

Celebrate 2016-17 at the Annual Meeting



We welcomed the Holley Board of Education (seen above) to MCSBA membership.



In early January, members of the MCSBA Regents Committee met with Regents Vice Chancellor T. Andrew Brown, Esq., seen above 2nd from left.

Join your board colleagues in remembering what we've accomplished this past year and help to select our leadership for the coming year at the

48th MCSBA Annual Meeting
May 24, 2017 5:30 p.m.
Shadow Lake Golf & Racquet Club
1850 Five Mile Line Road, Penfield, NY 14526

See a replay of the skit from the Legislative Breakfast and enjoy a slide show of the past year's activities.

Some of the activities to be celebrated at our Annual Meeting are pictured here.

To learn more about the Annual Meeting or to register, go to www.mcsba.org or call 585-328-1972.



The MC Bar Association - MCSBA Law Conference updated members on current issues. Presenting attorneys are seen above.

Also presenting at this conference was NYS Commissioner of Education MaryEllen Elia, seen below with District Superintendent Jo Anne Antonacci (B2) and Sherry Johnson.



We welcomed several new members, shown above at the MCSBA training program for new school board members..

MCSBA standing committees – Information Exchange, Labor Relations, Legislative – held 21 meetings on topics of interest to school district leaders, one of which is shown below.



In February, more than 100 school district leaders met with members of our region's legislative delegation to Albany, shown responding to questions at the event.



At left are the presenters at the MCSBA fiscal oversight training session for new district leaders.

Below are seen some of those who participated in the trips to Albany in December and March to meet with state officials.



News Scope

MONROE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION
220 Idlewood Road, Rochester, NY 14618
(585) 328-1972 www.mcsba.org

President – John Piper, Penfield CSD
Vice President – Mike Suffoletto, Webster CSD
Past President – Mark Kokanovich, Brighton CSD
Treasurer – John Abbott, Monroe 2 – Orleans BOCES
Executive Director – Sherry Johnson, Sherry_Johnson@boces.monroe.edu
Assistant to Executive Director – Beckie Schultz, Beckie_Schultz@boces.monroe.edu

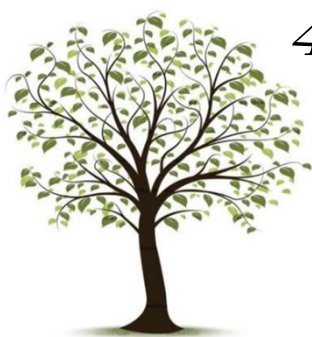


[MCSBA1@Twitter.com](https://twitter.com/MCSBA1)

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Don't forget!



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Shadow Lake Golf and Racket Club
1850 Five Mile Line Road
Penfield, NY 14526

Call 585-328-1972 to learn more or RSVP.



From our president: The Stage is Set

Another year and another New York State budget. Hold your applause for now.

As board of education members and leaders in our community, we can safely say we are appreciative of the Legislature's increased funding for our schools. For the most part we are also grateful for what our elected representatives did not do as well as it relates to interests opposite of ours. This annual production always has several acts and for the most part the actors perform consistently with each show.

Each year school district leaders are key members of this production crew, tweaking and correcting how the show should run. Unfortunately, this production has a cast of thousands besides us, also wanting to make production changes, in order for the show to have an ending that they will enjoy.

The cast and crew of the Legislature, the Executive office, and others who wander the aisles prior to the production all have a vested interest in the show's success. However, many of those



John Piper

who wander the aisles are just that: wanderers in a vast theatre hoping the production will turn out favorably. Many in that group are always looking for an alternate end regarding education funding and law, not understanding the mechanics of the show. School board members at the center of the public education movement recognize annually that an alternate ending is unacceptable.

School board members represent approximately ninety four percent of school age children in our state. Our schools are the beneficiaries of the annual production, rightly so. Your involvement in making the production a beneficial one is all about you! As an audience you assist, inform intelligently and wait patiently through acts one, two and three, to be sure the ending is one that works for all of the children in our schools. We always will also look for more refunds from the cast to meet our growing district financial needs.

This year's production ran a little longer than usual and the encore will not end until June 21, but be assured that MCSBA will continue to have the cast's attention until the curtain call. That's what we do best.

Hopefully we can then let loose with our applause.

John Piper

From our executive director: **As the program year draws to an end...**

April showers bring May flowers and it also brings us to the close of another MCSBA year. Early this month we will have our final standing committee meetings and on May 24 we will host our annual meeting where the membership will elect new officers, say a heartfelt thank you to retiring board members and officially wrap up the year. We hope that you will join with current and past members to celebrate the work that you have done, the accomplishments that have been achieved and to honor those who have served the association on your behalf. It is a great time to relax, network and enjoy a delicious meal.



Sherry Johnson

May 16, as you are well aware, is the date when school district budget votes take place, and developing a fiscally sound budget that your communities can embrace continues to be a difficult task. In fact, with more uncertainty surrounding what Congress could approve as a federal budget, all of you need to account for the real possibility that federal funding will be cut for K-12 education. Should this occur, the state budget now has a provision to react with corresponding cuts, so we will all need to remain vigilant and engaged through the summer months.

It is also important to note that our state legislators have until June 21, the official last day of the 2017 legislative session, to

pass bills that could directly affect your budgets and ultimately the students in your districts. We will be setting up legislative appointments with our state representatives prior to that deadline, but inviting your local representative into your districts can be an effective way to continue a positive relationship and speak to the challenges directly facing your schools.

While Boards of Education can't promote the passing of a school district budget, each of you can continue to inform and speak to the value and power of public education. Helping your community understand how your local authority to raise revenue and garner state aid has been effectively eroded can be a compelling and enlightening discussion. Providing information to residents about what federal cuts could mean for programs in your districts will be critical to the advocacy voice that will be necessary to sway our Congressional representatives. We will set up appointments with our local Federal Representatives and Senators during the summer and we hope that you will join us for those visits as well.

Finally, on behalf of all of us in the office, thank you so very much for the work that you do and the energy and passion that you provide on behalf of your community so that public education can thrive and continue to be the beacon of opportunity and success for all of the students in your districts.

Sherry



Clerks get legal, legislative updates, & ways to collaborate using online tools

During the Spring 2017 MCSBA seminar for regional district clerks, participants received a legal update on issues related to 3020-a proceedings and web site accessibility from Laura Purcell, Esq. of Harris Beach, LLP. An update on legislative issues was provided by MCSBA Executive Director Sherry Johnson. In addition, Barry DeSain, Instructional Technology Specialist at Monroe One BOCES, provided an overview of features for more effective and efficient use of tools for collaboratively sharing and editing documents.

For decades, MCSBA has hosted clerk seminars that are planned by a committee of clerks working with MCSBA staff. The clerks planning this seminar were Ann Barrows (Gre), Cathy Andersen (EI), Cynthia Cushman (Web), Mary Torcello (CC), Roni Walker (Pit), and Sara Williams (Mt. Morris).

ABOVE: Attorney Laura Purcell presenting a legal update.

RIGHT: Barry DeSain describing use of electronic tools for collaborative writing.





Using technology effectively & managing its distractions



Those attending the April meeting of the Information Exchange Committee learned how one member district, East Irondequoit, had implemented digital conversion. District leaders—Sue Allen, Superintendent; Mary Grow, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction; and Joe Sutorius, Chief Information Officer—described the steps taken to implement the conversion and to deal with issues that conversion raised. Among their comments were the following:

Staff members visited districts nationally that had implemented digital conversions.

Each teacher and administrator received at least 15 hours of professional development.

Staff worked to gain community engagement prior to the conversion.

The district created and tested the wireless infrastructure prior to implementation.

The district developed and budgeted for a plan for purchase and replacement of devices.

The district collaborated with a researcher from the Warner Education School who interviewed students and staff to measure the success of the digital conversion. The collaboration led to a Digital Conversion Consortium with the University of Rochester and an SED approved advanced K-12 certificate in digitally-rich teaching offered by the university.

The district has devoted considerable resources to classroom management of devices, including training incorporated into new teacher orientation.

The district has developed policies and procedures delineating appropriate student behavior using educational technology devices.



LEFT: Information Exchange Committee Co-Chair Amy Thomas (Pit), at the right, with East Irondequoit presenters—Assistant Superintendent for Instruction Mary Grow, Superintendent Sue Allen, and Chief Information Officer Joe Sutorius.

TOP: Presenters Joe Sutorius (EI) and Sue Allen (EI).

MIDDLE: Presenter Mary Grow (EI).

RIGHT: Participants at the April Information Exchange Committee meeting listening to the presentation by East Irondequoit officials.



Costing out labor contracts



Calculating the actual costs of labor agreements was the topic discussed during the April meeting of the MCSBA Labor Relations Committee. Leading the discussion were Lynda VanCoske, Esq., Labor Relations Administrator, Monroe 2-Orleans BOCES; and Andrew Whitmore, Assistant Superintendent, School Finance and Operations, Rush Henrietta CSD. Among their comments were the following:

Negotiations preparation (e.g., team organization, data collection, data analysis, goal setting, and goal prioritization) should begin up to a year in advance of contract expiration.

Outside forces, such as the tax cap and structural budget deficit, impact negotiations.

Unions and boards of education have different responsibilities in negotiations. Contracts should balance the needs of all stakeholders.

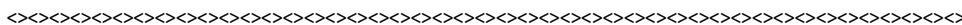
Recruitment and retention are worthy negotiations goals.

Contract cost considerations should include paid time off, class size, support staff, and retirement health insurance, among others.

RIGHT: Labor Relations Committee Co-Chairs—Tom Abbott (Hil) at left, and Peter Forsgren (Fpt) at right—with presenters Lynda VanCoske, Esq. (B2) and Andrew Whitmore (RH).



BELOW: Whitmore and VanCoske speaking at the Labor Relations Committee meeting.



In late April, MCSBA hosted a discussion of the mandates for reporting child abuse by school officials, including school boards.

Anne McGinnis, Esq., of Harris Beach defined abuse in an educational setting and school board members' reporting responsibilities.

Superintendent Lori Orologio (CC) described the chain of command within a district for board members and staff once the reporting was done. She also shared procedures and policies her district uses in such cases. She encouraged boards to discuss this topic so they are aware of their own district's procedures and know what to do.

James Colt, Director of Security (B1) and Avon School Board Member, described a few scenarios and discussed which of them were reportable abuse situations. Cheryl Becker Dobbartin, Director of Learning & School Improvement (B1), spoke about training services available through BOCES. All presenters advised that if there is any doubt, a situation should be reported.

RIGHT: Presenters Anne McGinnis, ESQ., Harris Beach; James Colt (B1 and Avon); Lori Orologio (CC); and Cheryl Becker Dobbartin (B1).



BOCES One Career & Technical Education



2017 marks the 100-year anniversary of the federal investment in career and technical education (CTE) through the landmark Smith-Hughes Vocational Education Act of 1917. The act promotes Vocational Education in public schools and provides government funds for a school to purchase first-rate equipment they ordinarily would not be able to afford. The funds also can be used for salaries of teachers with vocational experience, but not for teachers of academics.



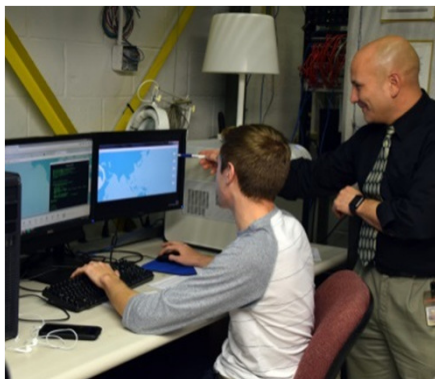
CTE programs serve 94% of high school students and 13 million postsecondary students in the United States and include high schools, career centers, community and technical colleges, four-year universities and more. CTE is a major part of the solution to multiple national economic and workforce problems, such as high school dropout rates, a weakened economy, global competitiveness and layoffs. CTE programs are ensuring students are equipped with the skills to successfully enter the workforce. By partnering with the business community, CTE programs provide students with the latest technology and skills needed to become successful employees and future leaders.

HAAS Automation, Inc. CNC Donation Enhances Career & Tech Classroom

One example of the local CTE programs offered through BOCES 1 is the Automated Manufacturing & Machining program at the Eastern Monroe Career Center. The Center recently received a new HAAS, 4-axis Computer Numerically Controlled (CNC) machine and an accompanying training simulator. The new mill adds to the pair of CNCs already in the class, a lathe and another mill.



"The new HAAS milling equipment supports students interested in pursuing careers in mechanical or industrial engineering, or obtaining a job in the advanced manufacturing field. Students in the program are introduced to precision manufacturing skills with a hands-on approach; essential skills, such as print reading, precision measuring and shop math are taught, as well as CAD & CAM software," stated Lenny Hall, Automated Manufacturing & Machining Teacher.



The purchase of the equipment was made possible by a grant from the Monroe County Industrial Development Corporation (MCIDC). MCIDC is a not-for-profit organization that promotes economic development opportunities within the county of Monroe, providing additional employment and job opportunities. The job market in advanced manufacturing is very good locally as well as throughout the country.

To learn about this effective business partnership with our Eastern Monroe Career Center's CTE program; go to: <http://www.monroe.edu/news.cfm?story=415&school=0>. For more information about the variety of CTE programs offered at Monroe 1 BOCES Eastern Monroe Career Center go to <http://www.monroe.edu/CareerTechEd.cfm>.

SOURCE: John R. Walker, School-Community Relations Coordinator, Monroe One BOCES, 585-383-2262 , John.Walker@boces.monroe.edu.



<http://www.actforeducation.org/>

An idea whose time has come

A Community Together (ACT) for Education is an unprecedented initiative by public schools in the Monroe 1 and Monroe 2-Orleans BOCES districts, area businesses and community members.

The website features scrolling pictures and verbal descriptions of outstanding programs occurring in our school districts. Some of the program descriptions currently available on the website are shown at the right. The text accompanying each photograph is brief and identifies the program by school district.

Programs to include on the website are identified by district personnel and by visitors to the website.

Under the *Get Involved* tab, visitors can suggest programs to highlight on the website.

Visitors can view input from other visitors about programs that are making a difference in schools.

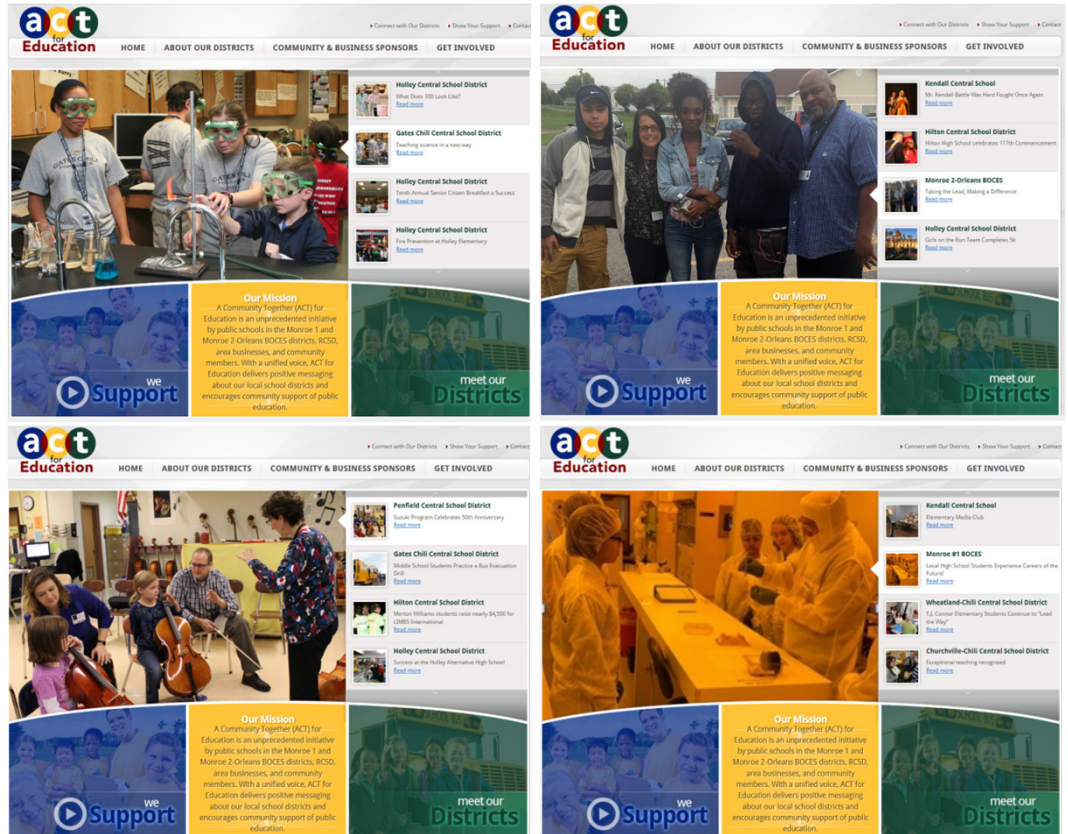
They are encouraged to **“Use the hashtag, #ACT4Ed on all popular social media platforms to share how you’re becoming involved with your local district.”**

And they are encouraged to share their own stories about significant acts or accomplishments by completing a form and submitting it with a photo. The site includes submission guidelines.

ACT for Education is privileged to count among supporters of public education in the region not only individuals, but also businesses who value strong communities. Among ACT supporters are:

Advantage Federal Credit Union
Campus Construction Management
Excellus
Harris Beach, FLLC, Attorneys at Law
JP Morgan Chase

La Bella Associates, D.P.C.
M & T Bank
SEI Design Group
SWBR Architects.



Under the *About our Districts* tab, visitors can access data about the 22 MC public school districts

