represented New York at the World Leadership Conference.

“The jean collection was tied into the Key Club’s clothing drive,” explained Mrs. Borgh. “The students collected a total of 31 pairs of jeans that were donated. A total of 450 pounds of clothing were collected and donated to the Salvation Army, as well.

## HOBY

HOBY is a nonprofit organization devoted to the development of youth leadership. Founded in 1958 by veteran actor Hugh O’Brian, HOBY’s mission is to provide lifelong leadership development opportunities that empower individuals to achieve their highest potential.

“Going to the HOBY conference last year in California gave me a different outlook on things and I brought back a lot of ideas,” said Marisa. “You learn a lot about yourself. Putting a smile on someone’s face is rewarding. It feels good. I also committed to 100 hours of community service this year.”

Mrs. Clark explained, “Many of our new public service ideas came from students, such as Marisa Parrotta, a high school junior, who attended the HOBY (Hugh O’Brian Youth Leadership) State Conference and then the national conference in California last July. The conference made quite an impression on her.”



Marisa Parrotta, one of BCS students who has been a leader in coordinating public service ideas for the school.

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### GlamourGals

One idea that was brought back from HOBY was to create a chapter of the national organization called GlamourGals. GlamourGals' mission is to inspire and organize teens to provide ongoing complimentary beauty makeovers to elderly women living in senior homes.

The Bolton students along with some students from Lake George High School coordinated visits to Countryside Adult Home in Warrensburg.

Mrs. Lori Humiston, an English Language Arts teacher at BCS, is the group's advisor.

"It's phenomenal!" boasted Mrs. Humiston. "The students and the residents love it and look forward to getting together. We didn't know what to expect at first, but it's been one of the best opportunities for these young ladies."

Mrs. Humiston said the girls volunteer their time by sending cards to the women at Countryside to coordinate the visits. The girls visit the home once a month and manicure the ladies' fingernails, put on hand lotion and apply a little makeup. The girls take photos and send them to the residents.

"They are receptive women," said Mrs. Humiston. "They are so appreciative of everything we do for them. We've become good friends. The girls are so good with them. We're even looking to expand and bring the boys to play cards with the men."

"Marisa is a very impressive leader. HOBY has inspired her. She's very professional and caring."



Bolton sophomore Sydney LaPann gives a manicure to a resident at Countryside Adult Home in Warrensburg.

### Peer Tutors

High School students volunteer their time as Peer Tutors to help seventh graders with their homework and teach them how to get organized. Emma Passaro became a Peer Tutor this year. The 12th grader said she took on the role as a Peer Tutor to earn community service hours for Senior Seminar and to help out someone. "I like knowing that I'm helping someone and doing something productive with my spare time," said Emma. "I mostly monitor the students I'm tutoring and make sure they get their homework done and sometimes help them with math homework." Working with students may be in Emma's future as she said she hopes to continue her education and major in secondary English or Psychology.

### Wellness

Every other year, BCS holds a Wellness Week where community members volunteer to present a wide range of health-related topics including Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE), cyber bullying, gambling prevention, distracted drivers, physical and mental health, and tobacco awareness.

**"Since the presentation,  
I watch what I say.  
I think twice**

**before I say something."**

**~ Tori Persons**

Ryan's Story was included in this year's Wellness Week. Students from five school districts joined together to hear John Halligan talk about the loss of his 13-year-old son, Ryan, to suicide. In 2003, Ryan, who was a middle schooler in Essex Junction, Vt., killed himself after being ridiculed and humiliated by his peers online.

"I thought the students were affected by the presentation," said sixth grader Abbie Seamans. "The presentation showed how bad bullying can get, how you should be nice to your classmates, and think about what you say and do. I've

thought more about what I say now. It's made me take a look at the students in my class."

Tori Persons, an 11th grader, added, "I thought it was an eye-opening presentation and a topic that light needs to be shed on. It was interesting to see how everyone reacted. No one was talking. You could tell it hit home. I think the presentation had a bigger impact because the bullying experience was told by someone who witnessed it. Since the presentation, I watch what I say. I think twice before I say something."

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### Senior Seminar

Secondary social studies teacher Mr. Scott McCarthy teaches Senior Seminar, a class in which BCS seniors are required to complete 24 hours of community service. One of the ways the students can earn community service hours is by volunteering at one of the two blood drives that happen in September, which yielded 31 pints of blood, and June. Mr. McCarthy coordinates the blood drive, although the seniors volunteer by signing in donors and providing them with snacks and drinks, preparing them for the donation.

### Youth and Government 2011 Conference



Mr. Scott McCarthy stands in the middle of the BCS students who attended the 2011 Youth and Government Conference in March.

Through participating in the YMCA's Youth and Government program, BCS students get a "jump start on being an active citizen in a democracy," commented Mr. McCarthy, who is also the Youth and Government advisor.

According to Mr. McCarthy, during the 2011 Youth and Government Conference, students presented a variety of bills in the Assembly and Senate. A judicial team presented their brief to a panel of judges.

### Box Tops, Labels and Tools for Schools

Mrs. Donna DiPietro, school nurse teacher, said the school collects box tops and labels, which translate into cash or points that can be used for merchandise.

Mr. Switzer noted that BCS participates in the Tools for Schools program through the local Price Chopper using their AdvantEdge Card. Although, according to the Price Chopper Web site, "the point accrual period for the 2010-2011 program has ended. While you can still sign up to participate in next year's program, your purchases won't accrue points until the program launches again before the coming academic year."

### We're Collecting: If you'd like to donate any of items listed below, please contact our school offices.

- Box Tops for Education - we save the Box Top coupon on many products. They are worth 10¢ each. ([www.btfe.com](http://www.btfe.com))
- Labels for Education - we save the point coupon from the product. The PTA gets points that they can use to exchange for merchandise. ([www.labelsforeducation.com](http://www.labelsforeducation.com))
- Beverage Can Pop Top Tabs
- Screw top caps from water, soda, laundry, shampoo, or ketchup bottles
- Tools for School - Sign up with your Price Chopper AdvantEdge Card to support the school of your choice. (Please note the point accrual period for the 2010-2011 program has ended. While you can still sign up to participate in next year's program, your purchases won't accrue points until the program launches again before the coming academic year.)
- Paper, newspaper, phone books, and cardboard can be donated to the BCS Recycling Project

# Have You Filled a Bucket Today?

Bucket filling has gone rampant at Bolton Central School.

Bolton's Speech Pathologist Mrs. Laurie Blanchard explained that to raise awareness of and be proactive against bullying along with continuing to foster a positive atmosphere in school, the Building Logistics Team (BLT) chose to incorporate the concepts of the book, "Have you Filled a Bucket Today? A Guide to a Daily Happiness for Kids" into the lives of students and staff.

Written by Carol McCloud, the book encourages positive behavior and shows children how easy and rewarding it is to express kindness, appreciation, and love on a daily basis.



Mrs. Laurie Blanchard reads to (l-r fifth grader Mackenzie Roberts, kindergartener Trey Johnson, and first grader Skyler Scott.

"The book is based on the philosophy that each of us has a bucket and we need to keep filling it up," added Mrs. Blanchard. "When people act in a negative way it empties not only their bucket, but the other person's bucket, as well. So a bully would be dipping into someone else's bucket. Studies have shown that a safe and happy environment is more conducive to learning."

Fifth grader Mackenzie Roberts commented, "I think it's a good idea, a good lesson. It makes you think how you could be nicer."

First grader Skyler Scott said, "When you hug somebody, you and your bucket gets filled."

After fourth grade teacher Mrs. Hens read the book in class, the students posted their bucket-filling actions on the door. Amber Van Aken filled a bucket when she said something nice to her brother. In talking about the book, she said the book is about being nice and kind. "It makes me feel happy. I don't like being the mean child. I like being a nice child. I don't like it when kids are left out."

The buck(et) doesn't stop there as the bucket-filling efforts have moved beyond the students to the Bolton staff. There's a Bucket-Filler Bulletin Board in the Faculty Room.

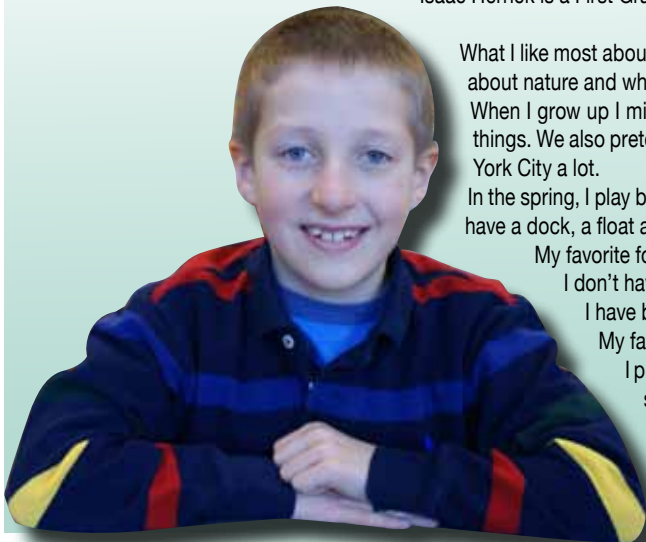
Mrs. Blanchard said, "As a staff, we support and help each other on a daily basis. As a way of saying thanks, a star is filled out thanking the person. Each month, two stars are chosen and staff members receive a small gift donated by the Booster Club. It's a great morale booster."



Amber Van Aken, a fourth grader in Mrs. Margo Hens class, stands next to a door full of bucket-filling moments that her classmates have shared and posted on the door.

## I am Bolton Central School

Isaac Herrick is a First Grader in Mrs. Kaveny's Classroom



What I like most about school is playing with my friends. Science is my favorite subject because I learn about nature and what's around us.

When I grow up I might possibly be a construction worker. My brother, Oliver, and I pretend to build things. We also pretend to travel. We pretend to go to places in the United States. We've been to New York City a lot.

In the spring, I play baseball. In the summer, I go swimming. We go to our camp on Saratoga Lake. We have a dock, a float and floating chairs.

My favorite food is seafood.

I don't have any pets, but wish I had a pet fish.

I have book one through 12 of the "Magic Tree House" series.

My favorite movie right now is "Cats and Dogs: The Revenge of Kitty Galore."

I play kids' music on my MP3 player, but I wish I had the Beatles and Doobie Brothers songs.

The person I'd most like to meet is Justin Duchscherer, (was a starting pitcher for Oakland Athletics for seven years before signing with Baltimore Orioles in January). I dressed up like him for Celebrity Day.

I am **Bolton** Central School

Glenn Goodwin is a Ninth Grader

I think the structure and knowledge you gain in school benefits you when you get a job in the future. Math is my favorite subject. I adapt and push myself to learn. When I grow up I'd like to be some type of engineer. Outside of school, I competitively shoot for Tri-County Rifle League. Because our schools are small, Bolton and Fort Ann students participate on the same team. My favorite food is bacon.

I'm not a big reader, but I'm three-quarters of the way through a book on Galileo.

"The Aviator" is my favorite movie of all time because I'm interested in planes and inspired by the entrepreneur, Howard Hughes. My uncle built his own plane and I've flown before.

I listen to mostly rock on my iPod Touch. I'd most like to meet Stevie Ray Vaughn.



# New Look to BCS Web Site Gets Rave Reviews!

The BCS Web site recently received a facelift adding new features that make the site more visually appealing and easier to showcase student activities.

Come visit our site at <http://www.boltoncsd.org> and let us know what you think by going to the contact button at the top of the page.



The header consists of two images. One is the photo of the very-recognizable BCS cupola. The second, an image on the right side, features rotating photos using Flash® animation. A new image of an Eagle that is consistent with the one used in the electronic billboard has also been added.

Photos that accompany news stories can now be seen on the home page.

"One of the most exciting additions is the capability of being able to easily add videos and podcasts to the homepage," said Mrs. Jennifer Trowbridge, business/computer teacher. "Students have been creating audio podcasts since 2007. Now, we'll have a better platform to display our students' creations."

Last year the communications department began producing district podcasts called "Eagle's Eyes" to compliment the district newsletter "Eagle Eye." Now visitors will be able to click on the RSS button and sign up to be notified when new content is available.

Visitors will find that navigation of the site remains basically the same.

The Web site now also has a "mobile view" allowing it to appear graphically on various phone platforms. It is best viewed on iPhones or Android-based phones.

In 2007, Bolton converted to a content management system Web site using the software called School World.

## What's a Podcast?

A podcast is a series of audio or video files that are released episodically and often downloaded through web syndication called Really Simple Syndication or RSS. RSS is a standardized system for the distribution of content, esp. news, from an online publisher to Internet users.

The RSS process will now be easier for visitors to sign up for on the Bolton Web site. Whether it's podcasts, news, calendar or sports, you can sign up to receive notification if something new has been added to the Web site.



This is the symbol for Really Simple Syndication or RSS.

# Did you know?

Trivia Questions About Education and Bolton Central School

*Eagle Eye*

## What day is the annual school district budget vote held every year?

For the answer to this question and more questions, look under the community button on the top navigation of the Bolton Web site at <http://www.boltoncsd.org> for a page entitled, "Did You Know?"

## Exit Poll

This year, voters will be asked to take a moment to answer a few questions on an exit poll after they vote on the school district's proposed budget on Tuesday, May 17.

In addition to demographic information, voters will be asked questions about the quality of education at Bolton Central School. The responses will be anonymous on the exit poll that will be handed out by student volunteers from the Senior Seminar class.

"Exit surveys can be an effective and efficient way to gather feedback from our voting public on a variety of topics," said School Superintendent Ray Ciccarelli. "It's a good way to gather input regarding voter sentiment."

The Board of Education welcomes this information to assist in their planning.



### I am **Bolton** Central School

Colby Gibbs is a Sixth Grader

What I like best about school is that I get to see my friends and learn things.

English is my favorite subject because I like to write. When I grow up I want to be an actress. I like to be in shows. I've been in Bolton's Variety Show and "Beauty and the Beast," and have sung in recitals. Outside of school, I swim and play basketball and soccer.

My favorite food is chocolate pudding.

That last book I read for pleasure was "The Short Second Life of Bree Tanner."

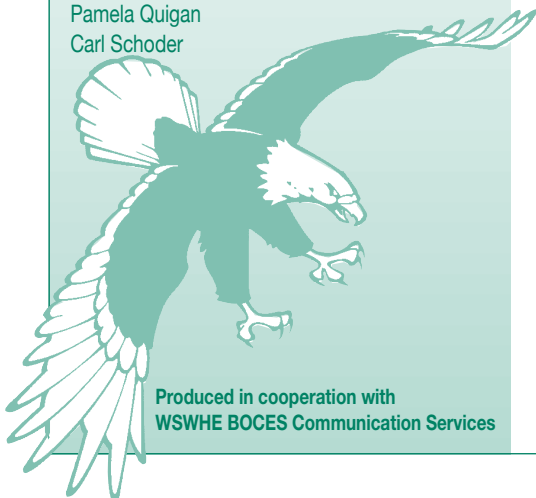
I listen to pop music on my iPod.

The person I'd most like to meet is Selena Gomez. She's an actress. My favorite movie is "The Last Song."

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

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## 2011-12 Proposed School Budget

- **Public Hearing**  
**Monday, May 9, 2011**  
**6:30 p.m.**  
**Library**
- **Budget Vote**  
**Tuesday, May 17, 2011**  
**Noon-8 p.m.**  
**Gym Lobby**
- **Take a moment to fill out our Exit Poll after you vote.**

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