For nearly 60 years, Rockland BOCES has offered high-quality, cost-effective programs and services to our component school districts.

**our mission**

To be a leader in providing quality, cost-effective, educationally focused programs and services that support learners in achieving high standards.

**our philosophy**

We **BELIEVE** in the intrinsic value of every learner and in our responsibility to help them each realize their dreams.

To honor this, we **REAFFIRM** our commitment to provide quality leadership and instructional excellence.

Moreover, we **ACKNOWLEDGE** that we are part of a greater whole and that the collective energy of Rockland County is best reflected in the collaboratives which serve our learning community.

**our quality indicators**

- Customer Responsive
- Team Approach to Management
- Collaborative
- Cost-Effective
- Develop New Markets/Grow Services
- Articulate High Expectations
- Plan and Utilize Current Technologies
- Collect and Analyze Data
- Utilize Performance Outcomes
In the spring of 1961, Rockland BOCES cast a bold vision for the future, a vision to reach new heights of excellence across every facet of its mission – to be a leader in providing quality, cost-effective, educationally focused programs and services that support all learners. Nearly 60 years later, with dedicated administrators, trustees, faculty, staff, students and families leading the way, that vision has become a reality.

In the following pages, you will read about the transformative programming that enables Rockland BOCES learners to thrive while they are here and prepares them for success beyond Rockland BOCES. You’ll learn about the exciting evolution of our facilities, including a new adaptive aquatics complex at the Jesse J. Kaplan School, as well as the addition of innovative new technology and communications workspaces that will make Rockland BOCES an even more dynamic and impactful agency. You will see how the exemplary work of our educators and support staff demonstrably and consistently helps students achieve their goals.

Never before has this agency experienced a period of such tremendous success and achievement, and – as this report illustrates – this path of profound transformation and impact will only grow stronger. It is a special time at a special place, and the future of Rockland BOCES has never looked brighter.

Mary Jean Marsico, Ed.D.
Rockland BOCES
Chief Operating Officer
“Children are likely to live up to what you believe of them.”

– LADY BIRD JOHNSON

student services

Rockland BOCES Student Services Division partners with families, school districts, community-based organizations and county agencies to produce outstanding educational outcomes for children with special needs at all levels of ability. Programs are open to students residing in Rockland and neighboring counties in New York and New Jersey.
is a K-8 center-based program for students who face a variety of learning challenges. The program offers a predictable, positive learning environment in which students acquire the skills necessary for academic and social success.

THE

JESSE J.

KAPLAN

SCHOOL

offers a stimulating learning environment for students ages 5-21 with autism, cognitive disabilities, medical fragility and/or multiple disabilities. Students reach their potential in a school that blends high educational standards, innovative curriculum and therapies in a safe and caring setting. (pictured left)

KAPLAN’S MOVE™

(Mobility Opportunities via Education) program combines therapy and education to teach children with physical disabilities and complex needs the functional skills of sitting, standing and walking. MOVE™ aims to give children an opportunity to lead more independent and fulfilling lives. Every child deserves the right to MOVE™.

NEW FOR 2019-20

The Jesse J. Kaplan School earns the “MOVE™ Model Site” distinction. This national honor recognizes the Kaplan MOVE™ Team for its exceptional implementation of the MOVE™ program and its high goals for students of all abilities.

THE

HILLTOP

SCHOOL

by the numbers:

[1,043]

special needs students from

districts in New York and New Jersey.

[656]

students received full wraparound educational services at seven Rockland BOCES sites.

[394]

Students received career and vocational training giving them life-long job skills.

PBIS SPOTLIGHT

Rockland BOCES’ Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) is a multi-tiered system of support developed to promote positive and safe school climates by clearly identifying constructive behavioral expectations and explicitly teaching the desired behaviors to students. Agency-wide integration of PBIS is coordinated through the Student Services Division.

STUDENT SERVICES 5
CBI TECH HIGH SCHOOL

is an alternative secondary program that allows students to achieve their highest potential in a supportive and structured environment. This affords a strong sense of purpose, a positive attitude toward learning and incentives for appropriate behavior. Small class size and a strengths-based approach helps engage young minds, support unique needs and build new skills and confidence leading to lifelong success. *(pictured below)*

TRANSITION SERVICES

assist students with a wide range of disabilities in preparing for and making the transition to post-school learning, living and employment. Work-based learning programs like Project SEARCH, BEST and the Kaplan Community Development Center allow students to learn marketable job skills and work with local employers.
River View High School offers students the opportunity to earn their high school diploma through flexible, individualized instruction. The program provides educational options for learners who have not experienced success in the traditional classroom setting. With small student-teacher ratios, this alternative high school program allows for the creation of personalized and informal environments with attention to social, emotional and academic needs. Through intensive therapeutic supports and non-traditional methods, River View High School students strive to follow their individual paths to success.
DISTRICT-BASED ELEMENTARY

programs deliver a wide range of services that provide social, emotional and academic supports to help students in grades K-5 develop the skills to succeed both in the classroom and beyond. Programs are located in component school districts across Rockland County. Based on their readiness and ability, district-based students have the opportunity to participate in school district classes and activities.

DISTRICT-BASED SECONDARY

programs provide students in grades 7-12 with the extra supports needed to be college and/or career ready. Students have the opportunity to be integrated into both core and elective academic courses and participate in extra-curricular activities. Additional benefits include therapeutic support services and enriched common core curricula focused on technology, literacy, math and social skills.
CABAS® CLASSROOMS

The Comprehensive Application of Behavior Analysis to Schooling (CABAS®) program is a collaboration between Rockland BOCES and Columbia University. This intensive, data-driven program is offered in several elementary schools through district-based programming.

JESE J. KAPLAN POOL COMPLEX

As the needs of children and young adults continue to evolve, Rockland BOCES must provide the latest educational programs, services and facilities that support optimal growth and development. The new 8,200 square foot adaptive swimming pool complex at the Jesse J. Kaplan School in West Nyack is designed to increase mobility, build confidence, improve health and wellness and help teach children with special needs to be safe around water for the rest of their lives.

by the numbers:

- 7 CABAS Classrooms
- 387 students attended district-based classrooms in 21 schools, allowing for an integrated school environment.
“Education is the kindling of a flame, not the filling of a vessel.”

— SOCRATES

career & technical education

Rockland BOCES Career and Technical Education programs offer students the opportunity to graduate high school with college credits, technical experience, professional skills and industry certifications in high-skill, high-demand fields. Rigorous classroom learning and hands-on training lead to internships with a variety of local businesses and organizations.
Students from New York and New Jersey school districts participated in career and technical education programs. Million in scholarships earned by CTE graduates to further their education in 2018-19. Industry partners prepared CTE students for career and college. CTEC students inducted into the National Technical Honor Society.

CTEC PROGRAMS & ACADEMIES:
- Animal Science Academy
- Automotive Technology Academy
- Communications Academy
- Construction Trades Academy
- Cosmetology
- Criminal Justice & Fire Science
- Culinary Arts
- Cyber Technology
- Health Science Academy
- New Visions Health Careers Exploration
- Career Services Programs

SkillsUSA
SkillsUSA students have the winning spirit! 2018-19 Rockland BOCES career and technical education students earned two gold medals, one silver medal and one bronze medal at the New York State competition in Syracuse.
For the first time ever, Rockland BOCES students placed at the national level, earning top honors for Crime Scene Investigation excellence at the 2019 SkillsUSA National Competition in Louisville, Kentucky.

by the numbers:
- 587 students from New York and New Jersey school districts participated in career and technical education programs.
- 16 industry partners prepared CTE students for career and college.
- $2.3 million in scholarships earned by CTE graduates to further their education in 2018-19.
- 79 CTEC students inducted into the National Technical Honor Society.
“If we teach today’s students as we taught yesterday’s, we rob them of tomorrow.”

— JOHN DEWEY

hudson valley p-tech

**P-TECH** is an integrated, six-year STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) program that offers a rigorous academic curriculum, targeted technical training and a comprehensive workplace experience in a dynamic, project-based learning environment. Through partnerships with private sector employers, P-TECH students participate in one-to-one professional mentoring and career-related internships and will be first in line for local STEM jobs upon graduation.
P-TECH PATHWAYS:

- Computer Information Technology (Associate of Science)
- Engineering (Associate of Science)
- Green Building Technology & Management (Associate of Applied Science)
- Cyber Security (Associate of Applied Science)

by the numbers:

- **79** students PTECH students from school districts linked high school learning with business and higher education earning college credits.
- **7** business partners collaborated with P-TECH faculty to align curriculum with industry needs.
- **490** college credits.
- **30** students completed their high school requirements since 2018.

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS TAKE NOTE:

- The component district receives all funding associated with students beyond tuition for an additional two years while students complete diploma/associate degree requirements.
- Tuition paid by districts (including extended year and summer program) is eligible for BOCES Aid.
- Districts benefit from the two-point CCCR index (ESSA) associated with students completing P-TECH.
Adult Education and Business Services provide a comprehensive array of courses and programs that help more than 5,000 adult learners each year expand employment opportunities and improve English language and academic skills.
Rockland BOCES provides preparation classes for the Test Assessing Secondary Completion (TASC) — a pathway to a high school equivalency diploma. Classes are held in Nyack, Haverstraw and Spring Valley. Each year in November, family and friends gather to celebrate the achievements of these adult learners with a special graduation ceremony.

by the numbers:

- **72** adults earned their high school equivalency diploma (TASC)
- **3,789** adult learners developed valuable job skills through different courses from automotive technology to healthcare to bookkeeping.
- **2,037** adults learners representing countries and speaking languages improved their English literacy through ESL classes.
PRACTICAL NURSING (PN)

is a ten-month, 1,080-hour program that takes the adult nursing student through fundamentals of nursing, anatomy and physiology, medical surgical nursing, behavioral health, pediatrics and maternity nursing with correlated clinical learning experiences. Successful graduation prepares the practical nursing student to sit for the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX-PN).

For more than 50 years, Rockland BOCES has offered exceptional instruction and guidance for students in the PN program, leading directly to lifelong careers in one of the nation’s most in-demand health occupations.
YOUTH CONNECTIONS

is a comprehensive employment program for eligible young adults, up to age 24, facing barriers to education, training and meaningful work. The program focuses primarily on out-of-school youth who are looking to gain educational and employment opportunities. It is funded in partnership with the Rockland County Career Center through a federal grant. Youth Connections supports learners though a variety of services from job training to counseling.

by the numbers:

97 youth served

no. 2 ranking in New York State for employment, education or training placement

74.3% pass rate in credential-bearing programs
instructional services & professional development

The programs and services of the Instructional Services & Professional Development Division provide quality professional development for teachers and administrators as they prepare students to meet and exceed the New York State Learning Standards. The focus is on direct instruction and staff development.

“Education is the key to success in life, and teachers make a lasting impact in the lives of their students.”

– SOLOMON ORTIZ
INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

- Certification provider for DASA, SAVE, Child Abuse and mandated autism courses
- Expert facilitation of professional development on how to create a highly effective 21st century classroom
- NYSED-certified in Continuing Education credits (CEU) for social workers and speech pathologists

DID YOU KNOW?

The Instructional Services Division at Rockland BOCES collaborates with component school districts to customize professional development that meets unique needs. This includes a county-wide Superintendent’s Conference Day featuring nationally-known educators, authors and policymakers. Our professional development is aligned with New York State standards and curriculum and delivered in innovative ways.
School Support Services include cooperative services designed to help school districts facilitate administrative functions, communicate effectively with their communities and keep students and staff safe. These highly-specialized services are designed to save on back office costs, as districts face increasing budget challenges.
SCHOOL SUPPORT SERVICES:

- Communications Service
- Health, Safety & Security Services
- School Registry
- Shared Services
- Technical Services & Support
- Transportation Services

Building 4 Annex

In December 2018, Rockland BOCES officially opened a new Technology and Communications Center on our West Nyack campus. The 1,500 square-foot facility fulfills the mission to create a culture that inspires innovation and collaboration between two of our agency’s key departments.

With its eco-friendly design and high level of energy efficiency, the building houses a large conference room, two administrative offices, six Technology work spaces and a creative suite for our team of BOCES Communications specialists.

by the numbers:

12
national & statewide communications industry awards earned

360
students transported by Rockland BOCES daily

1,193,820
miles driven in 2018-19 by Rockland BOCES buses

100 (+)
Number of buildings and accessory structures inspected for fire safety

300 (+)
requests for Health & Safety services accommodated from air quality testing to emergency preparedness training
community collaboratives

Rockland BOCES partners with school districts, community-based service organizations and government agencies on a number of collaborative programs supporting the development of an educated and healthy local public.

“If you want to lift yourself up, lift someone else up.”

- BOOKER T. WASHINGTON
FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER

The Family Resource Center provides a comfortable and welcoming environment within the BOCES community for families to gather for fellowship, support and fun. The FRC partners with parents and guardians to attend school-based meetings that foster positive relationships between school and home. Family Resource Centers offer an array of supports, events and services for Rockland BOCES students and families, many of which are funded through the Rockland BOCES Family Resource Center Foundation.

PARTNERSHIP FOR SAFE & HEALTHY YOUTH

The Partnership for Safe & Healthy Youth provides a continuum of behavioral health, social services and educational support to Rockland County children and teenagers who are struggling academically, socially and emotionally. The Partnership focuses on healing children, adolescents and their families, with the goal of creating a stronger, stable support system at home.

COLLABORATING AGENCIES: Rockland County Department of Mental Health; Rockland County Department of Social Services; Rockland County Department of Probation; Rockland County District Attorney’s Office; Rockland BOCES

by the numbers:

- 266 hours of after school homework for children grades K-6
- 4,693 meals provided by the FRC Backpack program, providing healthy provisions for families over the weekend
- 5,322 requests supported for health, educational, basic needs, family crises, translations and early care
- 459 Partnership for Safe & Healthy Youth referrals between November 2014 and July 2019
COMPONENT SCHOOL DISTRICTS

- Clarkstown Central School District
- East Ramapo Central School District
- Nanuet Union Free School District
- North Rockland Central School District
- Nyack Union Free School District
- Pearl River Union Free School District
- South Orangetown Central School District
- Suffern Central School District

by the numbers:

8 component school districts

57 public schools

200 square mile supervisory area

40,000 (+ -) public school students

$121,185,362 2018-19 total Rockland BOCES budget
Looking ahead to a new decade, Rockland BOCES will continue to face challenges, due in large part to the endless uncertainty surrounding the New York State Budget. Working collectively to overcome the shared challenges will prove key as our agency and local school districts seek to remain nimble amid an ever-shifting education landscape. Rockland BOCES is committed to advancing educational opportunities, strengthening partnerships, fostering economic growth and resilience and bolstering student success.

NEW FACILITIES, PROGRAMS AND OPPORTUNITIES IN 2020

- Place the new, $4 million Jesse J. Kaplan School adaptive swimming pool complex in full operation
- Realignment of the Kaplan School administration to meet expanding special education needs
- Additional Career and Technical Education (CTE) courses to prepare students for college and careers in high-demand fields
- Expanded offerings in Career Services Programs (CSP) to meet the growing enrollment needs of students with unique learning challenges
- Full oversight and operation of the Rockland County Career Center, supporting the adult, dislocated and youth populations in Rockland County
- Additional industry partnerships and STEM initiatives at Hudson Valley P-TECH

NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION: Rockland BOCES does not discriminate on the basis of an individual’s actual or perceived race, color, religion, creed, ethnicity, national origin, citizenship status, age, marital status, partnership status, disability, predisposing genetic characteristics, sexual orientation, gender (sex), gender identity, military status, veteran status, domestic violence victim status or political affiliation, and additionally does not discriminate against students on the basis of weight, gender identity, gender expression, and religious practices or any other basis prohibited by New York State and/or federal non-discrimination laws in employment or its programs and activities. Rockland BOCES provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth organizations. Inquiries regarding Rockland BOCES non-discrimination policies or procedures should be directed to either:

1.) Yasmin Helou-Caré, Ph.D.
   Executive Director of Human Resources / Civil Rights Compliance Officer
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   (845) 627-4729 • rbcompliance@rboces.org

2.) United States Department of Education, Office of Civil Rights