



## This Week At ECASB ....

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



### Week Ending OCTOBER 22, 2021 -

**WE ARE LINING UP PRESENTERS FOR THE DECEMBER 2ND SPEED BOARDING EVENT:** Presentations are all new topics. Presenters include Erie 2 CC BOCES Dr. Kim Kirsch who will speak about the Ombuds Program. From PLC Associates we have Dr. Randy Richards who will address the strategic planning process that school districts take part in when developing a strategic plan. Attorneys from Harris Beach PLLC will speak. Instead of a 1/2 hour, each presenter will have 40 minutes to present their topic and answer questions.

**RECAP OF SPEED BOARDING OCTOBER 14, 2021:** What we learned...C&S Companies- will partner with school districts in many ways. Find out from companies that you work with how they can collaborate with the district, teachers and students to create meaningful learning experiences. NFIEC - Schools can reduce the cost of joining NFIEC through a BOCES Co-ser. The Williamsville Planetarium - since Buffalo will be in the direct path of the April 8, 2024 Eclipse, there could be thousands of travelers coming to the area to witness the eclipse. With Buffalo being located so close to Rochester, Pittsburgh, Cleveland and Toronto there could be additional traffic in the area on that day. During the partial eclipse in 2017 between 2 and 7 million people traveled to the perfect spot to see the eclipse. Nebraska experienced an additional 700k visitors while the state of Wyoming saw 192,000 travelers during the event. Section 6 - there is a serious shortage of not only coaches, but officials stemming from the conduct of parents at sporting events. The best part of COVID was when sporting events were closed to spectators and athletes could just compete.

**COALITION OF LOCAL SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION NEWS.** Meeting will be held on Monday, October 25th at 2:30 pm. An update will be provided after the meeting.

**LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST:** Remember the deadline to register for the Legislative Breakfast is October 29th. We currently have 7 districts we have not heard from yet. We have 5 people on the wait list. If you know that no one from your district will be attending, if you could please let us know, we would greatly appreciate it so that we can notify those on the wait list as soon as possible.

**NYSSBA'S VIRTUAL ANNUAL CONVENTION STARTS MONDAY, OCTOBER 25TH:** The five sessions include:

- A Message of Cohesion and Hope - Juju Chang, Co-anchor of ABC News' "Nightline".
  - Toward Wellness: Emerging from a Pandemic
  - The Pandemic, Learning Needs and Future Acceleration
  - A Conversation with State Education Department
  - Government in the Sunshine
- \* All sessions will be recorded with the exception of A Message of Cohesion and Hope.

**ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING QUICK RE-CAP:** Twenty three resolutions were introduced, 17 that were recommended by the resolutions committee and 6 that were not. Delegates considered and opposed one bylaw amendment. Positions adopted will remain in effect for five years unless they are rescinded or achieved sooner. In additional business, Peggy Zugibe was selected as the NYSSBA President, Sandra Ruffo as 1st Vice President, Christine Schnars as 2nd Vice President and Thomas Nespeca as Treasurer. A copy of the report was sent out yesterday thanks to Scott Johnson, Co-Chair of the Legislative Committee.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO CHRISTINE SCHNARS:** Who was selected to serve as the 2nd Vice President for NYSSBA. Christine currently serves on the Erie 2 CC BOCES Board of Education and resides in the Jamestown area. She serves as an Area Director for NYSSBA.

**MY EMAIL ACCOUNT AT WORK HAS BEEN UPGRADED WITH MULTI-FACTOR AUTHENTICATION:** So hopefully people will not get an email me asking them to buy gift cards for me.

**ECASB THANK A SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER SIGNS:** At the end of October, please remember to take in your sign and hold on to it for next year. Depending on the neighborhood you live in, you may want to take it in before Halloween night, lest it will be in a tree the next day, or lit on fire.

**WINNER OF THE BOARD CONNECTION TRIVIA CONTEST WAS:** ECASB held a fundraiser called Artscapades which was an Art Auction. The year it was held was 2008. I still have one of the pieces of artwork I purchased at the Art Auction. There was no winner.

**I HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO SEE MARYVALE UFSD IN ACTION MONDAY NIGHT:** Special thank you to Superintendent Joseph D'Angelo, District Clerk Sheena Palmer, Board President Cindy Strong, Vice President Ronald Morlock, and Board Members Jason Baier, James McDermott, and Jennifer Pilarski. Maryvale UFSD will be embarking on a capital project with a vote in December of this year. Please encourage any friends or families living in the Maryvale District to get out and vote. The capital project will be cost neutral. The Maryvale Board had a better evening than the Bills did!

**I TRAVELED TO SPRINGVILLE GRIFFITH INSTITUTE CSD TO ATTEND THEIR BOARD MEETING ON OCTOBER 19TH:** Special thank you to Board President Allison Duwe, Vice President Jennifer Sullivan, Board Members Chris Cerrone, Jenna Kellerman, Daniel Miess, Julie Morarity, and Jessica Schuster. Thank you to Superintendent Kimberly Moritz and District Clerk Kathy Tucker. If you ever get the chance to visit the Springville Middle School Learning Center and Middle School, please do so. It is a very comfortable and inviting space. I had an enjoyable and relaxing meeting. I forgot that I was attending a meeting and was lost in the moment!

**BOARD CONNECTION & NEW SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS:** All new board members should have received this mailing. **I would appreciate if you could return the information at your earliest convenience.** If you did not receive the mailing, please let me know.

**CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY SCHOOL BOARDS HELD THEIR PROGRAM ON WEDNESDAY NIGHT AT WEBB'S IN MAYVILLE. RICK TIMBS WAS THE FEATURED SPEAKER.** No matter how many times you hear Rick speak, you will always walk away amazed at how much information you learn. Rick will be joining ECASB in February. You do not want to miss this great program.

**CIDEL NEWS:** Met virtually on October 21st. I was unable to attend. I will provide ECASB membership with an update once I obtain the minutes from the meeting.

**AS MENTIONED IN LAST WEEK'S ECASB MESSAGE:** October 25th - 29th will be ECASB School District Technology Appreciation Week.

#### **BILL TRACK 50:**

**S04909 - Relates to teen dating violence education programs;** This bill was referred to the education committee. The bill would require school districts to create policies, procedures and guidelines to implement education programs for students in kindergarten through twelfth grade to prevent, deter and address incidents of teen dating violence. *(Can't we just let kids be kids for awhile longer - why would we need to introduce this to young children at the kindergarten level?)*

**NATIONAL SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION 2022 CONVENTION WILL TAKE PLACE APRIL 2-4TH:** The convention will be held in San Diego. Early registration and housing access opens October 21, 2021. Advanced early bird savings is December 15, 2021.

**SPECIAL THANK YOU TO ALL NYSSBA VOTING DELEGATES AT THE ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING.** I was only able to watch the meeting for about an hour. The program went from about 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Thank you to all members that took the time to be a part of business meeting.

**24 HOURS PRIOR TO MEETING FOR DOCUMENTS THAT ARE GOING TO BE DISCUSSED AT MEETINGS:** Gov. Kathy Hochul signed legislation that requires documents that will be discussed at board meetings to be posted 24 hours in advance. This would include proposed resolutions, law, rules, regulations, policies or amendments.

**STATE TO USE SCHOOLS AT VACCINATION SITES:** Gov. Kathy Hochul said in a news conference that the state plans to use schools as vaccination sites for eligible students. The state will come up with permission slips that schools can use.

**GUEST REPORTS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME:** If you are ever attending a workshop held by NYSSBA, or a vendor and find information that you find to be valuable for other school board members, please do not hesitate to reach out to me. I will be glad to work with you to share the information with our membership. If your board has a presenter at a Board Retreat that you feel would be perfect for one of our Speed Boarding events, again, please pass along the information. We are particularly looking for presenters for DEI for the spring Speed Boarding Event.

**KEEPING BOARDS SAFE:** NYSSBA recently held a pulse poll to determine the extent of contentious board meetings. NYSSBA found that more than 80% of respondents have not experienced or witnessed any violent acts or threats at any board meetings. That means that with 30 districts in ECASB, approximately 6 districts have seen threats if the numbers are the same across the state. In the poll 56% believe the current level of security provided at school board meetings is sufficient. At the local level that would mean 16.8 of our districts would fall into that category. Although 27% indicated that they were not sure whether we have sufficient security - further reducing the number to about 6 of our districts. 29% of the respondents indicated that recent developments would prevent them from running again, 16% were not sure, and 55% would still run again.

**DR. RICK TIMBS PRELIMINARY:** Please mark on your calendar February 3rd for the ECASB Dessert Forum with Dr. Rick Timbs. If you have never attended one of his workshops, you will not be disappointed. I was able to see him again Wednesday evening at the Chautauqua County School Boards Event held in Mayville at Webb's Captains Table. Message is Supplement vs. Supplant. He will provide you with a list of Do's and Don'ts as it relates to additional monies we are receiving. He will provide you with talking points when meeting with Legislators. Watch for registration information in January.

### **POLITICAL NEWS:**

Assemblyman Bill Conrad recently visited Tonawanda Riverview Elementary and announced \$25,000 in state money would be coming to Tonawanda CSD for Chromebooks in education.

### **UPCOMING DATES:**

October - School Board Appreciation Month - All Month

October 25, 2021 - NYSSBA Virtual Convention

October 25 - 29, 2021 - ECASB Erie County School Technology Appreciation Week.

November 4, 2021 - Albany Update, David Little - 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. (attendance will be limited)

November 13, 2021 - Legislative Breakfast 8:00 a.m. (attendance is limited)

November 18, 2021 - Legislative Team Meeting 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. (Meeting will be virtual to allow for Bill Track 50 training).

December 2, 2021 - Speed Boarding Event #2 - 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. (Deadline to register is November 24th).

December 9, 2021 - ECASB Executive Board Meeting - 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

### **Sponsor Programs:**

Harris Beach PLLC - Fall Special Education - Client Webinar: Friday, October 29th from 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. at Creekside Banquet Facility

Harris Beach PLLC - Cybersecurity Webinar - November 16th 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Contact Harris Beach directly to register or obtain the link.

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