



August 4, 2023

Occasional

ECASB Summer Review



News shared with ECASB Members when we are not on vacation, at the beach, on the boat, or outside enjoying the summer weather in Western New York.

ECASB BACK TO SCHOOL DINNER: The ECASB Back to School Dinner will be held August 24th. Our keynote speaker will be Carmella Hopkins from Aptegy. Register with your District Clerk by Thursday August 17th. The event will be held at Kloc's in West Seneca. The topic - Who Speaks Your District's Brand?, will provide data as well as explore solutions. If your district is not sharing your story - someone else is. If your district will be going through a mascot change in the near future, this may also be an excellent program for you to attend. ** Please note that Districts are welcome to bring and register their Public Relations or Public Information Specialist. District Office staff are always invited to all ECASB events in addition to Board of Education members, District Clerks, and Superintendents.

ECASB OFFICE CLOSED ON FRIDAY, AUGUST 4TH. The ECASB office will be closed on Friday, August 4th due to vacations. We will reopen on Monday, August 7th.

ECASB SUMMER CHALLENGE UPDATE: See the entries on the last page. You have to be in it to win it. If you are out - don't pout.

REGISTRATION FOR NYSSBA CONVENTION OPENS AUGUST 8TH AT 10:00 A.M. The Convention will be in Buffalo October 26th - 28th.

IT'S A COOL SUMMER AT ECASB PROMOTION WINNER FOR WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2ND IS: Ed Cavan who serves as Vice President of the Erie 1 BOCES Board of Education. Ed will receive the ECASB cooler and a \$25 Gift Card to Anderson's Custard.

CORRECTION ON ECASB EXECUTIVE BOARD DESK CARD: The correct phone number for Lackawanna School Board Member Kimberly Bukaty is 716-517-5966. Please make a correction on your desk card.

NEW BOARD PRESIDENTS AND NEW SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS: Please return the survey forms so that we can feature Board Presidents in Leaders Among Us and the new Board Members in Board Connections. We appreciate ECASB members that have taken the time to return the forms.

NYSSBA CONVENTION UPDATE: We will have a brief meeting sometime in August to discuss ECASB's role. ECASB will have a table on the ground floor. We will have volunteers to assist out of town attendees with information on local attractions and restaurants. Watch for information on the meeting if you would like to be part of the committee.

OUR ECASB PHOTOGRAPHER, DAN CAPPELLAZZO ATTENDED THE WNY LAW CONFERENCE. Pictures will be released over the course of the next two weeks.

SILVER LEVEL SPONSOR: Webster Szanyi LLP has signed on as a Silver Level Sponsor. SuperEval and Gordon Jones Architects will be joining us again as a Silver Level Sponsor. NYSIR will be a Gold Level Sponsor.

LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS TO SERVE ON THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Thank you to Tricia Andrews (Clarence CSD) for agreeing to serve on the nominating committee. I am still in need of two

additional Board Members to serve on the committee. The nominating Committee will make recommendations for Board Officers at the end of they year, for any open seats on the Executive Board, and for members to serve on committees such as the Awards Committee and the Fiscal Oversight Responsibility Team. If you are interested in serving on the Committee, please let me know as soon as possible so that we can put a slate of individuals together for the approval at the September meeting.

DISTRICT CLERKS SHOULD SAVE THE DATE: October 5th will be our fall District Clerk workshop. We are finalizing the details. Topics will include Reorganization Meetings, and Parliamentary Procedures to name a few. The event will be an in person 1/2 day luncheon. More details will follow in the near future.

DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS FOR AREA 1 DIRECTOR: The deadline for districts to nominate a Board Member to serve as the Area 1 Director closed on July 31st. I received 25 nominations. There were no other candidates. I will automatically become NYSSBA Area 1 Director January 1, 2024. Thank you to districts that took the time to nominate me and send the resolution the Mary Metheny at NYSSBA. Thank you to the following ECASB districts that nominated me for Area 1 Director: Akron CSD, Alden CSD, Amherst CSD, Buffalo PS, Cheektowaga Sloan UFSD, Cleveland Hill UFSD, Depew UFSD, East Aurora UFSD, Erie 1 BOCES, Erie 2 CC BOCES, Frontier CSD, Grand Island CSD, Hamburg CSD, Holland CSD, Iroquois CSD, Kenmore-Town of Tonawanda UFSD, Lake Shore CSD, Orchard Park CSD, and Williamsville CSD. Additional districts that nominated me included Batavia City School District, Lewiston Porter CSD, Niagara Falls City SD, Pembroke CSD, Royalton-Hartland CSD, and Wilson CSD.

SECTION VI AREA SCHOOLS RECOGNIZED AS SCHOOLS OF DISTINCTION OR SCHOOLS OF EXCELLENCE BY NEW YORK STATE PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION: To qualify, 75% of the athletic teams must be awarded the scholar-athlete team award. ECASB Schools of Distinction included Alden HS and Lancaster HS. ECASB member schools that qualify for Schools of Excellence include Depew HS, East Aurora HS, Eden HS, Hamburg HS, Holland HS, Iroquois HS, Kenmore East HS, Maryvale HS, North Collins HS, Orchard Park HS, Springville GI HS, West Seneca East HS, West Seneca West HS, Williamsville East HS, Williamsville North HS, and Williamsville South HS.

BUSINESS FIRST BRICK BY BRICK AWARDS: Business First announced recently the winners in the Brick by Brick contest. Recognized in the area of elementary-middle-high school were: Eden CSD for their Middle/High School; the Buffalo Academy of Science Charter School, and the Lancaster Central School District Court Street Elementary Auditorium.

KEEP THE PRESSURE ON: A proposed \$200 million state fund meant to help public schools cover the costs of resolving CVA lawsuits remains stalled in the State Legislator. The good news is that many local school districts initiated the proposed legislation through advocacy on their own and through ECASB. There is backing in the New York State Senate and the New York State Assembly. Part of the biggest arguments that school districts contend is that the statute of limitations was changed by the state. By this change, districts in many cases do not have a record of insurance, many insurance companies no longer exist, and witnesses may not exist. The policy limits in the 60's and 70's would have been sufficient for cases in the 60's and 70's, however, with lack of documentation and inflation,

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this drastically affects school finance for the student today. When the ECASB Legislative team starts meeting in September of 2023 - the committee will make decisions on which issues will be a priority that districts and ECASB will advocate for in this coming legislative season.

THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING ECASB MEMBERS THAT ATTENDED THE NYSSBA LEADERSHIP EVENT ON JULY 28TH AND 29TH. Many agreed the programming was very informative and relevant to the issues we are currently facing within our districts. Attending from Erie County School Districts included: Kristy Pingitore (Akron CSD), Sharon Belton Cottman (Buffalo PS), Todd Bush (Depew UFSD), Paula Leach (Holland CSD), Jane Sullivan (Iroquois CSD), Maureen Poulin (Williamsville CSD), Linda Hoffman (Erie 2 CC BOCES), Sylvester Cleary (Erie 2 CC BOCES), and Christine Schnars (Erie 2 CC BOCES).

WNY LAW CONFERENCE: The Western New York Law Conference was held on Wednesday August 2nd. If you have any feedback on the event either + or -, please contact to let us know so that we can address the concerns next year. Please remember all files are available on our website until the end of September.

LAST CALL: Stephanie Dombrowski (Cheektowaga-Sloan UFSD) has agreed to serve on the ad hoc Convention Committee. If you would like to join Stephanie and me on the committee, please send me an email. I will set up a meeting in the near future.

POLITICAL FUNDRAISER:

Senator Gallivan - Monday, August 14, 2023; East Aurora Country Club. Shotgun Start @12:30 p.m.; Single Golfer \$425; Foursomes \$1,500. Includes: Round of Golf, cart rental, use of driving range, lunch on patio, on course beverage cart, cocktail hour, dinner in the clubhouse, and door prizes.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: (Upcoming ECASB Events)

- August 24th - Back To School Dinner at Kloc's (Deadline to Register is August 17th)
- Team Meetings: August 17th - Executive Board
 - September 14th - Delegate Assembly
 - September 21st - Legislative Committee
 - September 28th - Budget and Finance Team
- October 5th - District Clerk Workshop 11:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
- October 12th - A Night with Rick Timbs at The Columns - 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
- October 25th - Convention Kick Off at Resurgence Brewing Company

PLEASE NOTE THAT WHEN REGISTERING FOR AN ECASB EVENT IN 2023-2024: Districts should register by the due date. There is no guarantee that we will be able to adjust the numbers after the deadline date. ECASB Districts will be charged for any no-shows. Cancellations may be made up until 9:00 a.m. the day of the deadline. If registered attendee is unable to attend, we urge you to contact another Board Member or District Level Staff to attend in your place.

*The Summer and the Competition is Heating Up with the ECASB Summer Challenge Pictures: Top Left: Holland CSD Board Member and ECASB Executive Board Member Mary Jo Szucs at a Holland High School Graduation party. Top Right: Board Member Brandon McGuire (Tonawanda City SD) is pictured on the districts' new state of the art playground at the Tonawanda Elementary School. Left Middle: Board Member Dennis Priore (Clarence CSD) is pictured with his wife Karen in Chicago when they were visiting his daughter. Middle Left: Executive Board Member Kimberly Bukaty (Lackawanna City SD) is pictured with "Steeler Man" at the District and Communities National Night Out. Bottom Left: Kimberly Bukaty (Lackawanna City SD) is pictured with the districts SRO Keith Kwiatkowski at Lackawanna's National Night Out. Bottom Right: Dennis Priore is at the Art Institute of Chicago in front of George Seurat's "A Sunday on the Grande Jatte". Winner of the contest will be announced at the Back to School Dinner Event on August 24th at the ECASB Back to School Dinner. Last day to submit pictures is August 18th. * Please note that Dennis is wearing the first original ECASB T-Shirt. The back of the shirt has the following words: "I am a School Board Member and I Vote".*

2023 ECASB Summer Challenge Pictures

