



2019-2020 MCSBA Leadership Team



TOP: President Kathleen Dillon (B2, CC), Vice President Amy Thomas (Pit), Treasurer John Abbott (B2), Past President Mike Suffoletto (Web), JoAnne Antonacci (B2), Lori Orologio (CC), Tom Putnam (Pen) and Kim McCluski (Pit).

BOTTOM: Nancy Pickering (Hil), Valerie Baum (Pit), Gary Bracken (Spe), Amy West (HFL), Sherita Traywick (Gre), Mark Kokanovich (Bri), Dennis Laba (B2), and Tammy Gurowski (Web).

The MCSBA leadership team includes the Association’s Steering and Executive Committees. The Steering Committee oversees MCSBA operations; the Executive Committee (board presidents and superintendents) votes on any actions taken by the Association.

The 2019-2020 STEERING COMMITTEE

includes:
President Kathleen Dillon (B2, CC),
Vice President Amy Thomas (Pit),
Treasurer John Abbott (B2), and
Past President Mike Suffoletto (Web);

as well as the following presidential appointees:

- Information Exchange Chairs: Nancy Pickering (Hil) and Valerie Baum (Pit);
- Labor Relations Chairs: Gary Bracken (Spe) and Amy West (HFL);
- Legislative Chairs: Sherita Traywick (Gre) and Mark Kokanovich (Bri);
- COAC Chair: Kim McCluski (Pit);
- At-large Board Members: Tammy Gurowski (Web), Dennis Laba (B2);
- Superintendents: JoAnne Antonacci (B2), Lori Orologio (CC), Tom Putnam (Pen).

The MCSBA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE consists of member district board presidents and superintendents in addition to our Association officers. The 2019-2020 board presidents and superintendents are as follows:

- | | | |
|--------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| BOCES #1 | Bob Dickson | Daniel White |
| BOCES #2 | Dennis Laba | Jo Anne Antonacci |
| Brighton | Mark Kokanovich | Dr. Kevin McGowan |
| Brockport | Terry Ann Carbone | Dr. Lesli Myers-Small |
| Churchville-Chili | Cheryl Repass | Lori Orologio |
| East Irondequoit | Kim Lasher | Mary Grow |
| East Rochester | Jennifer Majewski Lesinski | Richard Stutzman, Interim |
| Fairport | Peter Forsgren | Brett Provenzano |
| Gates Chili | Jeffrey Pettenski | Christopher Dailey |
| Greece | Sean McCabe | Kathy Graupman |
| Hilton | Mark Hilburger | Casey Kosiorek |
| Holley | Robin Silvis | Brian Bartalo |
| Honeoye Falls-Lima | Carol Bellavia | Gene Mancuso |
| Kendall | Lisa Levett | Julie Christensen |
| Penfield | Catherine Dean | Dr. Thomas Putnam |
| Pittsford | Amy Thomas | Michael Pero |
| Rochester | Van White | Terry Dade |
| Rush-Henrietta | Robert Cook | Bo Wright |
| Spencerport | Kevin Hutton | Daniel Milgate |
| Victor | Debbie Palumbo-Sanders | Dennis Ford, Interim |
| Webster | Tammy Gurowski | Carmen Gumina |
| West Irondequoit | John Vay | Aaron Johnson |
| Wheatland-Chili | James Musshafen | Dr. Deborah Leh. |

President – Kathleen Dillon, Monroe 2 – Orleans BOCES, Churchville-Chili CSD
Vice President – Amy Jo Thomas – Pittsford CSD
Past President – Mike Suffoletto, Webster CSD
Treasurer – John Abbott, Monroe 2 – Orleans BOCES
Executive Director - Sherry Johnson, Sherry_Johnson@boces.monroe.edu
Program Director – Beckie Schultz, Beckie_Schultz@boces.monroe.edu



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From our president: Goal

We are all about to embark on another school year! Each new school year provides an opportunity for new adventures, experiences and challenges!

As Board members we will be welcoming new staff, attending opening day activities, and a host of other tasks. This fall we will also be facing many new laws and regulations that we will implement with our superintendents and administrative staff.

All of these changes and updates provide an opportunity for Board members to be continuous learners so we can provide the very best educational opportunities for our students.

MCSBA is working on many new programs to keep all of us well informed.



Kathleen Dillon

Additionally, the steering committee has approved new goals for the 19-20 school year. Our new goals include:

- * Form a dues committee to look at potential ways of making dues calculation more transparent.
- * Convene a staffing committee to look at the possibility of offering per diem opportunity to assist the Association with various tasks during peak times.
- * Explore ways to increase advocacy for, and on behalf of, members and the students we represent.
- * Add opportunities for school to career connections and provide additional options for professional learning between work and school for all of our members.

Please consider participating in the many programs provided by MCSBA. It is the best Professional Learning for BOE members. If you are interested in participating on the dues or staffing committees please feel free to contact me.

Best of luck on a successful school year.

Kathleen Dillon

From our executive director: *Informed and Engaged*

Dear Members,

As the new school year comes upon us and as you complete your summer retreats, I want to offer up my “theme” for this year’s News Scope columns. As you know, I have spent the last 3 years focusing on leadership with last year’s columns speaking to engaged leadership. My final column last year was titled “leadership matters” and that is where I would like to begin this year.



Sherry Johnson

Just being elected to a board of education doesn’t endow you with the skills to be an effective board member. The expectation by the community who elected you and the members who you join at the table is that you will take on the tasks needed in order to become an informed and engaged member of the leadership team.

But, as education is always evolving and laws continue to get passed that impact current policy and practice, every board member, no matter how veteran, must also find ways to keep current in order to remain fully engaged.

This can be difficult, given that work, family and personal commitments take priority over your desire to give back to the community and support public education. So, how do you balance all of these competing interests and needs and also stay informed and engaged leaders?

This year, MCSBA marks its 50th year as an association dedicated to helping board members in this quest. Our mission

is to support public school leaders as they strive to provide excellence in education for all students. We do that by providing supports and programs to board of education members as they educate, represent and advocate on the important matters that impact public education students.

This year, as well, NYSSBA will celebrate their 100th convention and it will be here in Rochester. NYSSBA’s mission is to provide leadership to school boards through advocacy, information and programs, with a vision that each school board will lead so that each student can achieve success at a higher level.

Both organizations are committed to helping board members stay informed about their roles and responsibilities, to be engaged leaders, and to understand the importance of advocacy in impacting local, state and federal decisions on public education policy.

As we move into the 2019-2020 school year, I am inviting all of you to attend as many opportunities as you can within our organizations. With the NYSSBA convention in our own city, this is the perfect time to network with fellow MCSBA members, meet other members of the state association, and learn more about the extraordinary difference that you can make for the students of your community. 100% attendance from our member districts at the 100th convention would be a fitting celebration for our 50th year!

Thank you for your leadership. Leadership begins with you, and it matters! We, here at MCSBA, wish you a wonderful beginning to an exciting and successful new year.

Sherry Johnson



Remembering Peter Logel

Longtime Gates Chili Board of Education Member Peter Logel died June 17, 2019, at age 78. Peter was a retired chemist from both Eastman Kodak Co. and Monroe County, and served on the Gates Chili School Board from 1983 – 1998. He was active in MCSBA and served as Co-Chair of the Association’s Labor Relations Committee in 1992 – 1993.

Donations in his memory may be directed to National Multiple Sclerosis Society, 1000 Elmwood Ave., Rochester, NY 14620 or to Monroe Community Hospital Foundation, 435 E. Henrietta Rd., Rochester, NY.

Governance seminar for board members

MCSBA is approved by the NYSED to offer the SED-required six hours of governance training to new board of education members each year. Incoming school board members from districts in our region attended MCSBA's June 8 training session to learn about the following:

ABOVE: Panelists - Kathleen Dillon (CC, B2), Gary Bracken (Spt), Amy Thomas (Pitts), and Bob Cook (RH).

- * **Powers, functions, and duties of school boards** from school board officers Gary Bracken (Spe), Robert Cook (RH), MCSBA President-Elect Kathleen Dillon (B2, CC), and MCSBA Vice-President-Elect Amy Thomas (Pit);
- * **Role of the superintendent** from District Superintendents Jo Ann Antonacci (B2) and Dan White (B1);
- * **Powers and duties of other governing and administrative authorities** from MCSBA Executive Director Sherry Johnson;

- * **School board responsibilities for employee relations** from Heather Cole, Esq., Ferrara Fiorenza, PC;
- * **School board responsibilities for finance and business** from Assistant Superintendent for Business Brian Freeman (Web);
- * **Child abuse prevention** from a training video by Anne McGinnis, Esq., Harris Beach PLLC; and
- * **School board responsibilities as elected officers for communications** from MCSBA Program Director Beckie Schultz.



ABOVE: Presenters Dan White (B1), Jo Anne Antonacci (B2), Sherry Johnson (MCSBA), Heather Cole, Esq., Brian Freeman (Web), and Beckie Schultz (MCSBA).

RIGHT: Newly elected school board members – Raymond Banks (GC), Mathew Sullivan (WI), Matthew Fink (WI), Frank Muscato (GC), Emily Belcer (Pen), Nita Singh (B1), Therese Flannery (Hil), Robert LaPlaca (Gre), Zachary Korzelius (Batavia), and Mark Miller (Letchworth).



District clerks updated on issues

The MCSBA summer seminar for district clerks, presented on August 1, was attended by 26 clerks from districts in our region.

They learned about the following –

2019 BUDGET VOTE DEBRIEF AND LEGAL UP-DATES – from Laura Purcell, Esq., Harris Beach, LLP;

PROCESSES FOR FILLING A BOARD OF EDUCATION VACANCY– from Loretta Orologio, Superintendent, and Cheryl Repass, President, Churchville-Chili CSD;

ROBERTS RULES AND YOUR BOARD NORMS FOR MEETINGS – from Sherry Johnson, Executive Director, MCSBA, and Beckie Schultz, Program Director, MCSBA;

MOCK BOARD MEETING (role-playing board members discussing scenarios; District

clerks were asked what advice they'd offer if asked) – Gary Bracken (Spe), Bob Cook (RH), MCSBA President Kathleen Dillon (B2, CC), Jeff Pettenski (GC), Mike Suffoletto (Web), and MCSBA Vice President Amy Thomas (Pit).

WORK PLACE ERGONOMICS & PERSONAL FITNESS from – Mark Johnson, Director of Worker's Compensation & Manager of Medical Services, Eastman Kodak Company; Marc D'Amico, Assistant Principal, Hilton High School, and Dr. John Zastawny, Integrated Chiropractic, both of whom are members of the Hilton CSD Wellness Team.

The planning team for this seminar included Cathy Andersen (EI), Cynthia Cushman (Web), Connie Nenni (Hol), Mary Torcello (CC), Sarah Williams (Mount Morris).

BELOW: Mock Board Meeting Members: Kathleen Dillon (B2, CC), Bob Cook (RH), Gray Bracken (Spe), Mike Suffoletto (Web), Jeff Pettenski (GC), and Amy Thomas (Pit).

BOTTOM: Some of the clerks attending the seminar.



ABOVE – Seminar Presenters

TOP: Laura Purcell, Esq., Cheryl Repass (CC), Lori Orologio (CC), and Sherry Johnson (MCSBA).

BOTTOM: Marc D'Amico (Hil), Dr. John Zastawny, and Mark Johnson.



Meeting with federal official

On August 15, representatives of MCSBA and its member districts met with Senator Charles Schumer's Regional Director Chris Zeltmann. Members reviewed the priorities stated in the revised MCSBA Federal position paper, including funding for federally mandated programs, opposition to vouchers and charter schools, and the need for local control by locally elected school boards. Members asked about the likelihood of passage of education appropriations including reauthorization of IDEA and the Higher Education Act. Members reported that Charter schools are no better at providing education than public schools. Other issues included the growing teacher shortage which is reaching a crisis stage, the need to elevate the teaching profession, the need to provide debt relief for defrauded students, administration-sponsored attacks on the E-Rate for school districts, reduced funding for school meals programs, potential Public Charge changes, and Senator Schumer's new approach to address the loss of Salt Deductions through the congressional review act.



ABOVE: Chris Zeltmann, Joyce Kostyk (Fpt), Sherry Johnson (MCSBA), Kevin Hutton (Spe), Beckie Schultz (MCSBA), MCSBA President Kathleen Dillon (B2, CC), and Joe Alati (HFL).



SED-certified MCSBA Fiscal Training

Saturday, October 5, 2019
7:30 am – 3:30 pm
DoubleTree Hotel
1111 Jefferson Road

This program is required for new Board members, and is a great refresher for any member.

Registration forms to follow—Mark your calendars now!

Challenger Center moves



A 22-year chapter closed for the Challenger Learning Center on June 12 as Commanders Andy Raab and Peter Robson flew their final mission at the RMSC with 6th-grade students from Red Creek Middle School. Immediately after that last mission, the process of dismantling and moving the Challenger Learning Center of

Greater Rochester began. By the following week, components were being moved from the RMSC to the Center's new location.



ABOVE: Students participating in simulated space travel at the Challenger Center in its former location in the RMSC.

RIGHT: Challenger Space Center components being moved from the RMSC Planetarium building for their trip to their new home in Kodak Center.

BELOW: Commmanders Peter Robson and Andy Raab outside Challenger's new home.



This summer, the Challenger Center is being re-built and expanded in its new home at the Kodak Center, 200 West Ridge Road.

The interactive Monroe One BOCES program engages over 10,000 students from more than 17 school districts each year. Commanders Peter Robson and Andy Raab lead students on a mission into space in which they use their STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) skills as well as problem-solving, critical thinking and communication skills.

The bigger and better space mission experience will be launched at Kodak Center in the fall.



To learn more, contact Amy Vallone at 383-9020 and/or visit <https://www.monroe.edu/challengerlearningcenter>.

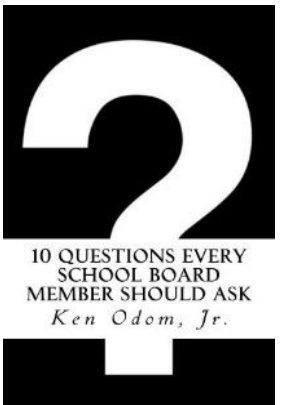
Our musicians at RIJF



Seen are some of the MCSBA jazz musicians performing on the Jazz Street stage during the festival as well as their view of the audience
 Photos downloaded from RIJF website at https://www.rochesterjazz.com/festival_photos?year=2019

Musicians in 16 jazz ensembles representing 13 MCSBA districts performed in the 2019 Rochester International Jazz Festival during the last week of June. The RIJF has become one of the world's leading jazz festivals, providing the students an opportunity to perform before large appreciative audiences and to serve as envoys for our fine music programs with professional musicians. Our jazz bands have performed in the RIJF since its inaugural year in 2002.

MCSBA districts with jazz bands participating in this year's RIJF were Brighton, Brockport, East Irondequoit, Fairport, Gates Chili, Greece, Honeoye Falls-Lima, Penfield, Pittsford, Rochester, Spencerport, Webster, and West Irondequoit.



Now would be a great time to read *10 Questions Every School Board Member Should Ask*, by Ken Odom, Jr., if you haven't yet. Odom notes that publicly funded education governed by locally elected volunteers is under attack, but that local school boards are not heard from in reform debates. He states that school board members can participate in discussions about public education by asking:

1. What is the purpose of a school board?
2. Why did you decide to run for the school board?
3. Do you have a vision for public education?
4. Does what you measure matter?
5. Do you demonstrate commitment to education improvement?
6. Do you prioritize leadership development?
7. Is your board united?
8. Do you take advantage of your resources?
9. Do you share your vision for education with the community?
10. What can you do now?

Author Ken Odom is a school board trustee in Texas with a passion for inspiring local school boards to take an active role in defining the education reform agenda. This short, 86-page paperback is available from Amazon for \$7.99.

**MCSBA School Attorney's Committee
FALL LAW CONFERENCE**

Fast and Furious Legal Changes Impacting School Districts

September 26, 2019

8:00 am -12:00 noon

DoubleTree Hotel, 1111 Jefferson Road

Among the topics to be discussed –



* Differences between federal law and new NYS discrimination laws, including recommendations for conducting investigations dealing with two standards



* ESSA transparency requirements and related changes



* Student safety and protection:
New, amended, and proposed laws and regulations designed to safeguard and protect students, and the legal and practical impact for school districts and BOCES.

Registration forms to follow—Mark your calendars now!

MCSBA Meeting Calendar 2019-2020



September 2019

- * 4 Wed – noon Legislative Committee Meeting
- * 11 Wed – 4:00 pm Information Exchange Committee Meeting
- 11 Wed – 5:45 pm Executive Committee Meeting
- 12 Thur – 8:00 am NYSSBA District Clerk Workshop, Rochester
- * 25 Wed – noon Labor Relations Committee Meeting
- * 26 Thur – 8:00 am **MCSBA/MCBA School Law Conference**
- 27 Fri NYSSBA Board Officers' Academy

October 2019

- * 2 Wed – noon Legislative Committee Meeting
- * 2 Wed – 5:45 pm Board Presidents Meeting
- * **5 Sat – 7:30 am MCSBA Finance Conference**
- * 16 Wed – noon Information Exchange Committee Meeting
- * 23 Wed – 4:00 pm Labor Relations Committee Meeting
- 24-26 Wed-Sat 100th NYSSBA Convention - Rochester
- * 30 Wed – noon Steering Committee Meeting

November 2019

- * 6 Wed – noon Legislative Committee Meeting
- * 6 Wed-5:45 pm Board Presidents Meeting
- * **14 Thur-8:00 am District Clerks Conference**
- * 20 Wed – noon Labor Relations Committee Meeting
- * 20 Wed- 4:00 pm Information Exchange Committee Meeting

December 2019

- * 4 Wed – noon Legislative Committee Meeting
- * 4 Wed – 5:45 pm Executive Committee Meeting
- 9 Mon -7:00am **MCSBA Advocacy Trip to Albany**

January 2020

- * 8 Wed – noon Legislative Committee Meeting
- * 8 Wed – 5:45 pm Board Presidents Meeting
- * 15 Wed – noon Information Exchange Committee Meeting
- * 22 Wed – noon Labor Relations Committee Meeting
- * 29 Wed – noon Steering Committee Meeting

February 2020

- 2 - 4 Sun-Tues NSBA National Advocacy Institute
- * 5 Wed – noon Legislative Committee Meeting
- * **8 Sat - 9:00 am MCSBA / State Legislators Breakfast**
- * 12 Wed – noon Information Exchange Committee Meeting
- * 26 Wed – noon Labor Relations Committee Meeting
- 26 Wed – 5:45 pm Executive Committee Meeting

March 2020

- * 4 Wed – noon Legislative Committee Meeting
- * 4 Wed – 5:45 pm Board Presidents Meeting
- 9-10 Mon-Tues MCSBA Albany Advocacy Trip**
- * 11 Wed – noon Information Exchange Committee Meeting
- * 18 Wed – noon Steering Committee Meeting
- * **21 Sat, 8:00 am School Board Candidate Seminar**
- * 25 Wed – noon Labor Relations Committee Meeting

April 2020

- * 1 Wed – noon Legislative Committee Meeting
- 4-6 Sat – Sun NSBA Annual Conference, Chicago
- * 15 Wed – noon Information Exchange Committee Meeting
- * **16 Thur-8:30 am District Clerks Conference**
- * 29 Wed – noon Labor Relations Committee Meeting
- 29 Wed - 5:45 pm Executive Committee Meeting

May 2020

- * 6 Wed – noon Legislative Committee Meeting
- * 6 Wed – 5:45 pm Board Presidents Meeting
- 19 Tues **BUDGET & BOARD MEMBER VOTE**

June 2020

- 3 Wed - 5:30 pm **MCSBA ANNUAL MEETING**
- * 8 Sat - 7:30 am **MCSBA New Board Member Training**

* Meetings held at the DoubleTree Hotel,
1111 Jefferson Road, Rochester, NY 14623

**PLEASE PAY CLOSE ATTENTION TO
STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING TIMES –
SEVERAL ALTERNATE
BETWEEN NOON AND 4:00 PM.**

To learn more, call MCSBA at (585) 328-1972.

**Red print indicates MCSBA general membership
meetings or learning activities.**