



August 11, 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 Apptegy. Register with your District Clerk by Thursday August 17th. The event will be held at Kloc's in West Seneca. The topic is - "Who Speaks Your District's Brand"? The program is open to Superintendents, Board Members and District Public Information Specialists. How do you handle conflict? How do you sell a capital project? How do you mobilize advocates? How to garner community support? How do you build trust in your community? Promoting and strengthening your District's Brand is the answer.

ECASB SUMMER CHALLENGE UPDATE: No entries were submitted this week. You have to be in it to win it. If you are out - don't pout.

IT'S A COOL SUMMER AT ECASB PROMOTION WINNER FOR WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9TH WAS: Robert Polino, Board President for Cleveland Hill UFSD.

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. The following Board Members have already stepped forward: Stephanie Dombrowski (Cheektowaga Sloan UFSD), and Crystal Kaczmarek-Bogner (Williamsville CSD) have volunteered to serve on the committee thus far. If anyone else is interested please let us know this week so we can establish a meeting. District Clerk Gina Santa Maria (Ken Ton UFSD) and Board President Liz Gates (West Seneca CSD) have volunteered to assist at the table during the Convention. If anyone else is interested, please let us know. We have not had a table in quite a few years, so we will have to get back to individuals on the details.

SPONSOR UPDATES: John W. Danforth Company and NYSIR will be back joining us as Gold Level Sponsors. Buffalo Engineering, C.J. Brown Engineering, and Gordon Jones Architects will be returning as Silver Level Sponsors.

ECASB NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Thank you to Tricia Andrews (Clarence CSD), Sherry Steffans (Grand Island CSD), and Michelle DeCarlo (North Collins CSD), for agreeing to serve on the nominating committee. The nominating Committee will make recommendations for Board Officers at the end of the 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. Mary Busse (Erie 1 BOCES) has agreed to serve in an advisory capacity on the committee. Mary has been chair of the nominating committee for many years. Thank You Mary!

ADDITIONAL VOLUNTEERS: Please be advised that the Nominating Committee will be putting together a slate of candidates to serve on the following committees. If you are interested in continuing your involvement or serving on the committee listed below, please let me know and I will forward your name to the nominating committee. The committees are approved annually at the first Delegate Assembly meeting in September.

- Buffalo Philharmonic Education Committee - (about 5 meetings through the year).
- ECASB Financial Advisory Committee - (3 members meet virtually with auditor to review annual report and make report back to the Executive Board/Budget and Finance Committee).
- Awards Committee- Will meet 1 afternoon/evening in march to review all award nominations.

Will also recommend award criteria for any new awards that are proposed by the organization (usually 5 school board members).

- WNED Education Committee - (1 Board Member meets with WNED/PBS Education Committee to provide feedback to committee and share upcoming program and initiative from WNED/PBS to the ECASB Membership.

- Legislative Committee Chairs - (traditionally 2 individuals) chair the Legislative Committee meetings and work primarily with Program Services Manager to lead the advocacy initiatives for the organization.

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.

THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING ECASB MEMBERS THAT ATTENDED THE WNY LAW CONFERENCE ON AUGUST 2ND: Heather Cayea, Kristy Pingitore and Stephanie Coffta (Akron CSD), Lorry Goldhawk (Amherst CSD); Derrick Warburton and Renee Wilson (Cheektowaga CSD); Denise McCowan (Cheektowaga Sloan UFSD); Dennis Priore, Dawn Snyder, and Tricia Andrews (Clarence CSD); Jon MacSwan (Cleveland Hill UFSD); Terri Ohlweiler (East Aurora UFSD); Allan Silver (Eden CSD); Ed Cavan, John Sherman, Renee Wilson, Mary Busse, and Dr. Capuana (Erie 1 BOCES); Linda Hoffman, Tom DeJoe, Sylvester Cleary, Greg Cole, Nancy Renckens, Bryna Moritz, and Trish Degraff (Erie 2 CC BOCES); Dr. Robert Anderson and Dollene Christopher (Gowanda CSD); Dr. Graham and Sherry Steffans (Grand Island CSD); Karen Whitelaw, Matt Chimera, and Sabatino Cimato (Ken Ton UFSD); Dan Pacos (Lake Shore CSD); Marie Zimmer (Maryvale UFSD); Scott Taylor (North Collins CSD); Dave Lilleck, Karen Sreniawski, Ed Draves, and Ryan Anderson (Orchard Park CSD); Scott Johnson (Sweet Home CSD); Brandon McGuire, Dr. Timothy Oldenburg, and Linsey Neal (Tonawanda City SD); Crystal Kaczmarek-Bogner, Dr. Michael Littman, and Dr. Darren Brown-Hall (Williamsville CSD)

WNY LAW CONFERENCE: Please remember all files are available on our website until the end of September.

WE WELCOME THE YORKSHIRE-PIONEER CSD BOARD OF EDUCATION, SUPERINTENDENT, AND DISTRICT CLERK: Past Executive Director Dr. Bruce Fraser in a recent conversation noted that the Starpoint CSD and Yorkshire Pioneer CSD had a very small portion of their district fall within the boundary of Erie County. Approximately 10% of the Yorkshire Pioneer CSD falls within Erie County. As we increase our advocacy efforts with state and local officials, it only makes sense to include the two districts in our advocacy efforts. For the coming year, ECASB will include the Pioneer CSD on all of our email and mailing lists. Members of the Pioneer Board, District Clerk, Superintendent and Administrative Staff will be able to attend ECASB events. Members of the Boards of Education will be able to attend the Delegate Assembly, Budget and Finance Team, and Legislative Committees as Non Voting Members. Although the official name of the district is Yorkshire Pioneer CSD, we will be referring to the district as Pioneer CSD in the future. We welcome Superintendent Nicholas Silvaroli, District Clerk Carrie Bartoszek, Board President Melissa Nocera-Collins, Vice President Angela Wiseman,

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and Board Members Darla Schwab, Denise Urbino, Mark Kless, Wendy Warner Burch, Shawn Hannon, Eric Slocum and Brandon Pyc. Members of the Pioneer CSD may be joining us at events throughout the year. Please welcome Pioneer CSD.

NYSSBA AREA 1: I will begin serving as the NYSSBA Area 1 Director beginning on January 1st, 2024. Linda Hoffman will serve until December 31, 2023. The following districts are NYSSBA member districts in Area 1: Akron CSD, Albion CSD, Alden CSD, Alexander CSD, Amherst CSD, Attica CSD, Batavia City SD, Buffalo SD, Byron-Bergen CSD, Cheektowaga CSD, Cheektowaga Sloan UFSD, Clarence CSD, Cleveland Hill UFSD, Depew UFSD, East Aurora UFSD, Eden CSD, Erie 1, Erie 2 CC BOCES and Niagara Orleans BOCES, Frontier CSD, Grand Island CSD, Hamburg CSD, Holland CSD, Iroquois CSD, Kenmore-Tonawanda City SD, Lake Shore CSD, Lancaster CSD, LeRoy CSD, Lewiston Porter CSD, Lockport City SD, Medina City SD, Niagara Falls City SD, Niagara Wheatfield CSD, North Tonawanda City SD, Oakfield Alabama CSD, Orchard Park CSD, Pembroke CSD, Royalton-Hartland CSD, Springville Griffith Institute CSD, Starpoint CSD, Sweet Home CSD, Tonawanda City SD, West Seneca CSD, Williamsville CSD, and Wilson CSD.

RECOVS PROGRAM: There is the availability of \$100 million in grant funding for school districts through the Recover from Covid Schools Program. Application deadline is August 18th. For assistance, contact recovsrfp@nysed.gov.

SUB COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE: The Legislative Committee who met last evening to review the survey that will be sent out to ECASB member districts regarding Advocacy issues for 2023 - 2024. Thank you to Scott Johnson (Sweet Home CSD), Kristin Schmutzler (Tonawanda City), Erik Polkowski (Akron CSD) and ECASB Program Services Manager Jane Sullivan (Iroquois CSD). There were a few individuals that had volunteered to serve on the committee who were unavailable.

SPECIAL THANK YOU TO GRAND ISLAND SUPERINTENDENT DR. BRIAN GRAHAM: For hosting the Lunch and Learn with vendor Zero Eyes. There were approximately 70 attendees representing districts in Erie and Niagara County as well as local law enforcement, school resource officers and ECASB. Representatives from Zero Eyes provided information on the program that interfaces with a districts current camera/security system and uses Artificial Intelligence to identify fire arms. The presentation included a live demonstration on how the system works.

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) Keynote speaker is Carmella Hopkins from Apptegy who will speak about your District's Brand.
- 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: There were no pictures submitted this week. The following individuals remain in the running: Mary Jo Szucs (Holland CSD); Brandon McGuire (Tonawanda City SD); Dennis Priore (Clarence CSD); and Kimberly Bukaty (Lackawanna City SD). Contest closes next Friday, August 18th. If you are not in it - You can't win it!