



This Week At ECASB ...

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

Week Ending December 16, 2022

Executive Director Cell Phone: 867-3531

LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST: The new date is January 21st with a deadline of January 9th to register for the event. The breakfast will be held at the Grapevine Banquet Center at 333 Dick Road, Depew.

NYSSBA'S 2023 LEGISLATIVE AND STATE BUDGET PREVIEW WEBINAR - Is scheduled for December 14th from noon - 1:30 p.m. The program is free to all NYSSBA Members. Register through the NYSSBA website.

ECASB BUDGET AND FINANCE TEAM: I met with Executive Bookkeeper Ryan DiPasquale to begin the 2023-2024 Budget. Once the documents are ready they will be sent out. Although I will be on vacation this week, I will be meeting with Ryan to finalize the budget. The Budget and Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for January 5th from 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

LOOKING AHEAD: I will be on vacation the week of December 19th - 23rd. The ECASB office will be closed Monday December 26th.

NYSSBA'S STATE BUDGET PREVIEW WEBINAR: I attended the virtual webinar for the State Budget preview on Wednesday, December 14th from noon until 1:30 p.m. I will send out notes in the near future.

NYSSBA CAPITAL CONFERENCE: The NYSSBA Capital Conference in person meeting with legislators in Albany is February 15th. If you are planning on attending the Capital Conference, please contact Jane Sullivan at jsullivan@e1b.org to let her know. Jane will begin setting up meetings very soon with legislators based on the school board members that are attending the in person Capital Conference. Please note that the virtual portion of the Capital Conference will be February 10th. The virtual portion basically provides NYSSBA members a background about advocacy and the issues. EVEN if you are not attending the in person Capital Conference in Albany, you can still attend the virtual portion to learn and prepare for 'in district' advocacy. At ECASB member district Board of Education meetings in January, they may want to discuss meeting with their legislators.

ECASB'S NEXT EVENT WILL BE JANUARY 21, 2023: When we host Advocacy Training and the Legislative Breakfast.

NYSSBA OFFERS MICRO COURSES. New York State School Boards is offering microlearning. The 1-2 hour courses are designed to provide additional information on a variety of topics to school board members. Once you register to take the class, the registration is valid for 1 year. NYSSBA currently has 4 classes and hopes to have additional subjects in the future. The first four courses include:

- Foundations of DEI in Education
- DEI in Education; The Board's Role
- Managing Conflict to Build Board Unity
- Effective School Board Meetings

ECASB AWARD NOMINATIONS OPEN ON JANUARY 3rd. Information will be sent out to all ECASB members about the Awards prior to January 3rd. The nominations will be sent to ECASB to the attention of Dave Lowrey. The information about the awards will also be on the ECASB website. The nominations close on March 6, 2023. The Awards Team will meet on March 9, 2023 from 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Individuals serving on the Awards Team include: Lorry Goldhawk (Amherst CSD), Dawn Snyder (Clarence CSD), Jan Dalbo (West Seneca CSD), Kristin Schmutzler (Tonawanda City SD), and Renee Wilson (Cheektowaga CSD and Erie 1 BOCES).

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR POSITION: Prior to me being hired in 2018, I had worked at Lockport High School. My original plan was to continue teaching for a few more years. The Executive Director at

ECASB at the time, Dr. Bruce Fraser reached out to me to see if I was interested in serving in the role. My initial reaction was no. After further discussions, I decided that I would move forward with the plan. Because the position was being changed to a .8 position, the salary was less than what I would have been making had I just stayed teaching. With much discussion with Dr. Fraser, the Board and the attorney, it was determined that it would be best if I retired from teaching and apply for a Section 211 waiver. The Section 211 waiver allows me to make more than the \$35,000 as stipulated under the law when I am receiving my pension from the NYSTRS. Waivers are granted for a two year period. I was granted a two year waiver in 2018. In 2020 I was granted another two year waiver. It is time to request a waiver - if I am to continue in the position. Part of the waiver process is to demonstrate that the organization has advertised the position. Thus, as we begin the renewal process on the waiver, you may see an advertisement for the position. I am not looking to leave my position, however, if a qualified individual was available, the Executive Board would in fact need to due their due diligence and review any potential candidates.

SAD NEWS: Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family of Dr. Gerald P. Glose and the Frontier CSD Board of Education and school community. Dr. Glose recently passed away. He had served as the Frontier CSD District Superintendent from 1994 - 2000 and had served the district in the role of Assistant Superintendent of Business prior to that time.

ECASB ELF ON A SHELF: The winners of the ECASB Elf On A Shelf will be announced on Monday, December 19th.

CONGRATULATIONS TO AMHERST CSD: Amherst CSD voters approved a \$68.7 million capital improvement project that will focus on security upgrades, pick up and drop off areas, auditorium improvements in all buildings, renovation of the high school auditorium, an Early Childhood Center, and renovation of fields and surrounding facilities. Voters approved the project by 477-305.

MESSAGE FROM RURAL SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK: The following information was received from RSA New York:

Katie Loos, from Columbia - Teachers College and Democracy Ready NY is looking for students to participate in a student lead event. If you have any questions, please reach out to Katie directly at: kl3329@tc.columbia.edu

"The Democracy Ready Coalition of NY is looking to work with students across the state who have a passion for civic engagement. There are two distinct opportunities for students to get involved with, please read through each one carefully - the deadline to apply to both will be December 31st. Students who sign-up and participate with the coalition for civics week, in the upcoming new year, will have the opportunity to earn a small stipend. For all the details, please read the information below and reach out to Katie Loos, kl3329@tc.columbia.edu, if you have any questions.

The DemocracyReady NY Coalition is inviting high school and early college students from urban, rural, and suburban districts across New York State to plan a virtual youth-led event in celebration of NYS Civic Learning Week 2023, from March 6th - 10th. The event will be focused on a civic learning topic (or topics) of your choice. Given the platform to speak to policymakers directly, what would you want them to hear? Topics might include: civic education equity and access, media literacy, community activism, service learning, and more!"

To get involved, please fill out the form below by December 31st, 2022. Students will receive a stipend for their participation.

[DRNY Civic Learning Week Youth-Led Event Sign-Up Application](#)

For students interested in longer-term involvement with the DRNY coalition, consider applying to the Youth Ambassador program starting in the Spring semester. [Application found here.](#)

Please note students may apply to both opportunities.*

BENNETT HIGH SCHOOL PARADE SLATED FOR DECEMBER 22ND. The parade honors the high school for its championship in the New York State Public High School Athletic Association football

title. The parade will start at the high school at 10:30 a.m. and end at Niagara Square. The parade will consist of six buses, parents, staff and alumni.

OTHER THINGS TO DO THIS WEEKEND:

- BPO Holiday Pops Concert: 10:30 a.m. Friday, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, and 2:30 p.m. Sunday at Kleinhans Music Hall. Ticket prices range from \$12 - \$108.
- East Aurora 50th Carolcade - Free Event on Saturday, December 17th from 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. outside Viddler's at 676-694 Main Street, East Aurora.
- Ugly Sweater Silent Disco - 8:00 p.m. Friday, December 16th at Resurgence Brewing Company. Tickets are \$20.

BILL TRACK 50 ALERT:

No current bills introduced.

UPCOMING ECASB DATES:

- January 3rd - ECASB Award Nominations Open
- January 21st - Advocacy Training and Legislative Breakfast

NYSSBA'S PROGRAMS:

- NYSSBA– Capital Conference Day (Virtual) - 2/10/2023 in the morning. Exact time to be determined.
- NYSSBA– Capital Conference (In Person) - Wednesday 2/15/2023

SPONSORS UPCOMING WORKSHOPS: Register directly with the Sponsors

- Harris Beach: 2023 Educational Institutions Conference, March 2, 2023 @ Creekside Banquet Center

AFFILIATE PROGRAMS:

- RSA's Student Video Contest

LEGISLATORS FUNDRAISERS: None

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