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New York State
141st Assembly District**

Assemblywoman

September 2020

Crystal Peoples-Stokes - Election District 141

ECASB

Erie County Association of School Boards

Where professional development,
leadership & advocacy meet.

The INSIDER

Providing ECASB Members Information and Insight about our Elected Officials

ECASB School Districts in

District:

Buffalo Public School District

Party Affiliation:

Democrat

Stay Connected:

Local Office:

425 Michigan Avenue

Buffalo, NY 14203

Phone: (716) 897-9714

Fax: (716) 897-1154

Albany Office:

Leg. Office Bldg., 926

Albany, New York 12248

Phone (518) 455-5005

[www.@](http://www.nysassembly.gov/Crystal-D-Peoples-Stokes)

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Here To Serve...

Committees:

- *Committee Rules - Member*
- *Committee on Black, Puerto Rican, Hispanic Asian Legislative Caucus - Member*
- *Legislative Women's Caucus - Member*
- *Task Force on Women's issues - Member*

Crystal Peoples-Stokes was elected to the Assembly in 2003 and appointed Majority Leader of the New York State Senate in 2018. Crystal is the first woman to hold this position in the history of the New York State Assembly as well as the first African American to hold the position.

Her mother was a Buffalo Public School Teacher, while her father worked for the Sanitation Department for the City of Buffalo. She followed in her mother's footsteps after graduating from Buffalo Public



Schools. She earned a Bachelor of Science Degree from Buffalo State College in Elementary Education and Master's Degree in Student Personnel Administration, as well as an Honorary Doctorate from Medaille College.

She worked briefly as a teacher for the Buffalo Urban League and Citizen Action of New York.

Assemblywoman Peoples-Stokes began her political career when she served on the Erie County Legislature from 1993—2002, serving as the Majority Leader for that governing body in 1998.

Peoples-Stokes is a strong advocate who puts people and principle before politics. She is a fearless fighter for Minority and Women Owned Businesses ensuring that they have a fair chance in obtaining state contracts. In 2015 she was appointed as Chair of the Assembly's Committee on Governmental Operations. This committee maintains oversight on ethics reform and FOIL requests, state police, homeland security, disaster and emergency preparedness, MWBE, crime victims, human rights, and military and naval affairs. In June 2017, she was voted by her colleagues to be Chair of the New York State Legislative Women's Caucus which is a bi-partisan and bi-cameral group.

Peoples-Stokes has championed a Diversity in Medicine initiative as well as Buffalo's Teacher Diversity Pipeline which will help teachers' aides and assistants obtain the proper training and certification to teach in NYS. She successfully passed a law to decriminalize possession and the expungement of minor marijuana convictions from New Yorkers' criminal records.

Majority Leader Peoples-Stokes attributes her accomplishments to her deep and abiding faith and family. She is a member of True Bethel Baptist Church and St. Luke's AME Zion Church and currently resides in Buffalo, New York with her family including her daughter Rashaun and her grandson Kaleb Malik.