

ECASB Update

Member Districts: Akron, Alden, Amherst, BOCES 1, BOCES 2, Buffalo, Cheektowaga, Cheektowaga-Sloan, Clarence, Cleveland Hill, Depew, East Aurora, Eden, Frontier, Grand Island, Hamburg, Holland, Hopevale, Iroquois, Ken-Ton, Lackawanna, Lake Shore, Lancaster, Maryvale, North Collins, Orchard Park, Springville GI, Sweet Home, Tonawanda, West Seneca, Williamsville

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School Board Leadership in the Spotlight

School Board presidents, vice presidents and other aspiring board leaders gathered for an evening devoted to discussion of leadership issues, roles and responsibilities in a recent Leadership Forum sponsored by ECASB.

Topics included the role and expectations of Board leadership, working with the school superintendent, hearing the community, and working through disagreements and conflicts that may arise both within a board and within a community.

The forum opened with a brief overview of leadership by ECASB President Richard D'Arcy and Executive Director Jane Burzynski. "The definition of a 21st century leader is 'one who envisions what the future could be and strategically plans to achieve that vision while supporting and inspiring associates to focus their energies on the group's goals,'" said Mrs. Burzynski. "That definition illustrates why leadership is so often referred to with adjectives such as courage and strength ... it's challenging enough to manage people and issues that are right in front of us in the here and now ... but to create pathways and support to a shared future that we haven't even envisioned yet ... that's leadership."

Participating were these Board of Education members: Diane Panasiewicz, **Cheektowaga**, Vice President; Donald Sniezak, **Orchard Park**, Vice President; Peter Sobota, **Springville Griffith Institute**, President; Karen Tashjian, **Springville Griffith Institute**, Vice President; Bill Freeman, **Williamsville**, Vice President; Mike Morrow, **Sweet Home**, President; Neil Seaman, **Grand Island**, Trustee; Vivian Evans, **Buffalo**, Vice President; Richard Vogan, **Lake Shore**, President; William Sipprell, Jr., **Hamburg**, Vice President; Michelle Cyrek, **North Collins**, Vice President; Sue Wagner, **Depew**, President; Judy Katz, **Erie 1 BOCES**, President; Anne Ehrlich, **North Collins**, Trustee; and a guest, Kimberly Mueller, **Lancaster Schools'** Director of Elementary Education.



Richard D'Arcy, center, conducts a discussion at an ECASB Leadership Forum with, clockwise, Vivian Evans, Buffalo Board of Education Vice President; Mike Morrow, Sweet Home Board President; and other area school board leaders.



The roles and responsibilities of school board officers were discussed by, from left clockwise, Richard Vogan, Lake Shore Board of Education President; Judith Katz, Erie 1 BOCES Board President; Kimberly Mueller, Lancaster Schools' Director of Elementary Education; and Diane Panasiewicz, Cheektowaga Board Vice President.

Thanks to our discussion facilitators!

Linda Hoffman, Member of the **Springville Griffith Institute** Board of Education and President of the **Erie 2 Chautauqua Cattaraugus BOCES** Board; Richard D'Arcy, ECASB President and Member of the **Erie 1 BOCES** Board; and Kate Riedel, ECASB Treasurer and Member of the **Eden Central School District** Board.



ECASB President Rick D'Arcy welcomes Mr. Robert Schneider, left, a representative from the New York State School Boards Association, to the September Delegate Assembly Meeting.

Mr. Schneider gave an overview of PaySchool, an online payment processing system offered by NYSSBA. PaySchool allows various payments (lunches, continuing ed., yearbook orders, prom tickets, student activity fees, etc.) to be made via the Web. Currently, East Aurora uses PaySchool for its continuing ed program. Wells Fargo is the back end bank. The cost to schools is 4% of each transaction. Some schools absorb this cost, others pass it on to the user. For more info, call 518-783-0200

This Week:

Discussion with Erie County Budget Director James Hartman: 7 to 9 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 12, Room B-2b. If you plan to attend this discussion, there's no fee, but **please call to register so we have a count: 821-7297 or e-mail snowak@e1b.org.** Thank you!

Leadership & Decision-Making Academy: 8:30-noon, Saturday, Oct. 14. Topics: Creating A High Performance Board, Your Role As A Policy Maker, and Board Ethics, Citizen Complaints and Pressure Groups. (*This is the second part of the three-part ECASB Budget and Leadership Series for School Board Members.*)

Coming Up:

What Will Happen During the Comptroller's Audit? A Dessert Forum Dialogue, 7 to 9 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 2, 355 Harlem Road, Rm. B-2b. Two local districts share their experiences!

Fiscal Oversight & Responsibility Training:

Complete your mandatory FORT in two evenings:

Part 1: 6-9 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 8 (Registration: 5:45 p.m.)

Part 2: 6-9 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 9 (Registration: 5:45 p.m.)

Or finish it up in a single day!

Parts 1 and 2: 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 20

(Registration: 8:30-9 a.m.)

Legislative Breakfast: Saturday, Nov. 18, Michael's, Southwestern Blvd., Hamburg
Registration & Breakfast: 8:30-9 a.m./Program: 9-11 a.m.

Nuts and Bolts of Dollars and Cents Academy: 9 a.m. to noon, Saturday, Jan. 6
This is the third part of the three-part ECASB Budget and Leadership Series for School Board Members.

*(Note: Events are at 355 Harlem Road, West Seneca, unless otherwise noted.)
Registration and Information: 821-7297 or snowak@e1b.org*

2006-07 ECASB Executive Board

Officers: Richard D'Arcy (Erie 1 BOCES), President
Mary Busse (West Seneca) Vice President
Kate Riedel (Eden), Treasurer

At-large members: Ray Carr (Cheektowaga)
Linda Hoffman (Erie 2 BOCES)
Laura Monte (Iroquois)
Will Thiel (Orchard Park)
Richard Vogan (Lake Shore)

Buffalo Representative: Dr. Catherine Collins
Superintendent Representative: James Bodziak (East Aurora)
NYSSBA Area 1 Representative: Wayne Schlifke
Immediate Past President: Jack Semler (Clarence)

Have a news items you would like to share? Send to jburzynski@e1b.org for the next ECASB Update!