

This Week At ECASB ...

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

Week Ending December 18th -

ECASB OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED: The office will be closed on December 23rd and will re-open again on December 28th in observance of Christmas. The office will be closed again on Thursday, December 30th and will re-open again on January 4th.

ECASB AWARDS NOMINATIONS OPEN ON JANUARY 4TH: You can find the awards details on the ECASB webpage. Please consider nominating one of your own board members for the Diana R. Miller Service to Education Award, the Laura M. Burns Advocacy for Children Award or the Wayne Schlifke Lifetime Achievement Award. Consider nominating a program that is new and innovative in your district that qualifies for the Hodgson Russ Collaboration Award. District Clerks are eligible for the District Clerk Award sponsored by Webster Szanyi.

UPCOMING VIRTUAL PROGRAMS WILL BE OFFERED BY SUPER EVAL AND DIGISTREAMS. Super Eval will present a Virtual Program on Wednesday, January 27th on Board Self Evaluations and DigiStreams will present on Monday, February 1, 2021.

BOOK OF LISTS: Business First has produced their annual Book of Lists. Several of our Sponsors appear on the list. The Sponsors are able to assist ECASB because ECASB member districts utilize their services throughout the year. ECASB sponsors appearing on the list this year include

[Lumsden & McCormick](#)

- 39th on the Financial Planning/Services List
- 7th on the Certified Public Accountant List
- 5th on the Tax Preparers List

[Solar Liberty](#)

- 4th on the Renewable Energy List
- 11th on the Energy Companies List
- 12th on the Environmental Sciences List

[EFPR Group](#)

- 11th on the Certified Public Accountant List
- 21st on the Tax Preparers List

[Freed Maxick CPA's](#)

- 1st on the Certified Public Accountant List
- 1st on the Tax Preparers List

[C & S Companies](#)

- 24th on the Environmental Services List
- 21st on the Engineering Firms List

[Trautman Associates](#)

- 5th on the Architectural Firms
- 34th on the Engineering Firms

[Gordon W. Jones Architects](#)

- 22nd on the Architectural Firms

[John W. Danforth](#)

- 6th on the Sub Contractors List
- 5th on the Private Companies List

[Harris Beach Attorneys](#)

- 16th on the Attorneys List

[Webster Szanyi Attorneys](#)

- 21st on the Attorneys List

[Watson's Candies](#)



-13th on the list of Women Owned Business

The following school Districts were on the lists below:

Best of the Best in Construction and Development:

- Buffalo School of Culinary and Hospitality Management ([Buffalo PS District](#))

Work Force Development Programs:

- [Erie 1 BOCES](#) - ranked at number 15

- [Buffalo Public Schools](#) - Adult Education Division—ranked at 19

Best Places to Work (Medium Employer Size Group)

- [Lumsden & McCormick](#) (4th place)

Largest Construction Projects:

- 16th [Lake Shore CSD](#) (\$60 million)

- 31st [Williamsville CSD](#) (\$36.million)

Largest Employers List

- 7th - [Buffalo Public Schools](#) - (6,477)

- 18th - [Williamsville CSD](#) - (2,810)

- 30th - [Ken Ton UFSD](#) - (1,580)

- 49th - [West Seneca CSD](#) - (1,073)

- 52nd - [Erie 1 BOCES](#) - (993)

- 58th - [Erie 2 CC BOCES](#) (890)

- 60th - [Lancaster CSD](#) (863)

- 62nd - [Frontier CSD](#) (840)

- 74th - [Clarence CSD](#) (779)

- 75th - [North Tonawanda City School District](#) (704)

- 88th - [Hamburg CSD](#) (632)

- 95th - [Orchard Park](#) (600)

Whose Who in Building and Construction Featured Scott Jones with [Gordon Jones Architects](#). Scott stated “One of the projects that our firm is most proud of this past year was the Medina Central School District Athletic Field Complex

AD HOC COMMITTEE TO REVIEW ECASB CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS: An ad hoc committee has been established and we will be establishing a meeting to begin the review process.

THE FIRST DRAFT OF THE ECASB BUDGET FOR 2021-2022 WILL BE RELEASED SOON TO THE ECASB FINANCE COMMITTEE. I met with Executive Bookkeeper Ryan DiPasquale to prepare the first draft of the 2021 - 2022 budget. The draft budget will be sent to the Executive Board as well as the Budget and Finance team prior to their January meetings where we will discuss the budget.

CONGRATULATIONS TO DR. JILL O'MALLEY: Dr. Jill O'Malley has been asked to replace Assemblyman - Elect Bill Conrad on the Kenmore-Tonawanda School Board as a Town Councilmember. Dr. O'Malley will stay on at ECASB until April.

SUPERINTENDENT SEARCHES: The following school districts are currently in the process of either searching for an 'interim Superintendent' or a permanent Superintendent. Williamsville CSD, Orchard Park CSD and Frontier CSD are involved in this process.

WE SAY GOOD BYE TO Ron Cook, Janet Vogtli and David Barnes from the Gowanda CSD Board of Education. Ron was selected to serve as the School Board President this past July at the Reorganization meeting. Janet was very active in the ECASB Legislative Committee. The three board members recently resigned. We wish Dana Szalay-Delany well as she moves from Vice President to President position of the Gowanda School Board. We welcome new Gowanda School Board Member Max Graham.

WE WISH FRONTIER ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT FOR INSTRUCTION COLLEEN DUGGAN WELL: AS EHS embarks on a new role as acting Superintendent.

CAPITAL PROJECT NEWS:

- Eden taxpayers approved a Capital Project for \$15 million dollars that was in two referendums. Both passed, 267 - 173, and 245 - 192. The project will include new windows, renovations to the elementary building, a new roof on the bus garage, sound and light systems for the auditorium, new ventilation for the cafeteria, exterior LED lighting and high school tennis courts.

- Our neighbors to the north in Niagara County ad Newfane Central School also had a capital project pass recently for \$30.5 million. The project passed 530 - 290. The project includes many school improvement projects throughout the district.

COLSBA UPDATE: A COLSBA meeting took place this past Wednesday night: I will provide a more detailed report in the near future: Highlights include:

- All NYSSBA programs will be virtual through May 30, 2021.
- May 19th, NYSSBA will provide a free virtual workshop. There will be no fee. The 1/2 day program will provide educational programs, information on diversity, and will also be motivational in nature. Watch for more details.
- The February 3rd Capital Conference will be virtual. **Although it takes place during the day, you can register and watch it at another time if you are working on that day.**
- The NYSSBA Annual Convention is being planned as an “in-person event. It will be in New York City October 24th - October 26th. (It will be Sunday - Tuesday).

ALL MEETINGS LISTED BELOW WILL BE VIRTUAL. WE WILL EMAIL OUT THE LINK FOR THE MEETINGS TO BOTH THE REGULAR TEAM LIST AND THE ALTERNATE LIST FOR BUDGET/FINANCE, DELEGATE ASSEMBLY AND LEGISLATIVE TEAMS:

UPCOMING DATES:

- January 4, 2021 - ECASB Awards Nominations Open
- January 7, 2021 - Budget/Finance Team, 6:30 - 8:30 pm, B1
- January 14, 2021 - Delegate Assembly, 6:30 - 8:30 pm, B1
- January 21, 2021 - Legislative Team, 6:30 - 8:30 pm, B1
- January 28, 2021 - Executive Board, 6:00 - 8:00 pm, B1
- January 27, 2021 - VIRTUAL PROGRAM - Board Evaluations presented by Super Eval
- January 30, 2021 - Advocacy Training, 8:00 am - 11:30 am, VIRTUAL
- FEBRUARY 1, 2021 - VIRTUAL PROGRAM - presented by DigiStreams

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