



This Week At ECASB ...

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

Week Ending December 11, 2020

AS STATED LAST WEEK: The Governor has decided that it is now better for children to be in school as the COVID numbers tend to be fairly low in schools and experience has demonstrated that with all the stringent guidelines and protocols that districts are following - schools tend to be safer places. General guidance has been provided that has allowed some districts to move forward and return to in-person instruction. We wish all those schools returning to in-person instruction well!

ECASB AND UPCOMING PROGRAMS: Two NEW virtual programs are being planned that are not on the original ECASB calendar....so mark your calendar. On Monday, January 18th, Cassidy Gertis from DigiStreams Investigations is putting the final details together for a virtual program on Investigations in the Age of GeoSocial Data. On January 27th, Super Eval will present a workshop on Board Evaluations. Many districts utilize the services of Super Eval for their Superintendent Evaluations. Watch for details on both of these events

NYSSBA VIRTUAL CONVENTION PROGRAM REMAINS OPEN THROUGH THE END OF THE YEAR: Please note that you are running out of time if you plan on viewing any of the programs from this past year's virtual NYSSBA Convention.

ECASB ANNUAL AWARDS: The Awards Nomination process opens on January 4th. Award descriptions and past winners can be viewed on the ECASB webpage. PLEASE CONSIDER NOMINATING A SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER/STAFF MEMBER FROM YOUR DISTRICT. Additional information from the awards committee will be presented in early January.

CIDEL MEETING: The Committee for Identifying and Developing Education Leaders met virtually this past Tuesday. The program this year will be a virtual program. The program entitled Leading Into The Future in a Culture of Change will feature three main speakers. A follow up virtual session will highlight the area colleges that have Education Leadership programs. The third part of the program will be allocated to questions and answers for any individuals that have remaining questions about transitioning into a Leadership Career.

AD HOC COMMITTEE TO REVIEW ECASB CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS: An ad hoc committee will be meeting to begin the review of the Constitution and By-Laws. The by-laws were last reviewed in 2003. Serving on this committee will be ECASB Board President Renee Wilson, ECASB Board Treasurer James McDermott, Area 1 Director Linda Hoffman, Amherst CSD Board Member Lorry Goldhawk, and Erie 1 BOCES Board Member Andrew Loeb.

ECASB 2021 - 2022 BUDGET: We have started working on the 2021-2022 year budget. As soon as Executive Bookkeeper Ryan DiPasquale and I have finalized the budget it will be sent out to the Executive Board and ECASB Budget and Finance Committee.

HOLIDAY CONCERTS ANYONE? Please share with me any youtube holiday concerts or other video from your school so that I can share them with ECASB members via the ECASB Variety. I watched the two virtual performances of the Alden CSD Theater Club last night - Christmas Shorts On-Line, and a Virtual WhoDunnit mystery. It is available

to view on line until December 12th at 11:59 pm. Information is available through the district web site.

WINTER SPORTS SEASON ON HOLD UNTIL JANUARY 4th: Section VI delayed the start of the low and moderate risk winter high school sports season until January 4th. This delay affects bowling, swimming, indoor track and field, rifle and skiing.

EDUCATION WEEK BY THE NUMBERS: Volume 40, Issue 13 of Education Week was released. The theme of this edition is “Improving the Superintendent And School Board Partnership” Across the nation, 89% of school board members are white, 3% black, 2% Hispanic, 1 % Asian. 53% are females. 83% have bachelors degrees or higher. 20% qualified for free or reduced price lunch when they were attending school. 66% of board members have other jobs. 27% of those jobs are in the k-12 or post secondary education sector. 8 years is the average length of time served on a board of education. 95% are parents. The three top challenges for school boards: 59% Issues related to remote learning during Covid 19; 51% issues related to in person learning during remote instruction, and 50% are budget related. During the pandemic, the top 4 challenges include: 64% concerns about effectiveness of remote instruction. 59% ability of families to support student learning during remote instruction. 54% student mental health and emotional well being. 49 % teacher morale.

NEW BOOKS ARRIVED AND ARE AVAILABLE IN THE ECASB LIBRARY: “Turning High Poverty Schools into High Performing Schools” by William Parrett and Kathleen Budge categorized as School Improvement; “Student Learning Communities - A Springboard for Academic and Social Emotional Development” by Douglas Fisher, Nancy Frey and John Almarode classified as School Improvement; and “From Behaving to Belonging - The Inclusive Art of Supporting Students Who Challenge Us” by Julie Causton and Kate Macleon classified as Instruction.

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 18, 2021 - ON TARGET– ECASB Virtual Program - DigiStream with Cassidy Gertis 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm. (NEW PROGRAM) Deadline to register (January 14, 2021)

January 21, 2021- Legislative Team, 6:30 - 8:30 pm, B1

January 27, 2021 - ON TARGET– ECASB Virtual Program - Board Evaluations with Super Eval; Time to be determined. (NEW PROGRAM)

January 28, 2021 - Executive Board, 6:00 - 8:00 pm, B1

January 30, 2021 - Advocacy Training, 8:00 am - 11:30 am, B1

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