

# Eagle

Fall 2017

a publication of the  
Bolton CSD

eye



## Strategic Planning Initiative Update

### Study Club In Full Swing

Each year Bolton Central School provides our parents, students, and staff with a survey that measures seven correlates identified in effective schools. This helps the District better understand what is working well and what may need more focus. Through the analysis of results, the Steering Committee identified a clear need - a support system for homework. Parents and students need it and our teachers provide it.

Students in Kindergarten through grade five are referred to the program by their classroom teachers on an as-needed basis. Currently the program provides support two afternoons per week. The assistance students are receiving not only helps with academic needs, it also helps to develop good study habits for the future. Students appreciate the opportunity and teachers are already starting to notice a difference.



Ms. Purdy is just one of our BCS faculty who is providing support through our new Study Club.

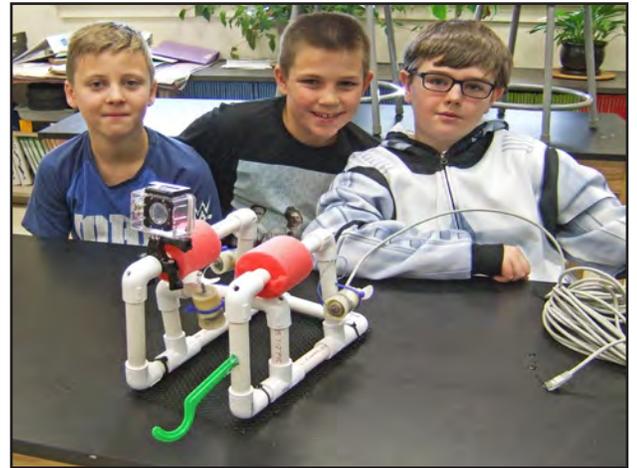
## The Fabrication Lab at BCS- Innovation to Exceed Expectation!

Just a year ago, as part of the ongoing Strategic Planning Initiative, Bolton Central School created a STEAM Lab for elementary students. The response was exciting; elementary students were provided access to building tools and software, electronics and technology equipment, and an environment of encouragement. The District was ready to take the next step with our secondary students.

In the spirit of innovation, BCS reached another benchmark with the creation of a Fabrication Lab for our middle and high school students. Many students have little experience making things for themselves. With readily accessible pre-made products available, we often forget all the hard work and constant innovation that goes on behind the scenes. The Fabrication Lab is a place where students can go further and are encouraged to start thinking for themselves as makers and inventors. Equipment such as a 3D printer, The MakerBot Replicator, vinyl cutters, engraving equipment and the understanding that is gained by using this equipment helps to develop empowering skills and confidence.

These skills can include learning design through the use of mathematics and spatial relations, exploring a three dimensional environment with design and alignment tools, measuring, object scaling, and calculation accuracy. Naturally the next step is to learn by fabrication. This comes from operating machines, learning the limitations of any particular tool and finding solutions as needed.

BCS students benefit tremendously from experimenting with writing code and exploring the possible outcomes, creating Public Service Announcements (PSA) about the dangers of invasive species,



Addison, Tyler and Griffin share their progress on a remotely operated vehicle (ROV) and how they were able to fabricate a hook for the front using a 3D printer.

building an underwater Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) and fabricating parts the ROV needs with a 3D printer to improve its function. By starting out with the fundamentals, students gradually gain confidence and skill, utilizing all these tools and many others to both design and fabricate their own creations. In the ongoing, deeply collaborative process, they also learn crucial communication skills and better understand the benefits of working together, all tools and skills they will rely on for the rest of their lives.



Students prepare to tape their PSA. For more photos from our Fabrication Lab turn to pages 4 and 5.

## Community Connections Highlight: Good Neighbors Douglas Wholey, Nelson McGarr and ACE Carting

Attend any function at Bolton Central School and most know to arrive early to have a choice of parking options. During concerts and plays it is not unusual to see people coming into the lot at least 30 minutes early and on Commencement Day cars can be seen parked along fences and anywhere a spot can be claimed. In December of 2016 the Bolton Community gave the District permission to purchase a piece of adjacent property to use as an additional parking area. Acquiring the property was just the beginning; preparing the area for its new purpose before the start of winter was a priority.



Mr. Nelson McGarr and Mr. Victor Valdez, Site Manager representing ACE Carting Corporation.

There was major clearing that needed to be done, a large structure to be demolished and many other details to create this opportunity.

Thankfully Bolton Central School is part of a greater community committed to helping one another.



Mr. Douglas Wholey takes a moment while clearing and leveling the property.

On this occasion, two of our district parents were kind enough to offer their time, expertise and literally loads of effort!

Mr. Douglas Wholey, owner of Doug Wholey's Ideal Excavating donated several days of his time, effort and equipment to demolish the existing structure as well as level and prepare the property once it was cleared of debris.

The support did not stop there. Mr. Nelson McGarr was quick to enlist the help of his employer, ACE Carting Corporation. Thanks to Mr. McGarr's initiative, Ace Carting donated services to get the property clear. Mr. Wholey's ongoing management of the project has been a tremendous help to the district as well. Mr. Graney said he was very appreciative of the community, especially parents of students, "It's great to have parents who are willing to help out."

Bolton Central School District is proud to be part of a supportive community that is committed to helping one another, and willing to step up and put that belief into practice.

*Do You Have a Prom Dress or Two Hanging in Your Closet?*



**We may know someone who could benefit from your generosity!**

There are occasions when a formal dress is the one thing that keeps a student from enjoying that special occasion. We are hoping to assemble a nice collection of dresses to choose from. Dresses should be less than five years old, clean and ready to wear. Anyone interested in donating their gently used prom dresses may do so by dropping them off in the Guidance Office with Mrs. Clark.

# TEACHER SPOTLIGHT: Daniel Sheridan

**District role:** Science Teacher

**Background:**

-BCS Graduate

-Attended Herkimer CCC and SUNY Plattsburgh

**College/Degree:** SUNY Plattsburgh- Bachelor's Degree in Geology, Master's Degree in Adolescent Education. I hold NYS Teacher Certifications in Earth Science, Biology, and General Science.

**Why did you decide to become a teacher?** While I was earning my Bachelor's Degree in Geology, I would be so amazed about what I was learning, that I couldn't help but share it—all the time. It's a real wonder that my wife still decided to marry me. It was then that I realized that I wanted to teach.

**What attracted you to BCS?** Bolton Central is where I went to school and at the time, I didn't realize how lucky I was. It wasn't until I went to college that I began to understand how unique BCS really is. Bolton is an amazing community and there isn't anywhere else in the world I would rather be.

**Describe your teaching style.** Project-based education has always been my teaching strategy. There is certainly a time for direct instruction and note taking, but I try hard to get students involved in what they are learning. I'm always striving to create new projects and labs that enable students to discover on their own the concepts I want them to learn.

**What's your greatest strength?** Regarding my teaching skills, my greatest strength would be my willingness to try new things in the classroom, and being able to admit when something doesn't quite work.

**What keeps you enthusiastic or motivated about your role?** I'm always learning new techniques or strategies, and the unique thing about science is that almost every day we learn something new about our world that I get to share with my students.

**What goals do you have for your first year at Bolton Central School?** My goal as an educator is to teach students to become scientifically minded. Not every student is going to become a scientist, but it's critical that this next generation of students understands how to solve problems and communicate in a scientific manner. Outside of the classroom, my goal is to get involved with coaching, particularly baseball, and help further develop the program.

**What do you think the biggest challenges are in education right now?** Competing for attention. With the advent of highly engaging digital content, student interest in simple human interaction is decreasing at a drastic rate.



**Describe your family.** I have been married for 5 years to an absolutely amazing woman, Kristen Sheridan. She is also a Bolton graduate, and an incredible teacher. We have been together since our days at BCS. We have a 2-year-old son, Declan, who has brought so much joy to our lives.

**Please tell us about places you have been or would like to travel to.** Being a BCS graduate, I had the unique opportunity to travel across the country with the outing club on 2 occasions. I have hiked the Grand Canyon, trekked through the Red Wood Forest, and camped in the Olympic National Rain Forest. Since high school, I have had the opportunity to explore the islands of the Caribbean several times, and I've taken a cross-country trip that included camping in the Palo Duro Canyon and hiking the famous Garden of the Gods. If you count Disney's Epcot, then I've also been around the world about a dozen times.

**What do you like to do in your spare time?** I'm all about family—and vacations.

**Tell us something about yourself that might surprise us.** My wife is an English teacher at Hudson Falls, and perhaps unsurprisingly, she loves to read and write. I, on the other hand, love nature and have always been amazed by its incredible power. I'm proud to say that my wife and

I have co-written a book that perfectly combines those two passions. The book is titled "Elementals" and is authored under the pen name K.D. Sheridan.

**If you could ask anyone in school a question, who would it be and what would you ask?** Hard question. Most of the staff was here when I went to school, but I'd probably ask Mr. Hull for forgiveness. I recall turning in about a quarter's worth of math homework into him the day grades were due.

**We hear you had an exciting time at ISTE (International Society for Technology in Education) during the summer. Please tell us about it.** ISTE was an amazing opportunity. I had attended graduation at Crown Point and then the next morning Bolton had me on a plane to Texas to participate in the conference. I have never had an opportunity like that before, and I'm so grateful that Bolton allowed me to join my colleagues on that trip. Not only did I walk out with a new mindset in regards to what I can do in the classroom, but it also gave me the opportunity to get to know some of my coworkers before school even started.

**How has BCS changed in that time?** Bolton is still a leader in technology and resources that are available to students.

**Has Science class changed in any way from when you were in school?** Joining the BCS community has been a dream come true, but it also means that the teachers that have inspired me to enter the field of science have retired. Mr. Gaddy and Mr. Wasser have played such an important role in who I am as a teacher. It's sad that they aren't part of this program anymore, but at the same time, it was their passion that inspired me to teach in the first place, so it's almost like they haven't left.

## 4 The Fabrication Lab at BCS - Continued

SeaPerch is an innovative underwater robotics program that equips teachers and students with the resources they need to build an underwater Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV). Students build the ROV from a kit comprised of low-cost, easily accessible parts, following a curriculum that teaches basic engineering and science concepts with a marine engineering theme. The SeaPerch Program provides students with the opportunity to learn about robotics, engineering, science, and mathematics while building an underwater ROV as part of a science and engineering technology curriculum. Throughout the project, students will learn engineering concepts, problem solving, teamwork, and technical applications.

During the summer, Mr. Sheridan wrote a grant request and was awarded two SeaPerch kits for his 6th grade science class. Our students were allowed access to the indoor pool at The Sagamore Resort in order to test their skills. In addition, students had the opportunity to use underwater video equipment and software as part of the project.



Mr. Sheridan's 6th Grade Science class returns to the Fabrication Lab after an ROV test. Students from left to right: Anna, Bailey, Ryder, Ava, Andrew, Daniel, Ila, Natalie, Tyler and Griffin. Missing: Addison



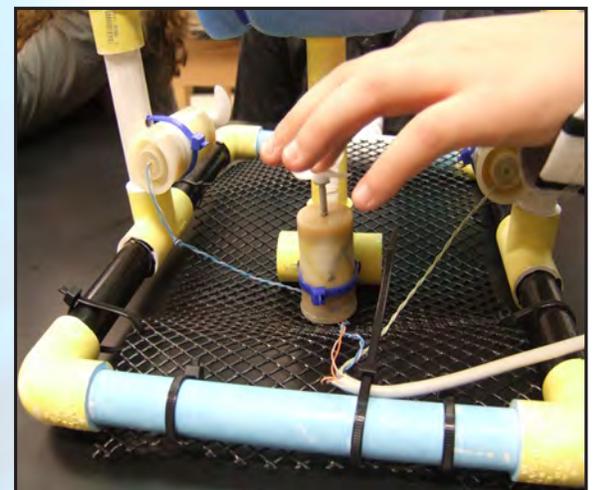
Ava and Andrew launch their underwater camera equipped ROV into the water for a search and rescue test.



A live feed underwater camera helps students better understand the dynamics of working underwater.



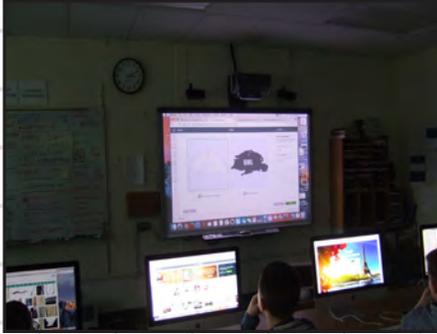
Ila makes some minor adjustments to ensure that the connections are watertight. Her work partners, Natalie and Daniel, are nearby ready to start the test.



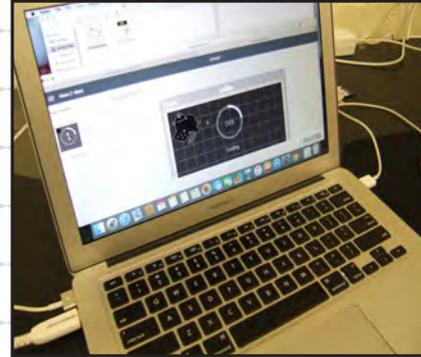
Students explain that the ROV motor is encased in an empty film canister sealed with beeswax in order to waterproof the mechanism.

The Cricut (pronounced like “cricket”) Cutting Machine allows our students the opportunity to easily explore the design process while using a non-industrial die cutting machine. This tool is designed with new users in mind. Students can choose from projects within the Cricut Design Space in order to quickly realize how the process works, or they can set up and design their own projects. Students are able to better understand the digital work flow from concept to finished piece and all the considerations of how to represent an object or image in a way that is not three dimensional.

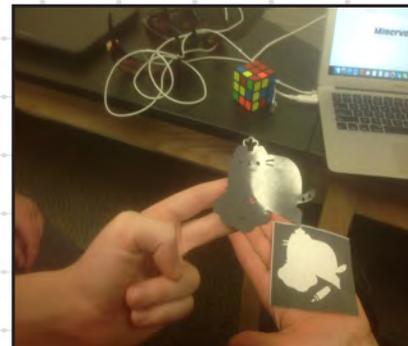
*Ms. Carlson demonstrates how to take a photograph and incorporate it into the Cricut Design Space in order to use it as a 2D image for cutting.*



*The easy to use software sends the programming to the cutting plotter.*



*Daniel uses the Cricut Design Space to create an image to send to the die cut machine and create a vinyl decal.*



*The completed cut vinyl is easily removed from the backing and ready to be used.*

## BCS Announces The Launch of a Facebook Page

In our ongoing efforts to promote a positive school community and keep our students, families and community well informed, we are proud to announce the launch of our school Facebook page.

Our official Facebook page is for promoting a sense of unity and will be used to provide families with information about events and activities and positive achievements within our school.

The page won't replace regular communication tools (such as the newsletter, website and our automated messaging system), but it does provide the opportunity for the District to communicate through social media many of the interesting, exciting, fun and terrific learning of our students, giving you the chance to interact with “likes” and comments.

In the Notes section is a Commenting Policy that reflects the guidelines to follow when communicating on our platform.

Please search for Bolton Central School (it is listed as the “OFFICIAL” page) on Facebook, to LIKE and FOLLOW our new page.

# I AM BOLTON CSD | MICHAEL GAVIN



**Name:** Michael Gavin

**Age:** 18

**Grade:** Senior

**Describe your family.**

I live with my Mom and Dad, my uncle, my twin sister Zoe and two dogs and two cats.

**How is it being a twin?**

I'm really looking forward to going off in a different direction.

**What's your favorite thing about school?**

I really like hanging out with my friends. I have been at Bolton Central School since Kindergarten.

**What do you like about living in your community? Living in Bolton?**

Everything is nearby and it's a great place to be. My first Bolton memory is walking on Veteran's Beach and trying to skip stones on the Lake.

**Who is your favorite teacher and/or favorite subject?**

My favorite teacher is Mr. McCarthy and his economics class. He helped me better understand the how and why of politics.

**Do you participate in sports or extra curricular activities? What do you like to do for fun?**

I have been playing football for three years and just started playing rugby with a club in Glens Falls.

**Do you have a favorite book, movie or TV show?**

My favorite show is "Fox & Friends" I like listening to them report on politics.

**Who is someone you idolize or would like to meet one day?**

I would love to meet President Donald Trump.

***"My first Bolton memory is walking on Veteran's Beach and trying to skip stones on the Lake when I was really young."***

*Michael Gavin, Senior - Class of 2018*

**What would you say to him if you could meet him?**

"You're on the right track, but don't use Twitter."

**Do you know what you want to do when you get older?**

I want to go to SUNY Canton and later work in Homeland Security. They start you working at the Mexican border but as I gain more experience, I want to work at the Canadian border and stay in the Northeast. A lot of my family is in law enforcement/public service and I want to follow in their footsteps.

**Tell us something that you think is interesting.**

I take time to plan out my outfits in the morning-even my shoes!

# I AM BOLTON CSD | DECLAN DUMAS



**Name:** Declan Dumas

**Age:** 8

**Grade:** 3rd Grade

**Describe your family.**

I live at home with my parents, my brother and two cats named Jameson (Jamo for short) and Azzie.

**What's your favorite thing about school?**

I really love math!

**What is your favorite color?**

Red and blue.

**What's your favorite food?**

Chili macaroni & cheese. My Mom makes my grandmother's recipe.

**Who is your favorite teacher and/or favorite subject?**

After math, my favorite subject is gym, I love to play outside.

**Do you participate in sports or extra curricular activities?**

I like playing baseball and soccer. I have lots of Legos and love to build with them. My favorite set right now is from Star Wars, the Kylo Ren's TIE Fighter kit. I followed the instructions and built it.

**Do you have a favorite book, movie or TV show?**

I really like, "The Last Kids on Earth" series by Max Brallier

**Do you know what you want to do when you get older?**

I want to be a police officer.

**Tell us something nobody knows about you?**

Sometimes my hair stands up all over the place and I just can't fix it!

## BCS Students Participate in Vietnam War Memorial Moving Wall Ceremonies



BCS students had the honor of being a part of The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Moving Wall Ceremonies held at Veteran's Park. "The Moving Wall" is a half-size replica of the Washington, DC Vietnam Veterans Memorial and has been touring the country for over 30 years. It provides an opportunity for those who are not able to travel to Washington DC to be able to visit the memorial. Thanks to the efforts of American Legion Post 961 and the Town of Bolton, visitors both near and far were able to pay their respects to those lost. Our Class of 2018 seniors were invited to help assemble the wall. Working together with veterans on such a noble task was truly a once in a lifetime opportunity.

The opening ceremonies were attended by all students in grades 9 - 12 as well as many staff members and BCS students. Mr. Jonathan DeLappa accompanied seniors, Ashley Connery and R.J. DeMeo, who performed "Taps" alongside a 21-gun salute for the close of the Memorial in Bolton Landing.



*The District would like to gratefully acknowledge our Bolton Central School District veterans: Steve Beuerman, Merritt Cleavland, Craig Hannon, Jon Maranville, John Miller, Charles Robinson, Greg Smith, and Mark Sullivan.*

## 9th Grade Students Explore Ausable Chasm

Earlier this fall, the 9th grade class traveled to Ausable Chasm. Students hiked the steep paths of sandstone, a sedimentary rock that had been deposited over a half-billion years ago at a time when the Adirondack Mountains were covered by a warm, shallow sea.

To finish their adventure, students climbed into rafts and navigated the tight bends and white water of the Ausable River.



Descending into the chasm, the students traveled back in time until they reached the base of the chasm, a metamorphic rock that remains from the ancestral mountains of the region that once dominated the area, rising higher than the Himalayas.



## Bolton Central School

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[www.boltoncsd.org](http://www.boltoncsd.org)

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## Upcoming Events

**January 9, 16, 23, 30**

Winter Best Program Begins  
Runs Every Tuesday in January  
at 3:00 p.m.

**January 15**

PK-12 Classes Not in Session  
Martin Luther King Jr. Day

**January 22 - 25**

Regents Testing Week

**January 26**

2nd Marking Period &  
1st Semester Ends

**February 19**

BCSD Offices Closed  
President's Day

**February 19 - 23**

PK-12 Classes Not in Session  
Mid - Winter Recess

**February 28**

Grades 9 & 10 Parent  
Informational Meeting  
BCS Library  
6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.



Glens Falls YMCA  
Gators Head Coach,  
Dennie Swan Scott,  
Priscilla Gavin, Thomas  
Gavin, Michael Gavin  
and Zoe Gavin

## BCS Senior Zoe Gavin Signs Letter of Intent

Bolton Central School Senior Zoe Gavin signed her National Letter of Intent to swim Division I for Niagara University and swim for the Purple Eagles next fall. Zoe has been with the Glens Falls Gators YMCA Swim Team and has reached the Y Nationals in North Carolina for the past three years. Zoe qualified for nationals most recently in both the 100 and 200-yard butterfly, and qualified for a national time trial in the 200-individual medley.

Her YMCA coach, Dennie Swan-Scott, remarked on what a devoted athlete Zoe is, explaining that she wakes up at 4:20 a.m. to be at the Y at 5 a.m. two days per week and returns after school to do her three-hour practice. In addition to her practice schedule, Zoe also coaches the youngest group two days per week, and is a lifeguard at the Bolton beach during the summer.

Zoe has been swimming with the Y swim team since fifth grade, at the advice of her mother, but really committed to the sport in ninth grade. "At that point, all my friends were going to varsity sports, so at that point I had to decide if I wanted to do that or really dedicate myself to swimming," Zoe said.

Congratulations Zoe! Niagara University is lucky to have you- this BCS eagle will continue her flight with Niagara!

