



Erie County Association of School Boards

This Week At ECASB ...

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

Week Ending February 12, 2021 - Valentine Day Edition

ECASB ANNUAL AWARDS NOMINATIONS ARE NOW OPEN: All applications are due to David Lowrey by Wednesday, March 3, 2021. Only three weeks away!

ECASB RICK TIMBS TRAINING TOOK PLACE ON THURSDAY FEBRUARY 4TH: The training was conducted virtually and was attended by 28 ECASB members. Thank you to those Board Members that were in attendance. Heather Cayea and Jody Brege (Akron CSD); Lorry Goldhawk (Amherst CSD); Renee Wilson (Cheektowaga CSD/Erie 1 BOCES); Denise McCowan (Cheektowaga Sloan UFSD); John Sherman (Erie 1 BOCES); Linda Hoffman (Erie 2 BOCES); Davis Podkulski and Patrick Boyle (Frontier CSD); Robbin List and David Yoviene (Hamburg CSD); Chuck Specht, and Jane Sullivan (Iroquois CSD); Dr. Tom Reigstad, Jennifer Morrow and Matt Chimera (Ken-Ton) UFSD; Kathleen Chiavetta and Michael Franey (Lake Shore CSD); Jason Baier and James McDermott (Maryvale UFSD); Ann Kennedy (Newfane CSD); Dr. Christine Gray-Tinnesz (Orchard Park CSD); Scott Johnson (Sweet Home CSD); Kristin Schmutzler (Tonawanda City School District); Shawn Lemay (Williamsville CSD); Superintendent Patrick McCabe (Akron CSD) Candi Ditkowski (Area PTSA President - [Hamburg CSD]; and Dr. Jill O'Malley. Joining us for the program were the following sponsors: Sharon Sweeney (C & S Companies); Dave Jager (J.W. Danforth Company) and Nick Humphrey (Campus Construction Management Group). *(If we left you off the list - our apologies. Please call our office so that we can correct our attendance records).*

BY-LAWS NEWS: By Laws have been sent to the membership. If you have questions about any of the proposed changes, please contact us at the office. An online vote will be taken in May by the Delegate Assembly.

NEW YORK STATE SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS: The deadline to submit presentations for the 2021 Annual Convention which will be held in New York City October 24th - 26th is FEBRUARY 26, 2021. The theme of this years convention will be "Coming of Age". The presentations should fit into one of the following formats: Learning Lab, Student Town Hall or a 20 minute TED – style talk that explores one topic, tells one story and asks one question about a major relevant issue that affects your school/district type. This presentation allows for only ONE presenter. The Student Town Hall should incorporate one facilitator and not more than 5 students. Visit the NYSSBA Website for more information.

SCHOOL DISTRICT CLERKS: Webster Szanyi, and sponsor of the ECASB District Clerk Award will be hosting a spring virtual workshop on Budget Votes. The date for the program will be Thursday March 4, 2021. Time will be from 10:00 am - 11:30 am. Details on how to register will be sent out in the future.

ECASB ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR DR. JILL O'MALLEY WILL BE LEAVING US AT THE END OF FEBRUARY. We thank Jill for her vision, her work ethic and her ability to develop working relationships with the elected officials in the Western New York area. We wish Jill much success in her role on the Ken-Ton Town Board. If you would like to drop Jill a card - please direct it to her home address which can be located on the ECASB officers card and in the ECASB Member Directory.

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF BUFFALO NIAGARA: Will be presenting two free voting rights events on line via Zoom this month. A "Free Citizens Lobbying Workshop" focusing on lobbying advocacy training will be held from 10:00 am - 11:30 am on February 20th. "Fighting for Our Vote" roundtable discussion about voting rights for minorities and people with disabilities will be held at 7:00 pm on Feb 23rd. Events are free to the public. Reservations should be made by February 17, 2021 at LWVBN.org or calling 986-4894



A SUMMIT ON DIGITAL EQUITY: Was held by SED on Friday, February 5th. The event was the first of three events to be held. The event was livestreamed on the SED website and will eventually have a recording available on the website. Following the three summits, SED will compile data for analysis to identify solutions for usage in ongoing equity projects. A final report will identify the barriers to achieving digital equity. Jay Worona represented NYSSBA at the event. Also attending the event were Interim Commissioner Dr. Betty Rosa, Regents Chancellor Dr. Lester W. Young, Jr., Assemblyman Michael Benedetto and Senator Shelley B. Mayer (Assemblyman Benedetto and Senator Mayer are Chairs of the Education Committees in their respective branches of govt.), Deputy of Education Daniel Fuller as well as others.

NYSSBA SUPPORTS SED PROPOSED DRAFT WAIVER REQUESTS: NYSSBA and ECASB both support SED's request to provide waivers for state assessments under the ESSA guidelines.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE MARYVALE UFSD AND EAST AURORA UFSD ON HAVING A COACH RECEIVE NEW YORK STATE COACH OF THE YEAR: The coaches were selected as New York State Coach of the Year by National Federation of State High school Associations Coaches Associations in their respective sports.

East Aurora UFSD Cross Country coach Walt McLaughlin led the EA Girls Team to the Section VI and New York State Public High School Athletic Association Championships in Class B in the fall of 2019. He also lead the Boys team to win the Section VI title and finished 4th in the state.

Maryvale UFSD Boys Basketball Coach Mark Kensy who retired in 2019 guided the Flyers to 414 wins; 9th all time high in WNY history at the time of his departure. He was responsible for leading the team to 4 Section VI championships and several division crowns.

TONAWANDA TOWN DEMOCRATS HAVE ENDORSED TWO ECASB MEMBERS: ECASB Associate Director Dr. Jill O'Malley who is a former Ken-Ton School Board member and 5 time Board President, founder of the Ken-Ton Closet and Ken-Ton Cares pop-up food pantry; and Ken Ton UFSD School District Clerk Gina Santa Maria have been endorsed for the Ken-Ton Town Board. Dr. O'Malley is also the recipient of the 2018 Laura Burns Advocacy for Children Award at ECASB.

REGENTS NAME DR. BETTY A. ROSA AS THE PERMANENT STATE EDUCATION COMMISSIONER: Dr. Rosa was selected after a national search was held. She has a doctorate in education from Harvard University. She was first elected to the Board of Regents for a five-year term in 2008 as the Regent for the Twelfth Judicial District. Dr. Rosa was elected to a second term in 2013. Her third term began in 2018. Her education path began as a bilingual paraprofessional, teacher and reading coordinator. She later became Senior Superintendent of the Bronx.

AWARDS COMMITTEE MET MONDAY FEBRUARY 8TH: The awards committee is comprised of long time ECASB members Jan Dalbo (West Seneca), Andy Loeb (Erie 1 BOCES) and Ray Carr (Erie 1 BOCES) along with newcomers Lorry Goldhawk (Amherst), Dawn Snyder (Clarence), and Jane Sullivan (Iroquois). The committee also met with Legislative Co-Chairs Kathleen Chiavetta (Lake Shore) and Scott Johnson (Sweet Home) to solidify guidelines for the new Lori Sabo Advocacy Award. The committee decided that the committee should send out 1 last flyer to encourage board members to nominate board members and staff from their district.

LAST CALL

WATCH FOR SURVEY: The WNYESC Law Conference Committee met on Monday to discuss the Annual Law Conference. At this point, we are looking at several different options, however the committee felt that both the Western New York Education Service Council and Erie County Association of School Boards needed to survey their respective memberships before moving forward in the process. Please be on the alert for a survey that will be sent out soon. We would ask you to **please fill out the survey as soon as you receive it** so that we can continue with the planning process.

FEBRUARY IS CTE AWARENESS MONTH: It is a public awareness campaign to celebrate the value of CTE and the achievement and accomplishments of CTE programs not only here in Erie County, but across the United States. Did you know:

- 92% of secondary CTE concentrators graduated.

- 97% of secondary CTE concentrators met performance goals for reading / language arts skills and 94% for math skills.

- 98% of secondary CTE concentrators went on to postsecondary education, the workforce, the military or an apprenticeship.

- 50% of New York's labor market consists of middle-skill jobs, but only 38% of the state's workers are trained at the middle skill level.

- In fiscal year 2020, New York State received and estimated \$57,681,496 in Federal Perkins funding for CTE programs.

- A person with a CTE certification will earn \$4,000-\$19,000 more than a person with an associates degree in humanities.

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR POSITION: ECASB is currently reviewing the job description and making minor changes to the position. ECASB will be searching for a replacement in the future. The position is currently a .4 (two days a week position / 16 hours per week). Watch for announcements on the posting of the position.

CIDEL IS LESS THAN A MONTH AWAY: The zoom capacity will be 300 participants. A separate part of the program will be set up so that individuals attending the program will be able to visit with colleges that have Education Administration programs for those wishing to explore either Building Level Administration or District Level Administration. Speakers for the day include Rochester City Schools Superintendent Dr. Lesli Myer Small, Ebony Bullock, Chief Accountability and Information Officer for the Buffalo Public Schools, Dr. Cassandra Wright, Senior Associate Superintendent for School Leadership for the Buffalo Public Schools, Anthony Day, Superintendent of Sweet Home Central Schools and Scott Wolf, Principal of Curriculum and Instruction for Sweet Home Central Schools.

ECASB VARIETY CONTINUED:

From Tonawanda City School District:

<https://www.wgrz.com/article/entertainment/tonawanda-theatre-department-adapts-to-covid-pandemic-presenting-first-virtual-play-almost-maine/71-a7a4afd5-4b8d-45bf-8300-169f794b8373>

UPCOMING ECASB DATES:

February 25, 2021 - New BOE Member Program - Cancelled

March 3, 2021 - ECASB Awards Nominations Close

March 11, 2021 - Executive Board, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

March 18, 2021 - Legislative Committee, 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

March 25, 2021 - Get To Know BOCES - The program will be moved to April. We will send out updated information as it becomes available.

March 27, 2021 - Prospective School Board, 8:00 - 10:00 (Time Change); Additional details to follow.

The ECASB office will be closed on Friday, February 12th and Monday February 15th in observance of President's Day.

UPCOMING NEW YORK STATE SCHOOL BOARD EVENTS: (Check www.nyssba.org for details):

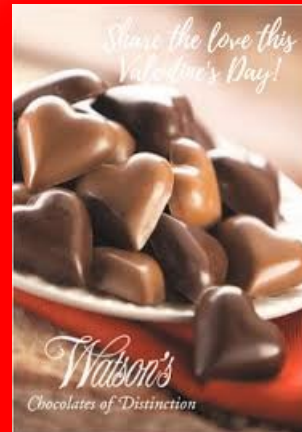
- February 26th - Deadline to submit presentation proposals for Annual October Convention
- March 5th - Superintendent Evaluation Workshop (Virtual)
- April 21 - Policy Workshop (Virtual)
- May 19th - Member Relations Event (Virtual)

THIS WEEK'S "This Week at ECASB" IS SPONSORED BY 2020-2021

SILVER LEVEL SPONSOR:

Trautman Associates

***Consider stopping at your nearest
Watson's Chocolates (an ECASB
'Extra Partner') to select you holiday
candy for Valentine's Day.***



**TRAUTMAN
ASSOCIATES**

ARCHITECTS / ENGINEERS