



This Week At ECASB ...

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

November 8, 2024

Executive Director Cell Phone: (716) 867-3531

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ECASB OFFICE CLOSED ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11TH IN OBSERVANCE OF VETERAN'S DAY.
The office will reopen on Tuesday.

NEW YORK STATE RURAL SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION WINTER CONFERENCE REGISTRATION IS OPEN: Registration closes November 15th. The program takes place at the Excelsior Spring Event Center and Courtyard Saratoga Springs December 4th & 5th.

LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST: There are currently 112 ECASB members registered for the Legislative Breakfast for November 16th. This is a great showing of ECASB members as we present out concerns for the Legislative year to our elected officials who will leave for Albany at the beginning of January.

SAD NEWS: Joanne Ginestre, mother of Sweet Home Superintendent Dr. Michael Ginestre and Iroquois High School Principal Dr. Christopher Ginestre passed away recently. Calling hours will be at the Wattengel Funeral Home 533 Meadow Drive North Tonawanda Thursday November 7th from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. A mass of Christian burial will take place on Friday November 8th at 9:30 a.m. from St. Jude Apostle Parrish in Niagara Falls.

SAD NEWS: James Boyle, father of Frontier Board Member and ECASB President Patrick Boyle passed away November 3rd. A Mass of Christian Burial at Saints Peter & Paul Church in Hamburg was held on Thursday, November 7th at 10:30 a.m.

SAD NEWS: John Goldhawk Sr., father in-law of Amherst CSD Board Member and ECASB Vice President Lorry Goldhawk passed away October 27, 2024. Visitation will be on November 15th at Perna, Dengler, Roberts Funeral Home 1671 Maple Road, Williamsville from 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. A Mass of Christian Burial will be at SS Peter and Paul Church, Main Street on Saturday at 11:00 a.m.

HOLOCAUST EDUCATION RESOURCE ORGANIZATION (HERO): I received information from Ann Marie Carosella, past present of the leadership counsel for the organization of the Buffalo Jewish Federation. The organization provides programs for K-12 students. Annually, survivors or their descendants speak to over 5,000 Western New York students. They hold a March teacher conference that

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provides valuable knowledge and curriculum to over 100 area teachers. This year HERO has a mobile museum of tolerance that will house 32 students at a time. I have attached two documents that were sent with information. If you have specific questions, please reach out to Ann Marie Carosella at annmarie.carosella@gmail.com

SHOUT OUT TO RENEE WILSON (ERIE 1 BOCES & CHEEKTOWAGA CSD): Appeared in the NYSSBA ON BOARD newspaper on page 9 where she was photographed at the NYSSBA Convention.

WE SAY GOODBYE TO JENNIFER PILARSKI FROM THE MARYVALE UFSD. Jennifer recently resigned from the Board of Education. Jennifer started on the Board in 2020. She was serving as Vice President and also served on the ECASB Legislative team

ECASB DIRECTORY: Is currently at the printer. We have a limited number of directories that will be printed. All Presidents and New Members will receive a copy. Copies will be sent via interschool mail. If any other ECASB members want a hard copy, please let us know.

FALL SPEEDBOARDING NOVEMBER 21ST. Three topics will be presented. Each topic will be presented in 1/2 hour or less (hence Speed Boarding). The first presenter will be Lackawanna Superintendent Nadia Nashir who will speak about their new cell phone policy. The second speaker will be Cheektowaga Sloan UFSD School Superintendent Andrea Galenski and Assistant Superintendent Janelle Finn who will speak about Restorative Justice. The district presented at the NYSSBA convention to a packed room. I along with many other ECASB members attended the event and found the presentation to be interesting and innovative. Data was presented that demonstrated that there were less suspensions and less Superintendent hearings. The third presenter will be Lake Shore Superintendent Dan Pacos and their Transportation Supervisor Perry Oddi who will speak about Zero Emission Buses and their experience. I was able to hear a very thorough Transportation Report at one of their fall Board of Education meetings and was impressed with the information and the details. This is a free event and will be a Dessert Forum. Registration is required. Register via your District Clerk. This will be the last Professional Development program for the 2024 calendar year.

PLANNING ON ATTENDING THE NYSSBA CAPITAL CONFERENCE IN ALBANY IN FEBRUARY? ECASB will be securing a block of rooms for those planning on attending. Watch for details.

VISIT TO AMHERST CSD. I spent my Election Day evening attending the Amherst CSD Board of Education meeting. Thank you to Board President Paul Steimle, Vice President Jessica McLaughlin, and Board Members Gordon Crock, Lynn Errington, Lorry Goldhawk, Maryjane Metzen, and Dominic Vivolo. Special Thank you to Superintendent Anthony Panella and School Business Administrator Laura Bosinski. I attended the meeting and was able to hear a report from Erie 1 BOCES Superintendent Dr. Michael Capuana and Assistant Superintendent Dr. Elizabeth Freas about SED's initiative on Regionalization.

CONGRATULATIONS TO: Buffalo Board of Education Board Member Larry Scott who won his re-election campaign and newcomers Janita Everhart and Adrianna Zulich. The three candidates were elected to the At-Large Board Seats for the Buffalo Board of Education.

WE SAY GOOD BYE TO TERRANCE HEARD FROM THE BUFFALO BOARD OF EDUCATION: Who will be leaving the Board December 31st. Terrance during his tenure served ECASB as the Buffalo Board of Education representative. Terrance was also the recipient of the ECASB Diana R. Miller Service to

Education Award in 2022.

RURAL SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK STATE ANNOUNCES ANNUAL PHOTO CONTEST: Contest deadline is January 31, 2025. The photo submitted should reflect one of the following themes: Agriculture and Farming, Community Connections, or Student Life. Photos will be judged on creativity, originality, technical quality, story telling and inclusivity. Participating schools can submit up to 20 photos maximum. A teacher or staff member serving as a mentor must be identified with each picture. Individual students or groups of students may submit photos. The grade level of the participants must be indicated, however names of students should not accompany photos. Age categories are K-6 and 7-12. The Grand Prize is \$500, First Place amount is \$250. For more information contact Andrea Durmiaki at adurmiaki@rsny.org

INVITE TO AKRON CSD: Akron CSD, Clark Patterson Lee, NYSERDA, World Resources Institute and Leonard Bus Sales will have a live EV Bus Demonstration on November 14th 6:00 p.m-8:00 pm, and 6:30 pm—7:30 pm for an ask the experts session in the auditorium. RSVP to electricbu@cplteam.com by November 8th. Food, drink and information will be provided. Location is the Akron CSD Bus Garage at 47 Bloomingdale Avenue, Akron, New York 14001.

THE DRAWING FOR THE FREE BOARD DINNER WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE FALL SPEED BOARDING EVENT. Any Board Members that submitted photos of them with ECASB sponsors at the Annual NYSSBA Convention and Expo are eligible. We also extended the invitation to have pictures taken with ECASB sponsors at the Dr. Rick Timbs Program and at the Legislative Breakfast for those districts that were unable to attend the convention. All pictures should be submitted to Dave Lowrey by the end of the day Monday, November 18th. This will be the third year ECASB has the drawing. The first year Iroquois was the recipient and used the dinner to resurrect an old tradition of a Holiday Board/Administration Get Together. Last year, Cheektowaga-Sloan was the recipient and had the catered dinner brought to their Mid Year Board/Administration retreat.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: (Upcoming ECASB Events).

- November 16th - Legislative Breakfast at Resurgence Brewing Company
- November 14th - Deadline to Register for Fall Speed Boarding
- November 21st - Fall Speed Boarding / Dessert Forum
- December 1st - Elf on a Shelf Promotion Begins

POLITICAL FUNDRAISERS:
None Listed

NYSSBA'S PROGRAMS:

- Mark your calendar. 2025 NYSSBA Convention and Expo will be October 23rd-25th.
- Live Virtual Fiscal Oversight Responsibility Training will be November 15th and 16th.
- November 20th - Executive Director's Complimentary Lunchtime Webinar on School Budgeting November 20, 2024.
- December 3rd—Legislative and State Budget Preview Complimentary Webinar

RURAL SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK STATE:

- December 4th and 5th - Winter Conference 2024 at Saratoga Springs. Registration close November 15th.

NSBA'S (NATIONAL SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION) PROGRAMS:

- 2025 National School Boards Conference will be in Atlanta, Georgia April 4th-6th.
- Innovative Technology Integration Awards deadline is Friday November 15th. Three enrollment categories are listed: up to 10,000 students, 10,000-60,000 students and over 60,000 students.
- NSBA's Advocacy and Equity Institute will be held in Washington D.C. February 2nd-4th.

AFFILIATE NEWS AND INFORMATION:

Erie Niagara School Superintendents has a list of all of their podcasts over the last three years. If you are interested in subscribing or following the [E-NSSA](#) podcast you can search for "Achieving Joy and Mastery in Public Schools" within your favorite podcast platform.

BEST PRACTICES: I attended the Amherst CSD Board of Education meeting on Tuesday night. The Pathfinder Students provide information about Students of the Month and any Teachers of the Month. The students and teachers that are recognized are provided a certificate by the Board of Education members. Instead of just the Board President handing out the certificate, different members of the Board are handing out the various certificates to the recipients - hence involving the entire Board of Education.

NYSSBA AREA 1 DIRECTOR NEWS AND NOTES:

The next NYSSBA Board of Directors meeting will be held the first part of December. If you have any issues or concerns you would like me to address, please let me know. The 2025 NYSSBA Convention and Expo will be October 23rd-25th. If you have any comments about either the NYSSBA Convention and Expo or the Virtual version of the program, please let me know so I can share the information with the NYSSBA Board of Directors and staff.

At the ECASB office, one of the cabinets was in need of refinishing. We reached out to North Collins CSD Board of Education member Jennifer Pisa who has a furniture refinishing business. Her business, "2 Danes Furniture Refinishing" was started during COVID when she decided to refinish her bedroom set. To date, she has refinished close to 200 pieces of furniture. I have provided pictures of her work below of the before and after pictures of the ECASB cabinet. Jen was a pleasure to work with and spent a great deal of time with us to determine what we were looking for in regards to style, colors, etc. She explained the process and provided care instructions and even a little touch up paint should the new finish be damaged. If you are looking to have a piece of furniture refinished, I would highly recommend you reach out to Jennifer. Check out her many before and after pictures on her facebook page.



ECASB Cabinet Before



ECASB Cabinet After