



2017-2018 Annual Report



2017-2018 Steering Committee Members: Back row: Lynn Fulmore (CC, COAC Co-Chair), Jeff Crane (WI, Superintendent, COG Co-Chair), Michael Suffoletto (Web, MCSBA President), John Piper (Pen, MCSBA Past President), Gene Mancuso (HFL, Superintendent). Front row: Amy Thomas (Pitt), Irene Narotsky (Pitt, Labor Relations Co-Chair), Kim McCluski (Pitt, COAC Co-Chair), Valerie Baum (Pitt, Legislative Co-Chair), Carmen Gumina (Web, Superintendent). Not Pictured: John Abbott (B2, MCSBA Treasurer), Lisa Ireland (Broc, MCSBA Vice-President), Kathy Dillion (CC, B#2, COG Co-Chair), Tom Abbott (Hil, Labor Relations Co-Chair), Nancy Pickering (Hil), Mark Elledge (Pen, Legislative Co-Chair), Catherine Dean (Pen), Gary Bracken (Spe, Information Exchange Co-Chair).

MCSBA MEMBERS: Continuously Striving for Excellence for the Children in our Public Schools



Some of the members attending the March advocacy trip to Albany. Participants (left to right): Peter Forsgren (Fpt), Marv Sachs (Bri), Judy O'Leary-Sargeant (Fpt), Richard Cunningham (Gre), Lynn Fulmore (CC), Willa Powell (Roc), Mark Elledge (Pen), Joyce Kostyk (Fpt), John Piper (Pen), Sherry Johnson (MCSBA), Nancy Pickering (Hil), Briana McNamee (NYSSBA), Bob Cook (RH), Sean McCormick (RH), Valerie Baum (Pit), Damon Buffum (Fpt), and Tom Nespeca (B#1).

MONROE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

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www.mcsba.org

2017-2018 OFFICERS

Mike Suffoletto, President
Lisa Ireland, Vice-President
John Abbott, Treasurer
John Piper, Past President

STAFF

Sherry Johnson, Executive Director
Beckie Schultz, Program Director
Mary Talbot, Office Manager



From Our Executive Director



Dear Members,

Yet another MCBSA year has come to a close and you

have accomplished much! Your leadership continues to inspire and should be a beacon to others on how those in governance should conduct themselves.

MCSBA continues to grow program offerings to the membership with more meetings and trainings. Attendance continues to be strong at all of our standing committees, in no small part to the topics chosen through the work of committee leadership. This year we changed up our Perspective Candidate Seminar to bring a broader overview of board service and offered both a Fall and Spring Law Conference.

These all took place in our new venue which has received rave reviews from the membership. The unexpected and last minute loss of our previous venue turned out to be a “window opening” opportunity and we are delighted to continue to develop our positive relationship with the Double Tree.

In June, we will be incorporating the recommendations from our Mentoring Committee for the state required New Governance seminar. The Mentoring Committee has also finalized their plans for the Board President/Superintendent symposium series that will begin this summer.

The Affiliate Network held their first event this past year and it was very well received. Two others are being scheduled to grow this opportunity for past MCSBA members to continue to be informed about the issues of public education. The steering committee members for the Affiliate Network also sent an email blast out to remind former members to vote on school budgets.

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. This year we changed the departure time for our two day advocacy trip which better accommodated personal schedules, provided time to get into hotel rooms and still allow for full briefings before spending the next day advocating. We even garnered more press prior to our departure!

This November, we welcomed the Victor School District as an Associate member after a yearlong committee conversation about the MCSBA membership language in our Constitution. With the Steering and Executive committee approval, this recommendation will now go to the entire membership for their vote to make changes to our membership boundaries.

As you work together to overcome the challenges related to school district budgets with ever increasing mandates and new regulations, 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 that you do!

It is a privilege to work for you, each and every day.

Sherry

2017-2018 Highlights at MCSBA

Advocating, Educating, Representing

Funding for Public Education – Remains Association Goal #1

For the third year in a row, funding was the top priority for the association in what proved to be a very active year of advocacy on behalf of public education.

Members visited local legislators early in the fall to gauge the potential for a Constitutional Convention and to advocate against additional diversion of funds for charter schools.

In early December members traveled to Albany for targeted meetings with representatives from SED, Senate Finance, Assembly Ways and Means, and the Governor's Office. Advocacy efforts focused on unfreezing the foundation aid formula to provide districts with much needed revenue. Members also continued to push legislators to make them whole for Kindergarten students in full day programs added after the freeze. SED representatives provided members with insight into changes in the structure and funding for preschool education.

At the Legislative Breakfast in January, members shared their disappointment that the Governor vetoed legislation that would allow for BOCES construction costs and PILOTS to be introduced within the tax cap. Local legislators were encouraged to repeal the supermajority requirement and rebate penalty for budgets exceeding the cap, citing the significant constraints NYS has over school revenues. Members reinforced the need for flexibility and local control for districts to efficiently sustain program and meet state mandates. Advocacy to remove the BOCES superintendent salary cap and limit diversion of funds from public schools continued as well.

In March, members again traveled to Albany for meetings with local legislative leaders to advocate for removal of the supermajority and to provide additional revenue for school districts. Members sought legislators insight on how Federal changes might impact education in NYS. Members cautioned that any added safety and security mandates for schools needed to be included outside the tax cap or program/staff reductions would be required to fund them. SED representatives provided background on the newly approved NYS ESSA Plan, sharing priorities for guidance and implementation with members.

Concerns about ESSA implementation costs and new reporting requirements were shared with legislators in local spring meetings. Proposals to decoupling standardized testing from teacher evaluations were also discussed.

MCSBA districts were well represented in all advocacy efforts.

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

Members of the COAC Committee met in late October to develop talking points on the Tax Cap Levy. The document addressed what the cap is, how it is determined, what are the implications for school districts and what legislators can do to help schools cope with the cap.



Members of the 2017- 2018 COAC: J. Piper (Pen, MCSBA Past President), Michael Suffoletto (Web, MCSBA President), Kim McCluski (Pitt, Co-Chair), Sherry Johnson (MCSBA Executive Director), Lynn Fulmore (CC, Co-Chair), Dr. Ken Graham (RH, Superintendent), Mark Kokanovich (Bri), JoAnne Antonacci (B#2, Superintendent). Not pictured: Lisa Ireland (Broc, Vice President MCSBA), Kathy Dillon (CC, B#2), Tom Abbott (Hil), Sue Casey (Web), Beckie Schultz (Program 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. MCSBA's "Best for Less" publication was included in a report required by NYS on efficiencies and shared services filed by the Monroe County Executive.

ACT for Education continues to develop information about our public schools to help the greater Rochester community understand the value and strengths of public education in our county.

The committee worked with Causewave Community Partners again, and increased sponsorship for media advertisement highlighting the quality of Monroe County Schools as well as several earned media interest stories. The committee launched a new **Partners Program** in 2018 to expand the variety of ways sponsors can choose to support public schools.

A speaker's bureau was developed and presented 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. This year MCEC welcomed new NYSUT regional director Carrie Andrews and wished a fond farewell to Tom Gillett

MCEC members identified the following five items for joint advocacy in 2017-2018:

- Full funding for public schools
- Tax cap relief (BOCES construction costs, pilots, healthcare costs)
- Diversion of funds to charter schools, voucher programs, and tax credits
- Funding efficiencies
- Mental healthcare – schools role vs. community's role.

Selected committee members met with the Democrat & Chronical editorial board in January to discuss the quality and strength of public schools in Monroe County as well as the challenges they face in the areas noted above.



MCEC members work on editorial to encourage community members to vote in May on school budgets and school board candidates.

Members included: Dr. Debra Leh (WC Superintendent, Monroe County Council of School Superintendents, Past President), John Piper (MCSBA Past President), Michael Suffoletto (MCSBA President), Gene Mancuso (HFL Superintendent, Monroe County Council of School Superintendents, President), Bruce Capron (Monroe County Chapter, Association of School Business Officials), Jori Cincotta (Genesee Valley PTA), Scott Steinberg (Monroe County Federation of Teachers, President), Tom Gillett and Carrie Andrews (NYSUT), Judy Wegman (Monroe County Federation of Teachers), Dr. W. Bruce Gorman (School Administrators Association of NYS), Sherry Johnson (MCSBA Executive Director), Carlos Garcia (Director of Communications RCSD), Beckie Schultz (MCSBA Program Director).

2017-2018 Representing

By Getting our Messages Out Reporting

The newly updated website provides easy access to information and programming offered by MCSBA for members districts and the general public.

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.

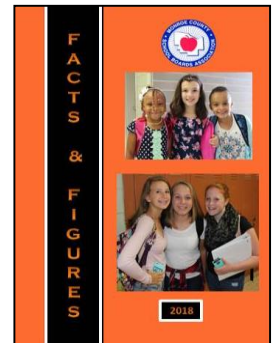
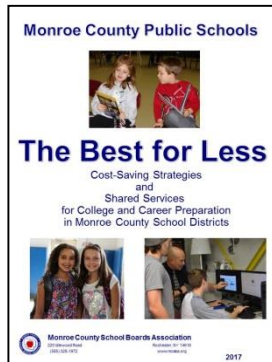
MCSBA also works with local media to help them understand and explain issues to the wider community.

Facts & Figures

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

Best for Less

This is a free publication highlighting the ways member districts utilize shared services and cost saving strategies to expand the quality and variety of services provided by the county's public schools. Collaborations between schools, colleges, business and other community organizations that promote college and career readiness for students of all ages are showcased in this newly published addition. It can be downloaded from the MCSBA website.



2017-2018 Conferences

Each year, MCSBA presents a number of conferences that attract school board members, clerks, and administrators from within and beyond Monroe County. In 2017-2018, MCSBA held three district clerk seminars, two law conferences, and two SED approved seminars for new members on Finance and Governance. A seminar for prospective school board candidates was also held. Each is designed to inform and enhance professional development for our members.

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** was led by Co-Chairs **Tammy Gurowski (Web)** and **Gary Bracken (Spe)**. This year's seminars included a 3-part series on mental health:

- Building Resilience to Address the Impact of Trauma;
- Suicide and School Culture;
- Anxiety 101, Understanding, Support, & Advocacy.

As well as informative sessions on:

- ESSA Up-Dates (fall and spring);
- Serving Immigrant and Refugee Students;
- Responding to the Opioid Epidemic;
- Communicating with Stake Holders.



2017-2018 Educating

The Labor Relations Committee led by **Tom Abbott (Hil)** and **Irene Narotsky (Pitt)**, shared negotiations updates at each meeting and discussed:

- Workplace Satisfaction in Challenging Economic Times;
- Retirement Incentives;
- Teacher Immersion Fellowship Program;
- Contract Negotiations in Times of Structural Deficits and Strategies for Impasse;
- Annual RASHP Up-Date;
- Special Education Up-Date: Trends, Economics, and Financial Aid.



Legislative Committee

The Legislative Committee prepares and promotes the Association's legislative positions. This year, under the leadership of **Valerie Baum (Pitts)** and **Mark Elledge (Pen)** the committee up-dated position papers on:

- The State's Investment in Public Education
- Measuring Teacher/Principal Performance Quality
- The NYS Constitution and Public Education

They also arranged and promoted meetings with NYS officials locally in the fall and spring, and hosted a Legislative Breakfast in January. The Committee sponsored two advocacy trips to Albany in December and March.



Above: Legislative Sub-committee members work to up-date position papers on school safety and support for emotional well being of students.



Clock wise from the top: V. Baum and M. Elledge host MCSBA Legislative Breakfast in January.

S. Johnson presents to membership and legislators at the Breakfast.

Members met with J. Harmon (Title 1 School and Community Services Office from SED) in Albany in March for an ESSA up-date.

Members met with local Senate leaders in Albany to discuss budget priorities for the coming year.

Members met with J. Frank (Assistant Sec. of Education from the Governor's Office) in Albany in December to discuss full funding for public schools.



2017-2018 Affiliate Network Begins

In February, former MCSBA members and leaders gathered for the inaugural meeting of the MCSBA Affiliate Network. The network allows participants to stay informed, stay connected, and to continue to advocate for public education.



Above: Attendees heard a short presentation by MCSBA President Michael Suffoletto on organizational changes and enhancements that have occurred in the current year.

Below: A brief analysis of the 2017-2018 legislative issues was presented by Executive Director Sherry Johnson.



Above: Among those attending this session were former MCSBA members Barbara Cutrona (Hil), Jody Siegle (Bri, Past MCSBA Executive Director), Dr. Howard Maffucci (ER), Julia VanOrman (Gre), Margaret Burns (WI), Sherry Johnson (MCSBA Executive Director), Frank Muscato (GC), and Dr. Mort Stein (Bri).

Below Former MCSBA members network after presentations by Sherry Johnson (MCSBA Executive Director) and Michael Suffoletto (MCSBA President).



2017-2018 Mentoring Opportunities Strengthened

Simple changes were made to two annual training seminars this year. A veteran Board of Education member was added to the Prospective Candidates Seminar in addition to a Board of Education member typically in their first term. Exposure to members with different lengths of service was thought to give candidates a better view of the relationship building and growth that occurs over time with board service. Similarly a panel of Board Presidents will present instead of just a single veteran board member at the yearly Governance Seminar in June. The panel was thought to give newly elected members a broader perspective of board service and mutual support across districts.

Lastly, a new Board Presidents/Superintendent Symposium series that had been under consideration for more than a year will begin in August. The aim of the series is to strengthen Board President/Superintendent leadership relationships.



Mentoring sub-committee members recommend additions and changes to existing programs offered by MCSBA.

2017-2018 MCSBA Standing Committee Members					
District	Steering Committee	Executive Committee	Legislative Committee	Labor Relations	Information Exchange
BOCES #1		Dan White Robert Dickson	Fred Shippey Tom Nespeca	Bryan Buttram Mike DeLaus Kristin Lowe	Robert Dickson Sora Sachs Nancy Semal
BOCES #2	John Abbott	JoAnne Antonacci Dennis Laba John Abbott	John Abbott John Heise	John Heise John Abbott	Dennis Laba Chuck Phillips
Brighton		Dr. Kevin McGowan Mark Kokanovich	Mark Kokanovich Karen Hatch	Dr. Marvin Sachs Andrea Costanza	Julene Gilbert Martha Sciremammano
Brockport	Lisa Ireland	Dr. Lesli Myers Lisa Ireland	Terry Ann Carbone Lisa Ireland	Jeff Harradine Lisa Ireland	Kathy Robertson Daniel Legault
Churchville-Chili	Kathy Dillon Lynn Fulmore	Lori Orologio Cheryl Repass	Kathy Dillon Lynn Fulmore	Lynn Fulmore	Lynn Fulmore
East Irondequoit		Susan Allen Kim Kane	Kim Kane	Rich Oxley Phil Oberst	Jeff Petrie Sue Allen Susan Allen +
East Rochester		Dr. Mark Linton Jennifer Majewski Lesinski	Vincent Antonicelli	Margy Richards	Jennifer Majewski Lesinski Dr. Mark Linton
Fairport		Brett Provenzano Peter Forsgren	Maureen Nupp Joyce Kostyk	Damon Buffum Kate Hill	Marty Cardona Kevin Glover
Gates Chili		Kimberle Ward James Crider	Barbara Clark James Crider	Kelly Glover Catherine Coffee	Michael Bailey Barbara Clark
Greece		Kathy Graupman Sean McCabe	Mary Caitlin Wight Richard Cunningham	Bill Maloney Joe Grinnan	Frank Oberg Richard Cunningham
Hilton	Tom Abbott Nancy Pickering	Casey Kosiorek Nancy Pickering	Nancy Pickering	Tom Abbott * Brian O'Connor	Nancy Pickering Maryanne Chaffee
Holley		Robert D'Angelo Brenda Swanger	John Heise Brenda Swanger	Melissa Ierlan Anne Winkley	John Heise Robin Silvis
Honeoye Falls-Lima	Gene Mancuso	Gene Mancuso Amy West	Joe Alati Larry Young Gene Mancuso	Gary Stottler Stephanie Templeton Bruce Capron	Amy West Carol Bellavia Gene Mancuso +
Kendall		Julie Christensen Nadine Hanlon	Nadine Hanlon Jason ReQua Julie Christensen	Charles Patt Jason ReQua Julie Christensen	Chaley Swift Lisa Levett
Penfield	John Piper Mark Elledge	Dr. Thomas Putnam Catherine Dean John Piper	Mark Elledge * Catherine Dean John Piper	Barbara Babiarz Tom Putnam Barbara Gregory John Piper	Jon Ottney Lisa Benati-Chidsey John Piper
Pittsford	Valerie Baum Kim McCluski Irene Narotsky Amy Jo Thomas	Mike Pero Amy Jo Thomas	Valerie Baum* Pete Sullivan	Irene Narotsky* Ted Aroesty	Kim McCluski Pete Sullivan
Rochester		Barbara Deane-Williams Van White	Barbara Deane-Williams	Malik Evans	
Rush-Henrietta		Dr. Kenneth Graham Robert Cook	Simeon Banister Bob Cook Dr. Ken Graham + Sue Smith	Sean McCormick Sue Smith Andy Whitmore Patrick McCue	Annmari Strzyzynski Sue Smith Nerlande Anselme
Spencerport	Gary Bracken	Daniel Milgate Gary Bracken	Kate Czarnecki Gary Bracken	David Gibbardo Kate Czarnecki	Gary Bracken * Michael Miceli
Victor			Christopher Parks Gary Gilbert	Tim DeLucia Debbie Palumbo-Sanders	Gary Gilbert Tim DeLucia
Webster	Mike Suffoletto Tammy Gurowski	Carmen Gumina Mike Suffoletto	Mike Suffoletto	Linda Dioguardi Mike Suffoletto Dave Swinson	Tammy Gurowski* Bill Kent Mike Suffoletto
West Irondequoit	Jeff Crane	Jeff Crane John Vay	Bill Evans Ann Cunningham	Brian Charles John Vay	John Shafer
Wheatland-Chili		Dr. Deborah Leh James Musshafen	Tiffany Passmore	Beth Nolan	Michelle Rocha Courtney Panek

KEY:

* Standing Committee chairpersons

+ Superintendent representatives from the Monroe County Council of Superintendents

2017-2018 Departures

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



Mike DeLaus
Monroe One BOCES
Fairport CSD
Board of Education Member
Co-Chair Labor Relations



Michael Guerrieri
Brockport CSD
Board of Education Member



Martha Sciremammano
Brighton CSD
Board of Education Member



Lisa Ireland
Brockport CSD
Board of Education Member
MCSBA Vice President
Information Exchange Co-Chair
Legislative Committee Co-Chair



Kim Kane
East Irondequoit CSD
Board of Education Member



Lynn Fulmore
Churchville-Chili CSD Board of
Education Member
COAC co-Chair
Legislative Committee Co-Chair



Richard Cunningham
Greece CSD
Board of Education



Margy Richards
East Rochester Union Free SD
Board of Education Member



Barbara Clark
Gates Chili CSD
Board of Education Member



Joseph Grinnan
Greece CSD
Board of Education



Marilyn Monkelbaan
Fairport CSD
Board of Education Member
Co-Chair Information Exchange



Anne Winkley
Holley CSD
Board of Education Member



Carol Nasra
Penfield CSD
Board of Education Member

2017-2018 Departures- Continued



Malik Evans
Rochester City
Board of Education Member



Mary Adams
Rochester City
Board of Education Member



Susan Smith
Rush-Henrietta CSD
Board of Education



Jose Cruz
Rochester City
Board of Education Member



Kenneth Graham
Superintendent
Rush-Henrietta CSD



Sean McCormick
Rush-Henrietta CSD
Board of Education



Gary Gilbert
Victor CSD
Board of Education Member



John Shafer
West Irondequoit CSD
Board of Education Member



William Kent
Webster CSD
Board of Education



William Evans
West Irondequoit CSD
Board of Education Member

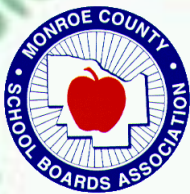
Not Pictured:

Robert D'Angelo
Superintendent
Holley CSD

Michael Shannon
Honeoye Falls-Lima CSD
Board of Education Member

Tiffany Passmore
Wheatland Chili CDS
Board of Education Member

James Crider
Gates Chili CSD
Board of Education Member



49th MCSBA Annual Meeting Agenda

5:30 pm **Social Time**

6:00 pm **Musical Performance:**
The Webster CSD
High School Jazz Combo
Lead by Tony Britt



6:30 pm **Dinner**

7:30 pm **49th Annual Meeting and Keynote**

Welcome and Introductions
Keynote Address
Special Recognitions
Year-End Report
Approval of By-Laws Changes
for Membership
Report of the Nominating
Committee
Election of 2018-2019 Officers
Remarks by the President

Michael Suffoletto
Michael Suffoletto
Michael Suffoletto
Sherry Johnson

Michael Suffoletto

John Piper
Michael Suffoletto
Michael Suffoletto

8:30 pm **Adjournment**

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

