



This Week At ECASB ...

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

Week Ending November 6, 2020:

NYS COMPTROLLER REPORT: Local Sales Tax Collections Down for third quarter in 2020. Sales Tax Revenues were down by almost \$452 million dollars from the same period last year (July - September).

REMINDER IF YOU ARE ATTENDING THE ALBANY UPDATE WITH DAVE LITTLE: The cost of the program is \$15.00 per participant, however, if you have a Dessert Forum Certificate or if you donate 2-3 non perishable canned goods when you arrive, the event fee is waived. The event is closed to any new registrants unless there is a cancellation from an individual, which in that case, we will go to the "wait list".

THE ECASB OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 11TH DUE TO THE VETERANS DAY OBSERVANCE. Thank you to all the Veterans for your service to this country!

ANOTHER DEADLINE.....TODAY IS THE LAST DAY TO REGISTER VIA THE ECASB WEBSITE FOR THE LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST. As a reminder, there are limited spaces available. The first place for each district would be reserved for the either the Legislative Rep or the Legislative Alternate for the district. If neither of those individuals can attend, we would be looking for the Board President or the Vice President to attend. If neither of those individuals is able to attend, we would be looking for 1 board member to attend to have all districts represented. **IF NO ONE FROM YOUR DISTRICT CAN ATTEND, THEN WE WILL GO TO THE WAIT LIST.** Dr. Jill O'Malley will be sending out a confirmation email to those individuals early next week.

SED INTRODUCED PARENT DASHBOARD: SED has announced that they have a Parent Data Dashboard. SED wants to provide parents with data such as performance indicators, general enrollment details, test scores, graduation rates, average class size, etc. for every public school in Western New York. There is a place to provide feed back on the Dashboard. After reviewing the Dashboard, I noticed that there is no place on the website showing how much state aid the school district gets from the state so that parents can compare their school with other schools across the state. I also noticed that there is no information on Internet Connectivity rates within districts. I left feedback that this information should also be included as it has an effect on overall performance. If you have other suggestions or concerns about the Data that is either being shared or not being shared so that parents have a better overall picture, I would urge you to go and leave your comments as well.

EFPR HAS RELEASED THE ACCOUNTANT'S REVIEW REPORT FOR JULY 1, 2019 - JUNE 30, 2020: The Financial Oversight Team of Lorry Goldhawk (Amherst CSD), Brian Laible (Sweet Home CSD) and Mark Mecca (Williamsville CSD) are in the process of setting up a meeting with EFPR to review the document.

NEW ADDITIONS TO ECASB LIBRARY: Social Emotional Learning and the Brain - Strategies to Help Your Students Thrive by Marilee Sprenger categorized as "School Improvement"; Pulse of Perseverance, Three Black Doctors on their Journey to Success by Joseph Semien Jr, MD, Pierre Johnson, MD, and Maxime Madhere, MD catego-

alized as “Motivation”, The Pact by Drs. Sampson Davis, George Jenkins and Rameck Hunt categorized as “Motivation”, We Beat the Street by Drs. Sampson Davis, George Jenkins and Rameck Hunt categorized as “Motivation” and Film by HBO Bad Education categorized as “Finance”.

NYS COMPTROLLER RELEASES REPORT ON SCHOOL BOARD BUDGET VOTES AND ELECTIONS: The Comptroller has released a report of the impact of COVID - 19 pandemic has had on school district votes this past year. The number of votes cast this past year were 1.6 million which was tripled from previous years. All districts with the exception of 9 districts in the state experienced an increase in the number of people voting. In Western New York 43,476 votes were cast in 19-20; while 175,941 were cast this past year. In 19-20 the percentage of individuals voting yes was 75.9%, while this past year, there was a slight decrease to 67.4% of yes votes. Right here in Erie County, the three districts with the largest increase in voter participation included Cheektowaga CSD with a 680% increase in voting, Amherst CSD with 626% increase and Depew UFSD with an increase in 589% increase.

REMINDER: NYSSBA WORKSHOPS WILL BE AVAILABLE THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2020. Workshops that were presented at the NYSSBA Virtual Convention will be able to be reviewed until December 31, 2020. You can view most of the recorded programs and print the power point notes that are provided with each presentation.

VIRTUAL VISIT TO LANCASTER CSD SCHOOL BOARD MEETING: Although one of my goals is to visit each school board at least once during the year, I have come to realize that this may not be a reality due to COVID. I attended the meeting of the Lancaster Central School Board on Monday evening via ZOOM. Special Thank you to Board President Michael Sage, Vice President Glenn Jackson, Board Members Shannon Cohen, Kevin Davenport, Jill Fecher, John Talarico, Patrick Uhteg Jr., District Clerk Sandy Janik, and Superintendent Dr. Michael Vallely. Also joining the meeting were central office administrators Jamie Phillips, Assistant Superintendent for Business and Support Services; Dr. Andrew Kufel, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and Pupil Personnel Services, Karen Marchioli, Director of Elementary Education; Andrew Krazmien, Director of Secondary Education; Michele Ziegler, Director of Instructional Technology Services and Accountability; and John Armstrong, Director of Special Education. Although I miss being able to attend the meetings in person, it was great to be able to attend the meeting virtually.

ECASB FACTS AND FIGURES BOOK: Sue Summers will be starting to compile information for the Facts and Figures book. The Facts and Figures book should be ready for release in Early January to the entire membership. We thank the District Clerks and Superintendents in advance for providing the updated information.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO PROVIDE FEEDBACK TO NYSSBA REGARDING THE FIRST ANNUAL VIRTUAL CONVENTION: You can fill out the evaluation form that was sent to you or contact either NYSSBA President Fred Langstaff, NYSSBA Executive Director, Robert Schneider, or NYSSBA Member Relations Director Barry Entwistle.

DECEMBER 3RD SPEED BOARDING EVENT IS SHAPING UP: MARK YOUR CALENDARS. You will be able to attend 5 - 20 minute presentations to obtain a little information on a lot of different topics relative to your board service. Attending this year’s December 3rd Speed Boarding Event is Solar Liberty presenting information on Solar Power and preparing your district for the future; The Niagara Frontier Industry Education Council discussing Business and School Partnerships; Erie 1 BOCES presenting information on Cyber Security and Internet Safety; J. W. Danforth discussing energy efficiency; and C & S Companies talking about construction management and their Business and STEAM Education Partnerships. More detailed information will be sent out next week. Limited spaces are available.

VETERAN'S DAY "DRIVE THROUGH CEREMONY AT ALDEN HIGH SCHOOL: A SALUTE TO THE ALDEN CSD AS THEY HONOR VETERANS COVID STYLE AND CHANGE THE PROGRAM.

Veterans who have been nominated by students and staff will be scheduled to drive up to the high school, where they will be presented with a lawn sign in appreciation for their service to the country. The nominating staff or student will be on hand to present the sign. The front of the high school will be adorned in red, white and blue. Hopefully, we will be able to secure either photos or a video of the event to share with the membership.

JANUARY REGENTS EXAMS CANCELLED: Due to Covid-19, the January Regents Exams have been cancelled. Please note: To gain an exemption from the Regents exam passage requirements, students must meet one of three requirements:

- Be currently enrolled in a Regents-level course of study and earn credit for it by the end of this semester.
- Complete a make-up program to earn course credit between Sept. 1, 2020, and the first semester of the 2020-21 school year.
- Have completed and passed a Regents-level course or course of study required to graduate at the end of the first semester of this 2020-21 school year and be preparing to take that exam

LAST NIGHT'S EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING: We went a little hybrid. We worked with Zoom. It was probably not an ideal situation as the sound may have been difficult to hear at times, however we attempted it. I am waiting to hear the report from the Executive Board Member that was "zooming" in so that we can see if/what adjustments can be made to improve the experience.

UPCOMING DATES:

November 12, 2020 - Albany Update with Dave Little 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm (Sold Out Event)

November 14, 2020 - ECASB Legislative Breakfast 8:00 am - 11:30 am

November 19, 2020 - Legislative Team Meeting - 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

December 3, 2020 - ECASB Speed Boarding 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

January 4, 2020 - ECASB Awards Nominations Open

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