



August 30, 2022

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.*

**IROQUOIS CSD BOARD MEETING:** I attended the Iroquois CSD School Board meeting on Wednesday evening August 24, 2022. It is always a strange feeling when I go back to the Board where I began my school board service back in 1987. Special Thanks to President Jane Sullivan, Vice President Heather Jacobs, Board Members Robert Barry, James Michalek, Charles Specht, Sharon Szeglowski, and Louise Toth. Thank you to Superintendent Doug Scofield, and District Clerk Nora Specht. I enjoyed listening to preliminary plans for the planning of the festivities to celebrate the completion and opening of the new turf field. I served on the board during the approval of the capital project almost 2 years ago.

**REMINDER TO NEW BOARD MEMBERS AND NEW BOARD PRESIDENTS:** Please send in your survey forms so that we can continue working on the BOARD CONNECTIONS which feature new school Board Members and for the LEADERS AMONG US which features the new school board presidents.

**NYSSBA CONVENTION COMING TO BUFFALO:** The NYSSBA convention will be coming to Buffalo, New York October 26th - 28th 2023. If anyone is interested in serving on an ad-hoc committee, please let me know. We will add this as an agenda item to all of the ECASB committee meetings.

**ELECTRIC BUSES:** I had the opportunity to ride the electric bus at Lake Shore last week. The ride was extremely quiet. The bus is the same size bus as a regular bus. Officials from New York Bus Sales, Inc. were on hand to answer questions. Hopefully, the Lake Shore CSD will be able to provide first hand experience to ECASB members as we move through the year that will help other districts in the integration of electric busses into their fleets.

**ECASB EVENT PRICING:** Just a reminder that when there is an event at ECASB that involves a meal cost, we have to provide a count to the venue by a certain date. If you cancel after the deadline date, please know that we will need to charge the district. We would urge you to find another Board Member or Administrator to attend in your place. *(The Boards and Brews was a free Leadership Event held on August 18th that required an RSVP so that we would have the appropriate amount of food prepared. There were approximately 85 people in attendance. We had 23% of attendees either cancel or were a no-show after the deadline date - because it was a free event, no district would be charged for the no shows/cancellations. Had we known we were going to have 23% of the attendees not be present, we could have decreased the amount of food that had been ordered).* We realize that emergencies do occur that may prevent you from attending an event, however, we ask that you do everything in your power to have another member from your district attend the event. Should you have questions or concerns, please reach out to our office.

**BOARD CONNECTION TRIVIA:** The recipient of the Board Connection Trivia for naming a Board President who has received either the Diana L. Miller Service to Education Award or the Laura M. Burns Advocacy Award was Dawn Snyder (Clarence CSD). Dawn will receive her \$15 Tim Hortons Gift Card for her answer of Robert Polino (Cleveland Hill) who received

the Diana L. Miller Award in 2021. Other current Board Presidents that have received the Diana L. Miller Service to Education Award in the past include: Ronald Catalano (Erie 2 CC BOCES) in 2019, John Sherman (Erie 1 BOCES) in 2020. A current Board President that has received the Laura M. Burns Advocacy for Children Award is Renee Wilson (Cheektowaga CSD) who received the award in 2016.

**ANOTHER BOARD CONNECTION TRIVIA ANSWER:** The recipient of the \$15 Gift Card for naming one new school board member that has not been featured in the Board Connection trivia was Eden District Clerk Barb Thomasulo. There are currently two Board Connections completed on my desktop and waiting to be sent out. There are 18 new school board members that have not returned their Board Connections survey form.

**OCTOBER 6TH STUDENT LEADERSHIP DINNER:** The October 6th Leadership Dinner will be held at Erie 1 BOCES and be catered by Dave's Kitchen. Program Services Manager is working on the details. Although the dinner is open to ALL ECASB members, invitations will be specifically be going out to the following individuals:

- Student Representatives that serve as a NON-Voting member of a School Board.
  - Student Representatives that REGULARLY report out at School Board meetings
  - School Superintendent of schools that have a Student Rep.
  - School Board President of schools that have a Student Rep.
  - School Board Vice-President of schools that have a Student Rep.
  - ALL School District Clerks - so that they can collect and send RSVP's into ECASB
- Any Student Rep. that needs a parent or guardian to accompany them to the dinner will ALSO be invited, however, they will need to RSVP via the district clerk.

The key-note speaker will be Gunnar Haberl who was elected to the Iroquois CSD Board Of Education one year after graduating from High School. Gunnar currently is a Policy Aide for Senator Schumer's office in Washington D.C.

- - - - Any district that does not have a Non Voting Student Rep. on their Board of Education that would like to gather more information may also want to attend the event.

Deadline for all attendees to RSVP is September 22, 2022.

**CIDEL UPDATES:** I serve on the Committee to Identify Developing and Emerging Leaders that is run through the Western New York Education Service Council. We recently had our first monthly meeting of the 2022-2023 school year.

**VACATION DAYS:** I will be taking a 1/2 day Wednesday August 31st, and Thursday and Friday September 1st and 2nd off. The ECASB office will be closed on Monday, September 5th in observance of the Labor Day holiday.

**THIS WEEK AT ECASB RETURNS:** On Friday, September 9, 2022. This Week @ ECASB will contain the logo of one of our 7 Gold Level Sponsors on a rotating basis. When attending events, please get to know any of our Gold and Silver Level Sponsors that may be in attendance.

**LAST DAYS OF SUMMER:** Send in your last days of Summer Picture to win a \$30 Barnes and Noble Gift Card. Because it is last day of summer, the picture can be sans ECASB swag. Picture will be chosen by the ECASB staff based on creativity and photo quality. The picture can include the ECASB member, or can even be a landscape or still life photo.

**UPCOMING COMMITTEE MEETINGS:** Sue Beier will be calling in the upcoming weeks to remind members of the committee meetings. Please remember that in the minutes of each of the meetings, we record those that are present, those that are excused (if you contact our office via email or phone to let us know you will not be present), or absent (if we don't hear from you). Attendance at events AND meetings are counted towards the ECASB participation

awards—the Rising Star and Shining Star Awards. If you are the representative for your district and unable to attend, please contact and urge your alternate to attend. There were several meetings last year where we were unable to take official action due to a quorum of districts NOT being present.

#### **LAST EVENING I ATTENDED THE WEST SENECA CSD BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING:**

ECASB Executive Secretary Sue Summers and I attended the West Seneca CSD Board of Education meeting. Once again, a busy night with updates for the beginning for the school year. The district held an very successful event “On the Way to Kindergarten”. We were also able to hear a report from Community Members on “Reimagine West Seneca Schools”. Special thanks to Board President Elizabeth Gates; Vice President Molly Dana; and Board Members Edmund Bedient, Diane Beres, Janice Dalbo, Jody Peccia, and Vincent Vanderlip. Special Thanks to Superintendent Matthew Bystrak and District Clerk Nicole Latza.

#### **UPCOMING ECASB EVENTS:**

- September 8 - Delegate Assembly Meeting; 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
- September 15 - Budget and Finance Team; 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
- September 20 - Eats and Education Luncheon; **CANCELED**
- September 22 - Legislative Team; 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
- September 29 - District Clerk Luncheon; 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. \* Note time change
- October 6 - Student Rep. / Bd. Leadership Dinner; 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
- October 13 - Understanding Your Districts State Aid with Rick Timbs; 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. at Creekside Banquet Center, Cheektowaga