



Erie County Association of School Boards

ANNOUNCEMENT

**Nominations are now open for the following annual ECASB recognition awards.
Nominations must be received in the ECASB office by
Monday, March 6, 2023.**

**Diana R. Miller Service to Education Award
Laura M. Burns Advocacy for Children Award
Hodgson Russ Excellence in Collaboration Award
Wayne Schlifke Lifetime Achievement Award
Lorie Sabo Advocacy Award
ECASB District Clerk Award Sponsored by Webster Szanyi LLP
Friend(s) of ECASB Award**

1. **The Diana R. Miller Service to Education Award** was established in 1981. It is given in memory of Diana R. Miller who, at the time of her death on September 9, 1981, was a teacher, school board member for the Lancaster Central School district and President of the Erie County Association of School Boards. The first award was given posthumously to Mrs. Miller and was presented to her family at the ECASB Fall Dinner meeting on November 12, 1981.

The Diana R. Miller Service to Education Award honors an individual or an organization who has made contributions to the betterment of education and/or assisted ECASB in achieving its mission on behalf of public education.

2. **The Laura M. Burns Advocacy for Children Award** was established in 1998. It is given in memory of Laura M. Burns, who passed away in 1998. Laura served as a teacher and served on the Hamburg Central School District, serving as president for 2 years.

The Laura M. Burns Advocacy for Children Award honors a current or former school board member who has provided outstanding service in advocacy for children, demonstrating leadership in the district and community with actions that clearly benefit children and show a willingness to stand up for principles that "put kids first".

3. **The Hodgson Russ Excellence in Collaboration Award** was established in 2005. The award honors a school district and at least one community partner who have developed an education program that has propelled the district toward greatness and has the potential to be replicated elsewhere. The program must be unique, exemplary and go above and beyond the ordinary.

4. **The Wayne Schlifke Lifetime Achievement Award** was established in 2017 to honor the memory of Wayne Schlifke. Wayne served on the Depew Union Free School Board for 5 years, Erie 1 Boces Board of Education for over 25 years and served as Area 1 Director for NYSSBA. Wayne also served as the Vice President of the NYSSBA in 2006 and served as President in 2008. The award recognizes an individual whose lifetime efforts have resulted in outstanding service to the Erie County Association of School Boards and the education community.

The award will not be presented every year. Rather, it will be designated by the Awards Review Team in the specific and unique circumstances where lifetime achievement recognition is warranted.

5. **The ECASB School District Clerk Service To Education Award Sponsored by Webster Szanyi, LLP** Honors the School District Clerk that has made contributions to the betterment of education or the betterment in the operations of Board of Education meetings within the district. The nominee must have served in the role for at least 5 years and must have assisted ECASB or other District Clerks.

6. **Friend(s) of ECASB Award** Nominations will be accepted by District Clerks, Board of Education Members or Superintendents to nominate individuals or groups of individuals that are NOT ECASB members that have been helpful in advancing ECASB's Mission and Vision.

7. **Lorie Sabo Advocacy Award** - Is awarded to the individual(s), that best exemplify the characteristics, traits and passion in advocating with elected officials that were exhibited by Lorie Sabo.

Forms for each of the awards will be sent to the ECASB membership and are also available on the ECASB website at www.ecasb.org.

The Awards 2023 Review Team consisting of Jan Dalbo (West Seneca, past award recipient), Lorry Goldhawk (Amherst CSD), Dawn Snyder (Clarence CSD), Renee Wilson (Erie 1 BOCES/Cheektowaga CSD and past award recipient), and Kristin Schmutzler (Tonawanda City SD) will review all nominations when ECASB Awards nominations close on March 6, 2023. The team will meet on March 9th.

Previous Award Winners:

Wayne E. Schlifke Lifetime Achievement Award

Karl Kristoff, Esq. – 2017; Linda Hoffman - 2021; David Little - 2022.

Diana R. Miller Service to Education Award

Robert M. Walker, Esq.-1982; Frederic Sievenpiper-1983; Merton L. Haynes-1984; Marjorie C. Chase-1985; Edward J. Sakowski-1986; Chester A. Nowacki-1987; Betty T. Quinn-1988; Mary Ellen Murphy -1989; Robert A. Binner-1990; Jean Wood-1991; Stan-

ley J. Figiel-1993; Janet Sweet-1994; Alison Hyde-1995; Linda U. Riley-1997; James A. Powers-1998; Dr. Eugene Steinberg-1999; Eileen Rucker-2000; Judith Katz-2001; Florence Johnson-2002; Dr. Charles Stoddart-2003; Jan Peters-2004; Wayne Schlifke-2005; Linda Hoffman-2008; Raymond Carr-2009; Delia Bonenberger-2010; Dr. Thomas Coseo-2011; Lorie Sabo (posthumously)-2012; Kathyann Lorka-2013; Julie McCullough-2014; David Lowrey-2015; Mary Busse-2016; Maryellen Kloss-2017; Brenda Christopher-2018; Ron Catalano—2019; Sharon Belton-Cottman & John Sherman - 2020; Robert Polino - 2021; Terrance Heard - 2022.

**Laura M. Burns
Advocacy for Children Award**

Laura Burns (posthumously)-1998; Linda Hoffman-1999; Margery G. Baumler-2000; Lorie Sabo-2001; Raymond Carr-2002; Margaret Fletcher-2003; Mary Michael Egan-2004; Andrew Loeb-2006; Jane Okun & Michael Morrow-2007; Dolores Mendola-2008; Louis Reuter-2009; Richard Vogan-2010; Thomas Kulaszewski-2011; William Freeman-2012; Jan Dalbo and Elaine Diederich-2013; Patricia Brunner-Collins-2014; Renee Wilson-2016; Charles Specht-2017; Dr. Jill O'Malley-2018; David Yoviene—2019, Sylvester Cleary - 2020; Dwight Eagan & Scott Johnson 2021.

**Excellence in Collaboration Award
*Sponsored by Hodgson Russ LLP***

West Seneca CSD and its partners, NFIEC and Erie 1 BOCES for the Business & Education Employability Portfolio (BEEP) program – 2005;

Holland CSD and its partner, Young audiences of WNY for "A rainforest come to Holland"-2006; Cheektowaga Central School District for it "Seniors and Students Partnership" with the Cheektowaga Department of Senior Services – 2007;

Lake Shore Central School District for "Substance Abuse Training"-2008;
HONOR Award: Orchard Park – 2009;

Cheektowaga Schools and Cheektowaga Alliance for Healthy Communities/Healthy Youth – 2010;

Cleveland Hill/UB Partnership and Erie 2 CC BOCES and Partners Central Business Office Service – 2011;

Eden Community Service Project and Hamburg Finance Academy – 2012;

Springville GI and the Springville Community Foundation – 2013;

Erie 2 Chautauqua Cattaraugus BOCES Virtual AP Academy: HONOR Awards to Hamburg Central Schools EMT Training and Certification Program AND Ken-Ton UFSD Ken-Ton Academies – 2014

West Seneca CSD Raising Readers WNY: HONOR Awards: Erie 1 BOCES Twilight Program and Erie 1 BOCES New Visions Program: Connections and HONORABLE MENTION to Hamburg CSD Drug and Alcohol Parent Forum – 2015;

Tonawanda Schools and Herschel Carrousel Museum for "T-NT S.T.E.A.M. is Dynamite!": HONOR Award: Erie 1 BOCES and Carubba Collision – 2016;

West Seneca Schools and health/medical partnering organizations for "West Seneca Academy of Life Science": HONOR Award: Springville Students for Human Rights and human rights partner-

ing organizations - 2017

Amherst Central Schools "Tiger's Den Food Pantry" in partnership with St. Paul's Lutheran Church and the WNY Food Pantry - 2018

Grand Island Central School District "Growing Readers" in partnership with Grand Island Pediatrics, Grand Island Memorial Library, Grand Island Neighbor's Foundation, Grand Island Rotary, Grand Island Teachers Association, Grand Island School Related Professionals, Grand Island CSD Administrator's Union, Fucillo Automotive Group, Grand Island Golden Age Center and Private Community Donors.—2019

Iroquois Central School District It Takes A Community - A collaboration with over 30 community agencies focused on drug and alcohol prevention. - 2020.

No organizations recognized in 2021 due to COVID.

Clarence Central School District Clothing Closet - A collaboration with many community organizations and businesses. - 2022

ECASB District Clerk Award Sponsored by Webster Szanyi, LLP

Jessica Neischel (Depew UFSD)- 2020; Deborah Custodi (Amherst CSD) - 2021, Gina Santa Maria (Ken Ton UFSD) - 2022.

Friend(s) of ECASB Award

Kathyann Queeno- 2021, Dr. Rick G. Timbs - 2022.

Lorie Sabo Advocacy Award

Kathleen Chiavetta (Lake Shore CSD) & Scott Johnson (Sweet Home CSD) - 2021, Erik Polkowski (Akron CSD) - 2022.