Southern Westchester BOCES

Board Links

BOARD TO BOARD NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2025

Legislators, NYSUT leaders hear directly from students about the value of SWBOCES programs

Breakfast event, tours demonstrate some ways BOCES supports students



State legislators and education leaders toured Southern Westchester BOCES' Career Services campus in Valhalla this fall, hearing directly from students about the impact these programs have made for them.

The Legislative Breakfast co-sponsored with the BOCES' Teachers Association was attended by state Sens. Shelley Mayer and Peter Harckham; Assembly members Matt Slater, Steve Otis, Chris Burdick, Dana Levenberg and MaryJane Shimsky; May Cowan representing the office of Assembly-woman Amy Cowan; and Dr. Frances Wills, a member of the state Board of Regents. Representing New York State United Teachers were President Melinda Person, Sophia Abassi, Joan Deem, Jim Larson, Tom McMahon, Alithia Rodriquez-Rolon, Marty Sommer, Lonnie Threatte, and Emijana Ulaj.

Leaders of several Southern Westchester BOCES divisions were also on hand as presenters discussed the need to support BOCES programs while students made that case from firsthand experience.

"I can fairly say that the decision to come to BOCES was one of the best decisions I ever made," said Nora McCormick, a senior at **New Rochelle High School**.

Nora described how she contended with a learning disability. BOCES took the way she learned differently and brought that out. "I'm able to come here and do what I love," she said.

A Fashion Design & Merchandising student, Nora said she loves being surrounded by classmates who share her passion. She looks forward now to applying to colleges and entering the workforce with the portfolio she built at BOCES.

Students from the Culinary Arts program catered the breakfast. Culinary student Christopher Johnson, also a senior at **New Rochelle High School**, expressed thanks for the opportunities his program has provided him.

A counselor encouraged Christopher to come to BOCES, a decision that turned things around for him and made him a better student, he said. He plans to attend the Culinary Institute of America next year.

"It's just so amazing having all these (programs) here, and they're just so patient with us," he said of his instructors.

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A Message from the Board President



John Filiberti, Board of Education President (Eastchester)

Greetings fellow Board of Education members,

On behalf of the Southern Westchester BOCES Board of Education, I extend warm wishes for a happy and healthy New Year! As we reach the halfway point of the 2024-2025 school year, our BOCES community has already achieved many proud milestones and experienced moments of meaningful reflection. The impactful work we do in service of our schools and students continues to grow, as do the incredible stories we are eager to share. To highlight these efforts, we've expanded this edition of Board Links. Thank you for reviewing this newsletter and please let us know what programs your school would like to see us add.

It's always a privilege to welcome legislative leaders and school partners to our Career Services campus. Recently, we had the pleasure of hosting a breakfast attended by several state elected officials and our NYSUT partners. The event was made even more special by the contributions of our talented culinary students, who prepared the food, and our student tour ambassadors, who showcased the value of our

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Robert Johnson, VP
Mount Pleasant Cottage School



Sheryl Brady
White Plains



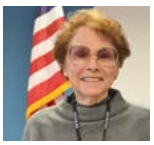
Lynn Frazer-McBride
Mt. Vernon



Nilesh Jain
Edgemont



Eileen Miller
Pelham



Joan Weber
Hawthorne Cedar Knolls

School Communications team caps a successful year

The Office of Public Information had a successful past year, helping districts gain public support for $322 million in capital projects while also garnering recognition from peers in state and national competitions. Bond proposals in four districts directly supported by the SWBOCES communications team passed handily between December 2023 and September 2024, including one that was Westchester's largest ever. Communications support included videos, social media, newsletters, and website content.

Meanwhile, the team collected 31 awards this year—including 14 First Place awards—in competitions hosted by the National School Public Relations Association and its New York chapter.

"We are humbled to be honored by our peers and look forward to producing high level communications in support of students and schools in 2025," Director of Communications Brian Howard said.





Legislators, NYSUT leaders hear directly from students about the value of SWBOCES programs

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"This school has done so much for me. I appreciate you all."

NYSUT President Melinda Person said she had visited a number of BOCES recently and learned that waiting lists for BOCES programs are common across the state. Among the advocacy items supported both by the union and BOCES is the proposal to increase the $30,000 limit on the portion of a CTE teacher's salary that is eligible for state aid. That cap has been in place since the formula was devised in the early 1990s.

"The experiential learning that takes place at BOCES is a prime example of what we want to see in public schools now and in the future," Ms. Person said.

"We need to fight for programs like this and to find ways to pay for it," she added.

BTA President Mairead Schuelein noted hundreds of students attend many more BOCES programs across the county in addition to those whom visitors would meet on the tours that followed the breakfast. Ms. Schuelein asked legislators to review the list of advocacy items provided to them.

She recounted how carpentry students at the CTE campus fabricated accessible planting beds for use by medically fragile students in Special Services programs in Tarrytown and Rye Lake. Those same Special Services students helped craft the floral arrangements that adorned tables at the breakfast.

Board of Education President John Filiberti said the event brought together "the people who make education work."

Attendees' support of BOCES programs in turn fuels the success of the 32 component districts whose students attend those critical programs. He also thanked the representatives of NYSUT who were in attendance for their partnership.

"Thank you for everything you do, because everything you do helps our daily successes," Mr. Filiberti said.

District Superintendent Dr. Harold Coles said this event was an important way to demonstrate the value of BOCES programs and the work that takes place daily to support students. He thanked the BTA for co-hosting the event.

"Our most important resource we have here is our teaching staff," Dr. Coles said. "They are ambassadors for us."

The final student speaker, Lilia Corona, was actually a former student. Ms. Corona told her story of coming to the U.S. from Mexico at a very young age and speaking no English. ESL classes brought her to BOCES, and she eventually also enrolled in the GED program too.

It was 16 years later that Ms. Corona was hired as a Teacher's Aide at Southern Westchester BOCES. She fell in love with the work and sought certification for the Teaching Assistant position she now holds. She spoke adoringly of her former GED teacher, Ms. Rudner, and said that in her current role she continues to learn from excellent BOCES teachers.

"I couldn't be more blessed," Ms. Corona said. "Thank you very much to everyone who makes these opportunities possible."

Section One athletes learn new skills at InSideOut conference

MetLife Stadium hosts daylong leadership event highlighted by Giants legend

Just days earlier, **Jaden Jarrett** of **Irvington** had played a football game against Briarcliff High School. Whatever competitive spirit or rivalry Jarrett and his opponents shared on the field was an afterthought when they met again at MetLife Stadium on Sept. 25 for the InSideOut Student Leadership Conference.

They were among more than 220 student-athletes from 40 Section One high schools who participated in the summit, which launched Year 3 of the section's partnership with the InSideOut Initiative, the New York Giants and the NFL Foundation.

Section One Executive Director Todd Santabarbara and Giants legend Carl Banks addressed a crowd that also included coaches and administrators. InSideOut leaders guided student-athletes in exercises—from ice breakers to in-depth discussions—designed to stress leadership, character and empathy.

"This definitely helped me to get out of my comfort zone," said Jarrett, who plays football and basketball and runs track at **Irvington**. "I've talked to and met new people. It was helpful to talk to new kids and hear their experiences and … share their stories about why we play our sports and why we're so passionate about them."

Banks, a current game analyst for the Giants, told student-athletes their passion gives them influence in their communities.

"Any time you have a community of people come out and watch you play, that means you're influential," Banks said. "Be that influence to the kids who are looking up to you. Be that influence to your relatives, your brothers and sisters. Set an example."

Banks' remarks set the tone as the conference focused on how student-athletes' leadership skills can benefit their teams, their schools and their communities.

Section One athletics administrators and coaches have learned the same lessons and techniques in the first two years of the InSideOut partnership.

"This event provided time for our student-athletes to reflect on the power of their role in sport, collaboratively and with their peers," **Rye athletic director Susan Reid** said. "Our student-athletes left with a genuine purpose and vision of how they can lead **Rye** athletics and help to sustain a transformational culture."



Respect the Game: Section One releases sportsmanship PSA

Section One has partnered with Southern Westchester BOCES' Office of Public Information to produce a public service announcement aimed at encouraging good sportsmanship and positive behavior at athletic events. Featuring student-athletes, coaches and athletics administrators from member schools, the video presentation implores spectators to respect the game by adhering to section policies on calling out athletes or officials during contests and refraining from disruptive or disrespectful behavior. The goal is to provide a welcoming and affirming environment for all athletes, coaches, officials and fans. The video has been distributed to all member schools and can be viewed at the official Section One X feed and at SWBOCES.org.

A Message from the Board President

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programs firsthand. Shortly afterward, the campus hosted our annual Career Conference, which brought together 1,200 students and dozens of professionals who shared valuable insights into their career fields.

We encourage you, our fellow school board members, to visit us as well. There's no better way to understand the remarkable opportunities your students are experiencing than by touring our Career Services campus. Let us know a time that works for your board, and we'll be happy to arrange a visit.

As you explore this issue, you'll discover highlights from across our programs. Learn about the LHRIC's Technology Leadership Institute kicking off its annual keynote series, the Center for Interscholastic Athletics/Section One's participation in a youth leadership event at MetLife Stadium, and how our Special Services students are thriving through growing community partnerships and work-site opportunities. You'll also see how the Center for Professional Learning & Curriculum Support is addressing student mental health and post-pandemic learning challenges through the RECOVS grant.

As always, we hope you'll be inspired by the many ways our Southern Westchester BOCES continues to support *your* students and *your* schools.

John Filiberti

Board of Education President (Eastchester)
Southern Westchester BOCES

Growing network of community partnerships opens up opportunities for students

St. Matthew's partners with Big Apple Smoothie, Party City to provide real-world skills and experiences

The number of real-world vocational opportunities for Southern Westchester BOCES students continues to grow thanks to new and expanding partnerships with local businesses.

These range from Party City in White Plains, where SWBOCES students from St. Matthew's School have begun working this school year, to Big Apple Smoothie, whose owner Bob Demetros is committed to community outreach and supporting local schools and programs. They join longtime partners like Raymond Opticians and White Plains Bakery in a network of job site locations where the students develop skills that will serve them long after graduation.

"It pulls on one's heart strings," Mr. Demetros said of his desire to partner with SWBOCES. "You feel for these kids. You want to help them."

After meeting with St. Matthew's Principal Diana Dinzey, Mr. Demetros said he jumped at the chance to provide roles for her students to fill. It fits his business's mission of serving the surrounding community and giving back where possible. Ms. Dinzey credited the efforts of St. Matthew's Community Outreach Coordinators, teaching assistants Hazel Degree and Demetria Thomas, who she said have been instrumental in maintaining and increasing these community relationships.

On a recent weekday morning, students Oscar and Yaretsi went to work. Yaretsi wiped down counters and tables while Oscar cleaned blenders and even prepared orders under a manager's supervision.

Three educators from St. Matthew's escorted the students, and in many small ways instructed them on the finer points of navigating a downtown walk to work and what to do on arrival. The pair worked with wide smiles, following directions, showing initiative when they knew what to do next







and pausing occasionally for direction.

"We want to ensure that the time our students spend at our school is a reflection of and a preparation for adulthood," Ms Dinzey said of the workplace partnerships. "So we want to give them a lot of the realistic experience they are going to need to accomplish independence."

Efforts are made to re-create work experiences inside the classroom, but there is nothing like a real-world work setting. That includes their time on the clock but everything else as well that's involved with a regular work routine.

"They focus on the transition from school to job sites, the interactions with employers and customers, and on finishing a shift and returning to school," Ms. Dinzey said.

These are things that we take for granted in our daily lives that our students are learning to master through these work-based experiences, she added.

At Party City, students Larry, Aalijah, Bradley and Nick arrive by bus a little after 9:30 a.m., a half-hour before opening, eager to get to work. They put customer returns back on shelves, check expiration dates on food items and generally organize things.

"I think it's a great program, said store manager Laurie Scipioni.

Ms. Scipioni has long partnered with SWBOCES, welcoming Valhalla Center students to work in her White Plains Road store. She was pleased to grow that partnership this year by welcoming St. Matthew's students. She also partners with another organization to provide work opportunities for individuals with disabilities.

Ms. Hazel re-directs Larry from another activity to organizing a display of Thanksgiving decorations. He's excited to be here, and the activity helps him direct his focus.

The idea, says Nelson Diaz, a Teacher Aide in the program, is to ensure each student is doing work that best fits their strengths while also challenging them.

"These are life skills they can take with them wherever they go," he said.

"It's a commitment, a lot of work, but it's something I believe in and want to see succeed," said Ms. Scipioni, who added that she enjoys building relationships with the students.

Mr. Demetros at Big Apple Smoothie agrees. It's about finding ways to give back and, in the case of St. Matthew's, help students grow and improve.

"It's a logical extension of what we do to say, what can we do to help these kids," he said.





Tenth Graders from across Southern Westchester get career guidance at annual conference

Dozens of industry professionals share their experience, expertise

Seats were filled in classrooms across the Center for Career Services campus in Valhalla Nov. 15 as nearly 1,200 high school sophomores from 14 component school districts turned out for the annual Career Conference.

The event featured 73 presenters from dozens of career fields, providing insights and reflections on their professions for students who are at a key point in their high school careers.

"We feel that this collaboration together with SWBOCES has helped students explore the careers they're interested in pursuing," **Sleepy Hollow High School** counselor Leticia Andujar said prior to the Education session, featuring her and six of her district colleagues. "It's important that they start to think about it at this stage, even if this is ultimately not the career they want."

Each student attended two sessions from among 30 choices, including Computer Science, Law, Writing Careers, Fashion Design and Audio.

"If I can only tell them one thing, that is to be of service," said Music session presenter Evan Bishop, Executive Director of **Yonkers** Arts. "No matter what skills you bring, if you're of service, doors will open up."

Elmsford Police Detective Jonathan Castillo provided students with a sense of what police work is about. "While they're interested in policing, they're also interested in the socio-economic aspect of it," he said.

Jesse Merchant, SWBOCES' Assistant Director of Interscholastic Athletics, talked about the range of sports-related careers, from officiating and marketing to sports medicine. There are opportunities for young people to get experience now, he said, including youth coaching and refereeing. He also encouraged students to seek out leadership roles.

In the TV/Video session, CBS News's Nia Stevens told students about her daily routine, which involves chasing breaking news stories. "Things happen," she said. "If a crane collapses, you've got to get footage of the scene."

In some sessions, SWBOCES instructors shared their own experience and expertise. In Culinary Arts, Chef John Damiani said a skilled chef can choose where they want to work. In Animal Science, teacher Michael D'Abruzzo let students explore his classroom, which is home to snakes, lizards, rats and other animals.

Sleepy Hollow student Emily Negron learned that becoming a veterinary technician only takes two years, but students can continue their education if they want to go further professionally. "I really appreciated this session because it gave you different career paths you can pursue," she said.

Pleasantville student Catherine O'Brien was on her way to the physician/dental session to learn more about the medical field. "I know I want to be a doctor, but I want to learn more about the steps you have to take to get there," Catherine said.

Etta Williamson and Elena Lark from **Irvington**, attending the TV/Video session, agreed that thinking about careers at their age makes sense. "I think it's a very good time to start thinking about colleges," Etta said.

Sleepy Hollow Social Studies teacher John Cincotta said he entered college undecided on a major and considered law before deciding on teaching. He held a number of jobs before the right opportunity arrived.

"Each and every one of you is going to have a different path into education, but you always have to think about your 'Why,'" he said.

Student Clara Stern from **Irvington** said she found the presentations inspiring and helpful. She isn't sure exactly what she wants to do, but she already knows she doesn't want to sit in an office all day.

Ryia Srivastavan, also from **Irvington**, said "I also thought it was interesting hearing different people's stories."

Election season brings out civic pride for newest citizens

Citizenship, ESL, GED students share stories of pursuing the American dream



Andres Ayala



Rosanna Lopez



Sarai Merino



Yajaira Tapia

Students preparing for the U.S. Citizenship Exam at Southern Westchester BOCES often express a deep appreciation for the right to vote and for the opportunity to contribute to their communities through civic participation.

This sentiment is particularly strong during a Presidential election season, when more than 140 million votes were cast—many by first-time voters.

In 2024, approximately 120 students completed SWBOCES' Citizenship Exam Preparation Course. Among them, three dozen have already been sworn in as naturalized citizens. Many of these students, along with others, also enroll in English as a Second Language and General Equivalency Diploma courses—1,260 students since July—offered at community locations throughout Southern Westchester.

Through hard work and the support of passionate, dedicated instructors, these students are building their American Dream right here in Westchester. A few have volunteered to share their stories.

Rosanna Lopez arrived in the U.S. in 2018 from Peru with hopes for a brighter future. Starting over, and finding a job despite a language barrier, was daunting.

To support herself, she became a Home Health Aide. This experience reinforced her belief in the value of hard work and determination.

In September 2021, she enrolled in SWBOCES' GED Exam preparation class, taught by Jose Bohorquez. The class was intense but rewarding, she said, and by June 2022, she had earned her GED. Last year, Rosanna enrolled in SWBOCES' Medical Assistant program to further her healthcare career, and also in the Citizenship Exam Preparation course with teacher Fatima Braga.

This course gave her a deeper understanding of the rights and responsibilities of American citizenship. In July, she was sworn in as a U.S. citizen, becoming eligible to vote in her first U.S. election.

"Throughout this journey, I have been profoundly grateful for the support and encouragement from the staff and instructors at SWBOCES," Rosanna said. "Their unwavering belief in my potential inspired me to strive for excellence—both as an individual and as a health professional. They taught me that education is a powerful tool for transformation and that, with dedication and perseverance, I could overcome obstacles that once seemed insurmountable."

Andres Ayala came to the U.S. from Mexico in 1995 and settled in New Rochelle. With the support of Ms. Braga, he proudly became a naturalized U.S. citizen in October. This achievement marked the culmination of years of hard work, resilience, and unwavering hope.

Andres was eager to participate in the democratic process on November 5. He hopes his story will inspire others, demonstrating the power of determination and the enduring promise of the American Dream.

Yajaira Tapia arrived in the U.S. in 2014 from the Dominican Republic. Seeking a better future, the Mount Vernon resident enrolled in SWBOCES' Citizenship Exam Preparation course with Ms. Braga in February, at St. Gabriel's School in New Rochelle. She became an American citizen on October 10.

"I feel great about being able to vote," Yajaira said of her first election as a U.S. citizen. "I want to be part of the future of the USA."

Sarai Merino, a 38-year-old mother of five from Puebla, Mexico, came to the U.S. in 2003 with her family. She spoke no English and felt isolated. "The challenges I faced were immense," she said. "But my children were my unwavering source of strength."

She persevered with the support of friends, learned English, and found work. Through SWBOCES, Sarai earned her GED, advanced in her career, and enrolled her son in a special education school. She expressed deep gratitude for those who supported her, including Mr. Bohorquez.

"My goal is to continue my education, pursue a college degree, and provide a better future for my children," Sarai said.

Empowering Student Well-Being: PLCS Rolls Out RECOVS Mental Health Initiatives

The Center for Professional Learning & Curriculum Support has been awarded the New York State RECOVS (Recover from COVID School Program) grant alongside 12 component districts. The RECOVS grant addresses the lasting effects of the pandemic on student mental health and learning. Maisha Campbell is the RECOVS Mental Health Resource Specialist at PLCS.

Q: Tell us what inspired you to specialize in mental health?

A: In 2011, I volunteered with City Year through AmeriCorps and developed a deep appreciation for a whole-child approach to education. Observing a school social worker address students' physical and psychological needs taught me how significantly these factors impact learning. This experience shaped my dedication to social-emotional learning and restorative practices.

Q: How has your previous work prepared you for this role?

A: My background spans mental health settings that include residential treatment for young women impacted by commercial exploitation, alternative incarceration programs and roles in school social work and administration. Each role reinforced my commitment to prevention, kindness, and a nonjudgmental approach.

Q: Are there specific philosophies or strategies you bring to school-based mental health?

A: I use a trauma-informed, strengths-based approach that emphasizes cultural competence and collaborative problem-solving. By integrating SEL and restorative practices, I help create supportive spaces where students can celebrate their identities and overcome challenges.

Q: What is the RECOVS grant, and what are its objectives?

A: The RECOVS grant is designed to address student well-being by expanding mental health support in schools and mitigating learning loss exacerbated by the pandemic. The objectives are: to enhance access to school-based mental health resources, programs, and services; to build capacity for students and staff to identify mental health concerns and seek help; to implement culturally responsive mental health interventions; and to ensure long-term continuity of mental health services beyond the grant period.

Q: What is the role of partnerships

A: Community partnerships are key to sustaining our mental health initiatives. Schools are central to communities, and partnerships with community-based organizations and the Westchester County Department of Community Mental Health extend support beyond school resources.

Q: How will RECOVS support the mental health and well-being of school staff?

A: RECOVS emphasizes Adult SEL as part of CASEL's Schoolwide SEL course, recognizing that adults must experience SEL firsthand to effectively teach it. By fostering collaborative reflection and problem-solving, we create an environment where staff feel safe, valued, and ready to engage with students.

Q: What is MHELP, and how does it contribute to sustaining these initiatives?

A: The Mental Health Educational Leaders Partnership fosters inter-district learning, providing a forum to share best practices and tackle challenges. This collaboration will help sustain mental health support long after the RECOVS grant ends.

Q: How will success be measured?

A: Baseline and follow-up data will measure changes in mental health and well-being. Feedback through surveys, emails, and conversations will offer insights beyond the numbers, giving us a holistic understanding of program impact.

Q: What are the key priorities in sustaining mental health and wellness programs?

A: Sustaining these programs requires a shift in mindset. Embedding mental health into the whole-child educational approach will ensure it becomes integral to student and staff support. Continuing professional development, strengthening community partnerships, and securing funding will sustain these programs.

Southern Westchester BOCES
17 Berkley Drive
Rye Brook, NY 10573
914-937-3820
www.swboces.org

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Board Links is written and designed by:
Brian Howard, *Director of Communications*
Jeffry Braun, *Graphic Illustrator*

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The Southern Westchester Board of Cooperative Educational Services, its officers and employees, does not discriminate against any individuals, including but not limited to students, employees or applicants on the basis of race, color, national origin, ethnicity, religion, creed, sex, gender (including gender identity and gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, citizenship status, marital status, partner status, genetic information, predisposing genetic characteristics, weight, military status or service, political affiliation, or domestic violence victim status.

This policy of nondiscrimination includes access by students to educational programs; counseling services for students; course offerings and student activities; recruitment, appointment and promotion of employees; and employment pay and benefits. This policy also provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.

Inquiries regarding this policy should be directed to the Compliance Officers at Southern Westchester BOCES, 17 Berkley Drive, Rye Brook, NY 10573. (914) 937-3820.

Civil Rights Compliance Officers

Suzanne Doherty
Director of Human Resources
17 Berkley Drive
Rye Brook, NY 10573
Ph: (914) 937-3820
complianceofficer@swboces.org

Stephen Tibbetts
Assistant Superintendent for Business & Administrative Services
17 Berkley Drive
Rye Brook, NY 10573
Ph: (914) 937-3820
complianceofficer@swboces.org

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The job of BOCES is to support learning in schools and communities by providing services and supports they are not able to provide individually.

Follow @SWBOCES on Facebook, X, Instagram and LinkedIn to keep up with all we do to support our region's schools!

Creating Transformational Learning Experiences: Redesigning Education for a New Era



The Technology Leadership Institute launched its 2024-25 series of keynote lectures, conferences, and workshops with a "Fall Get Together" at the LHRIC's Harrison campus.

The kick-off event, "Creating Transformational Learning Experiences," brought together educators from the region and keynote speakers who are leaders in educational innovation.

Richard Culatta, CEO of ASCD+ISTE and a former U.S. Department of Education appointee, has dedicated his career to advancing technology's role in learning. Dr. Tara Nattrass, Managing Director of Innovation Strategy at ASCD+ISTE, is an expert in integrating emerging technologies and strategic initiatives, having previously led innovation at Dell Technologies.

Both emphasized the need to rethink traditional educational models in light of advances in technology and shifting student needs. They discussed how the ASCD+ISTE Transformational Learning Principles serve as a guide to creating impactful, joyful, and meaningful learning experiences.

Dr. Nattrass highlighted the critical intersection of educational leadership and technology. "We need to tinker in the margins in order to bridge curriculum, technology, and innovation," she said.

She used a powerful visual metaphor to illustrate the recent evolution of education. A straight line, symbolizing a century of relatively unchanged educational practices, transformed into a swirling pattern, showing how the pandemic reshaped learning unpredictably. The pattern morphed into a hypnotic circle, suggesting educators are now navigating a new and uncertain era of AI.

"We're not in that straight line anymore; things can be more flexible and adaptable. This is our opportunity to innovate," she said.

As the session proceeded, Mr. Culatta presented an optimistic vision for generative AI in education, calling on attendees to embrace its potential.

"We have to raise our sights a bit for what the possibilities are for generative AI," he said.

He introduced the Transformational Learning Principles, a set of eight guidelines highlighting the essential elements that ensure great learning experiences for students.

"At the end of the day, despite our different job titles, there is a common throughline—we are all learning designers in one way, shape, or form," he said.

Mr. Culatta also encouraged educators to rethink the student experience, challenging them to make learning environments that capture students' attention.

This perspective can help educators create experiences that meet academic goals and make school a place students want to be.

Throughout the session, the audience engaged in discussion-based questions: What are you thinking about in terms of transformation? What's driving you to shift your work from the old way to a new, innovative approach? How do we design the learning experience differently?

Brandon Milonovich, a Computer Science teacher in **Ardsley**, said he is eager to apply these concepts.

"I want to implement these ideas in my district and ask my administrators how we can bring joy into learning," said Milonovich. "Our focus should be on the student experience."