



This Week At ECASB ...

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

February 16, 2024

Executive Director Cell Phone: (716) 867-3531

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THE ECASB OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED MONDAY FEBRUARY 19TH: In observance of President's Day. We will be back in to office on Tuesday, February 20th.

THE ECASB OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16TH: Due to vacation days.

WE SAY GOOD BYE TO NORTH COLLINS SCHOOL BOARD PRESIDENT MICHELLE DECARLO: Michelle resigned from the Board of Education at their February 13th Board of Education meeting. We wish Michelle well in her retirement from Board of Education service.

ECASB AWARD NOMINATIONS CLOSE MARCH 4TH. Any ECASB member may nominate for ECASB awards. Entire Boards DO NOT need to nominate individuals for awards. Award applications are on the ECASB website.

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.

BUFFALO-TORONTO PUBLIC MEDIA EDUCATIONAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING: A meeting was held on Wed. February 14th and Chaired by Erie 1 BOCES Superintendent Dr. Michael Capuana. ECASB Representatives Kristy Pingitore (Akron CSD) and Maureen Poulin (Williamsville CSD) were in attendance. Minutes were reviewed, updates on the following programs were provided: Ready To Learn, Let's Go & Compact History, Reading Rainbow, Building Blocks for Learning, Wild Hope, PBS KIDS Writer's Contest, and PBSLM Workshops and CTLE Offerings. There was discussion around Civics, Democracy and Journalism and how PBS and BPM could engage students and collaborate with school projects and programs. A station tour was provided to those people in attendance. Official minutes of the meeting will be provided to ECASB members when they become available. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be on Wednesday, May 8th.

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.

2024-2025 NYSSBA BUDGET TAKE ACTION LINK: [Action Center \(votervoice.net\)](https://www.votervoice.net)

NEW BOOK IN ECASB LIBRARY: a new book is available in the ECASB library. "Every Connection Matters - How to Build, Maintain, and Restore Relationships Inside the Classroom and Out" by Michael and Nita Creekmore is available to be signed out.

ive learning environments. All school personnel involved in the development and implementation of safety plans are invited to attend. Attendance on BOTH days is required. Priority for attendance will be given to school staff. Capacity is limited. Date is Wednesday April 17th and Thursday, April 18th at the Empire State Plaza Convention Center. Conference is from 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. with check in from 8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

NYSSBA CAPITAL CONFERENCE SURVEY: If you participated in either the Virtual or In-Person Capital Conferences, you should have received a link for a survey. Please take a moment to complete the survey(s) so that NYSSBA will have feedback to better plan and prepare for next year.

LEGISLATIVE MAPPING LINK: Please find the Legislative Mapping Link provided by NYSSBA. [Action Center \(votervoice.net\)](#) For the most part, the map is correct, however, there might be a few glitches in the program.

SECOND HALF OF 2024 TIMELINE FOR BUDGET VOTE & SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS: A few weeks ago, I sent out the first part of the Budget Vote and School Board Election timeline in This Week in ECASB.

May 1 - School board candidate nominating petitions due in small city school districts in office of district clerk by 5:00 p.m. (20 days before election).

April 30- May 7

Districts must complete budget 7 days before the public hearing.

May 6 - Small cities must determine the names of all candidates duly nominated and the propositions and referenda to be voted for on the ballot three days prior to the distribution of military ballots, which occurs 14 days prior to the vote in small cities. Seventeen days before the vote falls on Saturday May 4th, thus under General Construction Law the content of the military ballots may be determined on Monday, May 6th.

May 7 -

1. Last possible day for voter registration by school district board of registration in small city school districts (2 weeks before vote).
2. Small city districts must distribute military ballots no later than 14 days before the vote.

May 7-14 - Board must hold a public hearing on the budget (7-14 days before vote).

May 7-21 - Copies of the budget must be available to the residents upon request (during the 14 days before the vote and on day of vote).

May 7-16 - Last possible day for voter registration by school district boards of registration (14-5days before vote) (except in small city school districts -- see above).

May 15 - Deadline for mailing "budget notice" (6 days before vote).

May 21 - Annual Budget Vote and School Board Election.

Education Law §2022(7) requires a school district to post on its website

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: (Upcoming ECASB Events).

- February 29th - ECASB Delegate Assembly Meeting, 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m, B1

SPONSOR WORKSHOPS:

- **Harris Beach PLLC**
 - February 29th—2024 Educational Institutions Conference
 - March 23rd - Updates on Current Legal Issues Facing Employers
 - June 22nd - Practical Employee Considerations in Managing Your Workforce
- **Hodgson Russ LLP**- February 8th - What Employers Need to Know. Presented by Asia Evans, Esq. and Elizabeth McPhail, Esq. Contact Hodgson Russ to register.

POLITICAL FUNDRAISERS:

None Listed

NYSSBA'S PROGRAMS:

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... "Our school attorney left their law firm and switched to a new law firm. If we want to continue to work with the attorney does the board have to take any action?" The Board should approve of the new law firm if they did not approve of the law firm during the reorganization meeting. It is the 'law firm' that is approved, and not necessarily the individual attorneys.*

NYSSBA AREA 1 DIRECTOR NEWS AND NOTES:

There will be a NYSSBA Board of Directors meeting on March 2nd/3rd in Albany. I met with NYSSBA Executive Director Robert Schneider on February 8th at the ECASB office. We discussed the NYSSBA Strategic Plan as well as ways that NYSSBA and ECASB can work collaboratively.

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Last week in Albany at the Capital Conference, Erik Polkowski (Akron CSD), and Mary Jo Szucs (Holland CSD) met with Assemblyman Stephen Hawley. Assemblyman Hawley has the post on his social media account. ECASB discussed Hold Harmless, Foundation Aid, and the time frame for Electric School Buses that the Governor has proposed. Assemblyman Hawley represents part of Akron CSD and Alden CSD.

