



This Week At ECASB ...

Important news from this past week and news for the upcoming week.

March 15, 2024

Executive Director Cell Phone: (716) 867-3531

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ECASB AWARD INFORMATION. The names of the recipients of the various ECASB Awards will be released over the course of the next few weeks. The annual dinner will be held June 6th. Award recipients will be recognized and the 2024-2025 officers will be installed. More details will be released within the next few weeks about the dinner. The awards that will be given out this year include: The Diana R. Miller Service to Education, The Laura M. Burns Advocacy for Children, The Wayne Schlifke Lifetime Achievement Award, the Hodgson Russ Collaboration Award, The Lorie Sabo Advocacy Award, The Ray Carr Emerging Leaders Award, the Webster Szanyi District Clerk Award, and the Friend(s) of ECASB Award. In addition, ECASB will recognize recipients of the Shining Star and Rising Star Awards. *This year the Friends of ECASB Award will be presented to:*

- Senator Patrick Gallivan
- Assemblyman William Conrad.

ECASB SPRING SPEEDBOARDING: Will be held Thursday, April 11th starting at 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. The program will be held at the new CTE Center at Calspan, 4411 Genesee Street, Suite 200 Cheektowaga, NY. The program will provide an overview of the Digital Media program, Web Technologies & Game Programming, and Video Production and Recording Arts. The program opened in the fall of 2023. More information and registration will take place beginning next week.



SAVE THE DATE: AUGUST 7, 2024. THE WESTERN NEW YORK EDUCATIONAL SERVICE COUNCIL AND ECASB WILL BE HOLDING THEIR ANNUAL WNY LAW CONFERENCE. Deputy Executive Director and General Counsel for New York State School Boards Association, Mr. Jay Worona, Esq. will be the keynote speaker. The program will be held at Salvatore's Banquet facility in Depew.

ERIE COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS: Presented at Last nights Legislative meeting. The Board of Elections will come out and present to your High School Government classes and provide valuable information for students about elections, how to register to vote, etc. The Erie County Board of Elections traditionally presents to 10-15 high schools within Erie County. The Board of Elections ideally would like to present to every high school in Erie County. Although they do have a busy season

coming up, if you would like the Board of Elections to come to your high school and present to your high school students, please reach out to:

Communications Director Derek Murphy at derek.murphy@erie.gov or call him at 716-858-6045

ECASB ANNUAL DINNER IS THURSDAY, JUNE 6TH. We are in the process of finalizing details. Please note that we that dinner will be at Kloc's in West Seneca. We will have our traditional ECASB Basket Raffle and Split Club which benefits that Lorie Sabo Advocacy Scholarship fund. Baskets should be donated by individuals or ECASB members. More details will be sent out in the weeks ahead.

RECEIVED AN EMAIL FROM JEFF WEISS, ESQ. Attorney Jeff Weiss Esq., who many school districts in Erie County work with is officially at the law firm of Bond, Schoeneck & King (BSK). Jeff will be participating in the WNY Law Conference this summer along with several other attorneys who recently moved to BSK. In the event you need to reach out to one of the attorneys, their contact information is listed below:

- Laura M. Purcell, Esq.	lpurcell@bsk.com	585-362-4787
- Tracie L. Lopardi, Esq.	tlopardi@bsk.com	716-416-7110
- Ann M. McGinnis, Esq.	amcginnis@bsk.com	585-362-4791
- Sara E. Visingard, Esq.	svisingard@bsk.com	585-362-4782
- Jeff Weiss, Esq.	jweiss@bsk.com	716-416-7111
- Andrew R. Mark, Esq.	amark@bsk.com	716-416-7109

RURAL SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION SUMMER CONFERENCE: Will be held at Lake Placid this year July 14th - 16th. This will be a new location for the Rural Schools Association's Summer Conference. Registration is now open. Hotel registrations must be made by June 17th at 4:00 p.m. Room blocks are available at: Best Western Adirondack Inn, Bluebird Lake Plaza, Crowne Plaza, Grand Adirondack Hotel, High Peaks Resort and Mirror Lake Inn. Requests for proposals is open through March 8th. Have additional questions, please contact RSA at 518-750-4223 or email rsa@rsany.org.

VISIT TO HAMBURG CSD: I had a unique experience of visiting the Hamburg CSD Board of Education meeting on Tuesday, March 11th. I commend the Board of Education for their professionalism with a record breaking crowd of concerned faculty, students and community members. Thank you to Board President Thomas Flynn III, Vice President Cameron Hall, and Board Members Laura Heeter, Robbin List, Michael McGarry, Richard Schneider, and David Yoviene. Special Thank you to District Clerk Christine Ljungberg, Superintendent Michael Cornell, and Executive Assistant to the Superintendent Brandi Sutherland.

ONE HOUSE BUDGETS HAVE BEEN RELEASED: Please continue to advocate and let your legislators know where you stand on Save Harmless, Foundation Aid, Social/Emotional Health, School Safety, and any other issues that of concern to your Board of Education.

SPORTS UPDATES:

- **Girls Basketball - Semifinal Playoffs:** Lancaster vs. Section III Liverpool at Hudson Community College, Saturday, March 16th at 10:00 a.m.
- **Boys Hockey - Division I - Orchard Park Champion**
- **Division II Bowling State Champions:**
 - Boys - West Seneca East High School
 - Girls - Depew High School

FRIENDS FOR A BETTER BUFFALO PRESENT: 5TH Annual Excellence Education Awards honoring Buffalo's Teachers, Principals, Support Staff, and Administrators of Public, Private and Charter Schools. Saturday May 4th at Hohn Auditorium located at 99 Calton Street, Buffalo New York 14203. Red Carpet Walk and Photos begin at 5:00 p.m; Awards Show begins at 6:00 p.m. Tickets will be available beginning March 25th. For more information, please refer to www.friendsforabetterbuffalo.com

PROSPECTIVE SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER WORKSHOP: ECASB will hold their annual Prospective School Board Workshop on Saturday, March 23rd, from 8:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. The first part of the program will be presented by Hodgson Russ LLP attorneys Karl Kristoff, Esq. and Jeffrey Swiatek, Esq. The second part will include a panel discussion comprised of experienced School Board Members. If

you are an experienced School Board Member with at least 1 year of service, and want to participate in the panel, please email Dave Lowrey at dlowrey@e1b.org to be considered to serve on the panel.

ECASB IS IN THE PROCESS OF FINALIZING THE 2024-2025 ACTIVITY AND MEETING CALENDAR.

Once the calendar is complete, we will send out so that any returning Board Members will be able to place events on their calendars. Final printed versions will be sent out after reorganization meetings.

6 HOUR MANDATED GOVERNANCE TRAINING AND 6 HOUR MANDATED FISCAL OVERSIGHT RESPONSIBILITY WILL BE HELD THIS YEAR ON THE FOLLOWING DATES:

- Governance Training - Part I - May 28th 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Part II - June 1st 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
- Fiscal Oversight Responsibility Training - Part I - June 11th 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Part II - June 15th 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
- * A light dinner will be served during the 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. sessions.
- * A continental breakfast will be served during the Saturday morning sessions.
- * All sessions are In Person.
- * Must attend both parts of a session to receive credit.
- * Member District cost is \$100 per course; Non Member District cost is \$250.
- * Certificates will be provided.
- * All sessions will be held at Erie 1 BOCES; 355 Harlem Road, West Seneca, Building B
- * Participants must register with their district clerk the Thursday before the training sessions.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: (Upcoming ECASB Events).

- March 23rd - Prospective School Board Member Workshop
- April 11th - ECASB Spring Speed Boarding
- April 18th - Legislative Team Meeting 6:30 p.m./ B1
- April 27th - 2nd Annual ECASB Road Rally 8:30 a.m. start time (Location will be announced).

SPONSOR WORKSHOPS:

- **Harris Beach PLLC**
 - March 23rd - Updates on Current Legal Issues Facing Employers
 - June 22nd - Practical Employee Considerations in Managing Your Workforce

POLITICAL FUNDRAISERS:

None Listed

NYSSBA'S PROGRAMS:

- July 18th - NYSSBA Summer Law Conference in Albany
- July 19th - 20th NYSSBA's Leadership in Education Event

NSBA'S (NATIONAL SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION) PROGRAMS:

- Annual Conference and Exposition - April 4-6 in New Orleans, Louisiana
- Rural Education Summit - April 5th in New Orleans, Louisiana

AFFILIATE NEWS AND INFORMATION:

- **ERIE NIAGARA SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT'S ASSOCIATION:** Achieving the Joy and Mastery of Learning podcast listing. [CLICK HERE](#)

QUESTION OF THE WEEK: *Inquiring School Board Members want to know... "Why does budgeting for Special Education become such a difficult issue?". School Boards can only budget for the current students that they have in the district. With current students, schools know the services that will be needed for the students. The difficult part is that schools do not know what students will be moving*

into the district after the budget has been prepared. There could be Special Education students that have the need of specialized services and aides. The student might need a specialized program either at BOCES or another school that was never anticipated and accounted for in the budget. There could be one student that moves into the district, or there could be many students that move into the district that could affect the overall budget. Many districts will anticipate needs based on historical data. Legislation has been recently introduced in the Assembly (Assembly bill A02402) by Assemblymen Gigilio, Morinello and Norris that would allow schools to set up an Extraordinary Special Education Reserve. A companion bill in the Senate (Senate bill S00197) sponsored by Senators Gallivan and Borrello has also been introduced School districts should reach out to their legislators and urge them to support the bills.

NYSSBA AREA 1 DIRECTOR NEWS AND NOTES:

In the past, at the NYSSBA convention, there were “presiders” at the various workshops. NYSSBA has eliminated the use of “presiders” for several reasons:

- The industry standard does not utilize presiders.*
- With the use of presiders, the microphone would have to be wiped down each and everytime someone used the microphone to prevent the spread of COVID.*
- Individuals that were scheduled to serve as presiders often times would not show up.*
- By eliminating the presider, presenters are able to start right away with their presentation. They can introduce themselves through the presentation.*
- Moving forward, NYSSBA may use “Room Attendants” to assist with taking attendance at sessions, and helping trouble shoot issues within the rooms.*

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