



Erie County Association of School Boards

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ADVOCACY ALLIANCE MONTHLY
YOUR MONTHLY UPDATE

Dear Friends,

It has been a relatively quiet time for advocacy, as our legislators and governor have been haggling over the budget. There are a few updates and new bills being brought forward. Be sure to take a look at the **Bill Alert** page for details.

The ECASB Legislative Team met for the last session this school year on Thursday, April 18th. ECASB has just one more legislative program, the **Wrap-up Breakfast** on Saturday, May 11 at the Columns, Transit Road in Elma. We have a few legislators lined up to speak. In the fall of the year, ECASB presents our asks for the legislative year. The **Wrap Up** event is designed to have the Legislators provide an update on the year, let us know what they were able to accomplish, and where stumbling blocks occurred. We have taken a look at their comments and objectively been able to improve our advocacy efforts over the course of the last few years, so I hope you will mark your calendars and join us that morning.

Over the summer, we will keep a watchful eye on Albany, and I hope to participate in an advocacy program with our federal legislators, sponsored by NYSSBA. If you have specific federal level issues you would like for me to address, please email them to me at jsullivan@e1b.org.

Yours in Advocacy,

~Jane

Take Note...

- ⇒ **ECASB Road Rally – Sat., April 27, 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m.** You can still participate in the rally! Email Sue Summers at ssummers@e1b.org if you want to go but missed our deadline. There is still some space for another car load or two.
- ⇒ **Legislative Wrap-up Breakfast is Sat., May 11, from 8:30 a.m. (registration); 8:45 Breakfast –10:30 a.m., at The Columns, 2221 Transit Road, Elma.** Save the date and register with your district clerk.

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IN THE NEWS

Articles that may interest you

[Kennedy, Dickson Don't Fit Current Molds of Their Party](#) – Buffalo News, April 14, 2024

[Kennedy Sues to Try to Keep McMurray of Primary Ballot](#). – Buffalo News, April 16, 2024

[Kensington Project Critic to Run Against Peoples-Stokes](#) – Buffalo News, April 17, 2024

[State Aid to Schools Not as Bad as Feared](#) – Buffalo News, April 23, 2024

[Student challenges outside the classroom pose biggest obstacle for educators worldwide](#) – K-12Dive

[What Do Revised Title IX Rules Released This Week Mean?](#)- Buffalo News, April 21, 2024

[Kennedy Has Huge Edge in Fundraising Over Dickson](#) – Buffalo News, April 21, 2024



Time to Take Action

During the summer months, take some time to learn about advocacy in your district. What specific needs does your district have and how can you play a part in helping advocate for those needs?

One way is to get involved with your district and your board to write a resolution for NYSSBA. The NYSSBA Resolution Kit was emailed out this past week, and copies are on file here at ECASB. All resolutions and proposed bylaw amendments must be received at NYSSBA by 5 p.m. on July 12, 2024. Sample resolutions and advice on writing one are all included in the kit published by NYSSBA. I would love to see some resolutions from ECASB component districts! Let me know if I can help in any way. On another note, it is possible for several boards to sign on to a single resolution, and I would be happy to coordinate such a venture.

Also during the summer months, take some time to visit with legislators. Invite them to summer events in your district. Use this time to give them a “quiet” tour of the building and grounds, especially if legislators want to see the impact legislation has on school environment issues and building aid.

Again, I am happy to facilitate arranging meetings, and I would even join you if I am available.

Use summertime to reach an advocacy goal!

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BILL ALERT

ECASB uses Bill Track 50 for our bill tracking and advocacy needs. If you also have an interest in tracking bills, email Jane at JSullivan@e1b.org; she will set you up with an account umbrellaed under the ECASB Bill Track 50 subscription. Support is provided.

New Bills:

S09092 (teaching training) - Requires continuing teacher and leader education to include courses, programs and activities related to immigrant focused trauma-informed practices to support students who are dealing with adverse childhood or adolescent experiences as a result of immigration status. There are no local sponsors on this bill introduced on April 22, 2024.

A09849 (Annual Performance Review) -Relates to annual professional performance reviews of teachers and principals; establishes an optional system of annual professional performance review plans; repeals provisions relating to streamlined removal procedures for teachers rated ineffective. Co-Sponsored by Bill Conrad, this bill was introduced on April 12, 2024. Additionally, companion bill **S09054** has advanced to the third reading. This one is gaining some traction.

A04605/S01750 (Literacy) - Establishes the state financial literacy fund which provides funding for project grants to organizations in order to establish financial capability and financial literacy programs, products, content, and/or services for at-risk populations in New York. There are no local sponsors in either house.

S09018 (Student Board Members) - Allows for the designation of students as ex officio members of school boards; clarifies what such ex officio members are permitted to do. There are no local sponsors.

A09760 (BOCES Naming) - Renames boards of cooperative educational services to “NY Polytechnical Institutes. There are no local sponsors.

Delivered to the Governor:

A08804/S08300 (Capital Project Budget) - Makes appropriations for the support of government - Capital Projects Budget.

Signed by the Governor:

S08306 (State Budget) - Enacts into law major components of legislation necessary to implement the state education, labor, housing and family assistance budget for the 2024-2025 state fiscal year. This bill does include money to study foundation aid and restores the safe harmless funds.



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