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E C A S B

Erie County Association of School Boards

Where professional development,
leadership & advocacy meet.



Clarence
School Board
Student
Representative
Mr. Louis
Mancuso

ECASB Asks the Expert...

ECASB "Ask the Experts" is a monthly paper that brings ECASB and an expert in the field of education together to provide ECASB Board Members information about a variety of topics of interest to Board Members. If you have suggestions for future topics you would like to see featured, please let us know at ECASB

A School Board Member - Student Representative A Students' Voice

As the second student representative to the Clarence Central School Board of Education, I am honored to share my philosophy and experiences with members of the Erie County Association of School Boards (ECASB) in this inaugural report.

My journey as a student leader in the Clarence School District includes collaboration with diverse stakeholders, allowing me to grow personally and providing me with invaluable insights to guide other Boards of Education and student representatives in Western New York.

Before delving into my experiences as a student representative, let me introduce myself briefly. My name is Louis Mancuso, and I began serving as the Clarence School Board Student Representative and Student Council President in July 2023. I also contribute my talents as a saxophonist, tennis player, and member of the Drama Club. I am excited to be a part of Clarence's dynamic community and play a role in shaping the educational experience for students.

My philosophy as Clarence's student representative is rooted in the belief that students should have a voice in the decisions that affect their education. I see myself as a bridge between the students and the school board, working to ensure that our concerns, ideas, and perspectives are heard and taken into consideration.

Growing up in Clarence has given me a deep connection to our community. I attended Clarence schools from a young age, starting my education at Ledgeview Elementary, moving to the middle and high schools. This connection allows me to understand the unique needs

and aspirations of our diverse student body.

While serving on the board, I have had the privilege of contributing to several initiatives and discussions with direct impact on students' lives, such as serving on the Superintendent's Advisory Council. The Board and Superintendent Dr. Matthew Frahm tasked me with expanding representation to all six schools (including over 4,000 students). I review the District calendar, attend events (recently the Trunk-or-Treats and musical concerts), and interact with parents, students, and faculty. I bring my perspective and recommendations to Dr. Frahm and the Board.

Looking ahead, I hope to work on issues of school safety, inclusivity, and positive school culture. Specifically, examining the role and necessity of School Resource Officers, home-schooling policies, and enhancements to District facilities.

After my term as student representative, I plan to pursue higher education and a career in business. My experiences in this role have ignited a passion for advocating for positive change, and I am excited to carry this spirit forward in my future endeavors. My journey as the Clarence School Board Student Representative has been both humbling and empowering. I hope my experiences can serve as a model for other boards in Western New York looking to define the roles of their student representatives and provide meaningful opportunities for student involvement. Together, we can create a more inclusive and responsive educational system that truly serves the needs of all students.

For more information, Louis can be reached by email at louiscmancuso@gmail.com.