For most people food is simply a basic necessity, a fuel for our bodies or an inconvenience when it’s hard to decide what to cook for dinner. For Jeremiah Walter, it means so much more and can transcend comprehension.

“When I was 10, I saw my dad cutting an onion and I knew then I wanted to do that,” he said. “But I didn’t really know cooking and its purpose and what it’s all about until I was 12.”

When Jeremiah was 12 his best friend was moving away permanently and it had a devastating impact on him. To celebrate before the big day, his friend joined him on a vacation. He didn’t know at the time how much of an impact that trip would have on his insular cortex, hippocampus and pending career trajectory.

“We had coconut shrimp for the first time and we ate it together and for a half-second I wasn’t depressed. A year later, I was in a different location and I ordered coconut shrimp, took a bite, and I just started crying. I thought ‘why am I crying’ and then I realized I was brought back to that place when I wasn’t depressed about my best friend moving away,” he said. “It’s then I realized food isn’t just there for you to enjoy the taste, the smell, the texture; it’s also there for a spiritual experience. That’s why I cook.”

The Frewsburg senior who enjoys running, video games with friends and biking, has been accepted to the Culinary Institute of America where he’ll continue to work toward a career he’s passionate about.

“I didn’t have the Culinary Institute of America in my view when I came to E2CCB. But because of Chef Furdell and the people at the CIA that knew him, it opened up doors coming to BOCES. I couldn't imagine going to the Culinary Institute of America without coming to BOCES first,” he said. “It has been everything to me.”

Jeremiah has aspirations to travel the world, become a personal chef and open his own restaurant. He wasn't sure if any of it would be possible before he came to BOCES but it’s clear to him now that it surely can.

“I’ve learned so much from this program and I don’t know how to express it in words. I think the only way to see it is when you see me in 20 years with a restaurant and everything laid out in front of me,” he said. “I’ve seen the positive in myself and I’ve seen what I can do.”

Jeremiah is one of the 37,313 students developing college- and career-ready skills through Career and Technical Education programs in New York state.
Dear Board Members, District Administrators and School Community

E2CCB is continuing its ongoing effort to share student stories and outcomes through our Educational Collaborations which highlights how E2CCB is impacting your students, programs and operations.

Thank you for your on-going collaboration as we work together to provide programs and services to support students and districts throughout the region. We continually strive to build and strengthen our programs and services for students in your district as well as maximize operational efficiencies through shared services. We look forward to our continued partnership and making opportunities to best serve the needs of your students, teachers and administration.

David O’Rourke, Ph.D.
District Superintendent

Danielle O’Connor
Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction

John O’Connor, Ed.D.
Assistant Superintendent for Management Services
When you first meet Frewsburg student Avonlea Walter she is welcoming and a beam of positive energy. She loves writing poetry, the country of Korea, and most of all helping people.

When Avonlea began her junior year at Hewes Educational Center she thought she would have to make a choice between her two passions: photography and the medical field. When Avonlea enrolled in the Health Careers program she was excited and nervous for the years ahead.

“I love the program, and I love helping people,” Avonlea said. “The other day I was practicing taking my brother’s blood pressure at the laundromat and by the end of the hour I think I took 17 people’s blood pressure. I knew then that this is what I wanted to do, help people and make them happy.”

Prior to attending BOCES she had thoughts of dropping out of school. Avonlea now hopes to continue her health career education and become a Registered Nurse. She ultimately hopes to open a community center and free clinic for the people in her community. She likes the hands-on learning in the classroom and the opportunity to succeed in her own way.

“I have always had a love for cars,” Kaileb said. “I love working on cars so joining auto tech was an easy choice for me.”

Kaileb is a student leader at The Academy at Maple Avenue where he enjoys personalized learning opportunities. He enjoys breaking up the day with Career and Technical Education programming and feels like Maple was a fresh start for him.

After graduation, he hopes to pursue a career in automotive technology by working locally in an auto shop.

“Hewes is a great place. Talk to the other students and get to know them. Everyone is very welcoming and accepting here. There are so many opportunities to do what you love here,” Avonlea said. “It’s crazy having this opportunity. When I came here, I saw it as a chance to change and to prove to myself that I could be a better person. I can see the big picture now.”

Avonlea is a mentor to the other students and everyone in her life. She stays connected to her friends in Frewsburg and participates in the Photography Club at Hewes.
Shared Services

Career & Technical Education
P-TECH: Pathways in Technology Early College High School
Special Education
Alternative Education
General Itinerant Services
Staff & Curriculum Development
Cooperative Bidding
Bus Driver/Attendant/Monitor Training
Central Business Office
Shared Business Manager
Shared Facilities Director

Super Eval: Superintendent Evaluation Tool
Risk Management
Certification
Shared Human Resource Manager
Management/Human Resources Audit
Planning Service Management
Labor Relations
School Public Relations
Regional Grant Procurement
Arts in Education
Visiting Experts

Environmental Education
Shared Associate Superintendent
Instructional Technology Resources
Science Resources
School & Societal Perspectives
Coordinated School Health
Shared Athletic Trainer
Community Schools
School Library System Services
Food Service Management
Instructional Media Services
Distance Learning
New Visions

41 Students attend Career & Technical Education Programs

$1,156,149 BOCES Aid Generated to District

9 Students attend Special Education Programs

3 Students attend Alternative Education Programs

10.42% of District Budget Comprised of BOCES Services

0 Students attend the P-TECH Program

The Erie 2-Chautauqua-Cattaraugus BOCES does not discriminate in its employment and/or admission to programs and activities as applicable, on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, creed, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, religion, age, economic status, marital status, veterans’ status, political affiliation, domestic victim status, use of a guide dog, hearing dog or service dog, disability, or other classifications protected under federal or state law, and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. Visit www.e2ccb.org for more information.