This Week At ECASB ...

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

Week Ending May 12, 2023 *Executive Director Cell Phone: (716) 867-3531*

ECASB ROAD RALLY: The ECASB Road Rally took place on Saturday, April 29th. Teams from Amherst CSD, Clarence CSD, Ken-Ton UFSD, Tonawanda City SD and Iroquois CSD competed to find 4 school buildings in the city of Buffalo, solve riddles and bring back found items. Lunch was catered by Dinosaur BBQ. All participants agreed that the first time event was fun and a great way for Board Members to get to know one another. We will be looking to continue the Road Rally into year 2 in one of the component districts. The winners of the different categories include:

Best Time - Amherst CSD (Lorry Goldhawk and Lynn Errington)
Most Total Points - Clarence CSD (Tricia Andrews, Jonathan Andrews and Dawn Snyder)
Most Creative Pictures - Tonawanda City SD (Kristin Schmutzler, Andrea Wisniewski, Jeff Thorp)

FINAL LEGISLATIVE DINNER: The ECASB Legislative Dinner was held last evening as 57 attendees heard from Senator Patrick Gallivan and Assemblyman Bill Conrad about the 2022-2023 Legislative Session. We look forward to continuing this tradition of having a Legislative Event in the Fall of the year and a follow up event in the Spring.

MEETING WITH SENATOR GALLIVAN: On Thursday, May 4th several ECASB members met with Senator Gallivan about the CVA. The meeting was held at Erie 1 BOCES for about an hour. ECASB members in attendance included Program Services Manager Jane Sullivan (Iroquois CSD), Mary Jo Szucs (Holland CSD), Ken-Ton Superintendent Sabatino Cimato and Lesley Battaglia (Ken Ton UFSD), Sweet Home Superintendent Dr. Michael Ginestre, Sweet Home Business Official Donald Feldmann, and Scott Johnson (Sweet Home CSD), Maryvale UFSD Superintendent Joe D'Angelo and James McDermott (Maryvale UFSD) and Jennifer Pilarski (Maryvale UFSD), Ed Schaeffer (Cheektowaga CSD), Wesley Schlossin (Cheektowaga-Sloan UFSD) and ECASB Executive Director David Lowrey (Erie 2 CC BOCES). Senator Gallivan is supportive and understands our concerns. He did express that we would be able to be more effective if we have more support from around the state to show that this is affecting more than just schools in the WNY area. He provided us with several suggestions to help him bring legislation forward.

THE BUFFALO PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA CELEBRATED THEIR MUSIC EDUCATION PROGRAM ON MAY 6TH. Recipients of various awards were as follows:

- BPO/ECMEA Award for Excellence in Music Education
- Trevor Jelowski– West Seneca CSD
- Alicia Struckmann– Iroquois CSE
- Annelle VanNortwick-West Seneca CSD

Friends of the BPO Young Musicians Scholarships
-$3000– Annelyse Wilson, oboe, Williamsville East High School
-$2000– Jonathan Yi, cello, Clarence High School
-$1000– Rebekah Grande, voice, Amherst High School

Yadzinski Scholarship for the Arts
-$2,500– Vincent Conlon, harp/voice, Lancaster High School

FYI: Tonight, May 12th is the Semi-Annual East Aurora Art Walk. Attendees can walk through the village on a Friday night and tour several different locations where Art is on display and available for purchase. A free trolly is available to transport attendees. It is a great Friday evening event that you will want to put on your calendar. I will provide more information in the future. The Art Walk occurs twice a year - one Friday night in the spring of the year and one Friday night in the fall of the year.

ANNUAL ECASB DINNER: Mark your calendars. June 8th is the Annual ECASB Business Meeting and Annual Awards Dinner. The event will be at the Grapevine Banquet Center at 333 Dick Road, De-

pew. Registration, Cocktails, and the chance to enter the Basket Raffle at 5:30 p.m.; Program begins at 6:00 p.m.; Dinner begins at 6:45 p.m. Cost is $48.00. Dinner will consist of appetizers of cheese and crackers and mini bourbon meatballs; fresh rolls with house made garlic glaze, chef salad with Italian dressing, white cheddar mashed potatoes, fresh seasonal vegetables, coffee, assorted soda and cake. Entrée selections include:

- **8 oz. Filet Mignon**
- **BBQ Berry Salmon**
- **Chicken Cordon Bleu**

- **There is a Cash Bar. Deadline to register with your district clerk is May 25th for attendees and May 23rd for all Award Recipients.**

ECASB SHIRTS: If your ECASB shirt is a little worn, and you are in need of a new ECASB shirt, please let me know I will be glad to send it to you interschool mail to your school. You can have it before summer starts. We have:

Black ECASB Shirts - have all the logos except Holland CSD (They were printed before Holland was a member).

Navy Blue ECASB Shirts - have all the logos.

*** Please note that once the school mascot issue is resolved, we may have a third printing. If you have a suggestion for the printing of the color of the third edition of shirts - let me know. If you are requesting a shirt, please indicate whether you want Navy Blue or Black and the appropriate size. The shirts are FREE. Watch for our ever popular T-Shirt Challenge coming up this summer.**

GOVERNANCE TRAINING IS SHAPING UP… ALTHOUGH WE HAVE PUT ON HOLD ON PLANNING DUE TO REMODEL AT ECASB: Here is a preview of the Governance Training (All training will be in-person) at 355 Harlem Road.

- Tuesday, June 6th, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. - Karl Kristoff, Esq. and Jeff Swiatek, Esq. from Hodgson Russ will present.

- Saturday, June 10th, 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. - Depew UFSD District Clerk Jessica Neischel "The District Clerks Role with the Board of Education.

- Saturday, June 10th, 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. - Dr. Heather Lyon from Lewiston Porter will present on Student Achievement and the Board's Role in Assessment.

- Saturday, June 10th, 11:00 a.m. - 11:30 - The Board and the Superintendent; also Board Dynamics.

- Saturday, June 10th 11:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon - Panel Discussion with experienced Board of Education members

****** IF ANY ECASB BOARD MEMBERS WOULD LIKE TO BE PART OF THE PANEL DISCUSSION, PLEASE SEND DAVE LOWREY AN EMAIL TO dlowrey@e1b.org.**

WESTERN NEW YORK EDUCATIONAL SERVICE COUNCIL: Held their annual Awards for Excellence Banquet on Wednesday, April 26th at Creekside Banquet Facility. Award recipients for 2023 included:

Superintendent: Andrea Galenski, Cheektowaga-Sloan UFSD
Board of Education: Matthew Chimera, Kenmore-Town of Tonawanda UFSD
Teaching:
Laura Anderson, Ken-Ton UFSD
Michael Murray, Grand Island CSD
Nicole Vicki, Tonawanda City SD
Support Staff Services:
Karen Barrett, Sweet Home CSD
Tom Gominiak, Ken-Ton UFSD
Anne Henneberger, Grand Island CSD
Christine Rich-Reese, Clarence CSD
Erie 1 BOCES was the recipient of the Dr. Robert W. Heller Award

NYSSBA CONVENTION-BUFFALO: ECASB will have a table on the ground floor of the convention center. We will be hosting a meeting in the near future to gather ideas to help make "Buffalo" and "Erie County Association of School Boards" shine as NYSSBA brings the convention to Buffalo. We will be looking for ideas. Watch for notices for a meeting sometime in June before we take a brief hiatus for the summer.

FINAL BOARD MEETING: I was able to get around to all ECASB member districts. I finally attended the Ken-Ton UFSD School Board meeting on Tuesday, May 9th. I had been scheduled to attend back in December - however COVID got in the way. At the Ken-Ton UFSD school board meetings, they feature a different school to highlight. On Tuesday night, they featured Kenmore West High School. They honor a student, a staff support person, and a teacher. Once a quarter, they honor a community member. I also heard a unique report on how Ken-Ton will be moving forward with their transportation department. It was an honor to be present as President Matt Chimera was honored by NYSSBA with a Board Mastery Award. Special Thank you to Board President Matt Chimera, Vice President Lesley Battaglia, Board Members Paul Spors, Todd Marquardt and Jennifer Morrow. In addition, thank you to Superintendent Sabatino Cimato, District Clerk Gina Santa Maria, Asst. Superintendents Kelly White, Nicole Morasco, Jeff Richards, and Community Relations Coordinator Patrick Fanelli. I plan on revisiting the Ken Ton Board again on Saturday, May 13th as I tour the district and have "Breakfast With the Board".

ARTWORK ON DISPLAY: Congratulations to Ava Valkwitch , a Kenmore East High School student whose artwork "Reinstein Woods in Bloom" will be on display in the halls leading to the U.S. Capitol building in Washington, D.C. Students from 14 high schools within Rep. Brian Higgins 26th Congressional district submitted artwork which was on display in the lobby of the Larkin at Exchange Building. People that visited the on-lingegallery were able to vote for their favorites. The "People's Choice Award" went to Leyna Diehl from West Seneca East High School. Jolynda Wang from Williamsville North High School was one of the runners-up from ECASB high schools.

REMODEL UPDATE. Our office is almost complete. I have almost all the items out of the hall and back in the room. It was great purging and getting rid of items that were no longer needed. The room appears so much bigger.

BILL TRACK 50 ALERT: No updated news. See Advocacy Alliance Monthly

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY TO ALL MOTHERS, GRANDMOTHERS, STEP MOMS, FOSTER MOTHERS, AUNTS, GODMOTHERS OR ANY WOMAN THAT WAS AN IMPORTANT AND INFLUENTIAL PART OF A CHILDS LIFE!

UPCOMING ECASB DATES:

May 16th - School Board Elections and Budget Votes at Schools throughout Erie County
May 18th - Scholastic Achievement Recognition Dinner for Students, Board President, Superintendent and High School Principal at Salvatores @ 6:15 p.m.
May 25th - ECASB Delegate Assembly Meeting 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

NYSSBA'S PROGRAMS:

- **Superintendent Evaluation Workshop: 2023 Live Virtual on September 22nd 8:00 a.m. - noon**

Attend the program to learn about best practices for designing and evidence-based evaluation process that will: 1). Overcome challenges, 2). Foster meaningful conversations, and 3). Strengthen relationships on the governance team.

- **Leadership in Education Event: July 28th & 29th at the Desmond Hotel in Albany. *PLEASE NOTE THAT THE LINK IS NOW OPEN FOR REGISTRATION. I AM REGISTERED AND HAVE MY ROOM RESERVED.. HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!***

SPONSORS UPCOMING WORKSHOPS: Register directly with the Sponsors:

- **Harris Beach PLLC - June 22nd 8:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m. Webinar - Practical Employee Considerations in Managing Your Workforce.**
- **Harris Beach PLLC - September 21st 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Webinar - Workplace Leave Laws**
- **Harris Beach PLLC - November 16th 8:00 a.m. - 10 a.m. Webinar - End of the Year Labor Updates**

AFFILIATE PROGRAMS:

- **Rural Schools Association will hold a Legislative Update webinar monthly through the legislative**

session. Sessions will begin at noon and will last as long as it takes to present information and answer questions. Email Heather Zellers at hzellers@rsany.org as the time nears to receive the zoom link. Dates of the sessions are:

- June 8, 2023

- 2023 Rural Schools Association Summer Conference: Save the Date! Otesaga Resort in Cooperstown, New York July 9th - 11th.

NATIONAL SCHOOL BOARDS EVENTS:

2023	- Sept. 14-16	CUBE Annual Conference in Chicago, Illinois
	- Oct.	COSA Fall School Law Seminar
2024	- Jan. 27	NSBA Equity Symposium in Washington, D.C.
	- Jan. 28-30	NSBA Advocacy Institute in Washington, D.C.
	- April 4-6	COSA Spring School Law Conference in New Orleans, LA
	- April 6-8	NSBA Annual Conference and Exposition in New Orleans, LA

POLITICAL FUNDRAISERS:

June 22nd - NYS Assemblyman Angelo Morinello - Annual Kickoff to Summer; 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. at the Lewiston Stone House, 755 Center Street, Lewiston - more information to follow

October 12th - NYS Assemblyman Angelo Morinello - Fall Festival 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. at the Ontario House (Stone Jug) 358 Main Street, Youngstown - more information to follow.

This Week At ECASB is sponsored by
Gold Level Sponsor

CAMPUS
CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT
Building on Knowledge