

SPECIAL REPORT FROM ECASB ... SPECIAL REPORT FROM ECASB ...

VIRTUAL COLSBA MEETING - JULY 12, 2023 (Council of Local School Boards Association)

The meeting of the COLSBA organization met for their third quarter meeting. There were 15 members in attendance including NYSSBA STAFF MEMBERS: Business Development and Member Relations Manager Zac Adams; Director of Member Relations Barry Entwistle; Director of Convention and Events Heidi Longton; and Director of Governmental Relations Brian Fessler. COLSBA President Karen Belanger from Washington-Putnam County School Boards Association welcomed all attendees to the virtual meeting and wished weel those people who were in the flooded areas in the Hudson Valley.

NYSSBA UPDATE: -

- Heidi Longton provided an update on the Leadership in Education Event as well as the Convention. She mentioned that Housing and Registration will open on August 8th. The Host hotel will be the Hyatt. In addition to the PRE-CONVENTION Law Conference, there will be a Officers Session, which is a new program. Registrants will be able to access the housing directly through the website when the site opens.
 - Karen Belanger noted that the COLSBA meeting would be in person on Friday around noon.
- Brian Fessler mentioned that the Annual Resolutions deadline was fast approaching July 14th at 5:00 p.m. The Resolutions Committee will then meet during August to review all resolutions and decide which resolutions should move forward to the October Business Meeting. Brian indicated that the Capital Conference dates are as follows: Virtual portion will be Friday, February 2nd in the a.m. The in-person meetings at the Capital will be on February 7th. Meetings with federal legislators are currently being set up. Board members can find information under the Grassroots Advocacy link on the web page. Advocacy Liaison will be notified along with Board Presidents from the area. A meeting has already been established with Representative Nick Langworthy. NYSSBA provided updates on all of the bills that had passed at least one house that NYSSBA had a vested interest in.
- Many staff members from NYSSBA have been traveling around the state to attend annual dinners and meetings.

ROUND TABLE REPORTS:

<u>Adirondack School Boards Association</u>: They will have Bill Daggett as a speaker at their September meeting. In March, they hope to have Brian Fessler from NYSSBA discuss advocacy. They now utilize small musical student groups to kick off meetings.

Broome Tioga BOCES School Board Association: There are 15 districts in the association. All 15 have new

presidents after having their reorganization meetings. Sandy Ruffo from their area will be the new NYSSBA President in the coming year.

Rockland County School Boards Association: - At their annual dinner last year, they focused on the group of nurses. This year, they focused on school counselors. Focusing on another group has added another element to their dinners.

<u>Jefferson Lewis School Boards Association</u>:- They traditionally will have a Fall Legislative Program and one again in January. They have added a program about Capital Projects because not too many board members are aware of the details when it comes to a capital projects. In addition, they have focused on cyber security as several districts in the area were affected.

<u>Orange County School Boards Association</u>: - They have held their governance training. There are 13 districts in their association. One of the other topics they will focus on in the next year will be Electric Vehicles. There are many, many questions from many board members.

<u>Wayne Essex School Board Association</u>: - Many Boards are in the dark about reading in the schools, so they will have a program on the Science of Reading in the fall of the year. They have also been having lengthy discussions about Tier 6 in the retirement system. There are big differences between Tier 6 and other Tiers. The variances could greatly affect teacher shortages.

Monroe County School Boards Association: Currently finalizing their calendar. They have a fall and a spring law conference. At Summer retreats, many districts are focusing on the Boards Role, Board Norms. They will be focusing on the Solar Eclipse in the upcoming months. Fringe topics include Chat GPT, and parents asking for book banning within districts.

<u>Washington-Putnam County School Boards Association</u>: With the cost of dinners, they have moved to non-dinner programs and called them "Boards Night Out."

<u>Erie County School Boards Association</u>: I shared information about the Annual Dinner, Governance Training Fiscal Oversight Responsibility Training, the Boards and Brews program, the WNY Law Conference and our Back to School Dinner.