



2016-2017 Annual Report



2016-2017 Steering Committee Members: Back row: Tom Putnam (Pen), Dan White (B1), Mark Elledge (Pen, Legislative Co-Chair), John Abbott (B2, MCSBA Treasurer), Mike Suffoletto (Web, MCSBA Vice-President), John Piper (Pen, MCSBA President), Mark Kokanovich (Bri, MCSBA Past President). Front row: Deb Leh (WC), Catherine Dean (Pen), Kathy Dillion (CC), Ann Carmody (Web), Lynn Fulmore (CC, COAC Co-Chair), Amy Thomas (Pitt, Information Exchange Co-Chair), Peter Forsgren (Frpt, Labor Relations Co-Chair). Not Pictured: Gary Bracken (Spe, Information Exchange Co-Chair), Tom Abbott (Hil, Labor Relations Co-Chair), Lisa Irealnd (Broc, Legislative Co-Chair), Kim McCluski (Pitt, COAC Co-Chair).

MCSBA MEMBERS:

**Continuously Striving for Excellence for the
Children in our Public Schools**



Some of the members attending the Fall 2016 advocacy trip to Albany. Back row: Beckie Schultz (MCSBA), Colette Morabito (ER), Gene Mancuso (HFL), Bob Cook (RH), Vincent Antonicelli (ER). Front Row: Marv Sachs (Bri), Marilyn Monklebaan (Frpt), Lynn Carragher (Broc), Valerie Baum (Pitt), Nancy Pickering (Hil), Renee Williams (HFL), Joyce Kostyk (Frpt).

MONROE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

220 Idlewood Road, Rochester, NY 14618

Phone (585) 328-1972

Fax (585) 328-2494

www.mcsba.org

2016-2017 OFFICERS

John Piper, President
Mike Suffoletto Vice-President
John Abbott, Treasurer
Mark Kokanovich, Past President

STAFF

Sherry Johnson, Executive Director
Beckie Schultz, Assistant to the Executive Director
Mary Talbot, Office Manager



From Our Executive Director



Dear Members,

We have arrived at yet another May and, once again, it feels as though we reached it at record pace. I am always amazed at how fast the year goes and how much we are able to fit into it. This year has been no exception.

We began the year welcoming our newest member, Holley CSD, who joined us in July. We are delighted to include them as part of our team and to be able to support them through the activities of our association.

The membership approved the new Affiliate Network based on recommendations from last year and the Affiliate Steering committee has scheduled their first event. The goal of this network is to offer retired board members and superintendents, who would like to remain a voice for public education, a forum to reconnect and receive current information to carry forward in their own way.

We are still working on a framework for mentoring new board members and strengthening the partnership between board officers and superintendents. The mentoring committee, that was also established this year, is working on opportunities that will be rolled out this summer.

MCSBA continues to grow program offerings to the membership with more meetings and trainings and by varying our programming times so that those who are unable to make noon meetings might have another option. With Steering and Executive committee approval, we are now taping all of our professional development opportunities and making them available to our members to access on their own time. Our Information Exchange and Labor Relations committee suggested timely and provocative topics that were very well received.

We continue to work on ways to increase, local, state and federal advocacy and how to improve the effectiveness of those events and appointments. The legislative committee has been the guiding force in keeping the association membership engaged and informed about legislation and policy affecting public education for our member school districts. Their commitment to making sure that we remain focused and determined is what keeps our association so well received with all of the legislators we meet with.

With all of your support for our many activities, including the law conference, the special seminars and trainings that we have had this year, our budget remains strong and therefore the budget committee recommended there be no dues increase this year. The Steering and Executive committee approved this recommendation and I will continue to work with your Association Officers to find ways to be efficient and manage costs effectively.

As all of you work to overcome the challenges related to school district budgets, curriculum changes and ever increasing mandates, we hope that we have been a resource for you and a place to share information. Your dedication to your school district, to your community and to the greater good that public education provides for all students needs to be publicly commended and I want to thank you for all you do!

Sherry

2016-2017 Highlights at MCSBA

Advocating, Educating, Representing

Funding for Public Education – Remains Association Goal #1

For the third year in a row, funding for public schools was the top priority for the association in all of its advocacy opportunities for the year. Members were thankful legislators were responsive to their requests to eliminate GEA in the 2016-2017 budget.

December legislative meetings in Albany targeted unfreezing of foundation aid, and completing regulations for BOCES construction and PILOTS that would mitigate some of the impact of the tax cap. At the Legislative Breakfast in February, these issues were revisited as was a request to remove the supermajority requirement and rebate penalty for budgets over the cap. Given the significant control NYS has over revenue sources for local school districts these regulations seemed unnecessary.

The two-day Spring trip to Albany once again highlighted these same issues and addressed other proposed diversions of public school funds included in the Governor's 2017-18 budget. Educating lawmakers on the impact of the \$15/hr. minimum wage legislation in its first year of implementation and the escalating, non-reimbursable costs for transporting suburban charter school students was also a key focus of the trip. MCSBA districts were well represented in all advocacy efforts.

Uncertainty and priority changes at the federal level added to the level of difficulty members encountered in preparing 2017-2018 school budgets.

The Communication Outreach Advisory Committee met to develop talking points on school district funding.

At their initial COAC meeting in November, members developed talking points entitled **“Foundation Aid and the impact on Monroe County School Districts”**. The document discussed calculation of foundation aid, manipulations that occur on an annual basis that limit its predictability and losses districts incurred since the aid was frozen in 2009. A companion document called **“Impact of Current Funding on School Districts”** was developed to graphically illustrate the interplay between reserves, foundation aid and the local levy in producing a balanced school budget. The graph also shows the critical role reserves played in closing structural deficits created by districts' limited ability to generate needed revenue under the tax cap legislation. MCSBA members found both documents were useful advocacy tools.



Members of the 2016- 2017 COAC were: Michael Suffoletto (Web, Vice-President MCSBA), Sherry Johnson (Executive Directive MCSBA), Lynn Fulmore (CC, Co-Chair), Dr. Ken Graham (RH), JoAnne Antonacci (BOCES #2). Not pictured John Piper (Pen, MCSBA President), Mark Kokanovich (Bri, MCSBA Past President), Kim McCluski (Pit, Co-chair), Kathy Dillion (CC), Suzanne Casey (Web), T. Abbott (Hil), Beckie Schultz (Assistant to the Executive Director, MCSBA).

Community Connections

MCSBA collaborates with a number of groups to promote public education.

MCSBA continues its representation on the **Council of Governments (COG)** where members collaborate with other officials on common issues.

The **Monroe County Superintendents Public Education Advocacy Committee (MCSPEAC)** continues to develop information about our public schools to help the greater community understand the value and strengths of public education in our county. This year the committee worked with Causewave Community Partners, formally the Ad Council of Rochester to increase sponsorship for media advertisement highlighting the quality of Monroe County Schools. The committee members also spoke to various business and leadership groups within the Rochester community on issues related to public education.

The **Monroe County Education Coalition (MCEC)** includes the PTA, school boards, superintendents, teacher unions, administrators, and school business officials. MCSBA provides and maintains a MCEC website at www.mcsba.org.

MCEC Coalition Members published an editorial on the unintended consequences of the NYS Tax Cap and met with local Legislators.

MCEC members met with local legislators in March. Topics for the meetings included full phase in of Foundation Aid as well as opposition to STAR changes and increasing flexibility in the tax cap formula. Members again addressed the proposed increases to charter school funding, and the potential for tax credit and voucher legislation, all of which divert funding from public schools. Requests to delink state testing from APPR requirements were also made.

The coalition plans to meet with Federal legislators in the summer to highlight policy and legislative changes at the Federal level that could result in education funding and program reductions at the local level.



Left and Below: MCEC members debrief after spring visits to local legislative offices.



Members included: Michael Pero (Monroe County Council of School Superintendents, Past President), Mark Kokanovich (MCSBA Past President), John Piper (MCSBA President), Deb Leh (Monroe County Council of School Superintendents, President), Bruce Capron (Monroe County Chapter, Association of School Business Officials), Jori Cincotta (Genesee Valley PTA), Scott Steinburg (Monroe County Federation of Teachers), Tom Gillett (NYSUT), Judy Wegman (Monroe County Federation of Teachers), Dr. W. Bruce Gorman (School Administrators Association of NYS), Sherry Johnson (MCSBA Executive Director), Joe Pustlka, (Region 11, School Administrators Association of NYS), Beckie Schultz (MCSBA Assistant to the Executive Director).

2016-2017 Representing

By Getting our Messages Out Reporting

Each Friday, MCSBA emails an electronic news update on educational issues to members and others interested in staying abreast of current educational topics.

News Scope, the MCSBA newsletter, covers MCSBA events and educational issues. Readers include state officials, college presidents, attorneys and the media.

MCSBA also works with local media to help them understand and explain issues to the wider community.



Facts & Figures

Each year, copies of the MCSBA *Facts & Figures* booklet are given to MCSBA members, the media, elected officials and libraries. Sponsors cover the cost of this service. Other copies are sold to realtors.



Best for Less

This is a free publication highlighting the ways member districts share resources to cut the costs and expand the quality and variety of services provided by the county's public schools. A revised addition this year will highlight collaborations with local school districts that promote college and career readiness. It can be downloaded from our website.

2016-2017 Conferences

Each year, MCSBA presents a number of conferences that attract school board members and administrators from within and beyond Monroe County. In 2016-2017, MCSBA held three district clerk seminars, a law conference, and two SED approved seminars, Finance and Governance for new school board members. A seminar of prospective school board candidates was also conducted. Commissioner of Education, MaryEllen Elia returned as a presenter to the Law Conference. She updated local school board members on the status of changes to standards, assessments, and teacher evaluations that were implemented in her first year in NYS.

Below are some of the presenters from our conferences this past year. We are always grateful to our presenters who dedicate their time and talents to our members!



Committee Programs for members

The Information Exchange Committee led by Co-Chairs
Amy Thomas (Pitt) and **Gary Bracken (Spe)** met this year
to learn about:

- Pathways to Graduation;
- Start Times and Why They Matter;
- Diversity and Race Relations;
- Trauma- Effects on Learning and Brain Development;
- Computer-Based Testing;
- Effective Use of Technology;
- Child Abuse Training for School Board Members.



2016-2017 Educating

The Labor Relations Committee led by **Tom Abbott (Hil)** and **Peter Forsgren (Fprt)**, shared negotiations updates at each meeting and discussed:

- Substitute Shortages;
- Teacher Preparation Programs;
- 3020-a Expedited Process Update;
- Understanding Teacher Tenure;
- Impact of the \$15/hr. Minimum Wage-Year One Update;
- RASHP 2 Update;
- Costing Out Labor Contract.



Legislative Committee

The Legislative Committee prepares and promotes the Association's legislative positions. This year, under the leadership of **Lisa Ireland (Broc)** and **Mark Elledge (Pen)** the committee up-dated position papers on the role of SED and the Federal Government in public education and arranged and promoted meetings with NYS officials locally in February and in Albany in December and March.



In December members met with SED officials to discuss support for ENL and graduation options for special needs students.



In early February, the Legislative Committee hosted its annual local breakfast meeting with NYS lawmakers to discuss the value of public education in Monroe County and the NYS budget, especially challenges related to maintaining and enhancing program with revenue restrictions from the tax cap and frozen foundation aid.



In early March members met with legislators and representatives of SED and the Governor's office prior to the completion of the state budget to advance local districts needs and provide lawmakers with background information on the impact of proposed legislation.



2016-2017 MCSBA Standing Committee Members

District	Steering Committee	Executive Committee	Legislative Committee	Labor Relations	Information Exchange
BOCES #1	Dan White	Dan White Robert Dickson	Tom Nespeca Fred Shippey	Bryan Buttram Mike DeLaus Kristin Lowe	Robert Dickson Sora Sachs Nancy Semal Mike Dougherty
BOCES #2	John Abbott	JoAnne Antonacci Dennis Laba John Abbott	John Heise John Abbott	John Abbott John Heise	Linda Burlingame Dennis Laba
Brighton	Mark Kokanovich	Dr. Kevin McGowan Mark Kokanovich	Mark Kokanovich Karen Hatch	Andrea Costanza Dr. Marvin Sachs Mark Kokanovich	Julene Gilbert Martha Sciremammano Mark Kokanovich
Brockport	Lisa Ireland	Dr. Lesli Myers Lisa Ireland	Terry Ann Carbone Lisa Ireland*	Gary Zimmer Lisa Ireland	Daniel Lagault Kathy Robertson
Churchville-Chili	Kathy Dillon Lynn Fulmore	Lori Orologio Kathy Dillon	Lynn Fulmore Kathy Dillon	Steve Hogan Lynn Fulmore	Cheryl Repass Lynn Fulmore
East Irondequoit		Susan Allen Kim Lasher	Stacey Beaumont Carol Watt	Stacy Beaumont Phil Oberst	Carol Watt Susan Allen
East Rochester		Mark Linton Colette Morabito	Colette Morabito Vincent Antonicelli	Margy Richards	Jennifer Majewski Lesinski
Fairport	Peter Fosgren	Brett Provenzano Marilyn Monkelbaan	Joyce Kostyk Maureen Nupp	Peter Forsgren*	Damon Buffum Marty Cardona
Gates Chili		Kimberle Ward Lowell Benjamin	Brenda James Barbara Clark	Lowell Benjamin Kelly Glover	Michael Bailey Debra Bennett
Greece		Kathy Graupman Sean McCabe	Richard Cunningham Joe Grinnan	Richard Cunningham	Frank Oberg Richard Cunningham Terry Melore
Hilton	Tom Abbott	Nancy Pickering Casey Kosiorek	Michelle Ames	Tom Abbott *	Nancy Pickering Aggie Seneway
Honeoye Falls-Lima	Gene Mancuso	Gene Mancuso Gary Stottler	Joe Alati Larry Young Gene Mancuso	Gary Stottler Stephanie Templeton Bruce Capron	Amy West Mike Shannon Gene Mancuso + Carol Bellavia
Holley		Robert D'Angelo Brenda Swanger	Brenda Swanger John Heise	Melissa Ierlan Anne Winkley	John Heise Robin Silvis
Kendall		Julie Christensen Nadine Hanlon	Nadine Hanlon Julie Christensen	Charles Patt Julie Christensen Martin Goodenbery	Chaley Swift Christopher Gerken
Penfield	John Piper Catherine Dean Mark Elledge Tom Putnam	Tom Putnam John Piper	Mark Elledge* Catherine Dean John Piper	Barbara Babiarz Tom Putnam John Piper Barbara Gregory	Camille Rutan * Lisa Benati-Chidsey John Piper
Pittsford	Kim McCluski Amy Thomas	Mike Pero Kim McCluski	Valerie Baum	Irene Norotsky	Amy Thomas* Ted Aroesty
Rochester CSD		Van White Barbara-Deane-Williams	Barbara-Deane-Williams	Malik Evans	
Rush-Henrietta	Dr. Kenneth Graham	Dr. Kenneth Graham Robert Cook	Robert Cook Dr. Ken Graham + Simeon Banister	Robert Bower Sue Smith Andy Whitmore Patrick McCue	Anmarie Stzyzynski Sue Smith Nerlande Anselme
Spencerport	Gary Bracken	Michael Crumb Gary Bracken	Gary Bracken Kate Czarnecki	Kevin Hutton Kate Czarnecki	Gary Bracken * Michael Miceli
Webster	Ann Carmody Mike Suffoletto	Carmen Gumina Mike Suffoletto	Ann Carmody Mike Suffoletto	Mike Gustin Mike Suffoletto	Linda Dioguardi Tammy Gurowski
West Irondequoit		Jeff Crane Bill Evans	Carolyn Stalh Ann Cunningham Bill Evans	Bill Evans John Vay	John Shafer Brian Charles
Wheatland-Chili	Deb Leh	Dr. Deborah Leh Kim Snyder	Courtney Panek	Tiffany Passmore	Michelle Rocha

*Standing Committee chairpersons +Superintendent representatives from the Monroe County Council of Superintendents

2016-2017 Departures

We thank you for your dedication and service to our children, to your community and public education!



Linda Burlingame
Board of Education Member
BOCES# 2 Board
Past Information Exchange
Co-Chair



Gary Zimmer
Brockport CSD Board of Education Member
Past Information Exchange Co-Chair
and Labor Relations Committee Co-chair



John Connelly
Churchville-Chili CSD
Board of Education Member



Stacy Beaumont
East Irondequoit CSD
Board of Education Member



Carol Watt
East Irondequoit
Board of Education Member
Past Information Exchange Chair



Colette Morabito
East Rochester Union Free School
District
Board of Education Member



Marci Hosford
Fairport CSD
Board of Education Member



Lisa Christoffel
Greece CSD
Board of Education Member



Emmy Thevanesan
Greece CSD
Board of Education Member



Lloyd Ruffle
Greece CSD
Board of Education Member



Lowell Benjamin
Gates Chili CSD
Board Of Education



Agnes Seneway
Hilton CSD
Board of Education Member
Past MCSBA President
Past Information Exchange Co-Chair
and Legislative Committee Co-chair

2016-2017 Departures Continued



Timothy Gagnon
Hilton CSD
Board of Education Member

In Memory of Doug Spallina



East Irondequoit CSD
Board of Education Member and
Past Board President
Past MCSBA Labor Relations Co-
Chair



Janet Somes
Honeoye Falls –Lima CSD
Board of Education



Salvatore DeLuca, Jr.
Holley CSD
Board of Education



Camille Rutan
Penfield CSD Board of Education
Past Information Exchange
Co-Chair



Robert Bower
Rush-Henrietta CSD
Board of Education Member
Past Labor Relations Co-Chair



Michael Crumb
Superintendent
Spencerport CSD



Ann Carmody
Webster CSD
Board of Education Member
Past Co-Chair
Legislative and COAC committees

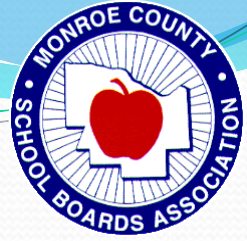


Kim Snyder
Wheatland-Chili CSD

Not Pictured:

Christopher Gerken, Kendall Board of Education Member
Martin Goodenberry, Kendall Board of Education Member
Debra Bennett, Gates Chili Board of Education
Mike Dedee, Webster Board of Education Member

48th MCSBA Annual Meeting Agenda



5:30 pm **Social Time:**

6:00 pm **Musical Performance:**
The Penfield Jazz Combo:
Pilot to the Universe
Directed by Bryan Bricco

6:30 pm **Dinner**



7:30 pm **48th Annual Meeting and Keynote**

Welcome and Introductions
Keynote Address
Special Recognitions
Message from NYSSBA
Year-End Report
Report of the Nominating Committee
Election of 2017-2018 Officers
Remarks by the President Elect

John Piper
John Piper
John Piper
Julie Marlette
Sherry Johnson
Mark Kokanovich
John Piper
Mike Suffoletto

8:30 pm **Adjournment**

MCSBA thanks HUNT Engineers Architects Surveyors for
their sponsorship of this event

